



EXTENSION CENTRAL NEWS

In this issue

Agricultural Incident Training	2
A Starter Guide to Pairing Dairy Calves	3
NCWCA Beef Expo	4
NCWCA Beef Tour/Grant Opps/Weed & Insect Tools.....	5
Artificial Insemination Training.....	6
USDA Livestock Insurance/Farmhand Wages/Dairy Beef Opps..	7
PELTR	8
Summer Feed Storage & Feed Bunk Mgmt.....	9-10
Tar Spot of Corn	11

CONTACT US

Extension Central News
UW-Madison Division of Extension

• • • ADAMS COUNTY • • •

Natasha Paris—608-228-8325
Natasha.parish@wisc.edu

• • • CLARK COUNTY • • •

Richard Halopka—715-743-5121
richard.halopka@wisc.edu

• • • CLARK & WOOD COUNTIES • • •

Matt Lippert—715-421-8440
matthew.lippert@wisc.edu

• • • GREEN LAKE COUNTY • • •

Vacant—920-294-4032

• • • JUNEAU & SAUK COUNTIES • • •

Vacant—608-847-9329

• • • LINCOLN & LANGLADE COUNTIES • • •

Vacant—715-539-1078

• • • MARATHON COUNTY • • •

Heather Schlessor—715-261-1239
heather.schlessor@wisc.edu

• • • MARQUETTE COUNTY • • •

Natasha Paris—608-228-8325
Natasha.parish@wisc.edu

• • • PORTAGE COUNTY • • •

Ken Schroeder—715-346-1316
ken.schroeder@wisc.edu

• • • TAYLOR COUNTY • • •

Sandy Stuttgen—715-748-3327
sandra.stuttgen@wisc.edu

• • • WAUSHARA COUNTY • • •

Natasha Paris—608-228-8325
Natasha.parish@wisc.edu



New Regional Crops Educator in South Central Counties

Submitted by Natasha Paris, Regional Crops Educator

Hello, my name is Natasha Paris and I am very excited to be joining the University of Wisconsin-Madison Division of Extension as a Regional Crops Educator for Marquette, Waushara, and Adams Counties. This is a new position that is part of the regional model that will allow Extension to serve Wisconsin producers with focused expertise, similar to how the Central Wisconsin Agriculture Specialization team of UW-Extension has operated. My main office is in Montello at the Marquette County Extension office, but I have workspaces across the region and can visit producers either in person or virtually.

First, I will share a little about myself. I live in Green Lake County where my husband and I farm on land that has been in my family for five generations. We raise beef and swine in addition to forages. I am originally from Sheboygan County and was active in 4-H in my youth. For the past seven years, I have worked in Ripon as a high school agriculture teacher and FFA advisor. I very much enjoyed my time in agriculture education and am a huge supporter of FFA but when this position became available, I knew it was something I wanted to pursue so I could work to serve farmers more directly.

I care very much about helping producers find solutions to their cropping concerns. With challenging weather, soil, and economic conditions, while also being faced with a multitude of options, farming is not an easy vocation. My focus is on keeping farmers profitable while also pursuing conservation practices to protect our soil and water. I love to learn so no matter your agronomic question, I am excited to dive in and help you find a solution.

I realize that several of these counties have had vacancies in Agriculture Extension for some time and to that I want to say, **“we’re back, and we care.”** I look forward to meeting many of you in the upcoming months as I visit producer groups, county fairs, field days, and industry meetings. While I have lived here for a decade, I want to get to know the agriculture landscape on a new level and am eager to listen to your concerns and to learn where I and the greater UW-Madison Extension network of experts can be of service. Please do not hesitate to reach out with questions, research requests, or let me know of events happening in the area. I can be reached via call or text at (608) 228-8325 or email at natasha.paris@wisc.edu. Now let's get learning!

Agricultural Incident Guide Field Training

For law enforcement, first responders, fire fighters, and emergency coordinators

9:00 a.m. - Registration

9:15 a.m. - Overview of the day

10:30 a.m. - Hands-on dairy animal handling

Noon - Lunch

12:30 - Panel discussion: FAQs and Answers concerning agricultural emergencies

1:30 p.m. - Handling swine

1:45 p.m. - Handling equine - we are still working on securing an equine specialist

2 p.m. - Travel to beef farm

2:30 p.m. - Hands-on handling beef

4 p.m. - Adjourn

5 Things you need to know:

Date: Wednesday, September 07, 2022

**Location: Marshfield Agricultural Research Station - 208356 Drake Ave. N,
Stratford**

Clothing should be fitted but comfortable. Close-toed/washable shoes are required.

