



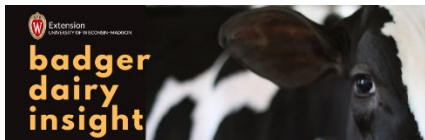
Agriculture

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



Planning and execution of Badger Dairy Insight webinar for dairy producers, veterinarians and dairy industry allies in collaboration with Aerica Bjurstrom and myself. The goal is for dairy producers titled: New Concept in Colostrum Feeding for Dairy Calves is that they should consider feeding a smaller volume of colostrum to newborn calves. Delivering the correct mass of immunoglobulin in a smaller volume ensures the successful transfer of passive immunity (TPI) is preferable to current colostrum feeding guidelines. Feeding too large a volume of colostrum can cause serious complications that affect the health and well-being of newborn calves. This will allow producers to feed lower quantities of higher quality colostrum to calves, improving the well-being of the calves.

Wisconsin Shopper

An article for the Wisconsin Shopper (Plain community subscription) for producers to consider letting new crop corn silage ferment in order to get the best digestibility.

Collaboration with Colorado State University

A study 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.

Beef x Dairy Roadshow

The Beef x Dairy Roadshow was a multi-location, in-person program, that provided research-based information to improve the selection, management, and marketing of beef x dairy crossbred cattle. A series of planning meetings to develop a case study on the multifaceted implications of investing in autonomous technologies in dairy farming by examining real-world experiences and outcomes. The goal of this effort is help farmers make informed, strategic, and economically viable decisions that fully considers all aspects of their farming operations and lifestyle.

Outreach and Planning

Along with Kimberly Kester, and Jordyn Sattler, a presentation to UWP Intro to Ag Education and Extension to help students understand what an Ag Educator's job entails and how to get started in Extension.



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Jordyn Sattler, Regional Crops & Soils Educator



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Corn Silage

Planning to coordinate Extension educators state wide to ensure uniform data collection related to corn silage harvest management. The goal is to share whole plant moisture with forage growers in each region and aggregate additional silage data including planting date, relative maturity, corn hybrid, fungicide use, grain stage and previous crop. This data would be utilized to inform future corn silage harvest recommendations. Furthermore, an article for corn silage producers where they learned about conditions for mycotoxin development in corn silage and harvest strategies to ensure they're making high quality forages that are safe for their livestock to consume.

Nitrogen Optimization Pilot Program Field Day

A field day for producers and agronomy professionals in Southwest Wisconsin where they learned about the Nitrogen Optimization Pilot Program, cover crop management, and economic nitrogen use. Through this effort, producers have a greater interest in the research and data collection efforts that are taking place locally, and will increase the use of data when making management decisions on their farm to be more efficient, economical, and enhance productivity.



One-Day Workshop

A one-day workshop for farmers, agronomists, and crop consultants, where participants learned about the latest research in optimizing weed management through the use of improved technology, precision agriculture, and conservation practices. The purpose of this effort is to help increase the resiliency of cropping systems in Wisconsin and manage weeds effectively while minimizing resistance and increasing profitability and sustainability in agriculture



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Kimberly Kester, Regional Livestock Educator



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Planning for Wisconsin School of Grazing

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.

Planning for Beef Quality Assurance Certification Trainings

A workshop for beef producers to meet their need for obtaining their Beef Quality Assurance (BQA) certification that maintains their economic viability.



Radio Interviews

A weekly radio spot for livestock producers, allied ag industries, and the general public to learn about Extension publications and resources, programming updates, and available webinars or workshops in the area. The intent was to reach a broader audience with timely topics and resources in order to positively influence on-farm economic viability, knowledge and skills, and overall impression of Extension.

Cooling Benefits & Heat Mitigation tools

A project to assess the cooling benefits of man-made shade structures, tree shade, sprinklers, and other heat mitigation tools to reduce heat stress in grazing livestock (cattle, sheep, goats, swine, and poultry).

Wisconsin Agriculturist

An article in the Wisconsin Agriculturist about using genomics technology to select commercial beef replacement heifers in order to improve maternal, performance, and terminal traits within the herd. Articles like these keep livestock producers up to date with local and regional livestock news, market trends, and production ideas to help increase the economic viability of producers.



Stockman Stewardship

A presentation at the Stockmanship Stewardship workshop for beef producers on truck and trailer maintenance and safety for hauling cattle to help producers improve safety for humans and livestock, minimize risk and added expenses due to break downs and potential crashes.

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.



FoodWise

Maggie Milcarek, FoodWise Nutrition Coordinator



The Extension Institute for Health & Well-Being works to catalyze positive change in UW-MADISON EXTENSION 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.

Educational & Outreach Events

Planning for a series of nutrition education classes for second, third, and fourth graders at elementary schools where 50% or more of the students qualify for free or reduced-priced school meals. The goal is to introduce students to the five food groups, encourage trying new foods, and promote healthy eating habits and physical activity at school and at home. Also, planning for a series of nutrition education classes in multiple Head Start Classrooms in Grant, Iowa and Lafayette Counties for preschool-aged children in collaboration with SWCAP. The goal is to introduce children to the five food groups, encourage trying new foods and promote healthy eating habits at school and at home.

Similarly, planning for Strong Bodies series and a Tai Chi for Arthritis and Falls Prevention series. The goal is to encourage healthy eating habits, increase physical activity, prevent falls, and decrease social isolation among older adults in rural communities.

Extension Impact at a Glance (Community Garden)



FoodWise staff provided seasonal recipes and educational handouts in conjunction with the food garden at the Lafayette County Housing Authority Riverview apartments in Blanchardville. Residents at the apartment received information on how to select, wash, prepare, store and preserve produce that was currently growing and being harvested from the community garden. The goal of this effort is to increase the awareness, use, and consumption of vegetables growing in the community food garden.



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.

Project Experiences:



Lafayette County 4-H and Extension will be providing project experiences for all youth currently in 4-H, interested in learning more about 4-H, and potential adult volunteers who are seeking opportunities to work hands-on with youth in project-specific areas. During the end of 2024, two events are scheduled to take place around the project areas of tie-dyeing and yarn art canvases. Previous events focused on projects proved that when youth are provided with the space, minimal-to-no-cost, and leadership they are more likely to come together, learn new projects, and expand on their relationships and community building within Lafayette County 4-H. In addition to the 4-H adult leadership, guest presenters/experts are invited in to teach about new areas to explore and further ignite their SPARKS for learning and 4-H.

Community Programming

Lafayette County 4-H programming is expanding access to improve/increase enrollment. In conjunction with these efforts, community collaborations with libraries will be a primary focus. By collaborating with libraries throughout the county during the 2024-2025 4-H will reach more youth county-wide while building upon local library efforts of providing programming for youth. In December 4-H will be providing programming at the Johnson Public Library introducing youth to 4-H and offering hands-on learning while making 3-D snowflakes and gingerbread houses. The collaborations with the libraries will be open to the youth of all ages, backgrounds, and connections to 4-H.

