



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, January 12, 2026

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 December 8, 2025
7. Communications
8. Review of 2026 Departmental Budget
9. Update on 4-H Associate Position
10. Discussion of Monthly Educator Reports – Steve Chmielewski (Community Educator), Alison Pfau (Bilingual Regional Dairy Educator), Jerry Wilcenski (4-H), Julie Hill (Horticulture Educator), 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:
February 9, March 9, April 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." The University of Wisconsin-Madison Division of Extension provides equal opportunities in employment and programming in compliance with state and federal law.

Extension Education Committee Minutes

Date of Meeting: December 8, 2025

Call to Order: John Kannard called the meeting to order at 8:32am.

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

Chrissy Wen, Jerry Wilcenski, Steven Chmielewski, Julie Hill and Katelyn Broedlow were present in-person.

Dan Herbst, Elizabeth Hafften and Josh Kamps were present via Teams.

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 November 10, 2025: Motion by Morris, seconded by Foelker, to approve the minutes as printed. Motion passed.

Communications: Wen stated that Extension Area Directors are being reorganized. However, Area 19 (which includes Jefferson County) will not be affected by these changes.

Review of 2025 Departmental Budget: Wen stated that we received the final invoice for the educator contracts for the year and that will get paid soon. Discussion was had.

Update on 4-H Associate Position: Wen stated that the job has been posted and closes on December 15. Wen explained the interview process to the committee.

Discussion of Monthly Educator Reports:

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

- The Rural Entrepreneurial Venture Program continues in Jefferson. A Workshop Series will start in February.
- There is another group in Palmyra interested in the Rural Entrepreneurial Venture Program. The kickoff for this will happen in January with a presentation for the group.
- The Regional Housing Summit is planned for Thursday, May 7 at the Milwaukee County Zoo. This will cover approximately 12 counties.
- Continues to work with Julie on the needs assessment with a few more areas to visit. They plan to visit Fort Atkinson in January.
- Working with the Jefferson Food Pantry on strategic planning.
- Discussion was had.

Alison Pfau, Regional Dairy Educator, was unable to attend the meeting.

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

- Charters have been reviewed and letters are being sent out.
- There has been a big push to get all volunteers reenrolled and volunteer trainings done.
- Cloverbud meeting was food focused and the youth made butter.
- The Palmyra in school program is making chocolate this month.
- Taught at the Beulah Homestead Club about parasites and how it can affect a herd.
- There will be a food cook-off to see what product will be sold at the food stand at the fair.
- Youth Livestock Committee will be doing a line dancing fundraiser on January 2.

- Discussion was had.

Julie Hill, Horticulture Educator, provided an oral report for the committee.

- This is a slow time for horticulture.
- Wrapped up programming at MATC in Watertown – which has been a great location.
- Still getting some questions from the online Ask Your Gardener over the winter season.
- Referred to the preliminary summary created in the packet and explained some of those findings.
- Developing some new programs for the next year.
- Wrapping up the community needs assessment with Steve.
- Discussion was had.

Josh Kamps, Regional Crops Educator, provided an oral report for the committee.

- Badger Crops and Soils update meeting went well.
- Next week is the Water and Soil Health Conference. Will be presenting at a breakout session.
- Working through plot data from the NOPP trials to get ready to share through programs and written reports.
- The WI DNR, Department of Agriculture and UW Madison have been looking at the broader landscape of water quality and where the nutrients that leave end up.
- Discussion was had.

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

Next Scheduled Meetings: January 12, February 9, March 9

Adjourn – Motion by Morris, seconded by Foelker, to adjourn at 9:11am.

Minutes recorded by Katelyn Broedlow, Administrative Specialist

FROM 2026 01 TO 2026 12

ACCOUNTS FOR:
100 General Fund

	ORIGINAL REV	ESTIM REV	ADJSTMTS	REVISED EST REV	ACTUAL REVENUE	REMAINING REVENUE	PCT COLL
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13301 UW Extension