Lunch and refreshments will be provided.

Any questions/concerns can be directed to District 8 Coordinator: Ashleigh Calaway at 715.781.2306



Sponsored by:



Extension

UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN-MADISON

Two Heads Are Better Than One:

A Starter Guide to Pairing Dairy Calves

Scan the QR code or visit: go.wisc.edu/0574a6



This series of articles is a seven-part starter guide for pairing or group-housing preweaned dairy calves. Throughout this guide, we cover best practices to promote good health and welfare in calves raised in pairs or small groups.

All articles within the guide are meant to be printed out and kept together as a series. The tabs at the top of the documents help readers flip to the section of interest.

Topics

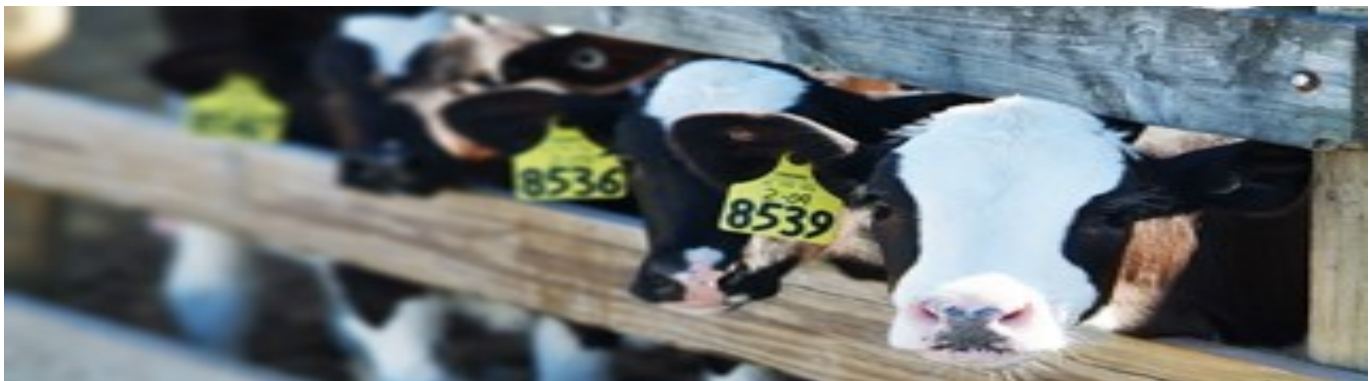
1. [Why all the fuss about pair housing?](#)
2. [Benchmarks for calf health before pair housing](#)
3. [Hygiene practices](#)
4. [Options for housing pairs or groups](#)
5. [Grouping strategies](#)
6. [Feeding practices and reducing cross sucking](#)
7. [Disbudding and dehorning considerations](#)

Authors

This guide was created by **Jennifer Van Os**, PhD, with contributions from:

- **Sarah Adcock**, PhD, Department of Animal & Dairy Sciences, UW-Madison
- **Joao Costa**, PhD, Department of Animal & Food Sciences, University of Kentucky
- **Courtney Halbach**, MBA, Department of Medical Sciences, School of Veterinary Medicine, UW-Madison
- **Tina Kohlman**, MS, UW-Madison Division of Extension Fond du Lac County
- **Emily Miller-Cushon**, PhD, Department of Animal Sciences, University of Florida
- **Theresa Ollivett**, DVM, PhD, Department of Medical Sciences, School of Veterinary Medicine, UW-Madison
- **Donald Sockett**, DVM, PhD, Wisconsin Veterinary Diagnostic Laboratory, UW-Madison
- **Sandy Stuttgen**, DVM, UW-Madison Division of Extension Taylor County

Version 1 of this series was published November 2020 to February 2021. https://animalwelfare.cals.wisc.edu/calf_pairing/



NCWCA Beef Expo

The North Central WI Cattlemen's Association's Beef Expo will be held from 10 am to 3 pm on August 6, 2022, at the K Bar R Arena, W7939 WI-64, Medford, WI.

Peer-to-peer learning will be highlighted as NCWCA members and invited instructors present hands-on demonstrations at multiple stations. Not for relaxing entertainment, plan to get your hands and feet busy while exploring these topics. The day is scheduled so you will not miss out on a topic unless you choose to! Dress accordingly for this rain or shine event and bring your own bag chair for sitting during the field demos.

