



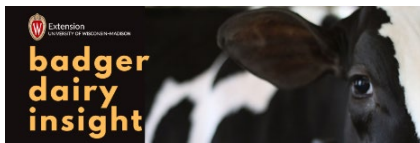
Agriculture

Jackie McCarville, Regional Dairy Educator



The Extension Agriculture Institute is your connection to the latest University of Wisconsin-Madison research. Our five program areas; Agriculture Water Quality, Crops and Soils, Dairy and Livestock, Farm Management, and Horticulture, are here to educate and respond to the needs of the agriculture community while providing resources that promote economic and environmental sustainability in Wisconsin. We apply research to challenges facing communities and businesses.

Badger Dairy Insight



Badger Dairy Insight a live, on-line meeting series, for farmers and dairy industry professionals, where participants learned the latest research and applications regarding developments in genetic evaluations, feed efficiency research, methane emissions, and dairy cow resiliency. The goal of this effort was to increase knowledge of the latest UW-Madison research on the impacts that genetics plays on dairy cattle. Badger Dairy Insight is a webinar series to provide the latest research-based dairy information to improve animal welfare, breeding and genetic selection, automation and modernization, and nutritional decisions for producers, dairy workers and managers, Ag professionals, and educators. In this meeting, Kent Weigel spoke on the role genetics play in farm viability, environmental sustainability, and food safety.

Transportation of Young Dairy Animals

Data analysis and resource development in collaboration with Colorado State University to better understand the practices and challenges associated with transportation of pre-weaned dairy heifer, dairy bull, and beef x dairy calves from the source (dairy farms), hauler, and receiver (calf raiser). Results from this study will help dairy farmers, managers, haulers, calf raisers, and the dairy community in adopting practices and improving transportation welfare to improve farm business viability and food safety.

2024 Dairy Reproduction Roadshow

Developing teaching and marketing materials for the UW-Madison Division of Extension Wisconsin Dairy Reproduction Roadshow, a multi-location in-person series for dairy producers and industry professionals to improve their herd's reproductive performance and increase their economic sustainability.

Repro Roadshow
February 19th, 2024
Lafayette County Multipurpose Building
11974 Ames Rd, Darlington

Registration: 10am
Includes free lunch sponsored by Parnell
Pre-registration is required

To learn more and to register:
<https://go.wisc.edu/repro>

Dr. Paul M. Fricke
JP Martins, DVM, PhD





Health and Well-Being

Bridget Mouchon, Health & Well-being Educator



The Extension Institute for Health & Well-Being works to catalyze positive change in Wisconsin communities to promote health and well-being. Our research-based programs are focused on food and nutrition security, chronic disease prevention, mental health promotion, substance use prevention, and access to health care. Rooted in both urban and rural communities, we're working together to help solve the state's most pressing well-being needs and to ensure that all Wisconsinites have the

WeCope

A 7 session workshop (WeCOPE) for Southwestern Wisconsin residents and Southwestern Wisconsin Library Staff where they learn effective stress reduction strategies to increase awareness of how stress influences their body, emotions, thoughts and health behaviors. The long term goal is to help participants improve current health conditions through stress reduction and their improved ability to take care of mental, physical and spiritual health.



QPR – Question Persuade, Refer

A 1.5-hour suicide prevention program (QPR: Question, Persuade, Refer) for Family Advocates domestic violence agency staff where participants learned skills and strategies to identify and respond to signs of suicidal thoughts and behavior in order to connect individuals to appropriate professional help, provide support, reduce stigma and reduce the risk of suicide.

Peer Support Model

Exploration and development of a community-based certified peer support model, for English- and Spanish-speaking residents of Green and Lafayette Counties, where this educator has researched trainings and potential models, developed relationships, and found potential funding, in order to train interested individuals and implement a pilot certified peer support model in two rural Wisconsin counties.

Mental Health Matters

Facilitation of a coalition of community partners (Mental Health Matters of Green County) in developing, maintaining and disseminating a list of upcoming events and trainings from all of the partner organizations, so that partners better coordinate outreach efforts, and so that the community is aware of and has better access to mental health resources, trainings and events.

Juntos Family Night

Planning and development of the Juntos 4-H Family Night program for delivery in the Spring of 2024, where Spanish-speaking families will learn about 4-H and how being involved in this club-based youth development program can support youth and family wellbeing and working toward post-secondary educational options, so that students graduate high school and move on to higher education.

Strong Bodies Program

Continuing to lead the Strong Bodies Program in Darlington. The class has added some new members and we have heard from one participant about how much they feel the program helped them to not get injured during a significant fall this winter.



*Maggie Milcarek, FoodWise Nutrition Coordinator
Kathy Lange, FoodWise Nutrition Educator*



Kathy Lange Maggie Milcarek

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Community Food Garden

Planning and writing a grant for a food garden with Lafayette County Housing Authority and residents at the Riverview Apartment affordable housing properties in Blanchardville. The gardens and produce would be accessible to all residents. Excess produce would be donated to residents at other Lafayette County Housing Authority properties. In conjunction with the garden, FoodWise would provide nutrition education classes to residents. The goal of this project is to encourage healthy eating, improve access to local nutritional food, and improve food security for community members experiencing low incomes and low food access.



Positive Youth Development

Hailee Kammerud, 4-H Youth Development Educator

The Extension Institute of Positive Youth Development prepares the youth of today to become the effective, empathetic adults of tomorrow. Our research-based youth enrichment programs like teens in governance build youth and adult capacity and partnerships that help both sides grow. 4-H clubs, camps and afterschool programs give young people the hands-on experiences they need to develop an understanding of themselves and the world.



A Day in the Arts



Iowa and Lafayette County 4-H will be hosting a Day in the Arts for 4-H youth to further explore and express their sparks in art, music (including vocal and instrumental), and/or public speaking. The day will consist of the youth performing and presenting their artwork before judges for constructive feedback on successes and room for improvement as they continue to hone their talents and expand the exploration of their SPARKS.

Introducing Juntos “4-H Family Nights”

In collaboration with Health and Well-Being, the planning and development stages of the Juntos 4-H Family Night program for delivery in the Spring of 2024, where Spanish-speaking families will learn about 4-H and how being involved in this club-based youth development program can support youth and family well-being continues. By expanding access opportunities for community youth to the 4-H program, not only will the 4-H program continue to grow, but higher education opportunities have shown to be a significant developmental outcome for youth who benefit from strong positive youth development programs.

Shooting Sports



In 2022-2023 the 4-H Shooting Sports program received and overhaul and upgrade to better support the proper procedures as outlined by WI 4-H, as well as better supporting county-level youth and their access to appropriate safety education, proper equipment handling, and the wildlife experience. Through the efforts of several committed volunteers, expansion through developed relationships and WI certified instructors has allowed for the significant gain of enrolled participants in each of the 5 disciplines for shooting sports, including the newly added discipline of air pistol. The continues marketing of 4-H project areas though social media, radio interviews, up-to-date website information, and continued communication through broadcast emails and bi-monthly newsletter allows for youth and parents to stay informed.