

## Agriculture

For updated Valley E-Newsletters click [here](#)

### Lyssa Seefeldt | Regional Dairy Educator



A live, on-line meeting series, for farmers and dairy industry professionals, where participants learned the latest research and applications regarding developments in genetic evaluations, feed efficiency research, methane emissions, and dairy cow resiliency. The goal of this effort was to increase knowledge of the latest UW-Madison research on the impacts that genetics plays on dairy cattle.

Developing resources on using herd health to monitor transition cow status for dairy farmers and farm workers. The goal is to help the audience better understand the implications of disease events on transition cow health so that they monitor incidence rates and identify at-risk cows to trigger earlier interventions.

A seminar for agricultural finance lenders where participants learned about emerging agricultural economic issues to improve lending decisions. The goal of the program is to provide university-based research, information, and market analysis for regional financial leaders to make informed decisions.

### Jerry Clark | Regional Crops & Soils Educator



A presentation for barley researchers, consultants, and producers where participants learned about winter barley production and cropping systems to continue future research and inclusion in cropping systems for farm crop diversity and profitability.

A seminar for agricultural finance lenders where participants learned about emerging agricultural economic issues to improve lending decisions. The goal of the program is to provide university-based research, information, and market analysis for regional financial leaders to make informed decisions.

## Horticulture

### Margaret Murphy | Horticulture Educator



Creating a dish garden with succulents for people living with dementia and their care partners that offers a hands-on experience to stimulate the senses, enjoy social interactions and encourage the use of motor skills while learning about indoor plant care.

A container garden program for the public where participants learn strategies to grow successful planters of herbs, vegetables, and flowers with the opportunity to start an indoor herb garden. This effort is designed to encourage people of all ages to garden for health and beautification indoors or outdoors or with limited space.

A winter garden class on the origin of some of our most common garden crops for youth in partnership with the Boys and Girls Club of the Greater Chippewa Valley. The goal of this effort is to help make cultural connections to our food and create a plan to plant a global themed garden this spring.

## Community Development

Currently Vacant

## Health & Well-Being

Sandy Tarter  
FoodWise Coordinator



Joy Weisner  
FoodWise Educator



Jael M. Wolf  
Bilingual FoodWise Educator



A series of 6 nutrition lessons for 3rd graders at Lakeshore Elementary. This effort will help students explore MyPlate and discover why people need to eat food from all five food groups, identify benefits of physical activity, and identify why one snack might be a better choice than another snack by reading a Nutrition Facts Label.

A 6-week nutrition education series to 3rd graders at Longfellow Elementary (including students in the Spanish Dual Immersion Program) to learn about the importance of eating five food groups, physical activity, healthy habits, and trying seasonal fruits and vegetables. This effort will encourage students to choose a goal to try more fruits and vegetables at each meal. Longfellow has expanded their Dual Immersion classes. We are looking forward to including more Spanish sections in their fifth grade as they grow.

"I have a lot of physical limitations, and this program is helping to strengthen me. It allows me to be able to function better with everyday life."

~StrongBodies participant- January 2024

A series of virtual statewide strength training sessions (StrongBodies) where older adults learn best practices along with nutrition and health education. Participants engage in regular strength training exercises to improve strength, balance, and flexibility so they can stay healthy and socially connected. Twelve Eau Claire residents are currently enrolled in the FoodWise supported January-March Tues/Thurs virtual series.

A 6-week nutrition education series for 1st graders in Lakeshore Elementary. The goal of this effort is for students to learn about eating healthy, being active, exploring fruits and vegetables, and the importance of handwashing.

Introductory meeting and collaboration with ECASD Life Without Limits coordinators to discuss potential integration of resources for students with individualized special education needs. This effort will support students in gaining skills around lifelong healthy habits as they transition beyond high school.

