



Extension

UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN-MADISON

**Extension Education Committee Agenda
Videoconference (See link at bottom of agenda)
OR
Jefferson County Extension Office
864 Collins Road, Jefferson, WI 53549**

DATE: Monday, July 14, 2025

TIME: 8:30 a.m.

Committee Members: Matt Foelker, Elizabeth Hafften, Dan Herbst, John Kannard, Dwayne Morris

1. Call to Order
2. Roll Call (to establish a quorum)
3. Certification of Compliance with Open Meetings Law
4. Approval of Agenda (for possible rearrangement)
5. Public Comment (Members of the Public who wish to address the Committee on specific agenda items must register their request at this time.)
6. Approval of University Extension Education Committee Minutes from June 9, 2025
7. Communications
8. Review of 2025 Departmental Budget
9. Discussion regarding continuing .2FTE Horticulture Educator in 2026
10. Discussion of Monthly Educator Reports – Steve Chmielewski (Community Educator), Alison Pfau (Bilingual Regional Dairy Educator), Jerry Wilcenski (4-H), Julie Hill (Horticulture Educator), Lisa Krolow (Bilingual FoodWise Coordinator), Josh Kamps (Regional Crop Educator)
11. Possible Items of Discussion/Agenda Items for Upcoming Meetings
12. Discussion and Possible Decision on Dates/Times of Extension Education Committee meetings: August 11, September 8, October 13
13. Adjourn

Virtual TEAMS Link

[Join the meeting now](#)

Meeting ID: 240 650 167 874 2

Passcode: Re2YX3UE

A quorum of any Jefferson County Committee, Commission or other body, including the Jefferson County Board of Supervisors, may be present at this meeting. Individuals requiring special accommodation for attendance at the meeting should contact the County Administrator 24 hours prior to the meeting at 920-674-7101 so appropriate arrangements can be made. "Enriching people with knowledge, perspective, skills, and aspirations. "University of Wisconsin, U.S. Department of Agriculture & Wisconsin counties cooperating. UW-Extension provides equal opportunities in employment and programming including Title IX & ADA.

Extension Education Committee Minutes

Date of Meeting: June 9, 2025

Call to Order: John Kannard called the meeting to order at 8:30am.

Roll Call: Committee members present in person: John Kannard, Dwayne Morris and Matt Foelker.

Chrissy Wen, Lisa Krolow, Jerry Wilcenski, Steven Chmielewski, Meghan Splinter and Katelyn Broedlow were present in-person.

Libby Hafften and Michael Luckey was present via zoom.

Certification of Compliance with Open Meetings Law: In compliance.

Approval of Agenda: No changes.

Public Comment: None.

Approval of University Extension Education Committee Minutes from May 12, 2025: Motion by Foelker, seconded by Morris, to approve the minutes as printed. Motion passed.

Communications: Wen stated that the SNAP-Ed program is going through a budget reconciliation process. The FoodWise program is funded through SNAP-Ed and budget changes may affect the FoodWise staff.

Review of 2025 Departmental Budget: Wen stated everything is on target for the budget.

Discussion regarding continuing .2FTE Horticulture Educator in 2026: Wen stated that we will have more numbers in the future. Discussion was had.

Discussion of Monthly Educator Reports:

Steve Chmielewski, Community Development Educator, provided an oral report for the committee.

- The Economic Impact Study proposal was approved by the Wisconsin River Rail Transit Commission. The study will begin in July.
- Offered the Real Colors Workshop with Jefferson County to a total of 29 Department Heads and staff. There will be another workshop offered in August for those who were not able to participate.
- Connected with C4 on childcare needs survey results. This research project will help with the development of a new childcare center.
- Continues to work with Rural Entrepreneurial Venture program.
- Continues to work on the needs assessment for the county.
- Will be attending the Community Development Society Conference next month.
- Discussion was had.

Alison Pfau joined the meeting at 8:39am.

Alison Pfau, Regional Dairy Educator, provided an oral report for the committee.

