



# Eastern Wisconsin DHIC Newsletter

VOLUME 8, ISSUE 6

JUNE, 2016

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## Minimizing Wheel Traffic Damage to Alfalfa

Dan Undersander, University of Wisconsin

### What damage is caused by wheel traffic?

Our research has indicated that the largest effect of wheel traffic is to break off regrowing alfalfa stems thereby reducing next cutting yield. We compared harvesting (wheel traffic) at 2 days after cutting vs 5 days after cutting. Yield of the next harvest was reduced about 6% for each day delay in traffic application after cutting.

### What is recommended to reduce yield loss from wheel traffic?

We believe the following management recommendations will reduce yield loss due to wheel traffic:

- 1) Plant traffic tolerant varieties (check <http://www.uwex.edu/ces/forage/> for test results).
  - Wheel traffic will cause some soil compaction (and associate yield loss) for grasses but will not break of stems as occurs with alfalfa. So yield loss will be much less for grass than for alfalfa.
- 2) Use small tractors when possible to reduce soil compaction.
- 3) Avoid unnecessary trips across the field when harvesting:
  - Mowing and conditioning in a single operation.

- Loaded wagons/trucks should be driven off the field in as little distance as possible.
- If bales are dropped, collect with least driving possible and as soon as possible.
- Do not drive on alfalfa field when harvesting crop of adjacent field.

4) Consider using larger harvesting equipment to reduce the percent of field covered with wheel tracks (however, the affected area has greater weight applied to it). This could be another benefit of contract harvesting.

5) Avoid use of tractors with dual wheels.

6) Harvest (drive on field) as soon after cutting as possible:

- Make silage from higher yielding fields, hay from lower yielding fields.
- Use wide swath to allow hay/haylage to dry faster.
- Make wrapped bales to allow harvest of wetter hay.
- Apply manure immediately after harvest.

To read the full article, visit: <http://fyi.uwex.edu/forage/minimizing-wheel-traffic-damage-to-alfalfa/>



## COMING EVENTS

- June 25      Ozaukee County Breakfast on the Farm - 7-11 am**  
Roden Echo Valley LLC, 5545 Hwy Y, West Bend
- June 26      Fond du Lac County Agri-Business Council's Breakfast on the Farm - 8 am - Noon**  
J & J Pickart Dairy, LLC, W2369 Cty Rd Q, Malone
- June 26      Calumet County Sundae on a Dairy Farm - 11:00 am - 3:00 pm**  
Dallmann East River Dairy, N6038 East River Rd, Brillion

### UW-Extension Talks about Heat Stress on YouTube Liz Binversie, Agriculture Educator, UW-Extension Brown County

One of the most common mistakes when managing heat stress is not knowing when heat stress begins. Animals will experience heat stress sooner than people, so it's important to understand what's too hot for dairy cattle.

In a recently posted YouTube podcast series from the University of Wisconsin-Extension, experts talk about heat stress, its signs and symptoms, and various ventilation strategies. Mark Mayer, UW-Extension agriculture agent in Green County, puts it into perspective when he said that, "Heat stress is certainly one of the largest profit robbers on dairy farms with annual losses of over \$200 per cow seen on many dairies."

The ideal body temperature for dairy cows is 40-60 degrees, so cows may already be experiencing low to mild heat stress effects without you even realizing it. The heat stress threshold begins at temperatures as low as 72 degrees when the humidity level is 50% or above. However, it's not just our milking cows.

Dr. Vicky Lauer, Professional Services Veterinarian for ANIMART, reminds us it's important to monitor dry cows too. "They've done research and showed that cows that are cooled during their dry period will actually produce more milk, they'll have better immune function, a lower somatic cell count, and thus be a healthier cow", said Dr. Lauer.

Signs of heat stress include lower milk production, reproductive losses, and increased rectal temperature,

usually above 103 degrees. Cows will also start to breathe faster and anything over about 100 breaths per minute will require immediate attention or else that animal may die. In severe cases, cows will start to sweat and begin drooling. If they start to pant with open-mouthed breathing and their tongue is sticking out, these are also signs of severe heat stress and these animals need to be cooled down immediately. In addition to managing the signs of heat stress, ventilation becomes very important especially during these hot days.

One of the most important places on the farm to manage heat stress is in the holding pen. According to Dr. David Kammel, Biological Systems Engineering professor for UW-Madison and UW-Extension, "Normally in a freestall barn cows have 100-120 square feet of space per cow. In a holding area we've only got 15 square feet per cow, so we've got a lot of animals all tightly packed together in a tight space." Fans and ventilation systems should be turned on to help reduce heat stress. Dr. Kammel reminds us that velocity fans just mix the air and they don't actually ventilate the barn. Because of this he suggests to, "think about ventilation first and add velocity fans next."