Participation in the Healthy Communities Coalition includes active support for the local Chronic Disease Prevention Action Team. This effort will help guide objectives and strategies that support 2024 initiatives to help improve the health of local residents. Hundreds of people took part in the city-wide scavenger hunts- Reindeer Roundup and "2024 Carson Capers Scavenger Hunt". In February, join in on the [Bridges of the City Crossword Hunt!](#)

# Extension Eau Claire County

## January 2024 Report

### Margo Dieck | Health and Well-Being Educator



*Continued 1-1 staff meetings with Area 6 Extension staff to learn about who works in the area, understand potential for collaboration, and build connections within the area.*

*Began meeting with community partners and attending community meetings to better understand the mental health needs and landscape within Eau Claire County and the Chippewa Valley.*

### Positive Youth Development

#### Rachel Hart-Brinson | 4-H Program Educator



*Weaving Series in partnership with the Altoona Public Library to pilot a weaving curriculum that I authored. The series hopes to provide young people with an opportunity to learn new skills and experience positive youth development experience plus provide feedback on the curriculum to improve it.*

*Hiring older youth as 4-H camp counselor staff provides them practice with filling out applications, asking for letters of recommendation, and participating in an interview. This process builds life skills and helps us choose the best staff for our 4-H camp.*

*Planning for camp counselor training retreat. This retreat is a fun weekend for our camp counselors to build teamwork and relationships with us as 4-H Educators plus provides required training that supports them in being the best camp counselors that they can be.*

*Meetings with Eau Claire Area School District and Altoona School District staff to discuss partnerships in providing Juntos programming to meet the needs of Spanish-speaking families and provide a positive youth development opportunity for young people and increase families' sense of belonging.*

*A GooseChase interactive game launched to build engagement across Eau Claire County's 4-H family. Game challenges were developed in partnership with two high school youth to support youth-adult partnerships and increase youth voice in programming.*

*Planning for a Foods & Nutrition Night that will provide project support for the Foods & Nutrition program as well as advertise for the Foods Revue.*

*Planning for a Virtual Cultural Baking Series for the Northern Region. This effort is a collaboration across counties that supports the Spark of Baking.*

# Extension Eau Claire County

## January 2024 Report

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### Area Extension Director

Kristen Bruder | Eau Claire, Chippewa, and Dunn Counties



*The role of the AED is like that of the department head in the county. If you have ideas, thoughts, or want to chat about Extension please reach out! Below is a brief overview of the role of AEDs:*

*Extension fully invests in Area Extension Directors (AEDs) who oversee an area. These administrative positions are responsible for partnership management, staff development, financial management and program coordination.*

*Through the many interactions the AED has with county partners and local educators, the AED develops a solid understanding of the local needs and county priorities and helps to align Extension educational programs to ensure the programs address county needs. Educators also communicate local needs to their programmatic Institutes which collectively identify opportunities to address statewide needs.*

### Value Added Programming

*Developing a Planning for Emergency Livestock Transportation Response (PELTR) hybrid training in collaboration with Waukesha County Emergency Management and the Humane Animal Welfare Society (HAWS) of Waukesha for area and statewide emergency response personnel to learn about responding to roadside incidents involving livestock trailers. The purpose of this program is to increase the effectiveness of emergency planning and the preparedness of local emergency response agencies. (Sandy Stuttgen)*

## Agriculture

For updated Valley E-Newsletters click [here](#)

### Lyssa Seefeldt | Regional Dairy Educator



*A nutrition survey for dairy farmers with automated milking systems (AMS - robotic) herds to share results with dairy farmers interested in increasing productivity and efficiency to achieve and maintain economic viability.*

*A nutrition survey for dairy farmers with high producing herds to share results with dairy farmers interested in increasing productivity and efficiency to achieve and maintain economic viability.*

*A live, on-line meeting series for farmers and dairy industry professionals, where participants learned the latest research on balancing diets for energy and amino acids to maximize milk components. The goal of this effort was to increase knowledge of the latest UW-Madison research on impacts of feeding fat sources and amino acids to maximize milk protein and fat.*

*Initial meeting with a representative from the Wisconsin Migrant Education Program from the WI Department of Public Instruction to help connect the program to Extension colleagues, partners, and farmers that may be interacting with migrant or seasonal employees in the dairy industry on the western side of Wisconsin. The long-term goal is to continue to build local connections of professionals working with Spanish speaking dairy employees and access to services.*