- Referred to the handout. The second Bovi-Noticias newsletter was sent out. It is sent out in both English and Spanish. This newsletter has been distributed to different farms and employees to receive feedback on the layout and content of the newsletter. Farms seem to enjoy it.
- Collaborating with MSU on language barriers to understand what language barriers there are on dairy farms. Currently, are in the process of collecting surveys to understand what the best communication is for dairy farms.

- Attended a conference on dairy welfare in Ohio and connected with an educator from Cornell University. They will be collaborating on the Latino webinar series in the fall.
- Working on publishing an article on stressors in dairy calves.

Jerry Wilcenski, 4-H educator, provided an oral report for the committee.

- Had Livestock Project Learning Day and it went very well. Many older youth helped take on lead teaching roles.
- Hosted our last Cloverbud meeting of the year at the fair park with a petting zoo.
- Planning Cloverbud Day Camp – western theme.
- Have a few more livestock educational meetings coming up.
- Working with a state team on distance learning. Currently, drafting a landscape design take home package that will go be available statewide.
- Discussion was had.

Julie Hill, Horticulture Educator, was unable to attend the meeting.

Lisa Krolow, FoodWise Coordinator, provided an oral report for the committee.

- Starting a program series at the Lake Mills Senior Dining Site in July.
- Planning a cooking series in July with 8 participants from the Community Support Program.
- Starting a series with the House of Peace in July.
- The gleaning program at the Watertown Farmers Market will start this week.

Josh Kamps, Regional Crops Educator, was unable to attend the meeting.

Possible Items of Discussion/Agenda Items for Upcoming Meetings: None.

Next Scheduled Meetings: July 14, August 11, September 8

Adjourn – Motion by Foelker, seconded by Morris, to adjourn at 8:58am.

Minutes recorded by Katelyn Broedlow, Administrative Specialist

07/10/2025
 15:53:28

 Jefferson County
 FLEXIBLE PERIOD REPORT

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FROM 2025 01 TO 2025 12

ACCOUNTS FOR:		ORIGINAL	ESTIM REV	REVISED	ACTUAL	REMAINING	PCT
100 General Fund		ESTIM REV	ADJSTMTS	EST REV	REVENUE	REVENUE	COLL
13301 UW Extension							
13301 411100	Gen Prop T	-297,454	0	-297,454	-148,727.16	-148,727.21	50.0%
13301 424001	22217 Fed Grants	0	0	0	.00	.00	.0%
13301 451002	PP Photo	0	0	0	.00	.00	.0%
13301 451100	Misc Bill	-1,500	0	-1,500	-605.30	-894.70	40.4%
13301 457020	Publ Sales	-30	0	-30	-7.00	-23.00	23.3%
13301 457027	4-H Annual	-11,000	0	-11,000	-2,100.00	-8,900.00	19.1%
13301 471100	St Bill	0	0	0	.00	.00	.0%
13301 471120	St Bill Mc	0	0	0	.00	.00	.0%
13301 471130	St Bill Or	-2,608	0	-2,608	.00	-2,608.00	.0%
13301 485200	Donat Res	0	0	0	.00	.00	.0%
13301 511210	Wage Reg	102,136	0	102,136	46,386.75	55,749.16	45.4%
13301 511210	22101 Wage Reg	0	0	0	.00	.00	.0%
13301 511220	Wage Ovt	5	0	5	78.27	-73.67	*****%
13301 511240	Wage Temp	0	0	0	.00	.00	.0%
13301 511310	Wage SL	0	0	0	.00	.00	.0%
13301 511320	Wage Vac	0	0	0	.00	.00	.0%
13301 511330	Wage Long	0	0	0	.00	.00	.0%
13301 511340	Wage Hol	0	0	0	.00	.00	.0%
13301 511350	Wage Mic	0	0	0	.00	.00	.0%
13301 511380	Wage Berv	0	0	0	.00	.00	.0%
13301 512141	SS	7,155	0	7,155	2,835.32	4,319.61	39.6%
13301 512141	22101 SS	0	0	0	.00	.00	.0%
13301 512142	Ret (Emlr)	6,665	0	6,665	3,229.31	3,435.78	48.5%
13301 512142	22101 Ret (Emlr)	0	0	0	.00	.00	.0%
13301 512144	Health	20,738	0	20,738	14,335.89	6,402.14	69.1%
13301 512144	22101 Health	0	0	0	.00	.00	.0%
13301 512145	Life	5	0	5	5.82	-1.14	124.4%
13301 512145	22101 Life	0	0	0	.00	.00	.0%
13301 512147	ED & Train	0	0	0	.00	.00	.0%
13301 512150	FSA Contr	0	0	0	.00	.00	.0%
13301 512151	HSA Contri	1,800	0	1,800	.00	1,800.00	.0%
13301 512152	Limted FSA	0	0	0	.00	.00	.0%
13301 512153	HRA Contri	0	0	0	165.22	-165.22	.0%
13301 512173	Dental	1,104	0	1,104	532.28	571.72	48.2%
13301 512173	22101 Dental	0	0	0	.00	.00	.0%
13301 521258	Comp Maint	500	0	500	500.00	.00	100.0%
13301 529170	Grounds Ke	0	0	0	.00	.00	.0%
13301 529299	Purch Care	100,093	0	100,093	55,245.86	44,847.14	55.2%

