

Chippewa Valley Agricultural Extension Report

UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN-MADISON Dunn County - 715-232-1636 Katie Wantoch - Agriculture Agent

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Fall 2020

Extension's Return to Programming

We know that our stakeholders are eager to gather together to learn and share. We at Extension share those feelings, and we want to share some information on how we're handling in-person events. We are excited to be planning the return of our in-person events and the opportunities for educational programming that they provide. Keeping the heath of everyone in our community in mind, we're approaching our programming with intentional steps. These steps follow CDC, Wisconsin Department of Health Services, and UW-Madison guidance. These requirements are in place to limit the spread of COVID-19.

During our upcoming events:

- We will institute physical distancing of 6 feet
- Participants will be reminded of hand-washing; we will be cleaning facilities
- You will be asked to wear a face covering

Additionally, we will be collecting contact information in the event we need to make a participant aware of potential exposure to COVID-19. Attendees who do not follow these requirements will not be able to participate. You can learn more about our policy and guidance at <u>www.go.wisc.edu/extensionevents</u>.

In Wisconsin, we take care of each other. We take health and safety very seriously, for everyone in our communities. Our staff, our participants, and our communities all need to practice safe behavior to make sure the COVID-19 virus doesn't spread further or make the situation worse.

We know the COVID-19 pandemic has been a difficult time for our communities, and we know we're still feeling the effects. The truth is, the virus is still out there and still poses a risk to everyone. Extension has been delivering programming throughout the "safer at home" restrictions and we continue to do so now. Extension is here for you and our community.

Dunn County Buildings to Remain Closed to the Public

The Dunn County Government Center will remain closed to the general public (except by appointment) until further notice. The public will be notified in the event of any change to this policy.

Members of the public may enter Dunn County buildings by appointment only. Anyone entering the building will need to answer health screening questions and wear a mask during their appointment. Persons needing to do business with Extension can call 715-232-1636 to schedule an appointment. The buildings will remain locked and customers with pre arranged appointments will be given instructions on safety practices.

Coronavirus Food 2-3 Assistance Program 2 **Culling Considerations** 3-4 for Beef Cow-Calf **Fall Pasture Weed** 5 Control Do You Have Enough Forage? 4 Steps to 6-7 **Figure Forage** Inventory Heart of the Farm 8 "Coffee Chats" series Calendar & Additional 9 Resources Inserts:

• Rental Rate Survey Letter and Postcard

Did you know?

Dunn County farms produce:

- \$82.1 Million in Grains
- \$77.8 Million in Milk
- \$18.8 Million in Cattle & Calves
- \$11 Million in Vegetables
- \$7 Million in Hay and Other Crops

Source: 2017 Agricultural Economic Impact Report

Fall 2020

USDA to Provide Additional Direct Assistance to Farmers and Ranchers Impacted by the Coronavirus

Expansion of the Coronavirus Food Assistance Program Begins Sept. 21

The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) is implementing the Coronavirus Food Assistance (CFAP) Program 2 for agricultural producers who continue to face market disruptions and associated costs because of COVID-19. Signup for CFAP 2 will begin September 21 and run through December 11, 2020.

CFAP 2 payments will provide eligible producers with financial assistance that gives them the ability to absorb some of the increased marketing costs associated with the COVID-19 outbreak. USDA has incorporated improvements in CFAP 2 based from stakeholder engagement and public feedback to better meet the needs of impacted farmers and ranchers.

Additional commodities are eligible in CFAP 2 that weren't eligible in the first iteration of the program. CFAP 2 payments will be made for three categories of payment calculations:

- <u>Price trigger commodities</u> are major commodities that meet a minimum 5-percent price decline from January through July. Prices were compared from January 13-27 to prices July 27-31, 2020.
 - Dairy
 - Actual production (milk sales) April 1—Aug 31, 2020, payment rate of \$1.20/cwt

Estimated production (milk sales) Sept 1
Dec 31, 2020, payment rate of \$1.20/cwt
Livestock, excluding breeding livestock.
Highest owned inventory on date selected
between Apr 16—Aug 31, 2020, multiplied by the CCC payment rate.