*Developing a factsheet on the risks of inadequate fiber diets for cows to help dairy farmers and farm employees. The goal is to help the audience better understand the metabolic disease risks of feeding low fiber diets and correct implementation of feeding low fiber diets to achieve better health & welfare outcomes for cows.*

*Development of a presentation on the use of fats in the dairy diet for farmers, employees, and affiliated agri-business service providers to complement a presentation on amino acids by a campus professor for the Badger Dairy Insight. The goal is for farmers, employees, and affiliated agri-business service providers to better understand the use of fats in dairy diets, how different types of fat are utilized by the cow, and potential limitations of the use of different fats so that cows experience better health and welfare.*

*Developing resources on re-examining phosphorus in the cow diet to transition cow diet for dairy farmers and farm workers. The goal is to help the audience better understand the implications of overfeeding phosphorus on a cow's health.*

### Jerry Clark | Regional Crops & Soils Educator



*A training session for manure applicators and farmers where participants learn to apply manure safely and accurately to keep themselves safe, protect the environment, and increase farm profitability.*

*A seminar for hop growers where participants learned current crop production and marketing strategies to increase profitability and sustainability.*

A crop insurance and grain marketing program for new and experienced grain crop farmers where participants learned to identify risk, calculate accurate production expenses, discover grain price sensitivities, and manage crop insurance and federal programs to lower risk and increase farm profitability.

An educational program for farmers and lake owners where participants learned about implementation of practices on farms and landscape to improve and protect ground and surface water.

A training program for private applicators where participants learned about safe handling and application of restricted-use pesticides to protect themselves and the environment. The purpose of this program is to provide certifiable training on the safe and legal handling and use of pesticides for applicators.

## Horticulture

Margaret Murphy | Horticulture Educator



A winter garden class on the origin of some of our most common garden crops for youth in partnership with the Boys and Girls Club of the Greater Chippewa Valley. The goal of this effort is to help make cultural connections to our food and create a plan to plant a global themed garden this spring.

Development of a presentation on native plants and pollinators for the public. The goal is to encourage individuals to incorporate native plants in their landscape to benefit pollinators and increase pollinator habitat.

Coordinating community gardens in three different communities. The goal is to aid in making fresh produce more accessible to individuals without space to grow many of their own fruits and vegetables and to provide opportunities for learning gardening best practices.

## Community Development

Check out the position details [here](#)

## Health & Well-Being

Sandy Tarter  
FoodWise Coordinator



Joy Weisner  
FoodWise Educator



Jael M. Wolf  
Bilingual FoodWise Educator



Participation in the Healthy Communities Coalition to provide support for the local Chronic Disease Prevention Action Team. This effort will help guide objectives and strategies that support 2024 initiatives to help improve the health of residents. FoodWise will be on the advisory committee providing oversight for actions taken in support of a rural community assessment initiative that is grant funded through Eau Claire City-County Health Dept. More to come.

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.

# Extension Eau Claire County

## February 2024 Report

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A 6-week nutrition education series for 1st graders in Lakeshore Elementary. The goal of this effort is for students to learn about eating healthy, being active, exploring fruits and vegetables, and the importance of handwashing.

A series of 6 nutrition lessons to 3rd graders at Lakeshore, Flynn, and Longfellow Elementary schools (including students in the Spanish Dual Immersion Program at Longfellow). This effort will help students explore MyPlate and discover why people need to eat food from all five food groups, identify benefits of physical activity, and identify why one snack might be a better choice than another snack by reading a Nutrition Facts Label and encourage students to choose a goal to try more fruits and vegetables at each meal.

A 6-week nutrition education series for 5th graders at Longfellow Elementary where they learn about MyPlate and how the nutrients in foods contribute to a healthy diet. This effort will help the students plan healthy meals and snacks using a variety of foods from the food groups.

An Altoona Head Start family event where parents learned the benefits of having kids help in the kitchen, family mealtimes, and how to feed choosy eaters, along with a healthy snack tasting. This effort supports parents in encouraging their families to eat healthy, helps kids to develop a love for preparing food, and reduces mealtime struggles.