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FROM 2025 01 TO 2025 12

ACCOUNTS FOR:			ORIGINAL	ESTIM REV	REVISED	ACTUAL	REMAINING	PCT
100 General Fund			ESTIM REV	ADJSTMTS	EST REV	REVENUE	REVENUE	COLL
13301	531243	Furniture	0	0	0	.00	.00	.0%
13301	531298	UPS	50	0	50	34.30	15.70	68.6%
13301	531303	Comp Eq	7,210	0	7,210	.00	7,210.00	.0%
13301	531311	Postage	2,608	0	2,608	.00	2,608.00	.0%
13301	531312	Office Sup	5,000	0	5,000	881.75	4,118.25	17.6%
13301	531313	Print & Dp	0	0	0	.00	.00	.0%
13301	531314	Small Item	500	0	500	-10.88	510.88	-2.2%
13301	531314	22101 Small Item	0	0	0	.00	.00	.0%
13301	531314	22217 Small Item	0	0	0	.00	.00	.0%
13301	531322	Subscript	300	0	300	.00	300.00	.0%
13301	531324	Memb Dues	500	0	500	161.16	338.84	32.2%
13301	531325	4H & Ext B	0	0	0	.00	.00	.0%
13301	531326	Advertise	500	0	500	.00	500.00	.0%
13301	531348	Educ Sup	5,000	0	5,000	986.85	4,013.15	19.7%
13301	532325	Registr	1,200	0	1,200	440.00	760.00	36.7%
13301	532332	Mileage	3,500	0	3,500	1,582.00	1,918.00	45.2%
13301	532334	Com Travel	700	0	700	.00	700.00	.0%
13301	532335	Meals	500	0	500	.00	500.00	.0%
13301	532336	Lodging	1,000	0	1,000	.00	1,000.00	.0%
13301	532339	Other Trvl	30	0	30	.00	30.00	.0%
13301	533225	Tele Fax	1,000	0	1,000	131.00	869.00	13.1%
13301	533236	wirel Int	0	0	0	.00	.00	.0%
13301	535242	Maint Mach	3,600	0	3,600	835.12	2,764.88	23.2%
13301	536535	Act Center	4,000	0	4,000	.00	4,000.00	.0%
13301	571004	IP Tel All	1,275	0	1,275	637.50	637.50	50.0%
13301	571005	Dup Allc	0	0	0	.00	.00	.0%
13301	571007	MIS Direct	0	0	0	.00	.00	.0%
13301	571009	MIS PC	29,650	0	29,650	14,824.98	14,825.02	50.0%
13301	571010	MIS Sys	1,879	0	1,879	939.48	939.52	50.0%
13301	591519	Oth Ins	1,190	0	1,190	399.60	790.53	33.6%
13301	591519	33001 Oth Ins	1,200	0	1,200	.00	1,200.00	.0%
13301	594813	Cap Office	8,000	0	8,000	.00	8,000.00	.0%
13301	594819	Cap Oth Eq	0	0	0	.00	.00	.0%
13301	594950	Oper Res	0	0	0	.00	.00	.0%
13301	699700	Res Oper	0	0	0	.00	.00	.0%
13301	699999	Budget FB	-8,000	0	-8,000	.00	-8,000.00	.0%
TOTAL General Fund			0	0	0	-6,281.88	6,281.88	.0%
TOTAL REVENUES			-320,592	0	-320,592	-151,439.46	-169,152.91	
TOTAL EXPENSES			320,592	0	320,592	145,157.58	175,434.79	

