



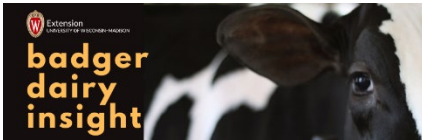
Agriculture

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



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, Jimena Laporta discussed the carryover effects of early-life heat stress in dairy calves and strategies to keep calves cool in hutches. The presenters spoke at the May session to help those in the dairy industry become better prepared before the temperatures rise in the upcoming months. Attendees and those watching the recording of the presentations will have knowledge on the long lasting effects heat stress has. They will also be equipped with knowledge on ways to reduce heat stress in dairy calves.

Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza

A media/social media/topic hub post on Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza (HPAI). This effort aims to inform dairy and beef producers about the spread and risk of HPAI and make them aware of reputable resources for timely updates on the disease. Increasing knowledge about HPAI will help producers make informed decisions on reducing the risk of HPAI in their herds, thus being conscious of biosecurity. The timely website/topic hub post (4/8/24) includes a fact sheet with links to reputable sources of HPAI information. <https://dairy.extension.wisc.edu/articles/resources-for-highly-pathogenic-avian-influenza-hpai-in-cattle>.

Udder Health Management

A live in-person meeting for dairy farmers and employees, where attendees learned about implications of high somatic sell count and mastitis on production. They also learned the tie between dairy nutrition and health immunity. I partnered with Zoetis, who provided a speaker on somatic cell count. I talked about how dairy nutrition ties into udder health and immunity. 94% of attendees rated the topics as satisfied or highly satisfied.



Agriculture

Jordyn Sattler, Regional Crops & Soils 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.

Radio Interview – Crops & Soils

Weekly radio interviews for farmers and agriculture professionals where the audience learns about current crop management considerations and/or resources available to them from the UW-Madison Division of Extension to help them make more timely and economic decisions on their farms. I record weekly radio segments and participate in radio interviews where I share field conditions, crop management considerations, and resources available to farmers. This effort is promoting Extension and building credibility in the community so farmers can better understand the resources available to them, and use them to make the most economical and environmentally conscious decisions for their farm and surrounding areas.

PEAQ

An activity for alfalfa producers where we monitored alfalfa height and relative feed value up until first cutting so producers could better understand the rate at which quality is changing. Through this effort, producers are more aware of when fields in their area are reaching their target quality so they can maximize yield. First cutting alfalfa is the highest quality and highest yielding cutting of the year. Alfalfa producers need to harvest at a time that maximizes tonnage of high quality alfalfa. We monitored alfalfa height and quality twice per week for three weeks leading up to first cutting, and distributed that data to alfalfa producers and agronomy professionals in our region. Alfalfa producers and agronomy professionals used the information to make more educated decisions about harvest timing to achieve their target quality and tonnage goals.





Agriculture

Kimberly Kester, Regional Livestock 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.

Swath/Windrow Grazing for Winter Feeding Beef Cows – Pilot Project

A pilot study to gauge the feasibility of swath/windrow grazing as a winter feeding option for beef cows in southwestern Wisconsin, in collaboration with CALS faculty and Lancaster ARS personnel. Results from this pilot study will offer beef producers a potential new winter feeding strategy that utilizes drought-resistant/climate resilient forages, saves time and money by reducing fieldwork/fuel usage, reduces damage to fields, and provides adequate nutrition for cows.

Using Genomics as a Decision-Making Tool for Commercial Replacement Heifers

A project to demonstrate the applicability of genomic testing to inform replacement/selection decisions for commercial and purebred beef cattle, in collaboration with Lancaster ARS personnel. Results from this demo project will provide beef producers with real-world genomic results and genetic comparisons, as well as how to use the results to make sound selection decisions based on herd goals.

Small Ruminant Fecal Egg Count Roadshow

Planning for a Fecal Egg Count Roadshow for small ruminant producers in collaboration with Extension County, Regional, and State Outreach Specialist, local producer groups, and veterinarians. The goal is for producers to manage parasite resistance, anthelmintic use, genetic selection, and pasture management to reduce anthelmintic resistance and economic loss to parasitism.

Beef Quality Assurance (BQA) certification at in-person workshop



Planning in-person BQA workshops at various locations for beef producers to meet their need for obtaining their BQA certification that maintains their economic viability. Planning logistics include identifying locations and hosting partners, promotion, and curriculum adaptation/development.

Fall 2024 Livestock Emergency Response

Planning for Planning Emergency Livestock Transportation Response (PELTR) hybrid workshops for and in collaboration with area and statewide emergency response personnel. The goal of PELTR is to maintain an effective emergency response that protects producer/livestock owners' and Wisconsin's agricultural economic viability.

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 opportunity to live stronger, healthier lives.

Adult Mental Health First Aid

A day-long virtual Adult Mental Health First Aid training for residents where they learned to recognize the signs and symptoms that suggest a potential mental health or substance use challenge, how to listen nonjudgmentally, and give reassurance to an adult who may be experiencing a mental health or substance use challenge, and how to refer the person to appropriate mental health support and service.

