

AGRICULTURE



If it happens on a farm or in a field, the Extension Institute of Agriculture works with you to achieve better results. Our innovative dairy management programs range from genetics to farm and business management. Extension researchers work hand-in-hand with row crop, forage and fresh produce growers to provide best practices for every aspect of the growing phase. We also advise communities on using sustainable practices to create inviting spaces free from invasive species.

Crops

Liz Gartman, Regional Crops Educator

- Planning to coordinate Extension educators state wide to ensure uniform data collection related to corn silage harvest management. The goal is to share whole plant moisture with forage growers in each region and aggregate additional silage data including planting date, relative maturity, corn hybrid, fungicide use, grain stage and previous crop. This data would be utilized to inform future corn silage harvest recommendations.

Corn silage dry down events are held across the state as means to determine when optimum corn silage harvest should occur due to whole plant moisture measurements. As we are already gathering some data regarding the samples collected, we determined there is additional information that would be beneficial to better understand the factors affecting when corn silage should be harvested. This prompted the forage team in the crops and soils program to look further to determine what data might be beneficial to informing harvest management decisions. Resources were prepared for educators and partners to utilize when gathering data at local corn silage dry down events. Partners will be provided a worksheet for producers to fill out and return with their stalk samples. Additionally, an Excel document is available to collect that data as well. Data will be collected and used to inform future management recommendations.

- A webinar for agribusiness professionals, crop growers and livestock producers where attendees learned about managing alfalfa and corn silage due to challenges during the 2024 growing season. Through this effort, participants can manage their corn silage and late season alfalfa harvests to optimize forage quality and improve and farm profitability.



Extension

UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN-MADISON
SHEBOYGAN COUNTY

AUGUST 2024 REPORT

FOOD SECURITY, HEALTHY EATING, AND HEALTHY LIVING



FoodWise advances healthy eating habits, active lifestyles and healthy community environments for families with limited incomes through nutrition education at the individual, community and systems levels. *FoodWise* reaches individuals and families through local community partners by providing nutrition classes in-person and virtually, indirect education (newsletters, etc.), and social media/marketing. *FoodWise* is an obesity prevention program that addresses policy, system and environmental changes through local and state public health efforts.

FoodWise is federally funded by the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program-Education (SNAP-Ed) and the Expanded Food and Nutrition Education Program (EFNEP).

Amanda Miller, FoodWise Coordinator

- Planning a farmers market tour in English and Spanish for families in Sheboygan County. The tour will help promote the importance of eating locally grown, fresh produce and to shop at the local farmers market using the various benefits that exist.
- Planning 4-part nutrition education class series for early child care students in Sheboygan County. The goal of these classes is to encourage children to try new foods and eat healthy foods at a young age.
- Planning a 6-part food safety class series for older adults at senior housing units in Sheboygan County. The goal of these classes is to help reduce the risks of food-borne illness among older adults.

YOUTH DEVELOPMENT



Positive Youth Development prepares the youth of today to become the effective, empathetic adults of tomorrow. Our research-based youth enrichment programs like teens in governance build youth and adult capacity and partnerships that help both sides grow. 4-H clubs, camps and after-school programs give young people the hands-on experiences they need to develop an understanding of themselves and the world.

4-H

Katrina Pionek, 4-H Program Educator, Manitowoc County

To bring 4-H to a new audience in Sheboygan County, Sarah Feider, 4-H Youth Educator, partnered with Sheboygan County Summer School programs. Sarah Feider met with 14 classes and reached 99 youth. Engaging youth in a variety of hands-on activities to introduce the 4-H program.

Jayna Hintz
Area Extension Director

Amanda Miller
FoodWise Coordinator

Tammy Zorn
Support Staff

Sarah Feider
4-H Youth Educator

Janeth Orozco
FoodWise Educator

Emily Jensen
Support Staff

Liz Gartman
Regional Crops Educator

Cassi Worster
Area Marketing Specialist