07/10/2025
15:53:30

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FROM 2025 01 TO 2025 12

	ORIGINAL ESTIM REV	ESTIM REV ADJSTMTS	REVISED EST REV	ACTUAL REVENUE	REMAINING REVENUE	PCT COLL
GRAND TOTAL	0	0	0	-6,281.88	6,281.88	.0%



Steve Chmielewski
Community Development
Educator

Community Development

June Program Highlights

- A study to better understand economic impact of rail users in 21 counties and 2 in Illinois, challenges of switching to trucking and potential expansion of service.
- An updated Economic Impact Study of the Southern Wisconsin Rail System where the Wisconsin River Rail Transit Commission can communicate value of rail users in the system and make informed-decisions.
- Planning for three surveys in cooperation with a community group and UW-Whitewater to better understand Childcare needs of households, employers and childcare providers to provide direction for a new community-base childcare model.
- A community-led process where local leadership team discovers gaps and support needed to then strengthen their entrepreneur ecosystem.
- Planning for community needs assessment in collaboration with community leaders, businesses and organizations in Jefferson County. The goal is to engage new participation to learn about trends, challenges and goals to develop new programming, raise awareness of local and statewide resources, and increase relational capital.



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Alison Pfau
Bilingual Regional
Dairy Educator

Agriculture Dairy

June Program Highlights

- A survey for farmers, employers and employees who have different mother languages (Spanish and English) and do not speak each other's, where they provide information that helps us understand the strategies they use to bridge the language barrier and how that affects the activities at the farm.
- Bovi-noticias is a collaboration between Educators on the Dairy team and Farm Management team. This bilingual (English & Spanish) newsletter was designed to support dairy farms and their employees. This publication delivers accessible, research-based information in both English and Spanish, aiming to: 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.
- Development of an article for dairy farmers, where key sources were shared of stress in young calves—such as colostrum management, temperature extremes, early transport, painful procedures, and housing transitions—and offered practical strategies for mitigating these stressors, to enhance calf welfare, improve long-term health and productivity, and support more sustainable, compassionate dairy farming practices. The article “Calves Get Stressed Too: What Dairy Farmers Need to Know” contributed to a broader effort to improve calf welfare and farm management practices by raising awareness of early-life stressors in dairy calves. As a result of this publication, dairy producers, veterinarians, and agricultural educators have gained a more comprehensive understanding of how stress—particularly during the first few weeks of life—can negatively affect calf health, immunity, growth, and future productivity. [View the report here!](#)



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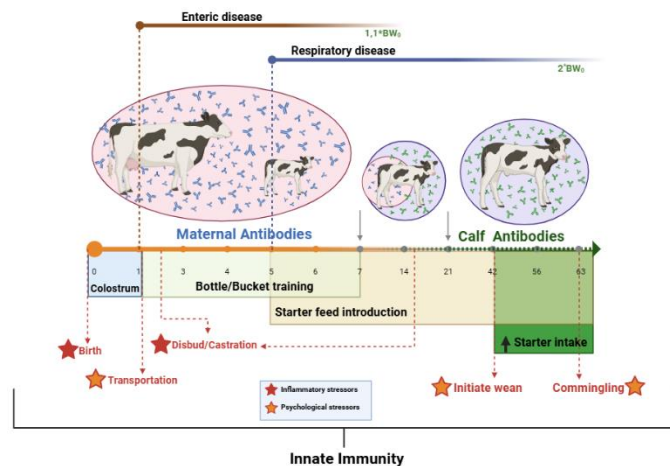
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Calves Get Stressed Too: What Dairy Farmers Need to Know

Alison Pfau | Bilingual Regional Extension Dairy Educator - Aerica Bjurstrom | Regional Extension Dairy educator

UW-Madison Division of Extension

Just like us, calves can experience stress from various factors in their early lives. Understanding these stressors is key for dairy farmers to keep their calves healthy and growing strong. Recent information sheds light on critical periods and factors that can significantly impact these animals from birth through weaning. In this article, we will discuss the principal stressors in a calf's life and their effect on its development and health.



