NEWS FROM EXTENSION

UW-MADISON DIVISION OF EXTENSION MANITOWOC COUNTY

Raising the Bar: Building Better Heifers



December 1-4, 2026 | **Registration: 10:00 am**
Meeting: 10:30 am

December 1
Fond du Lac/Dodge County Area

Dodge County Extension Office
127 E. Oak St, Juneau, WI

December 2
Dodgeville Area

Iowa Co.Health & Human Services Bldg.
303 W Chapel St, Dodgeville, WI

December 3
Marathon County Area

AgCounty Conference Room
1207 N Central Ave, Marshfield, WI

December 4
Kaukauna Area

Kaukauna Town Hall
W780 Greiner Rd, Kaukauna, WI

Featured Topics

Free workshops for dairy producers and employees. Lunch provided by Parnell.

- **The Cost Behind the Cow: Understanding Your Heifer Investment**
- **How Are We Doing? An Overview of a Year-Long Colostrum Management Study** *- Heather Schlesser*
- **Optimizing Heifer Growth and Reproduction** *- Dr. Paul Fricke*
- **Feeding the Next Gen: Identifying Bottlenecks to Improve Growth** *- Katelyn Goldsmith*

Register Today!

Scan the QR code or visit:

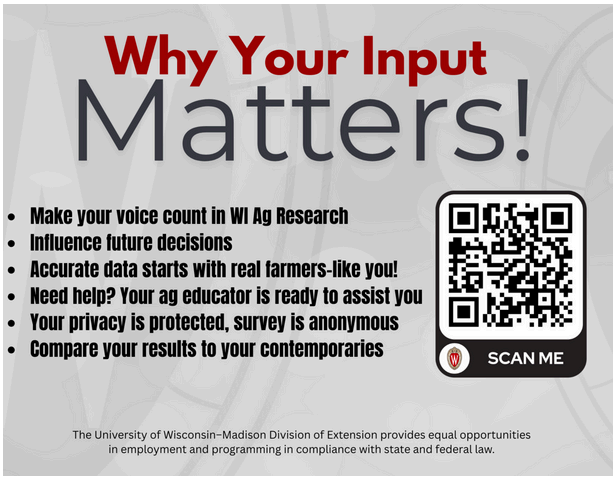
go.wisc.edu/RTB26

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living SCIENCE

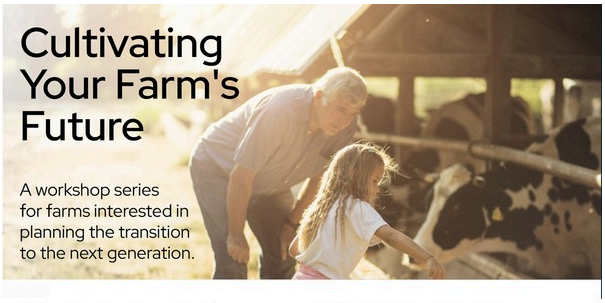
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Raising dairy calves and replacement heifers is a major expense for Wisconsin dairies. Tracking these costs and benchmarking against peers supports better management decisions. Periodically, Wisconsin Extension Educators have collected farm level data to track these costs. Extension is currently seeking this information and needs your help. If you are interested in having a dairy educator reach out to you, please call **Angie Ulness** at (920) 901-6929. Information gathered includes average costs for the last complete month related to:

- Feed (milk,starter, forages, supplements)
- Bedding
- Veterinary and breeding services
- Labor
- Housing
- Equipment
- Utilities
- Custom raising charges



This virtual series will help you gather information and answer these planning questions:

- Where are you now?
- Where do you want to be?
- How do you get there?