- beef cattle, \$55/head
 - includes steers, heifers, calves
- hogs and pigs, \$23/head
- lambs and sheep, \$27/head
- broilers and eggs
- Row crops, such as corn, soybeans, wheat
- <u>Flat-rate commodities</u> that do not meet the 5percent price decline trigger or do not have data available to calculate a price change will have payments calculated based on eligible 2020 acres multiplied by \$15 per acre.
 - Includes alfalfa, canola, oats
 - Excludes hay, crops intended for grazing, cover crops, prevent plant acres



Producers of commodities with flat-rate payments or price trigger crops with acreage reports will use acreage and yield information provided by FSA through the annual acreage reporting process. Producers have the option to complete their application by working directly with their local Farm Service Agency or online through the CFAP 2 Application Portal.

- <u>Sales Commodities</u> use a sales-based approach, where producers are paid based on five payment gradations associated with their 2019 sales. If no sales in 2019, 2020 actual sales will be utilized.
 - Specialty crops, includes fruits, vegetables, dry edible beans, honey
 - Specialty livestock, excluding breeding livestock
 commercially raised for food, fur, fiber or feathers: alpacas, bison, goats, turkey, etc.

A complete list of eligible commodities, payment rates and calculations can be found on <u>farmers.gov/cfap</u>. The total CFAP 2 payment that a person or legal entity may receive, directly or indirectly through attribution of payments, is \$250,000. <u>As this is a separate program, this payment limitation is separate from the CFAP Program 1 payment limit and ARC/PLC payments.</u> This limitation applies to the total amount of CFAP 2 payments made with respect to all eligible commodities.

The total amount of CFAP 2 payments made to a legal entity – such as to a corporation, limited liability corporation, limited partnership, trust, or estate – is \$250,000, exceptions do apply and an entity may receive up to \$750,000. Although the payment limitation is increased for the corporation, LLC, LP, trust, or estate, each members' payment limitation (received directly or indirectly) remains subject to the \$250,000 individual person payment limit. These payment limit provisions are different from and separate from the payment limitations established by the 2018 Farm Bill.

CFAP Program 2 cont'd

(Continued from page 2)

Producers can apply for assistance through USDA's Farm Service Agency (FSA). Customers seeking one-on-one support with the CFAP 2 application process can <u>call 877-</u> <u>508-8364</u> to speak directly with a USDA employee ready to offer assistance. This is a recommended first step before a producer engages with the team at the FSA county office.

All USDA Service Centers are open for business, including some that are open to visitors to conduct business in person by appointment only. All Service Center visitors wishing to conduct business with FSA, Natural Resources Conservation Service or any other Service Center agency should call ahead and schedule an appointment.





Learn More

Service Centers that are open for appointments will pre-screen visitors based on health concerns or recent travel, and visitors must adhere to social distancing guidelines. Visitors are also required to wear a face covering during their appointment.

Local Farm Service Agency contact information:

- Menomonie Service Center (715) 232-2614 Ext 2
- Baldwin Service Center (715) 684-2874 Ext 2
- Barron Service Center (715) 537-5645 Ext 2
- Chippewa Falls Service Center (715) 723-8556 Ext 2
- Durand Service Center (715) 672-8663 Ext 4

Please feel free to also reach out to local Extension Agriculture educators if you have specific questions or assistance in completing the CFAP 2 application.

Culling Considerations for Beef Cow-Calf Herd

Ryan Sterry, UW-Madison Division of Extension Agriculture Educator, St. Croix County & Bill Halfman, UW-Madison Division of Extension Agriculture Educator, Monroe County

Culling decisions are a routine part of beef cow-calf herd management. Producers should make culling decisions based on what is best for their farm's profitability, and what is best for animal well-being. This can be summed up as marketing cattle while they are in a condition that processors prefer, before they become a transportation risk, and their value declines.

