

Dairy Programming Overview

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Extension
UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN-MADISON
DANE COUNTY

QUICK INTRO

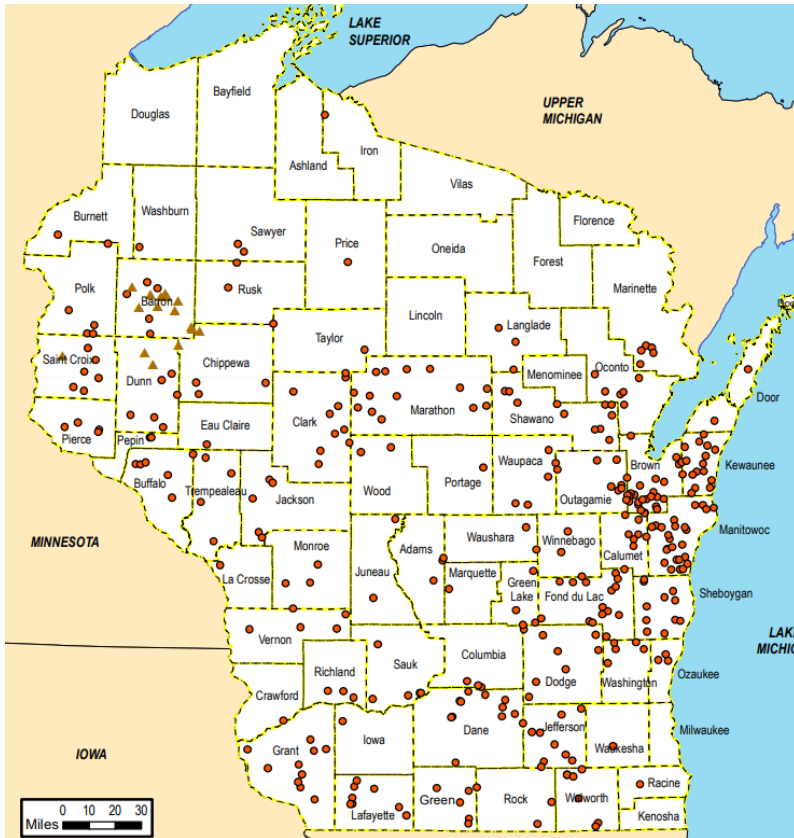


Bilingual Regional Dairy educator serving 4 counties (Dane, Jefferson, Rock and Walworth)

Main area of focus:

- Animal Welfare
- Cow/calf care
- Training programs for bilingual workforce

CAFO FARMS IN WISCONSIN



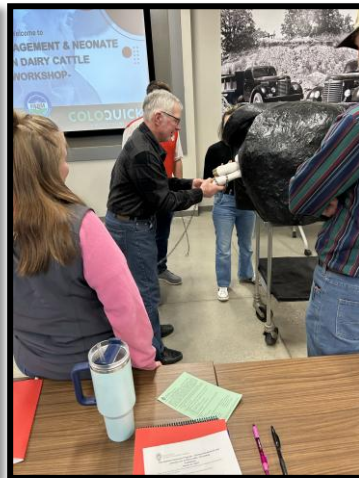
331 farms are classified as Concentrated Animal Feeding Operations (CAFOs)

14,684 dairy workers

- **9,889** immigrant dairy workers (CAFOs)
- **10,279** workers (dairy industry)
- Dane county – **157 dairy farms**
- CAFO farms – **12 farms**

CALVING MANAGEMENT AND NEONATE CARE WORKSHOP

- **Audience:** Farmers and dairy employees
- **Goal:** the goal of this training is to enhance the knowledge and skills of dairy farm personnel in calving management and neonate care, ultimately leading to improved animal welfare, better farm performance, and increased profitability.
- **Impact:** 110 attendees in 2025 – 2026
- Coming program: August 28th-29th, 2026 – Best practices for cattle vaccination and medication administration in cattle – workshop