Tune in each week this summer as we cover a different topic about heat stress and the dairy herd. To watch the YouTube podcasts, you can subscribe to the Agriculture Brown County UW-Extension channel or use this shortened link to get there directly: <https://goo.gl/goCZYV>

## The Impact of Subclinical Ketosis on Dairy Cows

In nearly every dairy magazine or newspaper you pick up today, you will find an article that references the transition period and impact of clinical and subclinical ketosis on dairy cattle. Dairy producers across the globe realize that controlling and limiting early lactation metabolic disease is key to getting animals off to the right start. A recent article in *Progressive Dairyman* stated that ketosis and other early lactation diseases go hand in hand. If you have an animal that is positive for ketosis, she is more susceptible to other early lactation metabolic diseases and vice versa. Clinical and subclinical ketosis (SCK) are very common among fresh cows. According to research, the disease can be found in approximately 21% of European and 40-60% of US Dairy Cattle.

Given the prevalence of ketosis in cattle around the globe, management of the disease is important. To do it effectively, diligent monitoring of all fresh cows, even when there doesn't appear to be an issue, needs to occur. SCK can go undetected without monitoring because there are often times no visible symptoms associated with it. Considerable work has been done at AgSource, in conjunction with the University of Wisconsin-Madison Department of Dairy Science, on early diagnosis of SCK using data received through regular monthly milk testing. Research done by Dr. Heather White led to the creation of AgSource's KetoMonitor™ report, which combines data collected from individual milk sample results and cow production and management data, to provide a measure that monitors subclinical ketosis in fresh cows 5-20 Days in Milk. The convenience, efficiency and accuracy of the testing and data reporting has led to the KetoMonitor™ report's acceptance as an effective tool for monitoring SCK.

Besides identifying herd level prevalence for SCK, research done through the CRI International Center for Biotechnology (ICB), that analyzes the data on individual cows tested through KetoMonitor™, has led to identification of significant differences in lactation performance metrics on SCK positive cows versus SCK negative cows. These lactation performance metrics include production, reproduction, udder health, subsequent disease incidence and early lactation culling. This analysis also supports the findings that limiting early metabolic disease in cattle is key to animals getting off to the right start.

So how significant are these differences and what does this tell us? The charts below illustrate the differences in many of the key metrics, and as you can see, many of these impact the long term profitability of cattle in a herd.

### Culling Impact

	LACTATION	KETOSIS	TOTAL ANIMALS	ANIMALS CULLED
OVERALL HERD PREVALENCE (5-20 DIM)	1	Neg	65,889	13,492 (20.5%)
		Pos	4,553	1,199 (26.3%)
	2+	Neg	89,208	23,074 (25.9%)
		Pos	29,726	9,160 (30.8%)
EARLY FRESH COW PREVALENCE (5-11 DIM)	1	Neg	26,594	5,341 (20.1%)
		Pos	3,321	844 (25.4%)
	2+	Neg	43,126	11,062 (25.7%)
		Pos	8,154	2,764 (33.9%)

*There is a significant increase in culling for SCK positive cows than negative.*

# COOLEST DEALS OF THE SUMMER!



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## 2016 HERD BUILDER AWARD

Any Junior Fair dairy cattle exhibitor aged 12-15 as of January 1, 2016 may apply for the "HERD BUILDER AWARD". The award will recognize exceptional dairy youth and will be presented at the 2016 Manitowoc County Fair. The award winner will receive a registered heifer calf.

Any exhibitor who wishes to apply for the "Herd Builder Award" must submit the attached application and a project story entitled, "My Dairy Project". The story should include how the exhibitor got involved in dairy as a project, how it is financed, problems encountered and overcome, size and scope of the project and plans for the future.

The information supplied in the application and dairy project story, along with the exhibitor's performance at the Fair and knowledge of the project as determined by an interview, will be the basis for making the award.

The application and dairy project story (not to exceed two pages) are due no later than *August 1st*. These materials should be sent to Scott Gunderson, Manitowoc County UW-Extension Agriculture Agent, P.O. Box 935, Manitowoc, WI 54221-0935.

An interview of all qualified exhibitors will be held on *Saturday, August 27<sup>th</sup>*. Contact Scott Gunderson for the exact time and location of the interviews.