Adequately conditioned cows have greater carcass and economic value and are increasingly being referred to as market cows instead of cull cows. The following suggestions are general considerations for you to factor in when developing your farm's culling strategies.

Decisions specific to an individual animal

Declining health and/or weight loss: Scrutiny is greater than ever to evaluate livestock fitness for transport, specifically cattle at risk for becoming non-ambulatory. Cows must be in adequate health to make the haul when leaving the farm for market and from market to the processing plant. Farmers need to make the decision to market cows before declining health or low Body Condition Scores (BCS) makes them less desirable to processors and sales revenue is lost. **Reproduction**: Reproductive efficiency is one of the greatest factors impacting beef cow-calf enterprise profitability. Open cows and heifers consume feed without providing income from calf sales. Late calving cows produce lighter weight calves and have fewer chances to breed back. Economic modeling show's that 6 calvings are needed to recover the initial investment of rearing a replacement heifer. In Boyer's analysis it took 8 calvings if one calving season is lost due to failure to conceive, and over 9 calves if two calving seasons were lost.

Udder conformation: Cows with weakening udder attachments and median suspensory ligaments can have low, pendulous udders. Extremely low udders can be difficult for calves to reach to suckle and are a risk for injury and mastitis infections. Large teats can also be difficult for calves to nurse.

Feet and legs: Lameness is an animal well-being concern and can lead to rapid weight loss. In less extreme cases, undesirable foot and leg composition can lead to chronic mobility issues. Extremely straight ("posty") or set ("sickle hocked") rear leg set and poor rump structure are examples of structural faults that negatively affect mobility. In

(Continued on page 4)

Culling Considerations for Beef Cow-Calf Herd cont'd

(Continued from page 3)

addition, the prevalence of foot diseases causing lameness, such as digital dermatitis (a.k.a. hairy heal warts), are likely underestimated in beef herds, especially in confinement beef operations.

Poor calf performance: Complete, accurate, multi-year production records should be leveraged into your decisions for removing inferior dams by factoring in calf performance. Cows that consistently wean light weight calves indicate a poorer ability to produce milk, nurture a calf, or simply have inferior genetics. Care needs to be taken to use production records properly. Calves of first and second calf heifers shouldn't be expected to perform the same as calves from mature cows, and records need to be kept in a fashion that can sort this out. Additionally, a one-time event, such as calf sickness, may occur that has nothing to do with mothering ability, emphasizing the importance of multi-year records.

Disease: In addition to disease conditions that result in rapidly declining health, there may be profit robbing chronic diseases to manage, or eliminate, from your herd. This may include cows testing positive for Johne's disease, Bovine Viral Diarrhea (BVD), and Bovine Leukosis (BLV).

Disposition: Vigorous calves and protective mothers are a good thing, to a point, but extremely aggressive behavior has negative consequences. Cows with overly aggressive dispositions are a danger to handlers. The heritability of disposition is moderate to high in cattle. Feedlot cattle with more excitable disposition scores have been shown to have decreased body weights, poorer average daily gains, and poorer carcass yield, grade, and marbling scores.

Herd level decisions

In addition, you may be faced with considerations above and beyond a specific cow in the herd:

- What is your current cow inventory in relation to desired herd size?
- Have you retained a sufficient number of replacement heifers, or have the means to purchase replacement heifers?
- What is the price spread between market cow values and replacement heifer prices?
- Do pasture conditions and feed inventories support your current herd size?

Optimizing Value

According to the National Beef Quality Audit, market (cull) breeding animals contribute up to 20 percent of gross revenue for beef operations. Despite their contribution to gross revenue, many farms market cows without a plan to optimize their revenue.

Seasonal price patterns have been well documented for market cows. While exceptions can occur due to market volatility, price lows typically occur in November. Peak prices occur in late spring through mid-summer. With the majority of beef herds practicing spring calving and fall weaning, market cow volume increases in the fall as calves are weaned, cows are typically pregnancy checked, and decisions on who remains in the herd are made.