13301 411100 Gen Prop T	-319,030	0	-319,030	0	-319,029.69	.0%
13301 424001 22217 Fed Grants	0	0	0	0	.00	.0%
13301 451002 PP Photo	0	0	0	0	.00	.0%
13301 451100 Misc Bill	-1,500	0	-1,500	0	-1,500.00	.0%
13301 457020 Publ Sales	-50	0	-50	0	-50.00	.0%
13301 457027 4-H Annual	0	0	0	0	.00	.0%
13301 471100 St Bill	0	0	0	0	.00	.0%
13301 471120 St Bill MC	0	0	0	0	.00	.0%
13301 471130 St Bill Or	-2,608	0	-2,608	0	-2,608.00	.0%
13301 485200 Donat Res	0	0	0	0	.00	.0%
13301 511210 Wage Reg	55,196	0	55,196	0	55,196.08	.0%
13301 511210 22101 Wage Reg	0	0	0	0	.00	.0%
13301 511220 Wage Ovt	0	0	0	0	.00	.0%
13301 511240 Wage Temp	0	0	0	0	.00	.0%
13301 511310 Wage SL	0	0	0	0	.00	.0%
13301 511320 Wage Vac	0	0	0	0	.00	.0%
13301 511330 Wage Long	0	0	0	0	.00	.0%
13301 511340 Wage Ho	0	0	0	0	.00	.0%
13301 511350 Wage Mic	0	0	0	0	.00	.0%
13301 511380 Wage Berv	0	0	0	0	.00	.0%
13301 512141 SS	3,091	0	3,091	0	3,091.11	.0%
13301 512141 22101 SS	0	0	0	0	.00	.0%
13301 512142 Ret (Emplr)	3,974	0	3,974	0	3,974.12	.0%
13301 512142 22101 Ret (Emplr)	0	0	0	0	.00	.0%
13301 512144 Health	23,496	0	23,496	0	23,496.48	.0%
13301 512144 22101 Health	0	0	0	0	.00	.0%
13301 512145 Life	7	0	7	0	6.60	.0%
13301 512145 22101 Life	0	0	0	0	.00	.0%
13301 512147 ED & Train	0	0	0	0	.00	.0%
13301 512150 FSA Contr	0	0	0	0	.00	.0%
13301 512151 HSA Contr	1,600	0	1,600	0	1,600.00	.0%
13301 512152 Limited FSA	0	0	0	0	.00	.0%
13301 512153 HRA Contr	0	0	0	0	.00	.0%
13301 512173 Dental	1,104	0	1,104	0	1,104.00	.0%
13301 512173 22101 Dental	0	0	0	0	.00	.0%
13301 521258 Comp Maint	0	0	0	0	.00	.0%
13301 529170 Grounds Ke	0	0	0	0	.00	.0%
13301 529299 Purch Care	0	0	0	0	180,071.27	.0%