- **Build a Bud Box** – one of the cheapest methods for handling cattle on your farm, together we'll set up a bud box and demonstrate its use.
- **Body Condition Scoring** - for health and nutritional management and marketing.
- **Marketing on Yield and Grade** – just when is the animal finished?
- **Veterinary Herd Health** – Ask the Vet (nearly anything).
- **Artificial Insemination Basics:** just how hard would it be to use AI in your herd?
- **The Calf is Stuck!** Tips for handling difficult calvings using North Central Technical College's cow and calf model.
- **Nutrition and Forage Management** – sampling and inventorying forage to supply a balanced ration for your herd.
- **No Till Drill Demo** – Why No-till? How does it work, how much tractor is needed to power it, and how much does it cost?
- **Soil Ain't Dirt** – taking and interpreting soil samples to manage pastures and crop land for fall fertilization. Also fall stockpiling forage and weed control.
- **Fitting Clinic** for youth and adults showing cattle.
- **'Manned' Equipment Displays** - get your questions answered.
- **Fun activities include games for youth, a silent auction for adults, and Cow Pie Bingo!**

There is no cost to attend. 100 lunch meals will be for sale at \$15 for a Beef Brisket Sandwich/ Potato Salad/ Baked Beans/ Chips /Pickle/ Brownie plate and beverage. You will be on your own to search for lunch once the meals are gone.

Source: North Central WI Cattlemen's Association QTR 3 2022

NCWCA BEEF EXPO

Saturday, August 6, 2022

10 am - 3 pm

KBarR Arena, Medford



Inviting all who are curious about raising beef for hands-on peer-learning about:

- *AI and Calving Management
- *Marketing*
- *Body Condition Scoring*
- *Herd Health Protocols*
- *Show Fitting*
- *Cattle Handling Equipment*
- *Field and Forage Demos*

Welcome Public,
Fun for All Ages!
\$15 Brisket Sandwich Meals-
first come, first served.
Cow Pie Bingo
Silent Auction
Youth Activities

Cattle Handling
No Till Drill
Soil Health

K Bar R Arena, W7939 WI-64, Medford, WI. Rain or Shine Event, bring your own bag chair, sunglasses or umbrella for the field demos.

FREE GATE ADMISSION Brought to you by NCWCA and its sponsors:

Athens Veterinary - Bill's Tire & Service - Bloomington Livestock Exchange - Complete Fencing
Equity Livestock Market - Forward Bank - General Farm Supply Gold Buckle Electric - Hallstrand Angus -
K Bar R Ranch - Medford Cooperative - Medford Veterinary Clinic - Mike Barna Hay Making
Premier Livestock & Auctions - River Country Co-op

NCWCA, Inc., its administration, its members, and its sponsors will not be responsible for any loss or damage that may occur during the delivery, exhibition, participation or removal of animals attending programs of NCWCA, Inc. Nor shall the association, its management, its members and its sponsors be responsible for personal injury, loss or theft sustained by a participant. The participant shall indemnify NCWCA, Inc. against all legal or other proceedings in regard thereto.

NCWCA Fall Beef Tour

Submitted by Sandy Stuttgen, DVM, Ag Educator
UW-Madison Division of Extension

Beef producers and those wanting to learn more about beef production are invited to join the North Central WI Cattlemen's Association (NCWCA) to tour UP Michigan Beef Operations on September 13-14, 2022. We'll visit host farms near Cooks, Garden, Chatham and Traunik, and the Michigan State University Upper Peninsula Research and Extension Center to see and learn about Michigan cow-calf and feedlot management practices and handling facilities. You will hear and see practices to consider for your own operations while enjoying camaraderie with fellow producers.

This bus tour departs and returns to Medford. Participants are responsible for their hotel and meals. To receive a brochure that includes all details, call Extension Taylor County at 715-748-3327 ext. 3. **The registration deadline with payment of \$65 per person is due by August 25th.** Make checks payable to NCWCA and send to Karen Gallion, N9934 Groveside Ave, Spencer, WI 54479.