Holding onto market cows until spring has promise for higher prices, but the cost and risk of doing so must be factored in. Having a plan to add weight to thin cows and increase their quality grade can tip the scales in your favor. Body Condition Scores can be used to approximate market cow class and the amount of BCS improvement needed to move up in classification. Breakers are approximately BCS 7 and above, Boning utility (Boner) are approximately BCS 5-7, and Lean's and Lights are BCS less than 5. Lights have approximate hot carcass weights less than 500 pounds.

On average it takes about 75 pounds of weight gain to increase one point in BCS. On the other extreme, overly fleshy cows (BCS over 7) may not receive as much of a market premium and are less feed efficient.

There are risks to prolonging ownership of market cows. Not all cows are good candidates to add condition to. Cows with rapidly declining BCS, poor teeth, advanced age, or health problems should be marketed in a timely fashion, or risk becoming nonmarketable and losing all value. Feed inventory and prices must be considered.

Yardage expenses and added labor costs need to be accounted for as well.

A strategy sometimes overlooked is pregnancy checking cows in early Fall, and marketing open cows in September and early October. In a typical year market cow prices will be declining, but not have reached seasonal lows. An added benefit to this strategy is it also reduces feed costs associated with retaining market cows.

Fall Pasture Weed Control

Bill Halfman, UW-Madison Division of Extension Agriculture Educator, Monroe County

If your pastures have an abundance of biennial or perennial weeds like spotted knapweed, wild parsnip, thistles, Canada thistle, and horsenettle, then fall is a good time to get a handle on these tough to control weeds.

During fall, these plants are translocating sugars into the root system to prepare for next spring's regrowth. Fall application of systemic herbicides results in abundant translocation of the herbicide to the perennial parts of the plant (roots/rhizomes), which results in excellent weed control. Systemic herbicides enter the plant through its foliage and kill the plant by disrupting normal plant functions. Some common examples of systemic herbicides include 2,4-D, dicamba, glyphosate, and aminopyralid. While these herbicides can be effective at other times of the year, reduced control is often observed as products are applied when the plant is rapidly growing (e.g. spring) due to poor translocation of the herbicide to the roots/rhizomes below ground.

When targeting biennial plants, like wild parsnip and the biennial thistle species, it is important to focus efforts in their first-year growth stage during the fall. First-year growth habits of biennial plants are low growing rosettes. There is no point in wasting time and herbicide on the second-year growth stages (the tall upright flowering growth habit) of the biennial weeds in the fall, as they have already gone to seed and are dead or dying.

Fall control of perennial weeds uses the same approach as discussed above for biennials. Focus on the growing parts and leaves of the plants when applying herbicides.

There are several online resources for pasture owners to help correctly identify the different weeds in pastures and their growth stages. One example is the UW Weed Science Programs WeedID Tool <u>https://</u> <u>weedid.wisc.edu/weedid.php</u>. Pasture owners can also contact their local Extension Office for help in identifying weeds.

Spot applications of herbicide rather than broadcast spraying may save some money while controlling weeds if the infestations are isolated to certain areas of the fields. Take into consideration time and labor costs for spot versus broadcast spraying. Several herbicides are labeled for controlling biennial and perennial weeds in the fall. For information to match herbicide options to the target weed species, pasture owners can take a look at the Forages Weed Control Section in UW Extension Publication A3546 Pest Management in Wisconsin Field Crops <u>https://</u> <u>learningstore.extension.wisc.edu/products/pest-</u> <u>management-in-wisconsin-field-crops</u>.

Some additional considerations, in addition to weed control efficacy, are grazing and harvest restrictions, and planting intervals if you plan on seeding legumes into the pasture. Pasture owners should always follow the label directions for rates and safety procedures for handling and applying herbicides.