A 4-lesson series for women in Affinity House, a transition home, where they learn about food resource management, reading nutrition labels and reducing sugar intake, and creating healthy meals/snacks. This effort will help limited resource participants to make healthy food choices on a budget.

Applied for a FoodWise Food Garden Grant to repair and improve the North River Fronts Kids' Garden by replacing raised beds and widening the pathways for accessibility. Our 18-year collaboration with Master Gardener Volunteers and Boys and Girls Club youth strives to improve the nutrition education, gardening knowledge, food safety, and food security for families of limited income by increasing access to fresh fruits and vegetables.

### Margo Dieck | Health and Well-Being Educator



Finalized 1-1 staff meetings with Area 6 Extension staff to learn about who works in the area, understand potential for collaboration, and build connections within the area.

Continued meetings with community partners and attending community meetings to better understand the mental health needs and landscape within Eau Claire County and the Chippewa Valley. Needs and potential areas for Extension support are also revealed through this process.

### Positive Youth Development

Rachel Hart-Brinson | 4-H Program Educator



The annual Sarah Nelson Memorial pancake breakfast was planned and executed by the Older Youth Council. The fundraiser raises money for cancer research and camp fees for children with cancer diagnoses.

Development of a weaving curriculum that can be used by educators and volunteers to support the spark of weaving.

Planning for and delivery of a Youth for the Quality Care of Animals training for the young people who exhibit animals at the Eau Claire County Fair. This training is one of the services Extension offers in its partnership with the Eau Claire County Fair.

Performing Arts Festival including Drama and Music categories to provide an opportunity for young people to perform as a group or individual and receive feedback from a caring adult.

Virtual Cultural Baking Series for the Northern Region where we led young people and their families in baking Mexican Hot Chocolate Cookies, Sticky Toffee Pudding, Rugelach, and Fortune Cookies. This collaborative effort supports the Spark of Baking.

Foods & Nutrition Night where we learned about the Foods Revue, practiced making garnishes, made smoothies, and practiced planning menus using the MyPlate guidelines to provide support for the spark of Foods & Nutrition.

An overnight camp counselor retreat provided a "mini camp" experience for our camp counselors to build teamwork and relationships across counties and with us as 4-H Educators plus provide required training that supports them in being the best camp counselors that they can be.

Meetings with Eau Claire Area School District and Altoona School District staff to discuss partnerships in providing Juntos programming to meet the needs of Spanish-speaking families and provide a positive youth development opportunity for young people and increase families' sense of belonging.



### Area Extension Director

Kristen Bruder | Eau Claire, Chippewa, and Dunn Counties



The role of the AED is like that of the department head in the county. If you have ideas, thoughts, or want to chat about Extension please reach out! Below is a brief overview of the role of AEDs:

Extension fully invests in Area Extension Directors (AEDs) who oversee an area. These administrative positions are responsible for partnership management, staff development, financial management and program coordination.

Through the many interactions the AED has with county partners and local educators, the AED develops a solid

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# Extension Eau Claire County

## February 2024 Report

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*understanding of the local needs and county priorities and helps to align Extension educational programs to ensure the programs address county needs. Educators also communicate local needs to their programmatic Institutes which collectively identify opportunities to address statewide needs.*

### *Value Added Programming*

*A risk, crop insurance and grain marketing hybrid course, where material was adapted into a more relevant format for use in-person, as stand-alone educational videos and articles, and an on-line course. The Farm Pulse - Crop Insurance and Grain Marketing course will assist farmers and ag professionals in identifying strengths and weaknesses of their business to assist them in making decisions that will improve their farm profitability. (Katie Wantoch)*

*A coaching and Money Matters program for qualifying individuals, where participants learn how to create financial goals and gain money management skills. The goal of this program is to increase participants' ability to meet their financial goals and increase their financial capability for long term financial success. (Jeanne Walsh)*

*A survey of agencies and organizations that support farmer-led watershed groups in Wisconsin was conducted to better understand how these groups are functioning and the nature of support they receive from their partners. Results of the survey will be used to inform decisions about what types of support are most beneficial and most needed by the farmer-led groups. (Anna James)*