The Herd Builder recipient agrees to keep the Herd Builder calf until she gives birth for the first time. If the Herd Builder calf recipient sells the calf before she gives birth for the first time, one-half of the proceeds will be returned to the original breeder/owner. For example, if the Herd Builder calf is sold as a springing heifer for \$2,000, the recipient of the Herd Builder will pay the original breeder/owner of the calf \$1,000. The recipient of the Herd Builder calf agrees to identify a mentor who can give advice to the Herd Builder calf recipient regarding overall care and management of the calf. The mentor may be a parent, guardian, organization advisor, dairy farmer, etc.

*Previous winners are not eligible. Decisions of the judges are final.*

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### HERD BUILDER AWARD Application Form (please print)

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Organization \_\_\_\_\_

Age \_\_\_\_\_ Year in School \_\_\_\_\_

The calf will be housed (Indicate what farm will house the calf) \_\_\_\_\_

Member's Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Parent's Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Leader's Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Calf sponsored by GreenStone Farm Credit Services and Sunnyside Dairy Farms. Program developed and coordinated by the Manitowoc County UW-Extension 4-H Dairy Project Committee. For more information contact Scott Gunderson, Manitowoc County UW-Extension Agriculture Agent at 683-4175.

## 2016 HERD BUILDER AWARD Evaluation Form

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Organization \_\_\_\_\_

1. Must complete an application and project story and return to the Manitowoc County UW-Extension office by August 1, 2016.
  - a. Neatness and completeness
  - b. Knowledge of project, expenses, dates, etc.
2. Must exhibit a minimum of two (2) animals at the 2016 Manitowoc County Fair
3. Must participate in dairy showmanship at the 2016 Manitowoc County Fair
4. Must participate in an interview on the Saturday of the County Fair
  - a. Knowledge of project animals
  - b. Feeding, fitting, and grooming
  - c. Dairy Bowl Facts, Score Card, and dairy terminology
  - d. How you got started
  - e. List of activities outside of the dairy program
  - f. Future plans



University of Wisconsin-Extension The University of Wisconsin-Extension provides affirmative action and equal opportunity in education, programming and employment for all qualified persons regardless of race, color, gender/sex, creed, disability, religion, national origin, ancestry, age, sexual orientation, pregnancy, marital or parental, arrest or conviction record or veteran status.

## 2016 OUTSTANDING DAIRY CATTLE YOUTH EXHIBITOR

Any Junior Fair dairy cattle exhibitor aged 16-19 as of January 1, 2016 may apply for the "OUTSTANDING DAIRY CATTLE YOUTH EXHIBITOR" award. The award will recognize exceptional dairy youth and will be presented at the 2016 Manitowoc County Fair. The award winner will receive a \$500 stipend which can be used for college education and/or dairy show-related supplies.

Any exhibitor who wishes to apply for the "Outstanding Dairy Cattle Youth Exhibitor" must submit the attached application and a project story entitled, "My Dairy Project". The story should include how the exhibitor got involved in dairy as a project, how it is financed, problems encountered and overcome, size and scope of the project and plans for the future.

The information supplied in the application and dairy project story, along with the exhibitor's performance at the Fair and knowledge of the project as determined by an interview, will be the basis for making the award.

The application and dairy project story (not to exceed two pages) are due no later than **August 1<sup>st</sup>**. These materials should be sent to Scott Gunderson, Manitowoc County UW-Extension Agriculture Agent, P.O. Box 935, Manitowoc, WI 54221-0935.

An interview of all qualified exhibitors will be held starting at 10:00 a.m. on **Saturday, August 27<sup>th</sup>**. Contact Scott Gunderson for the location of the interviews.

Please note, dairy exhibitors who have graduated from showmanship, i.e. won the Grade 11 and above class, are eligible for the Outstanding Dairy Cattle Youth Exhibitor Award.

*Previous Winners are not eligible. Decisions of the judges are final.*

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### OUTSTANDING DAIRY CATTLE YOUTH EXHIBITOR Application Form (please print)

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Organization \_\_\_\_\_

Age \_\_\_\_\_ Year in School \_\_\_\_\_

Member's Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Parent's Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Leader's Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Scholarship funded by CP Feeds, LLC and the Manitowoc County Dairy exhibitors. Program developed and coordinated by the Manitowoc County UW-Extension 4-H Dairy Project Committee. For more information contact Scott Gunderson, Manitowoc County UW-Extension Agriculture Agent, at 883-4175.