Jefferson County
FLEXIBLE PERIOD REPORT

FROM 2026 01 TO 2026 12

ACCOUNTS FOR:
100 General Fund

		ORIGINAL REV	ESTIM REV	ADJSTMTS	REVISED EST REV	ACTUAL REVENUE	REMAINING REVENUE	PCT COLL
13301 531243	Furniture	0	0	0	0	0	0	0%
13301 531298	UPS	50	0	50	50	0	50.00	0%
13301 531303	Comp Eq	0	0	0	0	0	50.00	0%
13301 531311	Postage	2,608	0	2,608	0	0	0.00	0%
13301 531312	Office Sup	4,600	0	4,600	0	0	4,600.00	0%
13301 531313	Print & Dp	0	0	0	0	0	0.00	0%
13301 531314	Small Item	500	0	500	500	0	500.00	0%
13301 531314	Small Item	0	0	0	0	0	0.00	0%
13301 531314	Small Item	0	0	0	0	0	0.00	0%
13301 531322	Subscript	150	0	150	150	0	150.00	0%
13301 531324	Memb Dues	370	0	370	370	0	370.00	0%
13301 531325	4H & Ext B	0	0	0	0	0	0.00	0%
13301 531326	Advertise	0	0	0	0	0	0.00	0%
13301 531348	Educ Sup	2,000	0	2,000	2,000	0	2,000.00	0%
13301 5322325	Registr	1,200	0	1,200	1,200	0	1,200.00	0%
13301 5322332	Mileage	3,500	0	3,500	3,500	0	3,500.00	0%
13301 5322334	Com Travel	700	0	700	700	0	700.00	0%
13301 5322335	Meals	500	0	500	500	0	500.00	0%
13301 5322336	Lodging	1,000	0	1,000	1,000	0	1,000.00	0%
13301 5322339	Other Trv	30	0	30	30	0	30.00	0%
13301 533225	Tele Fax	315	0	315	315	0	315.00	0%
13301 533226	Wirel Int	0	0	0	0	0	0.00	0%
13301 535242	Maint Mach	2,100	0	2,100	2,100	0	2,100.00	0%
13301 5365335	Act Center	0	0	0	0	0	0.00	0%
13301 571004	IP Tel All	1,650	0	1,650	1,650	0	1,650.00	0%
13301 571005	Dup All C	65	0	65	65	0	65.00	0%
13301 571007	MIS Direct	0	0	0	0	0	0.00	0%
13301 571009	MIS PC	30,244	0	30,244	30,244	0	30,244.00	0%
13301 571010	MIS Sys	2,063	0	2,063	2,063	0	2,063.00	0%
13301 591519	Oth Ins	1,003	0	1,003	1,003	0	1,003.03	0%
13301 591519	33001 Oth Ins	0	0	0	0	0	0.00	0%
13301 594809	Cap Build	0	0	0	0	0	0.00	0%
13301 594813	Cap Office	0	0	0	0	0	0.00	0%
13301 594819	Cap Oth Eq	0	0	0	0	0	0.00	0%
13301 594950	Oper Res	0	0	0	0	0	0.00	0%
13301 699700	Res Oper	0	0	0	0	0	0.00	0%
13301 699999	Budget FB	0	0	0	0	0	0.00	0%
TOTAL General Fund		0	0	0	0	0	0.00	.00
TOTAL REVENUES		-323,188	0	-323,188	0	0	.00	.0%
TOTAL EXPENSES		-323,188	0	-323,188	0	0	-323,187.69	-323,187.69

01/08/2026
11:11:52

FROM 2026 01 TO 2026 12

Jefferson County
FLEXIBLE PERIOD REPORT

	ORIGINAL ESTIM REV	ESTIM REV ADJSTMTS	REVISED EST REV	ACTUAL REVENUE	REMAINING REVENUE	PCT COLL
GRAND TOTAL	0	0	0	.00	.00	.0%

PAGE 3
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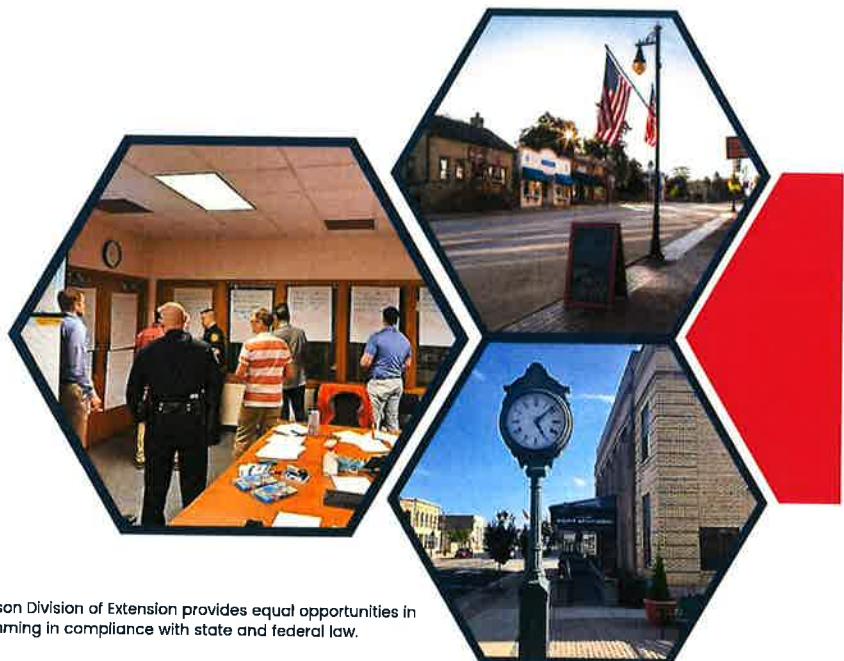