*Camp counselor applications have been received and reviewed. The selected counselors have been contacted for an interview. The interviews were held at five different times throughout the month. The Educators prepared for the interviews by setting the times and creating questions that were relevant to the age group and the situation. (Zachary Rozmiarek)*

## Agriculture

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\*Bold duplicates from the previous month

### Lyssa Seefeldt | Regional Dairy Educator



*A presentation to Chippewa Valley Forage Council Members where farmers learned about how fats in the dairy diet are used by cows, limitations of different types of fat, and considerations/discussions to have with their nutritionist on the inclusion in the dairy diet.*

### Jerry Clark | Regional Crops & Soils Educator



*A presentation for Minnesota Hop Growers Association members where participants learned about cost of production estimates for growing established hops to lower input costs and increase farm profitability.*

*A presentation for Wisconsin Land and Water Association members where participants learned about industrial hemp production and how it fits into existing cropping systems to increase soil and water conservation and environmental benefits.*

*A training program for private applicators where participants learned about safe handling and application of restricted-use pesticides to protect themselves and the environment.*

*A crop insurance and grain marketing program for new and experienced grain crop farmers where participants learned strategies to develop a grain marketing plan to lower risk and increase farm profitability.*

*A training session for manure applicators and farmers where participants learn to apply manure safely and accurately to keep themselves safe, protect the environment, and increase farm profitability.*

*A seminar for beef and dairy farmers where participants learned about alfalfa, forage, and farm management topics to increase forage, livestock, and dairy profitability.*

## Horticulture

### Margaret Murphy | Horticulture Educator



*Seed starting program for people living with dementia and their care partners that offers hands-on experience to grow and care for plants and encourages the use of fine motor skills. This effort is to teach vegetable gardening skills and offer a sense of fulfillment as participants grow plants for use in the Eau Claire County Meals on Wheels program.*

*A presentation for the public in partnership with the Cardinal Learning Center for Community Education on landscaping for birds where participants learned the value of creating ecological niches*

to support bird populations, especially backyard species that are experiencing significant declines. This effort is to encourage individuals to adopt gardening practices that support bird habitat and health throughout the year.

A presentation about the benefits of gardening for the public in partnership with Chippewa Falls Public Library where participants learned and discussed how gardening is a great way to incorporate many mental, physical, and social benefits into your life. This effort was designed to encourage people of all ages to incorporate plants and gardening into their lifestyle to experience many of these benefits.

## Community Development

We are in the process of hiring this position.

## Health & Well-Being

**Sandy Tarter**  
FoodWise Coordinator



**Joy Weisner**  
FoodWise Educator



**Jael M. Wolf**  
Bilingual FoodWise Educator



A 5-week nutrition education series with Western Dairyland Fresh Start program for at-risk teens and young adults where they learn about nutrition, food preparation/cooking, and food safety. The goal of this effort is to empower teens/young adults to adopt healthier lifestyles by teaching them the knowledge and skills needed to prepare nutritious snacks and meals at home.

A collaborative effort with the Eau Claire Health Alliance- Chronic Disease Prevention Action Team to promote the 2024 initiatives. This effort helps promote community engagement that includes increased physical activity, food access, and healthy eating as action steps to reduce chronic diseases.

A 6-week nutrition education series for 5th graders at Lakeshore Elementary where they learn about MyPlate and how the nutrients in foods contribute to a healthy diet. This effort will help the students plan healthy meals and snacks using a variety of foods from the food groups.

A 4-lesson series for women in Affinity House, a transition home, where they learn about food resource management, reading nutrition labels and reducing sugar intake, and creating healthy meals/snacks. This effort will help limited resource participants to make healthy food choices on a budget.

A 6-week nutrition education series for 3rd graders at Flynn Elementary to learn about the importance of eating five food groups, physical activity, and included hands-on activities. This effort was designed to encourage students to try more fruits and vegetables at each meal.