## OUTSTANDING DAIRY CATTLE YOUTH EXHIBITOR Evaluation Form

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Organization \_\_\_\_\_

1. Must complete an application and project story and return to the Manitowoc County UW-Extension office by August 1, 2016.
  - a. Neatness and completeness
  - b. Knowledge of project, expenses, dates, etc.
2. Encouraged to exhibit at least three animals at the 2016 Manitowoc County Fair.
3. Must participate in dairy showmanship at the 2016 Manitowoc County Fair.
4. Must participate in an interview on the Saturday of the County Fair.
  - a. Knowledge of project animals
  - b. Feeding, fitting, and grooming
  - c. Dairy Bowl Facts, Score Card, and dairy terminology
  - d. How you got started
  - e. List of activities outside of the dairy program
  - f. Future plans



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Thank you to our Sponsors

Bronze Level

Collins Dairy, LLC  
Lakeshore Farm Management

Gold Level



Platinum Level



For more information about these videos, contact:

Liz Binversie  
Agriculture Educator  
UWEX Brown County  
920-391-4612  
binversie\_ey@co.brown.wi.us



An EEO/AA employer, UWEX provides equal opportunities in employment and programming, including Title IX and ADA requirements.

Brown County UW-Extension

# Dairy Employee Videos



Ag & Extension Service Center  
1150 Bellevue St.  
Green Bay, WI

Liz Binversie  
UW-Extension Brown County

Jennifer Blazek, UWEX  
UW-Extension, Dane County

Trisha Wagner  
UW-Extension Jackson County



## Dairy Employee Videos

This DVD contains four introductory videos. In this DVD series developed by the UW-Extension, employees will learn about proper techniques to use when managing the bedding and TMR. Videos are included in both English and Spanish. Each video also has subtitles to go along with the audio.

The titles of the four videos included in this series are:

- Bedding Management 101
- El Manejo del Establo 101
- TMR Management 101
- El Manejo de Alimentación

**Acknowledgements:** Thanks to Randy D. Shaver, Professor and Extension Dairy Nutritionist, University of Wisconsin Madison/Extension and Brian Holmes, Professor Emeritus and Extension Farmstead Engineering Specialist, University of Wisconsin-Madison/Extension for reviewing the video scripts and providing editorial suggestions.

Special thanks to Trisha Wagner, UW-Extension Jackson County Agriculture Educator and Jennifer Blazek, UW-Extension Dane County Dairy & Livestock Agent for reviewing the scripts, providing editorial suggestions, translating, and narrating the Spanish videos.

## Video Descriptions

### Bedding Management 101

This video covers the basics of bedding management including:

- Importance of cleanliness
- When and how to clean stalls
- Keeping alleys clean

### TMR Management 101

This video teaches employees about proper feed management and topics include:

- Importance of consistency
- Proper face management
- Weighing and mixing
- When to push up feed

## Dairy Employee Videos

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code \_\_\_\_\_

Phone ( \_\_\_\_\_ ) \_\_\_\_\_

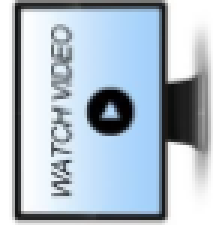
Email \_\_\_\_\_

Cost is \$25 per copy payable to Brown County Treasurer.

Quantity: \_\_\_\_\_ x \$25 = \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Mail order form & payment to:

UWEX Brown County/Dairy Videos  
 Ag & Extension Service Center  
 1150 Bellevue Street  
 Green Bay, WI 54302-2259



## University of Wisconsin Extension Dairy Team

June 2016



## Signs and Symptoms

Audio Podcast Located at: <http://fyi.uwex.edu/agpodcasts>

**Moderator:** Liz Binversie  
Brown County Agriculture Educator  
UW-Extension

**Panelists:** David Kammel, PhD  
Biological Systems Engineering Professor,  
UW-Madison/UW-Extension

Mark Mayer,  
Agriculture Agent, Green County  
UW-Extension

Vicky Lauer, DVM  
Professional Services Veterinarian  
ANIMART

Audio Time: 5:42 minutes (total)

UW-Extension  
Dairy Team's  
Heifer Management Workgroup  
is a joint effort between  
UW-Extension &  
UW-Madison Dairy Science which  
aims to make Wisconsin's  
calf and heifer industry strong &  
competitive through  
university-based research



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**Tune in each week this summer to get UW-Extension Dairy Team's latest  
YouTube podcast about heat stress.**

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*University of Wisconsin, States Department of Agriculture and Wisconsin counties cooperating.*