Steve Chmielewski
Community Development
Educator

Community Development

December Program Highlights

- A study to better understand the economic impact of the Wisconsin & Southern Railroad system with communities and businesses. Results will help communicate value of the Rail Transit Commissions work and help inform opportunities for improvement with the system.
- Preplanning and program introduction/community discussion with community stakeholders to begin program planning launch for strengthening local small business development ecosystem.
- Planning for a Southeastern Wisconsin Housing Summit for Housing advocates, policymakers/local government officials, developers, urban planners, real estate agents, non-profit leaders, community members, financial institutions, school districts, and businesses. These planning sessions are being conducted in collaboration with SEWRPC, WHEDA, and M7. The goal is to provide data to support community-level housing conversations, practical strategies for communities to address NIMBYism, and raise awareness of best practices and current initiatives in SE and beyond. These goals hope to support an increase for all income levels throughout Southeastern Wisconsin.
- 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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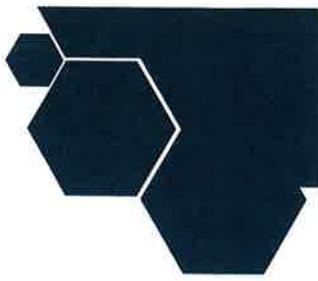
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Alison Pfau
Bilingual Regional
Dairy Educator

Agriculture Dairy



December Program Highlights

- A statewide program promoting humane dairy cow-handling practices for dairy cow handlers where the participants will learn to be aware of their own beliefs about working with cows, which affect how they interact with them. They will also learn how to form or maintain good habits, which will make the cows easier to handle and their job smoother.
- A statewide survey for dairy producers, where participants shared detailed records on inputs, management practices, and expenses associated with raising replacement heifers to generate updated benchmarks and highlight cost-saving opportunities, to support more informed decision-making and improve the economic sustainability of dairy operations.
- Bovi-noticias is a bilingual (English & Spanish) newsletter created through collaboration between the Dairy and Farm Management teams. It provides dairy farms and their employees with accessible, research-based information that explains the reasons behind key practices and offers practical insights for daily work. Through this effort, Bovi-noticias helps build a more informed and engaged workforce, improving animal well-being, optimizing resources, and supporting farm profitability and safety.



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DECEMBER, 2025

ENGLISH EDITION

What is a Total Compensation Statement?

A Total Compensation Statement is a report that brings together pay, bonuses, benefits, and other rewards that support motivation, stability, and well-being. It helps employees and employers see the full value of a job, not just the paycheck.

Benefits for employees:

- Shows the full investment their employer makes
- Gives a clear picture of all available resources
- Helps them feel valued

Benefits for employers:

- Better employee retention
- Stronger recruitment
- Higher productivity as employees use benefits well

Clear communication makes these statements work. Employers should share them yearly, and employees should take a moment to review and understand them.

To learn how this tool can help build a stronger workplace read the article:

<https://go.wisc.edu/BN25123>



SUBSCRIBE

Bovi-Noticias online

go.wisc.edu/BoviNoticias



Maintaining Udder Cleanliness Without Adding Stress

Clean udders are easier to prepare for milking and are important in maintaining milk quality and udder health. One method to improve udder hygiene is removing udder hair, which can trap manure and debris and harbor bacteria that increase the risk of infection and elevated somatic cell counts.



Diagram created with BioRender.

Trimming udder hair is a good way to reduce bacteria and increase welfare, but electrical clips can stress the cow due to its noise and contact. An alternative is to singe the hair with a cool propane flame, which is a faster procedure and avoids physical contact. Using this low stress method can support udder hygiene, lower somatic cell counts and keep cows more comfortable during milking.

Singeing Procedure:

- Light the wand; ensure the flame is yellow or orange (indicating a cooler burn).
- Hold the wand 3 to 4 inches from the udder floor.
- Use a quick in-and-out motion lasting less than a second.
- Move the wand up the back of the rear quarters.
- The total time per cow should not exceed 5 seconds.

Visit <https://go.wisc.edu/BN25122> or scan the QR code to read the complete article



SAFETY FIRST

Stay Safe in Cold Weather



- Dress in Warm Layers:** Wear a dry hat, gloves, and boots with good traction. If your clothes get wet, change right away to stay healthy.
- Watch for ice:** Walk slowly on wet or icy surfaces to prevent slips and injuries.
- Drive carefully in winter:** Snow and ice make roads dangerous. Slow down, avoid sudden stops, and give yourself extra time to arrive safely.