A 6-week nutrition education series for 5th graders at Longfellow Elementary where they learn about MyPlate and how the nutrients in foods contribute to a healthy diet. This effort will help the students plan healthy meals and snacks using a variety of foods from the food groups.

# Extension Eau Claire County

## March 2024 Report

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A 6-week nutrition education series for 1st graders in Lakeshore Elementary. The goal of this effort is for students to learn about eating healthy, being active, exploring fruits and vegetables, and the importance of handwashing.

Participation in the Health Dunn Right- Chronic Disease Prevention Action Team monthly meeting including active support for Winter Fun in Dunn initiative. The goal of this effort is to help guide objectives and strategies that support initiatives to improve the health of residents.

An educational caregiver event at Menomonie Head Start where parents learned the benefits of getting kids to help in the kitchen along with a healthy snack preparation. This effort supports parents in encouraging their families to eat healthy and reduce mealtime struggles.

A presentation to UW-Stout Community Nutrition class. This effort shares the work of Extension and the FoodWise program to the students for greater understanding of the local opportunities for the community and FoodShare families.

A series of 6 nutrition lessons for 3rd graders at Lakeshore Elementary. This effort will help students explore MyPlate and discover why people need to eat food from all five food groups, identify benefits of physical activity, and identify why one snack might be a better choice than another snack by reading a Nutrition Facts Label.

A 6-week nutrition education series to 3rd graders at Longfellow Elementary (including students in the Spanish Dual Immersion Program) to learn about the importance of eating five food groups, physical activity, healthy habits, and trying seasonal fruits and vegetables. This effort will encourage students to choose a goal to try more fruits and vegetables at each meal.

A series of virtual statewide strength training sessions (StrongBodies) where older adults learn best practices along with nutrition and health education. Participants engage in regular strength training exercises to improve strength, balance, and flexibility so they can stay healthy and socially connected.

### **Margo Dieck | Health and Well-Being Educator**



Continued meetings with community partners and attending community meetings to better understand the mental health needs and landscape within Eau Claire County and the Chippewa Valley. Needs and potential areas for Extension support are also revealed through this process.

Met with seven agencies (public, private, nonprofit, school) in effort to better understand the mental health landscape in Eau Claire County and the Chippewa Valley.

### Positive Youth Development

Rachel Hart-Brinson | 4-H Program Educator



*Houseplant project workshop for the Pleasant Valley 4-H Club where we learned about the history of houseplants and planted their own plant. This activity was to support learning and the Spark of growing houseplants.*

*Sewing Workshop part I--About Your Pattern where we talked about different types of fabric, how to find your size, and how to prepare your fabric and pattern pieces. This workshop was to help prepare beginning sewers for sewing a simple pattern.*

*Sewing Workshop Part II--Beginning to sew where we pinned and cut out pattern pieces from our chosen fabric with the help of volunteers to build skills in sewing.*

*Celebrated the participation of two clubs in our GooseChase engagement scavenger hunt by providing 4-H swag to members at their 4-H club meeting. This was to recognize their participation and engagement in a community-building activity.*

*The Art U program culminates with an art show and celebration on March 4th. This program allows youth to participate in virtual art lessons led by art education students from the University of Wisconsin-Stout. There are over 50 participants this year. We have gotten overwhelmingly positive feedback from the parents of participating youth.*

*Preparation for summer programming of a 4-H Baking Club and a 4-H Fiber Arts Club. These clubs will be in partnership with the Eau Claire Area School District and reach a different audience than our current enrolled membership plus support the Sparks of Baking and Fiber Arts.*

*Interviewing and completing the hiring process for an Eau Claire County Summer Intern. The summer intern is integral in increasing summer programming capacity.*

*Preparation for the Area 6 Clover U Program on April 6. We will be offering sessions on fishing, watercolors, cooking, dogs, jewelry making, and sewing. Registration has closed and we have over 20 youth participating.*

### Area Extension Director

Kristen Bruder | Eau Claire, Chippewa, and Dunn Counties



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# Extension Eau Claire County

## March 2024 Report

ensure the programs address county needs. Educators also communicate local needs to their programmatic Institutes which collectively identify opportunities to address statewide needs.