*An EEO/AA employer, University of Wisconsin-Extension provides equal opportunities in employment and programming,  
including Title IX and Americans with Disabilities (ADA) requirements.*

# Manitowoc County Forage Council Summer Field Day

**Brunmeier Dairy Farm**

8110 S. Union Road  
Newton, WI 53063

**Date: July 14, 2016**  
Rain Date: July 15th



**Schedule of Events**

Noon: Lunch (Courtesy of the sponsors listed below)

12:30 pm: Annual Meeting

12:45 pm: What's New with Low Lignin Alfalfa by Dr. David Combs, UW-Madison Department of Dairy Science

1:00 pm: Seed Company Update on Low Lignin Alfalfa

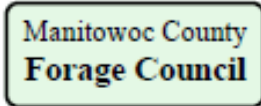
- Chad Staudinger, Dairyland Seed Forage Product Manager
- Chris Paul, Croplan Regional Seed Representative and Country Visions Cooperative Agronomists

1:30 pm: Tour of Brunmeier Dairy Farm Calf Barn with Auto Feeder

2:15 pm: Travel 1 mile east of the farm on Scheffler Road to view a 35 acre field of Conventional and Low Lignin Alfalfa

3:30 pm: Conclude

**This event is sponsored by:**  
Manitowoc County Forage Council  
Manitowoc County UW-Extension  
Midwest Forage Association



**Financial Support Provided by:**  
Country Visions Cooperative  
Denmark State Bank  
Croplan  
InDepth Agronomy



# Eastern Wisconsin Dairy Herd Improvement Cooperative

## EWDHIC Locations

**Waldo Lab/Office** Phone: 920-528-8942  
718 W 1st Street or 800-439-1317  
Waldo, WI 53093 Fax: 920-528-7469

**Brown Office**  
3243 Kewaunee Rd Ste 101 Phone: 920-863-2741  
Green Bay, WI 54311 Fax: 920-863-2742

**Manitowoc Office**  
418 S 29th St Phone: 920-682-5972  
Manitowoc, WI 54220 Fax: 920-682-9798

**West Bend Office** Phone: 262-338-0673

## Field Technicians

Joe Casper 920-948-1572  
Dan Henning 920-946-5350  
Ken Kleinhans 920-893-5602  
Tony Knetzger 262-305-4126  
Tim Leitzke 920-621-6710  
Fred Matzke 920-360-6737  
Augie Muesegades 920-980-6908  
Chuck Reineking 920-254-0301  
Allan Sabel 920-889-3663  
Tiffany Schowalter 262-305-3470  
Howard Stein 920-609-1100  
David Wagner 920-242-6996

## Laboratory Technicians

Sheri Giese, Lab/Data Entry Technician  
Jamie Meyer, Lab/Data Entry Technician  
Kim Schmidt, Lab Support  
Dona Winter, Lab Manager

## Board of Directors

**Dan Diederich** - De Pere 920-371-8414  
**Matt Gartman** - Sheboygan 920-207-6659  
**Randy Geiger** - Reedsville 920-772-4184  
**Jack Hanke** - Plymouth 920-838-1415  
**Tom Hochkammer** - Manitowoc 920-374-0109  
**Peter Muth** - West Bend 262-689-2536  
**Aaron Salzsieder** - Luxemburg 920-495-0181  
**Guy Vogel** - Cato 920-973-3151  
**Dale Wagner** - Manitowoc 920-758-2904

## Managers

**Glenn Schmahl** 920-528-8942  
**Jean Tegen** 920-973-5553



## Dairy & Livestock Agents/Board Advisors

**Scott Gunderson** - Manitowoc County Phone: 920-683-4168  
scott.gunderson@ces.uwex.edu

**Liz Binversie** - Brown County Phone: 920-391-4612  
binversie\_ey@co.brown.wi.us.



### April 2016 Lab Service Eastern Wisconsin DHIC

Milk Samples	71,999
Johne's samples	2,394
Milk Pregnancy	654

### April 2016 Field Service Eastern Wisconsin DHIC

	<u>Herds</u>	<u>Cows</u>
Supervised 1x	227	72,237
Supervised 2x	10	1,481
Supervised 3x	1	96
Unsupervised	117	8,030
<b>Totals</b>	<b>355</b>	<b>82,844</b>

Sheboygan



Manitowoc



The UW-Extension Office now has a Quick Response Code to help you get into the UWEX Web site faster and easier. Use your phone, iPad or tablet camera to scan the Quick Response Code to find UWEX on the web! Barcode Reader or Google Goggle apps may be needed.