Source: North Central WI Cattlemen's Association QTR 3 2022

Grant Opportunity Opens

Submitted by Sandy Stuttgen, DVM, Ag Educator
UW-Madison Division of Extension

The Meat and Poultry Supply Chain Resiliency Grant Program, funded through the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA), provides Wisconsin meat processors the ability to apply for grants of up to \$150,000. The application period for the Meat and Poultry Supply Chain Resiliency Grant Program is now open and **applications are due at 5 p.m. on Friday, August 19.**

The Meat and Poultry Supply Chain Resiliency Grant Program is distributed by the Wisconsin Department of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection (DATCP). Processors are required to provide a match of 100 percent of the grant amount, and grants will be awarded through a competitive selection process. For all details, visit <https://datcp.wi.gov/Pages/AgDevelopment/MeatPoultrySupplyChainResiliencyGrants.aspx>

With this announcement, Gov. Evers has now committed more than \$15 million to Wisconsin's meat processors. Earlier this year, Gov. Evers announced up to \$5 million in the Meat Talent Development Program to help attract students to meat careers, provide financial support to

students in Wisconsin meat processing training programs, support program development, and connect the meat processing industry with potential employees.

Additionally, the 2021-23 biennial budget also included \$200,000 in each year of the biennium for Meat Processor Infrastructure Grants. These grants enabled meat processors to invest in their facilities and install equipment to expand their production and gain efficiencies. In the first year of the Meat Processor Infrastructure Grants, DATCP received 100 applications requesting more than \$4.4 million in funding. The first recipients of these grants were announced on May 5.

Source: North Central WI Cattlemen's Association QTR 3 2022

Weed ID Tool

University of Wisconsin's Weeds Information website provides useful information to the public that is specific to weedy plants of the Midwest, specifically Wisconsin.

Visit <https://weedid.wisc.edu/index.php> for help in identifying a weed you are concerned about.

The screenshot shows the 'Weed Identification & Management' website. At the top, there is a navigation bar with 'UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN-MADISON' on the left and 'UW SEARCH PEOPLE' on the right. Below this is a red header with the 'W' logo and the title 'Weed Identification & Management'. The main content area is divided into a left sidebar and a main panel. The sidebar contains links for 'Home', 'Weed ID Tool', and 'Weed Selector Tool', along with the 'UW Extension Cooperative Extension' logo. The main panel features a 'Weed Identification Tool' section with a 'Search location:' dropdown menu set to 'Wisconsin'. Below this is a 'Step 1' instruction: 'Select the type of weed you are trying to identify. You may change your choice of weed type, or restart the ID process at any time.' There are two buttons: 'select weed type' (a dropdown menu) and 'go to step 2'. A 'restart ID process' button is also present. To the right of the instructions, there are three categories: 'BROADLEAF:' (herbaceous plants with noticeable flowers, broad leaves with netted veins), 'GRASSLIKE:' (herbaceous plants with ribbon-like leaves, no flowers), and 'WOODY:' (trees, shrubs with woody stems).

Invasive Insect Maps for WI

The UW Insect Diagnostic Lab recently launched a new Wisconsin invasive insect mapping page to help track invasive insects in the state. A key role of the lab is to help identify and monitor new and trending insects in the state. It's critical to track these invasive species because they can threaten native plants and animals, reduce biodiversity and alter habitats.

Access the map at <https://insectlab.russell.wisc.edu/2022/04/29/invasive-insect-maps-wisconsin/>

Artificial Insemination Training

Join Extension in learning how to Artificially Inseminate your own cattle.

This four (partial) day workshop is designed for educating beef and dairy producers about:

- The benefits of using Artificial Insemination instead of a bull
- The importance of proper heat detection and the tools available to help you detect heat
- Learning various estrous synchronization protocols to use in their herds

Includes both online classroom and on farm activities.

Online: Sept. 27 and 29, 7–9 pm

In person: Oct. 6, 4–6:30 pm and Oct 7, 9 am–Noon

Attendance is required at all 4 sessions.

At Bach Farms, W861 Co Rd A, Dorchester, WI 54425

\$95/Person. Pre-registration Required with payment by SEPT. 16th, 2022

ENROLLMENT LIMITED TO FIRST 15 PAID REGISTRANTS

Class Fee includes written training materials, instruction, and snacks both days.

Register online with credit card at go.wisc.edu/ai

Return this form with payment by September 16th. No refunds after Sept. 16.

SEPT/OCT 2022 AI CLASS REGISTRATION:

Name: _____

Address:

City/Zip Code:

Phone: _____

Email: _____

Special Dietary Needs:

Please make checks payable to *Extension*

MAIL TO:

Attn: AI Program

Extension

212 River Dr., Ste 3

Wausau, WI 54403

Contact Marathon County Extension for more information: 715-261-1230.



