DAIRY AND FOOD ANIMAL MANAGEMENT, BS

Studying the business of animal agriculture and the biology and management of farm animals can lead to improvements in our food production systems that will benefit animals, farmers, consumers, and the environment. Students in the Dairy and Food Animal Management major learn these principles while embracing innovation and technology to meet the needs of today's dairy, livestock, poultry, and meat industries. The Department of Animal and Dairy Sciences, home of the undergraduate program in dairy and food animal management, produces skilled leaders who integrate management challenges associated with animal health and welfare, land and water stewardship, precision livestock farming, food safety, and sustainable global agriculture.

A 10:1 student-faculty ratio and small classes allow for meaningful connections. Out-of-classroom learning opportunities, such as internships on farms or with agribusiness, and management experiences associated with meat processing give students the training they need for successful 21st-century careers. Students can also gain valuable experience working in research labs, department dairy and livestock operations, as well as the meat processing and retail facilities.

Students majoring in Dairy and Food Animal Management are working toward a variety of careers that require a strong background in agribusiness, animal biology, farm management, livestock production management, meat industry, technical services and consulting, research, and outreach.

LEARN THROUGH HANDS-ON, REAL-WORLD EXPERIENCES

UW-Madison has farm animals on campus. Animal facilities are located near classrooms giving students easy access to livestock and poultry during lab sessions. Animal agriculture is not just about managing animals-it is about business economics and global food systems. Out-of-the classroom experiences are the norm for Dairy and Food Animal Management students, with **100 percent** of students completing an internship or field experience.

Hands-on courses include reproduction, animal nutrition and genetics, dairy herd management, lactation physiology, meat science, and processing. Students solve problems through field trips, involvement on farms, and processing facilities.

BUILD COMMUNITY AND NETWORKS

Madison is an ideal location for the study of dairy and food animal management. It is a vibrant city-home to many large agribusinesses-located close to dairy & livestock farms and meat markets. Students volunteer in a variety of activities when involved with clubs and organizations; making connections and networking with industry partners via events such as World Dairy Expo directed by the Badger Dairy Club (https://win.wisc.edu/organization/badgerdairyclub/) and the Lamb Show directed by the Saddle & Sirloin Club (https://win.wisc.edu/organization/saddleandsirloin/).

CUSTOMIZE A PATH OF STUDY

Dairy and Food Animal Management students can customize their coursework to fit their career goals with a large variety of animal classes in combination with courses taught by Agricultural & Applied Economics. The major can by combined with other majors such as Life Sciences Communication and Agronomy or certificates such as computer sciences, food systems, environmental studies, and global health.

MAKE A STRONG START

Students can take an introductory seminar course that helps them develop an individualized four-year course plan, learn about internships and job opportunities, and discuss leadership development opportunities.

GAIN GLOBAL PERSPECTIVE

Dairy and Food Animal Management majors are encouraged to go on study abroad programs, where they can immerse themselves in international animal production coursework, research, or field experiences. Many students have completed a semester abroad in The Netherlands. Additional CALS Study Abroad collaborations include Dublin, Ireland, Greece, and New Zealand undergraduate programs. Students work with their advisor and the CALS study abroad office (https://cals.wisc.edu/academics/undergraduate-students/studyabroad/) to identify appropriate programs.