This graph is a timeline, spanning 0 to 63 days (approximately 9 weeks), designed to illustrate the dynamic interplay between a dairy calf's immune development, its susceptibility to common diseases, and the influence of critical early-life events and management practices.

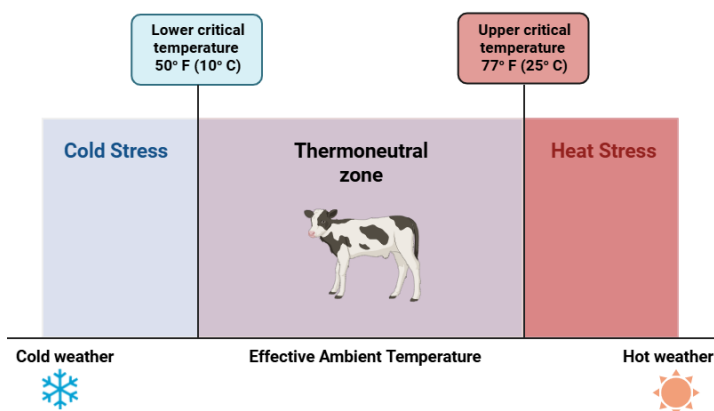
Stress at Birth: The First Challenge in a Calf's Life.

One of the first significant stressors for a calf is **birth**. While they're still inside the cow, things are constant. However, coming into the world marks a significant change. Calves must receive colostrum within 2 hours after birth to gain passive transfer of maternal antibodies. This essential feed provides them with critical protection against detrimental bacteria until their immune system and antioxidative defense mechanisms mature. Research indicates that more than 40 percent of heifer calves fail to achieve sufficient passive transfer. Stressful events like hard calving or dystocia can add up to the failure of passive transfer even more. More information visit <https://livestock.extension.wisc.edu/articles/feeding-the-newborn-calf/>



Weather Woes: How Climate Extremes Impact calves

Temperature plays a significant role in calf health. Calves expend considerable energy regulating their body temperature, particularly when outside their comfort zone, which ranges from 50 to 77 degrees Fahrenheit (10 to 25 degrees Celsius). In summer, they use extra energy to cool down, a process hindered by humidity and intensified by direct sunlight. While wind and a dry coat can aid cooling, these are less effective in humid conditions. Conversely, during winter, when temperatures drop below their lower critical point, calves must expend energy to maintain basic functions and body heat. Smaller calves lose heat more quickly due to their greater surface area relative to their weight. A clean, dry hair coat provides crucial insulation, while drafts exacerbate heat loss.



This illustration shows the thermoneutral zone on calves and the weather as a stressor.

Calves under 3 weeks of age begin to experience cold stress below 50°F. A jacket helps reduce the energy they need to stay warm. Sunlight and the heat produced during rumination can help raise body temperature in cold conditions. If calves don't receive enough energy in their feed to meet these increased demands, they will lose weight, their immune system will be depressed, and more susceptible to illness.

For more information visit

<https://dairy.extension.wisc.edu/articles/managing-the-heat-in-pre-weaned-calves/>



On the Move: Transportation Stress in calves

Transportation of **calves** soon after birth is a common practice that challenges calves' well-being. This early movement, especially within the first 24 hours, adds to the stress of birth with potential limited nutrition, extreme temperature, dehydration, and exposure to pathogen. Those conditions can compromise their developing immune system and increase susceptibility to diseases like diarrhea and respiratory infections. For replacement heifers, these early health setbacks can lead to impaired growth and reduced future milk production. Preweaned average daily gain (ADG) affects future milk production. Research has shown that for every one pound of preweaned ADG, first lactation milk production increases by over 1,500 pounds. At the same time, beef calves are often associated with poorer carcass quality and lower market value.