Topics we will cover:

- Communication
- Common tensions
- Financials
- Is equal fair?
- SWOT analysis
- Risks of not planning
- Legal tools (wills, trusts, business entities)
- Setting goals & action steps

Learn more and register at:
go.wisc.edu/cyff

Fall 2026 Virtual Workshops:
Thursdays from 6:30–8 p.m.
Nov. 12, Nov. 19, Dec. 3 and Dec. 10, 2026
Optional sessions on Jan. 7 and 14, 2027

Registration deadline: October 23, 2026

Cost: $200 per farm, including everyone from your farm or family who would like to participate. Your farm will receive one *Cultivating Your Farm's Future* workbook and one copy of *Cultivating Continuity*. Each participant will receive a Learner's Guide. Registration also includes access to course videos and six live Zoom classes.

Register soon!
Registration is limited to 15 farms per series.

Questions?
Contact: joy.kirkpatrick@wisc.edu, 608.263.3485

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Every farm knows it should organize essential documents and financial information – but the task is easy to delay. This online workshop series from UW–Madison Extension helps you finally get it done.

By gathering and organizing your farm's vital records, you'll be better prepared for meetings with attorneys, accountants, and transition planning professionals – **saving you time, money, and stress.**

The series combines guided virtual instruction, open office hours, and one in-person workshop to **help you move from "I need to do this someday" to "It's finally done."**

Learn more and register at:
go.wisc.edu/shoebox

Required Virtual Sessions:
Friday, Nov. 13, 2026 from 12-1:30pm
Friday, Jan. 8, 2027 from 12-1:30pm
Friday, Jan. 22, 2027 from 12-1:30pm
Friday, Feb. 5, 2027 from 12-1:30pm

Optional Follow-up Virtual Sessions:
Friday, Feb. 19, 2027 from 12-1:30pm
Friday, Mar. 5, 2027 from 12-1:30pm

Cost:
$250/farm. This allows up to two people from each farm to participate.

Register Soon!
Registration deadline is Nov. 12, 2026. This workshop is limited to 20 farms.

Questions?
Contact: joy.kirkpatrick@wisc.edu, 608.263.3485

Supported by USDA–NIFA award: 2024-70028-43552. The University of Wisconsin–Madison Division of Extension provides equal opportunities in employment and programming in compliance with state and federal law.





Join dairy chemist, John Lucey, as he explores why the ideal butterfat-to-protein ratio is critical for cheesemaking efficiency and product quality. He will also discuss how variations in milk fatty acid profiles influence dairy product characteristics and processing performance. In addition, Manuel Pena and Katelyn Goldsmith will break down the science behind feeding dairy cows for optimal milk protein production, sharing practical nutrition and herd management strategies, including balancing rumen degradable and undegradable protein (RDP and RUP) and monitoring milk urea nitrogen (MUN), to help producers maximize protein and milk value.

Join us the 3rd Tuesday of each month from 11 am - 12 pm

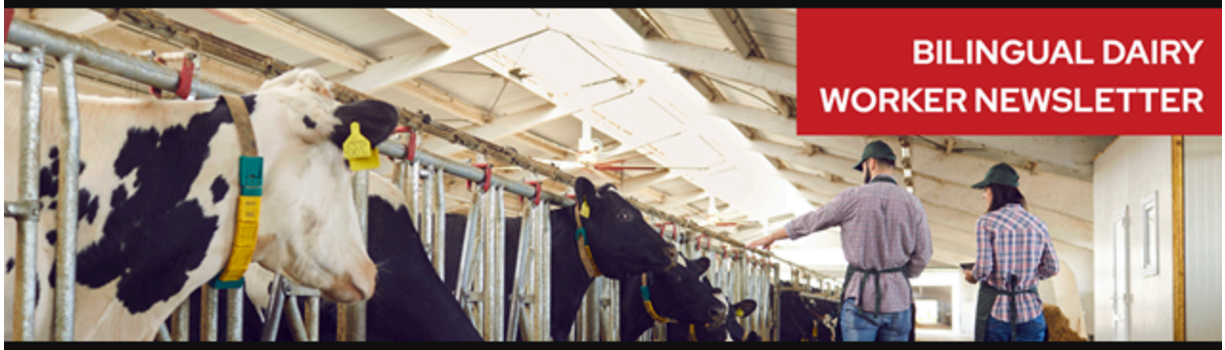
Register for Badger Dairy Insight webinar







Our Other Newsletters



Looking for information to help dairy workers?