FUN FACT

Milk is often classified into four “classes” based on how it will be used.

Class I– Fluid milk you can **pour**
Class II– Soft products you can **spoon**
Class III– Cheese you can **cut**
Class IV– Butter you can **spread**



Images generated with ChatGPT

Injecting Cows the Right Way

Proper handling and administration of veterinary products is essential to protect animal health. Following these recommended practices helps reduce the risk of abscesses, disease transmission, vaccine failure, and accidental injury:

- Use a new needle for every animal:** Reusing needles may seem faster, but it can spread diseases and cause injuries.
- Don't store the needle in the bottle:** Leaving a needle in the bottle can contaminate the entire product.
- Store products correctly:** Keep vaccines and injectables refrigerated at 35°F–45°F (2°C–7°C). Avoid sunlight and freezing.
- Follow label instructions for dosage and injection site:** Use the neck triangle area for injections, spacing shots about 4 inches apart. Limit each site to 10 cc or less and keep the area clean to prevent infections.
- Dispose of needles safely :** Place used needles in a puncture-proof “sharps” container.

Visit <https://go.wisc.edu/BN25121> or scan the QR code to read the complete article



ACROSS THE FENCE

Blow-drying newborn calves

Using a hair dryer helps calves dry faster and stay warm, especially in cold weather. This simple step prevents chilling, supports good energy levels, and helps calves stay healthy so they can start life strong and safe.





¿Qué es un Reporte de Compensación Total?

Es un reporte que reúne el salario, los bonos, los beneficios y otras recompensas que apoyan la motivación, la estabilidad y el bienestar. Ayuda a empleados y empleadores a ver el valor completo de un trabajo, no solo el cheque de pago.

Beneficios para empleados:

- Muestra toda la inversión que hace el empleador
- Da una imagen clara de todos los recursos disponibles
- Les ayuda a sentirse valorados

Beneficios para empleadores:

- Mejor retención de empleados
- Reclutamiento más fuerte
- Mayor productividad cuando los empleados usan bien sus beneficios

La comunicación clara hace que estos reportes funcionen. Los empleadores deben compartirlas cada año, y los empleados deben tomarse un momento para revisarlos y entenderlos.

Para aprender cómo esta herramienta puede ayudar a crear un lugar de trabajo más fuerte, lea el artículo: <https://go.wisc.edu/BN25123SP>



SUSCRIBIRSE



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go.wisc.edu/BNwaReg

Mantener la Limpieza de la Ubre Sin Añadir Estrés

Las ubres limpias son más fáciles de preparar para el ordeño y son importantes para mantener la calidad de la leche y la salud de la ubre. Un método para mejorar la higiene de la ubre es eliminar el pelo de la misma, ya que puede atrapar estiércol, residuos, y albergar bacterias que aumentan el riesgo de infección y el conteo de células somáticas.



Diagrama creado con BioRender.

Recortar el pelo de la ubre es una buena manera de reducir bacterias y aumentar el bienestar, pero las máquinas eléctricas pueden estresar a la vaca por el ruido y el contacto. Una alternativa es flamear el pelo con una llama fría de propano, un proceso más rápido que evita el contacto físico. Usar este método de bajo estrés ayuda a mantener la higiene de la ubre, reducir el conteo de células somáticas y mantener a las vacas más cómodas durante el ordeño.

Procedimiento de Flameado

- Encienda la varita; asegúrese de que la llama sea amarilla o naranja (lo que indica una combustión más fría).
- Sostenga la varita a 3 o 4 pulgadas (8-10cm) de la base de la ubre.
- Use un movimiento rápido de entrada y salida que dure menos de un segundo.
- Mueva la varita hacia arriba por la parte de atrás de los cuartos traseros.
- El tiempo total por vaca no debe exceder los 5 segundos.

Visite <https://go.wisc.edu/BN25122SP> o escanee el código QR para leer el artículo completo.



LA SEGURIDAD PRIMERO

Manténgase Seguro en Clima Frío



Vístase en capas calientes: Use un gorro seco, guantes y botas con buena tracción. Si su ropa se moja, cámbiese de inmediato para mantenerse sano.

Cuidado con el hielo: Camine despacio en superficies mojadas o con hielo para evitar resbalones y lesiones.

