



Extension

UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN-MADISON

# Chippewa Valley Agricultural Extension Report

**Dunn County - 715-232-1636**

Katie Wantoch - Agriculture Agent  
<http://dunn.extension.wisc.edu>

**Eau Claire County - 715-839-4712**

Vacant  
<http://eauclaire.extension.wisc.edu>

**Chippewa County - 715-726-7950**

Jerry Clark - Agriculture Agent  
<http://chippewa.extension.wisc.edu>

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## Did you know?

- Wisconsin is #1 in the nation for milk goats, having 47,000 throughout the state.
- Wisconsin apple orchards produce 49 million pounds of product.
- The cranberry is Wisconsin's official state fruit and is produced in 20 counties in the upper 2/3 of the state.
- Wisconsin leads the nation in cranberry production, growing 64% of the nation's supply.
- Wisconsin's egg production generates about \$103 million and supplies 1.7 billion eggs.

Source: 2019 Wisconsin Farm Bureau Ag in the Classroom

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## New Dairy Outreach Program Manager

Eau Claire Agriculture Agent Mark Hagedorn has accepted an offer to be the new and first ever Dairy Outreach Program Manager for Extension. With his new role, Mark will be working with Agriculture Agents that focus on Dairy across the entire state. His new duties include program leadership & coordination, partnership management, revenue generation, diversity and inclusion, and working as an administrator with Extension agriculture educators and colleagues, and community partners.

## Wisconsin Farm Center Offers Assistance to Farmers

Many farmers balance the needs of their family and farm above everything else, often ignoring their own needs. As farmers continue to endure an extended period of tough economic conditions, services are available to farmers and landowners that is **free and confidential**.

The **Wisconsin Farm Center** at the Wisconsin Department of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection (DATCP) is there for farmers to call for guidance on finances, farm succession planning, and other issues they may be dealing with. Farm Center staff work with farmers and their families one-on-one to address each personal situation. Farmers, whether beginning their career or nearing retirement, can experience challenging situations. Staff are able to walk through options with farmers about how to navigate difficult personal or financial situations. While at times, alternatives may seem very limited, sometimes an outside perspective can help bring light to possibilities.

Just as taking care of physical health is important, so is taking care of mental health. Those in need are encouraged to reach out for help and utilize available resources by calling the Wisconsin Farm Center at 800-942-2474. Staff are available Monday through Friday from 7:45 a.m.-4:30 p.m. If there is a mental health emergency during non-office hours, farmers should contact 911 or the National Suicide Prevention Lifeline at 1-800-273-8255.

## Farm Financial Assistance Available

If you or a farmer you know is experiencing financial stress, please feel free to contact Extension Agriculture Agents to set up a meeting. One-on-One meetings are **free and confidential**. Agents will help farmers understand their financial situation, explore their options, and seek to identify alternatives to help alleviate the farm financial stress caused by the current agricultural climate.

An EEO/AA employer, University of Wisconsin-Extension provides equal opportunities in employment and programming, including Title VI, Title IX, and the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) requirements. Requests for reasonable accommodations for disabilities or limitations should be made prior to the date of the program or activity for which it is needed. Please do so as early as possible prior to the program or activity so that proper arrangements can be made. Requests are kept confidential.