USDA Updates Livestock Insurance Options

By Tyrell Marchant for Progressive Cattlemen magazine. June 2022. Shortened to fit available space.

The USDA has updated three key crop insurance options for livestock producers: the Dairy Revenue Protection (Dairy-RP), Livestock Gross Margin (LGM) and Livestock Risk Protection (LRP). The USDA's Risk Management Agency (RMA) revised the insurance options in late April for the 2023 crop year, which begins July 1, 2022.

Dairy-RP insures against unexpected declines in the quarterly revenue from milk sales relative to a guaranteed coverage level. LGM protects against the loss of gross margin (or livestock's market value minus feed costs), and LRP provides protection against price declines.

Producers will now have more flexibility for Dairy-RP, LGM and LRP when indemnities are used to pay premiums, which can help producers manage their operations' cash flows. With these updates, producers can now have both LGM and LRP policies, although they cannot insure the same class of livestock for the same time period or have the same livestock insured under multiple policies.

Additional updates include:

Dairy Revenue Protection - Dairy Producers are now able to continue coverage even if they experience a disaster, such as a barn fire, at their operation.

Livestock Gross Margin - Cattle, dairy and swine coverage has been expanded, making it available in all counties in all 50 states.

Livestock Risk Protection - Insurance companies are now required to pay indemnities within 30 days, rather than the previous 60 days, following the receipt of the claim form. The termination date under LRP has been extended from June 30 to Aug. 31 and location reporting requirements have been relaxed to list only state and county, instead of the precise legal location. Also, head limits have been increased:

- Fed cattle: 12,000 head per endorsement and 25,000 head per crop year
- Feeder cattle: 12,000 head per endorsement and 25,000 head per crop year
- Swine: 70,000 head per endorsement and 750,000 head per crop year.

For more information visit www.rma.usda.gov

Hourly Wages for Farmhands Working in Lake States Averages \$17.45

Submitted by Sandy Stuttgen, DVM, Ag Educator
UW-Madison Division of Extension

Wages for farmhands across the nation rose 8% over this time last year according to a farm labor report issued by the National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS), Agricultural Statistics Board, and USDA.

In the three state region of Lake States (Wisconsin, Michigan, and Minnesota), farm operators employed 56,000 farm workers during the week of April 10-16, 2022. Hourly wages for field workers averaged \$17.36/hr., while livestock workers averaged \$16.22/hr. Employees performing both fieldwork and animal related duties averaged \$16.73/hr. Gross wages in Wisconsin averaged \$17.45/hr. — an increase of \$1.70 compared to 2021.

The report also noted that hired laborers in the three-state region averaged 38.4 hours per week, compared to the national average of 39.7 hours during the April 2022 reference week.

Source: Wisconsin State Farmer, June 3, 2022.

Dairy Beef Opportunities

By Sandy Stuttgen, DVM, Agriculture Educator
UW-Madison Division of Extension

The June 2022 WI Agriculturist Magazine reports USDA estimates half-million beef x dairy calves will be born in 2022. Dairy producers are adding more animals to the beef supply chain, a fact that beef seedstock and cow-calf producers should take note of.

Opportunities exist to sell beef semen or bulls from Wisconsin bull breeders for use on dairy. Dairy does not necessarily need to increase its marbling potential, but the correct beef bull can add desired muscling and height to the dairy animal being bred, to create the calf that markets and consumers desire.

Maybe it's time to step away from cow-calf production? Opportunities exist for starting and backgrounding beef x dairy calves.

PLANNING EMERGENCY LIVESTOCK TRANSPORT RESPONSE (PELTR)



Who should take this course?

This training is intended for first responders, including:

- Fire/EMS/Law Enforcement/State Patrol
- County Highway Department & Emergency Mgmt.
- Public Health and Safety Communicators
- Governmental Administrators
- Veterinarians
- Those experienced in handling livestock who may provide planning assistance.

Course Goals

Participants share the information with their organization/ department's members to develop and improve their toolbox for responding to livestock transportation crashes. Topics covered include:

- Livestock behavior in times of stress
- Animal handling, movement, and containment
- Biosecurity issues
- Extrication of animals from trailers
- Euthanasia decision-making process
- Handling mortalities

Cost: \$50

Self-paced virtual (UW-Madison Canvas) course with one-half day in-person session (includes light snacks). Registered participants will receive a hard copy manual.

Educational Credits

Emergency response personnel will be awarded eight (8) hours continuing educational units (CEU) for participation in this program.