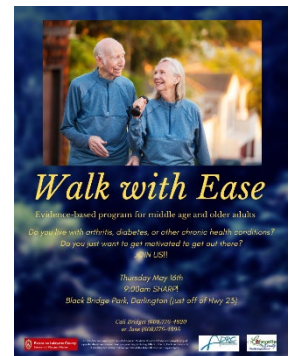
Juntos – Introducing 4-H

A three-evening programming opportunity for participants (elementary through middle-school aged) of Juntos Family Nights to be introduced to local 4-H program areas incorporating youth-driven experiences and interests to bridge the connection between Juntos and 4-H. Collaboration and support from the 4-H Program Educator, the Health & Well-being Educator, and the local Juntos Family Night youth has allowed for facilitated discussions, planning, and programming implementation to spark interests for a wide-range of youth and families. Juntos 4-H is a program that is working to build community programming to reach and engage Spanish-speaking families and youth that promote post-secondary and career readiness.



Walk with Ease program planned

Collaborating with the Lafayette County ADRC, Health Department and the Home and Community Education (HCE) Association of Lafayette County to provide this evidence-based program. We will walk along the river in Darlington, starting at the Black Bridge Park. Multiple trainers will be able to lead and coach supporting older adults' physical and mental health! Soft start on May 16 at 9:00am, and an advertised "official start" on Thursday June 6th. We are providing walking sticks and books to help people who manage chronic health conditions like arthritis, diabetes, and cardiovascular disease, be able to feel more confident in getting physical activity. An added benefit is the social interaction and mood lift from outdoor activity.





FoodWise

Maggie Milcarek, FoodWise Nutrition Coordinator



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 opportunity to live stronger, healthier lives.

Lafayette County Senior Social



A nutrition educational outreach effort at the Lafayette County Senior Social where information was shared with participants on the StrongBodies and Walk with Ease Programs and recommendations for exercise, strength-training, and hydration. Participants received healthy recipes and tips on staying hydrated and active and saw demonstrations of StrongBodies exercises. A goal of this effort is to promote active living and healthy lifestyles for older adults in Lafayette County.

Nutrition Education Outreach – REED Day

A nutrition educational outreach effort at Governor Dodge State Park for students with disabilities from schools in Grant, Lafayette and Iowa counties. The Recreational Education Exploration Day event was organized by County Communities on Transition which promotes the successful transition of students with disabilities to live, work and successfully participate in post-school activities. The goal of this event was to increase knowledge about healthy eating, prepare a healthy snack, and give students an opportunity to try new foods.



Community Garden



Planning and purchasing items for a food garden with Lafayette County Housing Authority and residents at the Riverview Apartment affordable housing property in Blanchardville. This month FoodWise staff is working with the resident garden expert to begin construction of the raised garden beds. 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 will 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 youth people the hands-on experiences they need to develop an understanding of themselves and the world.

Fill the Floral Hall

Based on the grass-roots efforts of several 4-H parents/volunteers, ongoing support and program facilitation is provided to create unique monthly experiences for youth currently enrolled and those interested in enrolling in 4-H. As monthly programming experiences vary from month to month, more adults and older youth have taken part in demonstrating and participating in the programming. By consistently offering short monthly programming the events have held the engagement of both youth and adult by creating spaces for relationship-building, engagement, and shared SPARKS. The intergenerational interactions have broadened youth's experiences within and around the community. May 2024's final Fill the Floral Hall event was a "Potting and Planting" experience where youth and adults were able to gather, expand upon their community, and create works of art in painting clay pots and learn about different types of plants. Efforts have continued with outside funding beyond Extension and partial support of the Leaders Association to bring this community opportunity to youth and adults to further expand access to the county 4-H program.

4-H Camp



Camp is Fun, but planning takes time and coordination! Lafayette County 4-H has collaborated with Grant County 4-H to create an overnight camp experiences for 4 days and 3 nights for 4-H youth in grades 3-7 where campers will learn life skills, practice making new friendships, and try a variety of actives in addition to creating a sense of belonging while supporting adult and older youth volunteers within the two counties at Upham Woods Camp in the Wisconsin Dells.

4-H Ambassadors

4-H Ambassadors are co-led by two 4-H volunteers and the 4-H Educator to create outreach programming for younger youth within and interested in becoming a part of 4-H. Program planning consists of an interactive morning of arts-n-crafts, stem, and games to further introduce and engage youth in the "soil" of 4-H where the creation of belonging, community, and relationships are "planted." "Sprouting into 4-H" is the focus of the discovery day events, open to all county youth, in grades kindergarten through 5th grade. The 4-H Ambassadors were responsible for planning the interactive day, from the opening welcome to the interactive pollinator matching game which will identify pollinators, flowers, gardening, and horticultural elements. By offering experiences like these for the county's youth to further access educational programming the 4-H Ambassadors are fostering communities for learning to take place throughout the year, thus 'growing' 4-H.

SPROUTING INTO

4-H

Saturday, June 29, 2024

Drop off: 8:45a.m. - 9:00 a.m.
Pick up: 11:30 a.m. - 11:45 a.m.

Lafayette County Multipurpose Building
(11974 Ames Rd., Darlington, WI 53530)

Ages:
Kindergarten - 2nd Grade
&
3rd Grade - 5th Grade

- Activities
- Snacks
- Crafts