Subscribe to our bilingual newsletter **Bovi-Noticias**.

This newsletter provides information to help dairy workers learn, understand, and grow in their job skills while improving on-farm safety.

Subscribe to Bovi-Noticias



THINK SAFETY. DRIVE SAFELY.

Master tractor safety today!

Register for Lakeshore College's upcoming Tractor Safety Course!

Sessions will be offered: October 27, 29, November 3, 5 | 4-8:30 pm **and** Nov. 7 | 8 am-2 pm

Course fees: $125

Learn best practices for safe driving including:

- **Tractor Operation & Safety:** Study how to start, stop and operate tractors safely, including pre-operation checks and recognizing danger zones.
- **Equipment Awareness:** Understand how power take-off (PTO) systems and other implements work.
- **Safe Work Practices:** Develop safe habits around hitching, hauling roadway driving, and working with trailers or attachments.
- **Emergency Preparedness:** Gain skills to respond to accidents, recognize unsafe conditions, and protect yourself and others on the farm.

lakeshore.edu/programs-and-courses/seminars-and-continuing-education

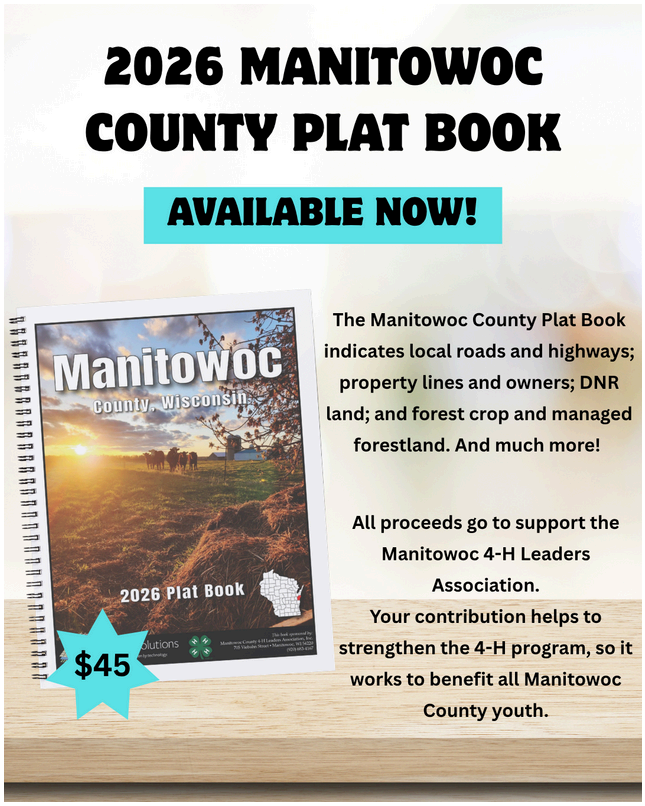
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The Manitowoc County Plat Book can be purchased at various locations in the County:

- UW-Extension, Manitowoc County Office: 705 Viebahn St, Manitowoc, WI 5422
  UWGB-Manitowoc Campus, Hillside Hall
  --Enter at door H-2 Mon-Thurs 8:30-2:00 pm
- Manitowoc County Soil & Water Conservation 4319 Expo Dr, Manitowoc, WI 54220
- Manitowoc County Treasurer's Office
  --Located in the Courthouse
  1010 S 8th St, Manitowoc, WI 54220
- Collins State Bank, Collins Branch 20741 Cty Rd JJ, Collins WI 54207
- Collins State Bank, Kiel Branch 913 Service Rd, Kiel, WI 53042



- Cleveland State Bank
  1250 W Washington Ave
  Cleveland, WI 53015

Payment of cash or check ONLY at all locations

Website: https://manitowoc.extension.wisc.edu/agriculture/

Email Addresss: angie.ulness@wisc.edu

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UW-Madison Division of Extension Manitowoc County
Angie Ulness, Agriculture Educator
angie.ulness@wisc.edu - 920.683.4511

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