All herbicides currently labeled for controlling broadleaf weeds in pastures will also effect desirable broadleaf plants like alfalfa, clovers, and legumes. This is where spot spraying can help maintain legumes in the pasture where weeds are only in localized areas. Legumes may need to be re-established after satisfactory weed control has been obtained.

At the time of herbicide application, it is important to make sure there is adequate above-ground foliage on the target weeds. Do not apply herbicide immediately after clipping the pasture and leave the weeds' top growth for at least two weeks after application to allow good translocation of the herbicide through the plant. Systemic herbicides may be applied after a frost if the plant is still actively growing.

In summary, consider fall herbicide applications to reduce biennial and perennial pasture weeds. Identify the weeds to be targeted, understand their growth stage and timely apply the applicable herbicide at the correct rate. Read the labels of all products used and take measures to protect the environment and yourself from undesirable herbicide side-effects.



Do You Have Enough Forage? Four Steps to Figure Forage Inventory

Bill Halfman, Sandy Stuttgen, Ryan Sterry, Carolyn Ihde, and Amanda Cauffman, UW-Madison Division of Extension Agriculture Educators

Now is the time, before the snow flies, to take inventory of your farm's forage supply and determine how well it meets the herd's needs. Knowing your feed inventory and needs early allows you to purchase now, rather than wait to purchase during the winter when forages are usually priced higher. Or worse yet, trying to find feed when you are down to the last days' worth of feed.

The process we outline in this article is intended to best allocate forage inventory to differing animal nutritional requirements based on animal age groups and their changing nutritional needs over the winterfeeding season. This process should help keep feed costs as economical as possible. This can be accomplished by figuring with a pencil and paper, or to make this process easier, the UW Madison Division of Extension Livestock Program has a new spreadsheet tool available. The Forage Inventory and Needs Calculator is a new free spreadsheet that does many of the calculations for the user based on their inputs. It is available at UW Madison Division of Extension Livestock Program website https://

<u>livestock.extension.wisc.edu/</u> in the Decision Tools and Software Section. This tool is designed to help determine both the total harvested forage inventory and herd forage needs. It is not designed to balance rations. If you are not comfortable balancing rations, we strongly recommend working with a reputable nutritionist to formulate balanced ration(s) for your herd's needs.

Step One: Inventory all forages available. This should include quantity and quality measurements. Separate the baled forage inventory into groups with similar quality (i.e. 1st cutting vs. 2nd, rained on vs. not, alfalfa grass vs. road ditch hay) rather than lumping everything together. The goal is to match your forage resources to your herd's differing nutritional needs, while reducing the need to purchase feed. Use reasonable accuracy when determining weight of forages. The estimates and end results are only as accurate as the information you use.

For baled inventory quantity, do not base bale weights on book values, bale dimensions or manufacturers' baler settings. Real world variations exist depending on the baler, baler operator and type of hay. Weigh a few bales (dry hay or wrapped baleage) to get a reasonable bale weight for each specific batch and cutting. There are a number of ways this can be done with on farm scales or taking a load to a scale at a feed mill or gravel pit. If weighing a truck or trailer load, make sure you have an accurate empty weight too. Then multiply this average weight by the number of bales in the batch to get a total weight for each baled forage type.

For ensiled feeds stored in bags, various silo types or piles, weighing some typical chopper box loads will provide a reasonable average weight. This means two trips over the scale: full - empty = weight of as-fed forage. Count loads placed into the storage structures to get a reasonable total weight estimate. It will be necessary to take into account fermentation and storage shrink if tracking weights of silage being put into storage to get a reasonable estimate of available feed. If it is not possible to weigh and count loads, dimensions of the storage structures (bags, tower silos, piles etc.) and either charts with weight estimates, or calculators included in the Forage Inventory and Needs Calculator can be used to estimate amount of forage in silage structures. Using the calculators with your actual measured density and moisture content will increase accuracy of the weight estimate in storage.

Forage test every forage source so balanced rations can be formulated. Prioritize forages for the production stages where they best fit.

Step Two: Determine daily forage requirements of each group of animals in the herd.