For information on
upcoming PELTR
classes, subscribe to
tinyurl.com/peltr2022



Extension
UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN-MADISON

An EEO/AA employer, University of Wisconsin-Madison Division of Extension provides equal opportunities in employment and programming, including Title VI, Title IX, the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act requirements.



Summer feed storage and feed bunk management

Hot summer weather can be hard on feed ingredients and total mixed rations (TMRs). It is vital that feed quality and aerobic stability be maintained during this challenging season. Doing so will minimize nutrient losses while optimizing cow intakes which are often compromised due to heat stress challenges. Fermented forages rich in starch (i.e. corn silage and high-moisture corn) and diets containing high levels of moisture or wet by-products (i.e. wet brewer's grain) are more vulnerable to having poor aerobic stability. "Aerobic stability" is a common nutrition term defined as the length of time that a feed ingredient lasts before heating up or spoiling when it is exposed to air. Feeds like the ones mentioned above become especially unstable when they are exposed to oxygen in combination with high humidity and temperatures. These conditions allow for the rapid growth of yeasts which use nutrients and lactic acid as sources of energy. The growth of yeasts sets off a chain reaction that starts with heating and leads to the loss of volatile acids, a rise in pH, the growth of undesired molds, and ultimately, instability. The objective of this article is to review the causes of and solutions for poor aerobic stability in silage and TMRs.

Silage

Producing aerobically stable silage requires a combination of adequate harvest and storage management, as well as good feed-out practices. With corn harvesting season coming soon, it is important to review and consider some of these practices. Removal of oxygen through adequate packing and sealing is essential for silage preservation. Adequate packing density also improves fermentation and reduces storage losses. Harvesting late maturity (>40% dry matter) or coarsely chopped silage should be done with caution as these practices may harm the packing process. Poor packing will retain more oxygen within the silo and lead to poor aerobic stability at feed-out. The rate at which oxygen penetrates the silage face at feed-out is inversely proportional to packing density. Higher packing densities have lower rates of oxygen penetration.

Inoculating silage with heterofermentative microbial inoculants may also improve the aerobic stability of corn

silage and high-moisture corn. The heterofermentative bacteria most frequently used in silage inoculants is *Lactobacillus buchneri*, which converts lactate to acetate and 1,2-propanediol. Typical fermentation responses to *L. buchneri* inoculation are presented in Table 1.

Table 1. Effect of *Lactobacillus buchneri* (>100,000 cfu/g of fresh forage) on fermentation profile of corn silage.¹

Item	Control	Inoculated
pH	3.70	3.88
Lactate, % of DM	6.59	4.79
Acetate, % of DM	2.18	3.89
Yeast, log cfu/g	4.18	1.88
DM recovery, %	95.5	94.5
Aerobic stability, h	25	503

¹Adapted from Kleinschmit and Kung (2006).

New combinations of inoculants containing *L. buchneri* are also showing promising research results. For example, researchers are investigating the combination of *L. buchneri* with *L. diolivorans* since the latter can convert 1,2-propanediol into propionate. Both acetate and propionate have antifungal properties that inhibit yeast and mold growth. It is important to remember, however, that many of the issues related to poor aerobic stability are a result of poor management practices. These practices must be addressed to maximize the benefits of using a microbial inoculant.

Feed-out practices that allow for air infiltration into the silage face also reduce aerobic stability. Some commonly observed malpractices include an uneven silage face, a slow feed-out rate, removing plastic from a given section of the silo too soon, and letting silage removed from the silage face sit for long periods of time.

Total Mixed Rations (TMR)

Poor aerobic stability of the TMR can have adverse effects on its nutritive value as well as animal intake. To avoid these issues, TMR temperatures in the feed bunk should be monitored throughout the day. If the TMR is getting hot, the first step is to determine the cause of the heating. Feeding two times per day instead of a single feeding could be a good

Written by Luiz Ferraretto, Liz Binversie, and Matt Lippert. Reviewed by Matt Akins, Kimberly Schmidt, Michelle Der Bedrosian and Bill Halfman.

alternative to minimize spoilage. This practice fits well with lower meal intake patterns observed by lactating cows under heat stress.

It is also advised that spoiling feeds be excluded from the TMR. For example, wet brewer's or wet distiller's grains can have high yeast counts and spoil rapidly if not preserved. Including these feedstuffs in the TMR during the summer may make the TMR more susceptible to heating and spoiling. Another option to prevent the TMR from spoiling is the addition of buffered acid or preservative products (buffered acetate or propionate; or preservatives such as sodium benzoate). When applied to the TMR, these products have potential to inhibit yeast proliferation and improve TMR stability.