MILK QUALITY FROM THE UDDER WORLD COURSE



- **Audience:** Dairy managers and milking parlor leaders
- **Goal:** Provides practical tools and knowledge to improve milk quality and udder health. Participants will learn how to explain the "why" behind best milking practices, coach their teams in consistent routines, and develop the skills needed to prevent mastitis and achieve high-quality milk together.
- **Impact:** Approximately 100 farmers and dairy workers

BOVI-NOTICIAS - BILINGUAL E-NEWSLETTER

- Provide relevant, practical insights for workers, managers, and owners.
- Increase awareness of the “why” behind practices to encourage employee understanding and enhance engagement of dairy teams
- Serving as a resource for team meetings, facilitating discussions between management and workers, and fostering problem-solving.

<https://dairy.extension.wisc.edu/bovi-noticias/>



Bovi-Noticias

BILINGUAL NEWS FOR DAIRY WORKERS AND MANAGERS



Extension
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English Edition Issue 7, Summer 2026

Keep Calves Hydrated in the Heat



Provide Fresh Water: Calves need water all day long.

Use Electrolytes: They help prevent dehydration when it's hot. Electrolytes work best when calves also have plenty of water to drink. This helps them stay cool and healthy.

What Is Your Milking Equipment Telling You Today?



A dairy farm is always in motion: cows coming and going, equipment running, shift changes... and in the middle of all that activity, small details can easily go unnoticed. A hose out of place, a worn gasket, an incomplete wash routine, or a missing record may seem minor, but if not detected in time, they can turn into major headaches.

Learning to use your senses to spot early signs of failure in the milking system: the wash system, and the tank room is the first line of defense. These skills help you recognize warning signs before they become problems that affect animal health or milk quality.

Watch the full video on YouTube to strengthen your preventive mindset.

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Visit <https://go.wisc.edu/BN26021> or scan the QR code to read the complete article.

Detecting Failures Early in Milking Systems



Tornadoes in Wisconsin



Image generated with AI tools.

About 80–85% of tornadoes in Wisconsin happen during spring and summer, especially from May through July.

Farm owners and employees should be prepared by:

- Creating and reviewing an emergency plan.
- Designing and identifying a safe shelter area.
- Monitoring weather alerts:
 - **Tornado Watch:** Stay alert.
 - **Tornado Warning:** Seek shelter immediately.

During a Tornado

- Go to the designated shelter.
- Protect your head and neck.
- Remain in the shelter until it is safe to leave.

Being prepared and responding quickly can save lives during severe weather events.

Be safe!!

Provide effective feedback in a simple way



Feedback, defined as information given about someone's work or behavior to help them improve or continue performing well, is essential for building a strong and productive team.

Easy steps for Giving Feedback:

1. Start with observation: Clearly explain what the employee did well or what needs improvement.
2. Explain the impact: Describe how their actions affected the farm, team, or overall operations.
3. Set direction: Identify how to reinforce positive behaviors or outline what needs to improve.

Feedback Tips:

- Always provide genuine and sincere feedback.
- Provide feedback timely, don't wait weeks, months, or even years.
- Provide positive feedback publicly and negative feedback privately.

When done well, feedback motivates employees and improves performance. However, when handled poorly, it can lead to confusion and workplace conflict. Now it's your turn, start giving effective feedback and strengthening your team.

Fun Fact

Did you know?
A cow drinks a bathtub (50 gallons) of water per day.



Image generated with AI tools.

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EL “BREAK” INFO-LECHERO 2026



To help dairy workers and the Latino dairy industry in the United States and other parts of the world get updated information, the University of Wisconsin-Madison Division of Extension, in collaboration with Cornell University (NY), has organized the fourth edition of the Spanish-language webinar called EL “Break” Info-Lechero 2026.



This webinar is an update on various relevant dairy topics, based on research, and presented in an applied and practical way.

CALL TO ACTION



“We owe a thank you to YOU!!! I know our team is in a better place from attending the close by session that you and the extension team put on in the past year (s). Please keep up the good work! we need people like you to help our team strive for greatness”

Dairy farmer

Questions?



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