Conduzca con cuidado en invierno: La nieve y el hielo hacen que las carreteras sean peligrosas. Reduzca la velocidad, evite frenadas bruscas y dése tiempo extra para llegar con seguridad.

DATO CURIOSO

La leche se clasifica en cuatro “clases” dependiendo de cómo se va a usar.

Clase I– Leche líquida que se puede **verter**

Clase II– Productos blandos que se pueden comer **con cuchara**

Clase III– Queso que se puede **cortar**

Clase IV– Mantequilla que se puede **esparcir**.



Imagenes generadas con ChatGPT

Inyectando Vacas de la Manera Correcta

El manejo adecuado de productos veterinarios y agujas es esencial para proteger la salud de las vacas. Estas prácticas recomendadas ayudan a reducir abscesos, transmisión de enfermedades, fallas de vacunas y accidentes:

- **Use una aguja nueva por cada animal:** Reutilizar agujas puede ser más rápido, pero aumenta el riesgo de enfermedades y lesiones.
- **No deje la aguja en el frasco:** Dejar la aguja en la botella puede contaminar todo el producto.
- **Almacene los productos correctamente:** Mantenga vacunas e inyectables en refrigeración entre 2°C y 7°C (35°F–45°F). Evite la luz directa y que se congelen.
- **Siga las instrucciones de la etiqueta para dosis y sitio de inyección:** Use el triángulo del cuello para inyecciones, separando los sitios unos 10 cm y limitando cada sitio a 10 cc. Mantenga la zona limpia para prevenir infecciones.
- **Deseche las agujas de forma segura:** Coloque las agujas usadas en un contenedor rígido y a prueba de pinchazos.

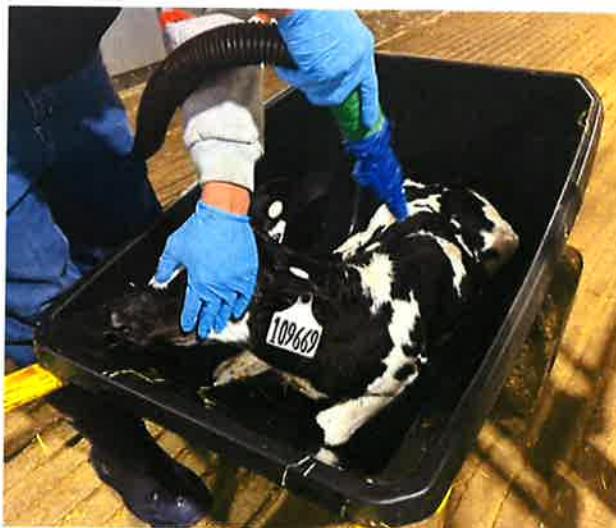
Visite <https://go.wisc.edu/BN25121SP> o escanee el código QR para leer el artículo completo.



AL OTRO LADO DE LA CERCA

Secado de terneros recién nacidos

Usar un secador de pelo ayuda a los terneros a secarse más rápido y mantenerse calientes, especialmente en clima frío. Este simple paso previene el enfriamiento, mantiene buenos niveles de energía y ayuda a que los terneros se mantengan saludables para comenzar la vida fuertes y sanos.





Jerry Wilcenski
4-H Program Educator

Jefferson County

4-H



December Program Highlights

- Bake-Off is a series of challenges that allow youth to expand baking skills and master a wide range of baked goods. Programming takes place at the Club level from December to July.
- 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 affects consumer demand and product quality.
- 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 affects consumer demand 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 Programming 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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JEFFERSON COUNTY

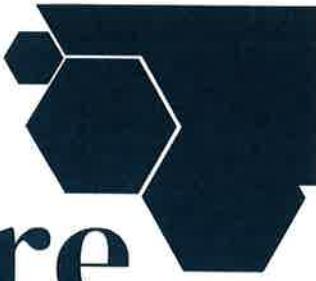
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Julie Hill
Horticulture Educator

Agriculture Horticulture



December Program Highlights

- 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.