Best Management Practices

Remove enough feed to prevent spoilage. Air penetrates about 35 inches/d in the silo, regardless of how well-packed and preserved the silo is. Research has shown the optimal removal rate should be at least 12 inches in summer to prevent heating and spoiling (Muck and Holmes, 2006). Also, avoid removing too much plastic during warm weather which allows air to penetrate further into the silage. To avoid falls from the silage edge, make sure to use a tether if needing to get closer to the silage edge than the height of the silage face.

Only remove enough feed for each day's feeding. Carefully remove silage to avoid excess that will not be fed that day and will spoil. If feeding multiple times a day, also remove silage multiple times a day. Leaving feed out will cause greater feed loss, costing you money. Let us look at an example. Suppose you have a 12-foot-tall by 36-foot-wide bunker silo containing corn silage, and you remove 12 inches. Densities vary and typically average around 40 as fed pounds per cubic foot. This is approximately 9 tons as fed. If we estimate the corn silage price at \$30/ton as fed, this is worth approximately \$270. Put another way, every inch that is removed is worth \$22.50. While it may not sound like much, even one extra inch removed per day and allowed to spoil is worth over \$8,200 annually. Haylage prices are even higher at about \$60/ton as fed. If assuming 12 inches is roughly 9 tons of feed, each inch removed is valued at \$45 or over \$16,400 per year. This is a combined value of over \$24,600 annually that is left spoiling on the ground. Advance planning to use smaller piles, silos or bags during summer is a good way to minimize spoilage at the silage face. If the feed face is too large to keep up with, consider splitting it for future years.

Use a facer instead of a bucket. This tool will provide a smoother face, reducing air pockets and overhangs. Spoilage can occur inside these air pockets and overhangs are a risk for feed avalanches.

Check bags and bunker silo plastic regularly. Tears and holes can occur in the plastic, exposing the feed to oxygen. Make sure to check plastic regularly and repair damaged plastic. Determining the damage's cause can also be helpful. Additional steps may need to be taken to reduce damage caused by animals such as re-evaluating where you place bags, fencing, or other methods.

Monitor feed for spoilage. Molds and mycotoxins need to be managed carefully. Early detection is key to prevent further losses and make the best management decisions. Work with your herd's nutritionist to determine an appropriate action plan once a problem is identified.

Feed more frequently and during cooler times of the day. Plan when to feed the herd so it coincides with when cows are most likely going to eat. Early morning and later in the evening are better times to feed to take advantage of when cows are cooler and more comfortable. Similarly, you could consider pushing feed up, feeding more during these cooler times of the day, and less during peak temperatures. Finally, consider delivering smaller batches of feed more frequently to minimize spoilage.

Summary

Maintaining aerobic stability is critical to preserving the nutritive value of silages and TMRs, and to avoiding a reduction in intake by dairy cows. Adequate harvesting and feed-out practices, combined with the use of heterofermentative microbial inoculants, are key to protecting your silage investment. The implementation of effective feed bunk management practices, like decreasing feed delivery size but increasing delivery frequency, is also advised.

References

- Kleinschmit, D.H. and L. Kung Jr. 2006a. A meta-analysis of the effects of *Lactobacillus buchneri* on the fermentation and aerobic stability of corn and grass and small-grain silages. *J. Dairy Sci.* 89:4005-4013.
- Muck, R.E. and B.J. Holmes. 2006. Bag Silo Densities and Losses. *Trans ASABE* 49:1277-1284.