To mitigate these risks and improve outcomes, here are some recommendations:

- Delay transportation for 24-48 hours after birth to allow for colostrum absorption
- Implement preconditioning protocols focusing on immune support and hydration
- Evaluate calf fitness for travel using standardized checklists

- Ensure comfortable transport conditions with proper bedding and environmental protection
- Minimizing transport duration and handling events through direct shipment is strongly recommended.



For more information visit

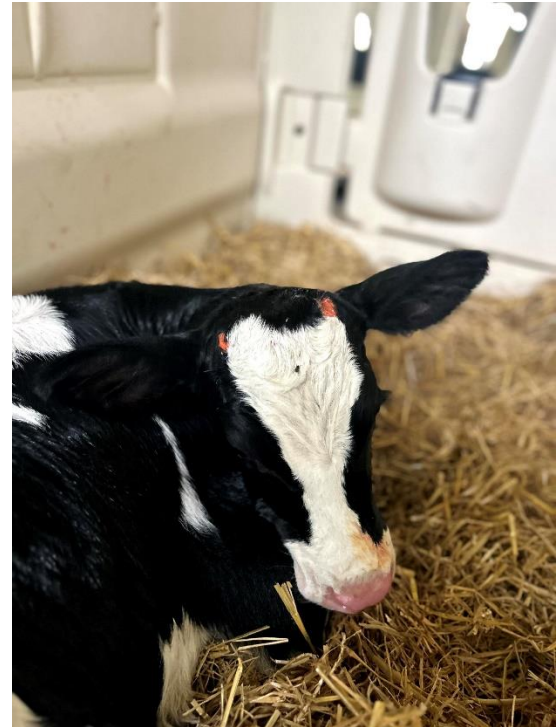
<https://dairy.extension.wisc.edu/articles/are-your-calves-ready-for-the-long-haul/>

Management Matters: The Role of Human Practices in Animal Stress

Farmers commonly perform routine management practices like dehorning (removing attached horns) and disbudding (preventing horn attachment) on calves, typically between 2 days and 3-4 weeks of age.

While these procedures reduce the risk of injuries to the animals, other animals, and caretakers, scientific evidence indicates they cause pain regardless of the method. Importantly, this timing often coincides with a natural decline in the protective maternal antibodies the calf received from colostrum, making them more susceptible to the inflammatory stress caused by dehorning or disbudding. Thus, providing

local anesthesia and systemic pain relief is crucial to minimizing discomfort and improving animal welfare during both procedures, even when using caustic paste on very young calves.



More information visit

<https://dairy.extension.wisc.edu/articles/water-a-critical-and-undervalued-nutrient-in-dairy-calves/>

Home Sweet Home? Housing Conditions and Animal Stress.

Finally, how calves are **housed** can be a psychological stressor. After they are weaned, calves in individual housing are often grouped together. This period of social adjustment has been linked to an increased risk of respiratory disease, a leading cause of illness and death in post-weaned calves. Individual housing systems are commonly used in the United States to reduce the risk of pathogen exposure and provide individual feeding and healthcare. However, health, growth, and social implications may be present for calves in alternative systems with greater space allowance than conventional systems or group housing. Dairy farms that house calves with at least

one companion have shown an improvement in animal welfare and calf growth.

For more information visit

https://animalwelfare.cals.wisc.edu/calf_pairing/



Conclusions

Understanding these multifaceted stressors is crucial for implementing research-based management strategies that prioritize calf well-being, support robust immune systems, and optimize growth and development in young dairy animals. Promoting gentle handling procedures when working with calves is essential. During the pre-weaned period, calm and gentle contact with them can reduce physical stress, help avoid psychological stress and prevent chronic stress that could suppress the immune system. Further research and proactive management practices are necessary to mitigate these challenges and ensure the long-term health and productivity of dairy herds. For more information on calf care and reducing stress, visit <https://dairy.extension.wisc.edu/>

References:

- Hoseyni, F., Mahjoubi, E., Zahmatkesh, D., & Yazdi, M. H. (2016). Effects of dam parity and pre-weaning average daily gain of Holstein calves on future milk production. *Journal of Dairy Research*, 83(4), 453–455. <https://doi.org/10.1017/S0022029916000558>
- Jones, C., and J. Heinrichs. "Early weaning strategies. Department of Dairy and Animal Science, The Pennsylvania State University Extension Report." 2007.
- Calf Care & Quality Assurance – version 1 <https://www.calfcareqa.org/>
- Hulbert, Lindsey E., and Sonia J. Moisé. "Stress, immunity, and the management of calves1." *J. Dairy Sci* 99 (2016): 1-18.

- NAHMS (National Animal Health Monitoring System). 2007. *Dairy 2007: Heifer calf health and management practices on U.S. dairy operations*. USDA:APHIS:VS. USDA, Ft. Collins, CO. Accessed Nov.192015. https://www.aphis.usda.gov/animal_health/nahms/dairy/downloads/dairy07/Dairy07_ir_CalfHealth.pdf
- https://animalwelfare.cals.wisc.edu/calf_pairing/

Developed by UW–Madison Division of Extension
Regional Dairy Educator Alison Pfau.



Jerry Wilcenski
4-H Program Educator

Jefferson County 4-H

June Program Highlights

- Youth will learn about safe food handling, common pathogens, and proper internal temperatures of meat products. Participants in each session will learn about the nutritional components of meat products, the cost of production and innovative production methods focused on climate and sustainability. Youth will also learn about animal welfare and how it effects consumer demands and product quality.
- A series of events that break down into four main categories: Youth care of animals, Meat Science and Carcass Quality, Genetics Marketing and Public Speaking.
- Countywide Cloverbud Programing that highlights the various projects and activities 4-H has to offer.
- Youth will learn about all aspects of draft horse management and care, from reproduction to nutritional needs to safe handling. Programming involves hands on lessons throughout the year.



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Julie Hill
Horticulture Educator

Agriculture Horticulture

June Program Highlights

- An in-person program, in collaboration with Milton Public Library, for participants where they learned gardening techniques for growing cucurbit crops to maximize yield and integrated pest management to manage insects and diseases. The goal of this effort is to increase knowledge, confidence and build skills to successfully grow plants while minimize contamination from horticulture chemicals.
- An in-person presentation, in collaboration with Jefferson Public Library, for consumer horticulture audiences where participants learned about proper horticulture practices to provide food resources and decrease/eliminate pesticide use to improve habitat availability for Wisconsin pollinators.
- A yearlong activity/service for residents of Jefferson County to provide research based answers to their horticulture questions. The goal of this effort is to educate individuals of Jefferson County so they can implement best practices in their landscapes that will positively affect the environment and their communities.
- Planning for community needs assessment in collaboration with community leaders, businesses and organizations in Jefferson County. The goal is to engage new participation to learn about trends, challenges and goals to develop new programming, raise awareness of local and statewide resources, and increase relational capital.





Josh Kamps
Regional Crops & Soils
Educator

Agriculture Crops & Soils

June Program Highlights

- An on-farm research study to better understand manure application, commercial nitrogen application rates, and nitrogen credits on corn yield and potential effect on ground water. Results from this study will help farmers, agriculture industry professionals, and agency professionals in adjusting manure and commercial nitrogen applications to optimize corn yield and protect groundwater resources.
- A hybrid Foundational Crop Scout training that blends a series of webinar trainings with in person field days for entry-level crop scouts, crop growers and consultants where participants learn the basic skills necessary to scout field crops including corn, soybeans and alfalfa. Through this training series, we will provide "just in time" training to crop scouts as they begin work in the busy growing season.
- An on-farm research project to determine the performance of five winter barley varieties at different planting dates, where performance is determined by winter survival, yield as well as malt, forage, and feed analysis. Results from this study will help determine if/how winter barley can be integrated into Wisconsin cropping systems and if it can serve as an overwintering cover crop that can potentially garner higher prices and yield than winter wheat for farmers in the state.



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