Extension

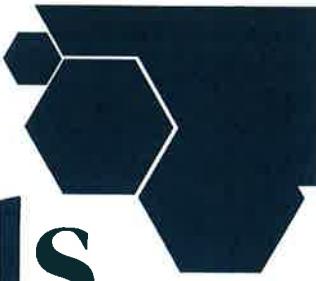
UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN-MADISON
JEFFERSON COUNTY

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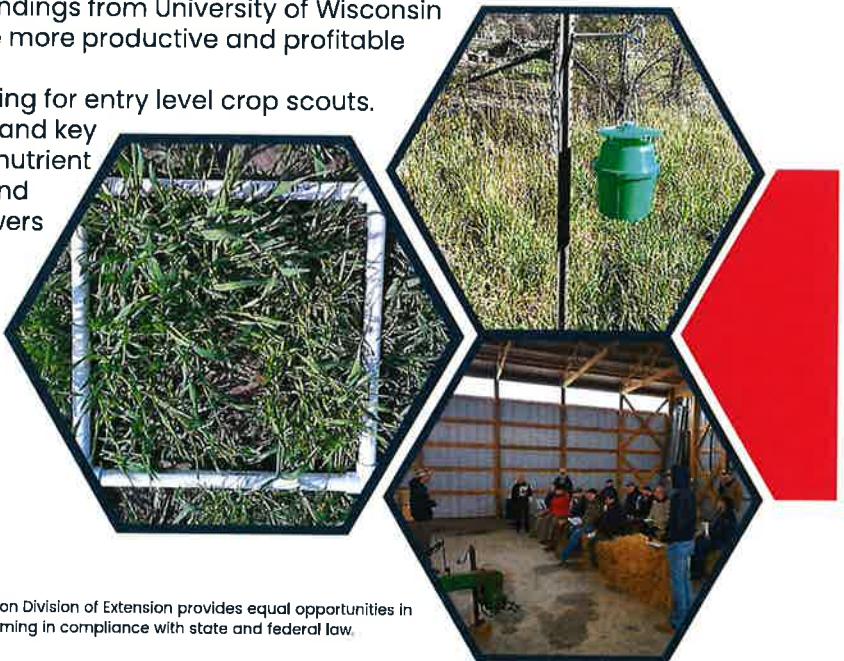
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December Program Highlights

- Planning for a large conference for Wisconsin farmers, agronomists, and conservation agency support staff that are interested in enhancing water quality and soil health. The goal is to develop a conference that provides information related to management practices and their impact on nutrient and soil loss from a diverse group of presenters and panelists, so that attendees leave with a greater understanding of what they can do to enhance Wisconsin water quality and soil health. This program is the main conference for Wisconsin farmers, agronomists, and conservation agency support staff to learn about water quality and soil health.
- Provided information on invasive pest species management for an educational radio program.
- Connected farmers with key opportunities to provide feedback and guidance for the team of statewide specialists working on writing of the Wisconsin nutrient reduction strategy with the goal of reducing the movement of nutrients from agricultural managed lands through runoff and leaching.
- Provided information to inform decision making on nitrogen source, timing, and application type for efficient use of nitrogen fertilizer for corn production.
- An on-farm consultation addressing troublesome weed control through cropping system management.
- Preparation and practice for a weed management presentation sharing the most recent cover crop systems research on weed management through the WiscWeeds program at UW-Madison.
- A presentation with discussion for agronomists and crop consultants where participants learned about emerging corn and soybean crop pests, the suggested management considerations, and the efficacy of control strategies.
- A study to better understand the correlation between corn rootworm beetle counts and in-field soil and crop management in Southern Wisconsin.
- A study to better understand the spread and potential threat of Johnsongrass, *Sorghum halepense*, to Wisconsin crop production. This study will support proper identification, life cycle analysis, and herbicide resistance screening of multiple populations across Southern and Western Wisconsin.
- Planning for three in-person and one virtual crop management update programs for crop growers, agency staff, consultants and educators. The goal is to provide timely crops and soils management updates where the audience learns about the most recent research findings from University of Wisconsin and Extension specialists that can help them make more productive and profitable decisions moving into the 2026 crop season.
- Planning for a hybrid foundational crop scout training for entry level crop scouts. The goal is to provide updated, relevant resources and key skills to support crop scouts as they identify pests, nutrient deficiencies, perform basic sampling techniques and communicate their findings to managers and growers in real time. The impact is the ability to address important crop challenges in season and improve crop productivity and farm profitability.



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