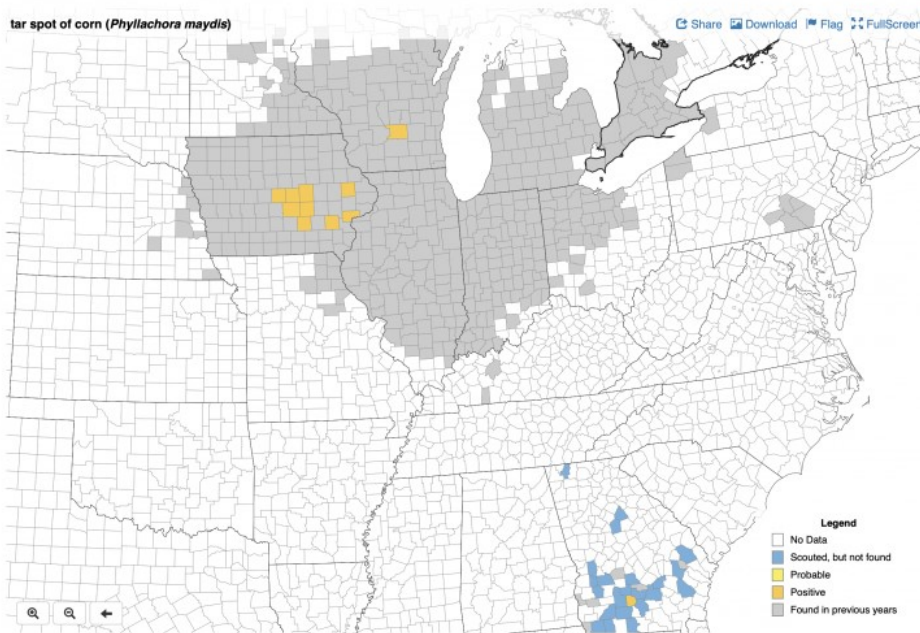
We Found Tar Spot of Corn in 2022, Now What?

Damon Smith, Extension Field Crops Pathologist, Department of Plant Pathology, University of Wisconsin-Madison
Brian Mueller, Researcher II, Department of Plant Pathology, University of Wisconsin-Madison
Roger Schmidt, Nutrient and Pest Management Program, University of Wisconsin-Madison



Home Report Diseases Insects

HOME > TAR SPOT
Tar Spot



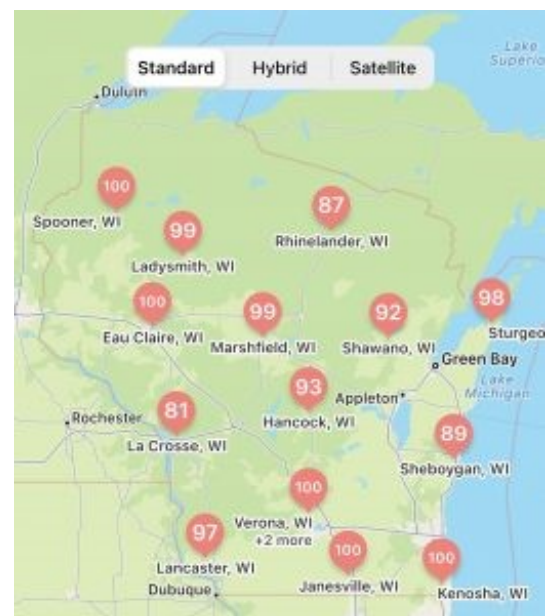
It didn't take long this year to find tar spot in the corn crop in the Midwest. Last week brought on the first county-wide reports of tar spot in Iowa and now we have found tar spot on corn in Columbia Co. Wisconsin as of July 6, 2022 (Fig 1). This is the earliest in the season, and the earliest growth stage of corn, that I have ever seen tar spot in Wisconsin. With that said, the severity is extremely low and **does not necessitate spraying fungicide at the moment!** So what should you do now?

Highlights include:

- One well timed fungicide spray should limit extreme economic loss.
- Vigilant scouting is important.
- UW-Madison has smartphone apps to assist you.

The remainder of this article can be found online at:

<https://badgercropdoc.com/2022/07/07/we-found-tar-spot-of-corn-in-2022-now-what/>





Extension

UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN-MADISON
WOOD COUNTY

**Extension Wood County
PO Box 8095
400 Market Street
Wisconsin Rapids, WI 54495**

Please contact Extension Wood County at 715-421-8440 for the following:

- ⇒ To receive this as an eNewsletter emailed to you
- ⇒ Any changes to your email address or physical address (if mailing)
- ⇒ To unsubscribe to this newsletter completely

EXTENSION CENTRAL NEWS

A cooperative effort of multiple
Central Wisconsin Counties and
Wisconsin Extension.



Extension
UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN-MADISON

Our Mission

*To be the primary source of
research based agricultural
information and education for
the agricultural community in
Central Wisconsin.*

An EEO/AA employer, University of Wisconsin-Madison Division of Extension provides equal opportunities in employment and programming, including Title VI, Title IX, and the Americans with Disabilities (ADA) requirements. Please make requests for reasonable accommodations to ensure equal access to educational programs as early as possible preceding the scheduled program, service or activity.