In addition to prioritizing your various quality forage resources to the different nutritional needs of the herd during the winter-feeding season, this step also determines daily forage needs for animals throughout the winter-feeding season. When working with rations, it is important to keep in mind the cows' changing needs during gestation and after calving, and the growing animals' needs increasing as they get larger.

Each animal group (mature cows, young cows, replacement heifers, bulls, weaned calves, etc.) should have balanced rations formulated for them. Some groups may need more than one ration, for example, as the cow herd enters different stages of gestation, their nutritional requirements change. In some cases, rations may be as simple as determining which forage inventory group meets their needs, for a given period, along with what mineral supplement may be needed.

Do You Have Enough Forage? cont'd

(Continued from page 6)

When determining daily forage requirements, it is also important to account for the types of feeders being used. On some farms, the bale size, feeders and herd size, will likely

result in cattle being able to eat somewhat more than they need, but it might cost more to change feeding equipment or limit the amount delivered than let them eat a little extra. Limiting the time they have access to the feeder may an option to manage their intake to help stretch forage supplies as long as they are able to consume

what they need. Research at the University of Illinois observed that allowing cows access between 6 and 9 hours per day was adequate time for cattle to eat all they wanted, as long as all cattle could access the feed at the same time. Some producers allow animals to have access to all the forages they can eat 24 hours a day. This still may not meet cattle needs, or it could greatly exceed them depending on forage quality and animal nutritional needs. Free-choice feeding may not be the most efficient use of feed resources.

Step Three: Determine total forage needs.

Once the daily forage requirements per head for the various rations have been determined, multiply that by the number of head being fed the ration and number of days the ration is fed to get a total demand for each forage source. It is also important to factor in storage and feeding losses, referred to as shrink. The spreadsheet tool calculates shrink based on user input information. Some forage storage and feeding methods losses can be very high and there may be opportunities for producers to improve forage efficiency by improving storage and feeding losses. To the right are some tables with examples of dry matter losses from storage and feeding.

Step 4: Compare inventory to needs to identify surpluses, shortages, or the need to change rations

Once forage inventory and needs have been determined, the next step is to determine if supplies are adequate, or if additional forages need to be harvested or purchased to make it through the winter. Adjust the rations to account for shortages of certain forages and surplus of others, or trade surplus forages for needed forages depending on prices and availability in each situation. Completing this task early will provide more options and greater flexibility for producers than waiting to compete with others who are feeding the last of their inventories.

It is time well spent to inventory your forages, plan rations and allocate your forage inventory to most efficiently and economically meet your herd's needs. Download the calculator and take steps to meet the forage needs of your herd.

Big Round Bales	
Storage Method	Range of Dry
Under roof	2-10
Plastic wrap, on ground	4-7
Bale sleeve, on ground	4-8
Covered, rock pad or elevated	2-17
Uncovered, rock pad or elevated	3-46
Uncovered, on ground, net wrap	6-25
Covered, on ground	4-46
Uncovered, on ground	5-61

Table 1. Effect of Storage Method on Dry Matter Loss of Big Round Bales

Table 2. Effect of Hay Feeding Loss by Feeder Type

Type of Feeder	Percent Hay Loss (%)
Ring without panel	20
Cradle feeder	15
Feeder wagon	11.5
Ring with panel	6
Cone feeder with panel	3

Table 3. Effect of Storage Method on Silage Dry Matter Loss at Recommended Moistures

Storage Type	Dry Matter Loss (%)
Top unloading tower	11-19
Oxygen limiting tower	6-13
Pile or bunker, covered	18-34
Bags	9-14

Fall 2020

Heart of the Farm—Women in Agriculture Fall/Winter "Coffee Chats" Series

University of Wisconsin-Madison Division of Extension's Heart of the Farm-Women in Agriculture program will be starting it's statewide online 'Coffee Chats' Fall/Winter 2020/21 series, Monday, November 9th, from 10:00 – 11:00 with Jerry Apps, local author and rural historian. This series will run through March 2021 on the 2nd Monday of each month from 10:00 – 11:00 a.m.

