Agriculture Dairy Program Update

UW-Madison, Division of Extension, Ag Educator Angie Ulness Share research-based information with dairy producers and other dairy professionals, enhancing their ability to make informed decisions that ultimately lead to profitability and overall herd performance.

Ongoing Needs Assessment in Manitowoc County

- Discussions with dairy farmers working with different breeds, farm sizes, systems and objectives to have a view of the current state of the county
- Connect with agribusiness professionals, landowners and bankers
- Collaboration with Manitowoc Soil & Water Conservation and Seven Rivers Soil Cooperative Producer-Led Watershed Group

Areas of Need Determined by Assessments:

- o Herd Health
- o Safety Training
- o Communication/language
- o Labor
- o Farm Transition

Current Projects:

- o Dairy Digitals-short videos to explain herd health processes
- o ICPA-Intuitive Cost of Production for Raising Heifers. It is a survey to find out how much it costs to raise replacements.
- o Emerging Technologies work with automated milking systems, ventilation and lighting in dairy barns
- o Writing articles and factsheets for the Extension Topic Hub and popular press
- o Weekly radio ag update on Seehafer News

Completed Projects:

- o Women in Ag programming
- o June Dairy Month Promotion and Dairy Breakfast work
- o Alfalfa PEAQ Scissor Clippings
- o Manitowoc County Forage Council Annual Meeting
- o Farmer to Farmer Mentor Meetings

Ongoing Projects:

- Bovi-News: Bilingual statewide newsletter, focused on educating the Dairy Farm Workers
  - o Partnered on design, topics and content
  - o Information is posted on the Extension website, sent in an email, and available in PDF format as well.
- Ag Updates: Email out a monthly newsletter to dairy farmers, industry allies and the community informing them on programming and research from specialists at the University
- Badger Dairy Insight: A monthly webinar presented statewide
  - o Presenting information, moderating and leading discussions
  - o Average of 100 registered/attendees per session