

## Registration & Information

**Madison campus:** Richard Cates, WSBDP Director, 608-265-6437 or 608-588-2836; rlcates@wisc.edu

### Distance education sites:

(locations may vary from year to year with student enrollment; if the site nearest you is not available, please consider attending at the next closest site)

**Antigo:** Alex Crockford, UW-Extension, Langlade County, 715-627-6236, alex.crockford@ces.uwex.edu

**Balsam Lake:** Ryan Sterry, UW-Extension Polk County, 715-485-8600; ryan.sterry@ces.uwex.edu

**Chilton:** Jeremy Hanson, Fox Valley Technical College @ Chilton Regional Center, 920-849-4416; hanson@fvtc.edu or Greg Booher, Lakeshore Technical College, 920-693-1241; greg.booher@gotoltc.edu

**Hayward:** Otto Wiegand, UW-Extension, Washburn, Sawyer & Burnett Counties, 715-635-3506; otto.wiegand@ces.uwex.edu

**Independence:** Mary Anderson, River Country RC&D, 715-538-4396 ext 33; mary.anderson@rcdnet.net

**Jefferson:** Peter Pitts, Town and Country RC&D, 920-541-3208, petergpitts@townandcountryrcd.org

**Lancaster:** Arin Crooks, Agricultural Research Station, 608-723-2580; aecrooks@wisc.edu

**Neillsville:** Maria Bendixen, UW-Extension, Clark County, 715-743-5121; maria.bendixen@ces.uwex.edu

**Menomonie:** Mark Denk, Chippewa Valley Technical College, 715-577-3036; mdenk1@cvtc.edu

**Phillips:** Mark Kopecky, UW-Extension Price County, 715-339-2555; mark.kopecky@ces.uwex.edu

**Prairie du Chien:** Vance Haugen, UW Extension, Crawford County, 608-326-0223; vance.haugen@ces.uwex.edu

**Reedsburg:** Doug Marshall, MATC-Reedsburg, 608-524-7727; dmarshall@matcmadison.edu

**Thorp:** Brad Sirianni, Chippewa Valley Technical College, 715-579-5834; bsirianni@cvtc.edu

**Wausau:** Tom Cadwallader, UW-Extension, Lincoln & Marathon Counties, 715-539-1072 or 715-261-1240; TCadwallader@co.lincoln.wi.us

## To apply

To participate in the WSBDP on the Madison campus, download application materials from [www.cias.wisc.edu/dairysch.html](http://www.cias.wisc.edu/dairysch.html) or request an application packet at 608-265-6437. You must also enroll in the UW-FISC (see below) to take the seminar in Madison. To be considered for a scholarship, submit your application by April 1; late applicants may be accepted as space and funds are available.

For the distance education option, apply to the location you wish to attend by November 1. Call or email the site facilitator for application materials and course information. If you would like to take the class for credit, the site facilitator can help you with the additional requirements for UW or WI Technical College credit. Internships and scholarships may be available in your area.

To learn more about the UW-Madison Farm and Industry Short Course (FISC), call 608-263-3918 for information or log onto [www.cals.wisc.edu/students/shortCourse](http://www.cals.wisc.edu/students/shortCourse)

# Wisconsin School for Beginning Dairy and Livestock Farmers

**A training and mentoring program emphasizing business planning and pasture-based farm management**



**Giving you a head start in pasture-based dairy or livestock farming through flexible classes, internships and networking opportunities**

[www.cias.wisc.edu/dairysch.html](http://www.cias.wisc.edu/dairysch.html)

## If you have a passion to start farming, we are here to help you...

### What do we offer?

- 15-week Pasture-Based Dairy and Livestock Seminar, held weekly, led by experienced graziers, business leaders and UW faculty
- Local facilitators at your site to lead class and provide materials and discussion
- An introduction to area farmers, lenders and agriculture professionals to help with your farming career development
- Internships (2-6 months) on Wisconsin dairy or livestock farms
- Option to receive credits toward a UW-Madison Farm and Industry Short Course degree or WI Technical College program
- Events and resources to introduce you to successful farmers: conferences, pasture walks, farm tours and Internet contacts
- Scholarships for tuition and internships
- Assistance identifying opportunities to start your own farm business



### Pasture-Based Dairy and Livestock Seminar

The Pasture-Based Dairy and Livestock Seminar will familiarize students with the development and management of pasture-based dairy and livestock farm businesses. The course is held on Thursdays from 11:00-1:15, mid-November through March on the UW-Madison campus. A distance education option allows students to enroll and participate via live webcast and interactive audio feed from closer to home.

A local facilitator will lead the distance education seminar at each site, provide networking with area farmers and resource personnel, and conduct a discussion session each week. Topics of the seminar series include economic, environmental, and agronomic principles of managed grazing; milking center design; dairy, beef, goat and sheep production; organic marketing and herd health; farm selection, design and remodeling; winter feeding and housing strategies; and goal-setting and farm enterprise development.

During the course, students will develop a business plan for their own current or desired farm operation. The final class consists of the opportunity to present the plan to a panel of successful farmers and agricultural lenders.

### Requirements:

To attend the WSBDf you need to have a strong desire to become a dairy or livestock farmer and have a serious interest in managed grazing.

Some previous experience in dairy or livestock agriculture is desirable.

### Internships

Student interns usually live on the farm as they work side by side with experienced mentor farmers. Through the WSBDf and PDPW, students may intern at one or more successful operations that include large, small, managed grazing, organic, conventional, cattle, sheep or goat dairy and livestock enterprises. Scholarship support is available.

Training includes milking and animal housing systems, breeding, calving, herd health, pasture and water systems, paddock design, and financial and labor management. Students who demonstrate competency in these areas receive letters of recommendation from their farmer mentors and a WSBDf certificate of graduation.

### About the WSBDf

This five month certificate course is offered within the UW Farm and Industry Short Course curriculum and includes additional opportunities for on-farm internships, conference attendance, mentoring and networking. Madison campus students must enroll for credit; distance education students have credit or non-credit options. Please contact the site facilitator for more information, including application materials and course fees.

**A free informational CD about the WSBDf is available** by calling 608-265-6437.

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