Jerry Apps will be kicking off our Coffee Chat season as our keynote

speaker on November 9th, 2020, 10:00-11:00 a.m. Jerry will take us back to the pioneer days in Wisconsin, and talk about the role of women in agriculture in his presentation: in "Women in agriculture: a brief history." He will share the early role women had in the dairy industry and how that changed over the years along with some personal stories of women's roles in agriculture during the Depression Years of the 1930s and WWII, drawing on his mother's roles at that time. Jerry is a former county extension agent. Presently he is professor emeritus for the College of Agricultural and Life Sciences at the University of Wisconsin-Madison. and works as a rural historian. full-time writer and speaker. Jerry is the author of more than forty fiction, non-fiction, and children's books with topics ranging from barns, one-room schools, cranberries, and cucumbers, to the history of Wisconsin agriculture. His most recent books are CHEESE THE MAKING OF A WISCONSIN

TRADITION, and WHEN THE WHITE PINE WAS KING (History of the logging industry in Wisconsin). He and his wife, Ruth, have three grown children, and seven grandchildren. They split their time between their home in Madison and their farm, Roshara, in Waushara County.

Register online at: https://uwmadison.zoom.us/meeting/ register/tJItceirrzkvEtfMSLLljrhhSJFMymAHHUA4

Once registered, you will receive an email confirmation containing information about joining the meeting. Registered participants will only need the meeting website link or phone number to participate in the meeting.



Other speakers during the series will be:

- December 14th, Jackie Carattini, Assoc. Professor, Human Development and Relationship Educator, University of Madison, Division of Extension (Taking Care of You – Holiday Edition);
- January 11th, Gary Sipiorski, owner Gary Sipiorski Consulting, LLC (Tax Preparation Issues and Concerns);
- February 8th, Mark Stephenson, Director of Dairy Policy Analysis and Center for Dairy Profitability and the University of Wisconsin-Madison, Division of Extension (How to Read and Understand your Milk Check,); and
- March 8th, Jenny Gavin, Gavin Farms, Reedsburg, WI (Value Added Enterprises and Farm Diversification.).

The Heart of the Farm-Women in Agriculture Conference series is an Extension program that addresses the needs of farm women by providing education on farm business topics, connecting them with agricultural resources and creating support networks.

For more information on the Coffee Chats Series or the Heart of the Farm Program, please go to the HOF Website: https://fyi.extension.wisc.edu/ heartofthefarm, call your local UW-Madison Division of Extension County office, or contact Jenny Vanderlin at jenny.vanderlin@wisc.edu, 608-263-7795.

Fall 2020

Extension Agriculture Agents/ Area of Focus

Dunn County

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Chippewa, Dunn, Eau Claire & Polk Counties

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Dec 14 "Coffee Chat" - Putting the 'Me' in Merry: Self Care Tips for the Holiday Season

2021

Jan 11 "Coffee Chat" - Tax Preparation Issues and Concerns

Nov 9 "Coffee Chat" - Women in Agriculture-a brief History

Feb 8 "Coffee Chat" - How to Read and Understand your Milk Check

Mar 8 "Coffee Chat" - Value Added Enterprises and Farm Diversification



Additional Resources

Educational Videos have been developed by local educators and are available on the University of Wisconsin Extension YouTube page at: <u>https://www.youtube.com/c/</u><u>UniversityofWisconsinExtension/playlists</u>. These videos include topics such as:

- Farm Management: Working with your Lender
- <u>10 Considerations for Farm Succession</u>
- Crop Irrigation and Water Management

The Cutting Edge: A podcast in Search of New Crops for Wisconsin is available at <u>https://fyi.extension.wisc.edu/grain/cutting-edge/</u>

Additional articles and resources are available on the updated Farm Management Program website, <u>https://farms.extension.wisc.edu/</u>

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Page 9

Local & Statewide Calendar of Events

2020