### *Value Added Programming (don't put in planning or fact sheets, only programming)*

A Wisconsin Drought Task-Force group met to ensure that state agencies are responding correctly to the severity of drought across the state. The Cranberry Outreach Specialist attended the meeting to make state agencies aware of the impacts of drought upon cranberry growers. (Allison Jonjak)

A framework was developed to establish cooperative on-farm research for outreach specialists and others within the Crops & Soils program. This will result in easier access to on-farm trial data for growers and encourage a culture of grower research participation. (Allison Jonjak)

Focus on Forage was a series of four webinars for farmers and consultants in WI and the Upper Midwest in collaboration with the crops and soils program designed to provide information for high quality forage management and be responsive to timely and future needs. (Scott Newell)

A webinar for dairy producers where attendees learned about Dairy Margin Coverage sign-up, changes to the program, and utilizing the decision tool to help determine coverage levels. (Jackie Mccarville)

A GDD Harmonization Task Force is organized to coordinate SpargDD, CFWDD, and CranDD across researchers, growers, and temperature sensor companies so that growing degree days can be used consistently to determine progression through egg hatch of critical cranberry insect pests. This will allow growers to time applications more precisely, allowing fewer applications to get equal-or-better control of pests. (Allison Jonjak)

A webinar, one session part of Badger Dairy Insight, for dairy farmers and dairy industry professionals, where participants learned the latest trends for using sexed semen and beef semen for reproduction. The goal of this effort was to increase knowledge of the latest University research on the use of sexed semen, beef semen, increasing conception rates and how dairy professionals can practically apply these technologies to their clients' farms. (Jackie Mccarville)

A field day and classroom instruction for goat producers and those interested in becoming goat producers where basic introductory kid development, doe care, biosecurity, feeding strategies and marketing were discussed. This program was developed as Clark County has a rapidly expanding dairy goat, and meat goat, family scale enterprise largely among the Amish Community. The success of this program may develop into future offerings. (Matt Lippert)

A meeting of Crops & Soils field staff and UW-Madison College of Ag & Life Sciences Specialists to develop more intentional coordination around on-farm research related to cropping systems in Wisconsin. The purpose of this effort is to carry out the Wisconsin Idea by connecting Extension staff across the state to the research being conducted by faculty and bringing those ideas to farms where they can be applied and tried to increase agricultural sustainability and profitability across the state. (Natasha Paris)

A presentation for attendees at the Wisconsin Land & Water Conservation Conference, where attendees learned about the results of a survey of agencies and organizations that support farmer-led watershed groups in

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# Extension Eau Claire County

## March 2024 Report

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*Wisconsin. The goal of this effort was to inform the audience of how the survey was used to better understand how producer-led watershed groups function and the nature of support they receive from partners. Attendees also learned about the types of support that are most beneficial and most needed by producer-led groups. (Anna James)*

*A coaching and Money Matters program for qualifying individuals, where participants learn how to create financial goals and gain money management skills. The goal of this program is to increase participants' ability to meet their financial goals and increase their financial capability for long term financial success. (Jeanne Walsh)*

*A 4-week virtual series for youth (Youth on the Rise) in which they explored the world of bread baking. The series had two tracks: quick breads and yeast breads. During each session, youth learned basic skills and techniques and baked along with the instructor. (Laura Huber)*

*A risk, crop insurance and grain marketing hybrid course, where material was adapted into a more relevant format for use in-person, as stand-alone educational videos and articles, and an on-line course. The Farm Pulse - Crop Insurance and Grain Marketing course will assist farmers and ag professionals in identifying strengths and weaknesses of their business to assist them in making decisions that will improve their farm profitability. (Katie Wantoch)*

## UPCOMING EVENTS

APRIL  
18

Juntos Family Night  
South Middle School

APRIL  
25

Juntos Family Night  
South Middle School

APRIL  
29

Growing an Herb Garden  
Augusta Memorial Library

MAY  
9

Groundwater Contaminants  
Zoom

MAY  
14

We Cope  
Zoom



# Extension Eau Claire County

## March 2024 Report

