

Dairy Facility Tours



FEATURING CALF, HEIFER & TRANSITION COW FACILITIES
ON SOME OF WISCONSIN'S MOST INNOVATIVE DAIRIES

APRIL 14, 15 & 16, 2015

ATTEND ONE DAY, TWO DAYS OR ALL THREE DAYS OF TOURS

BROUGHT TO YOU BY PROFESSIONAL DAIRY PRODUCERS®



DAY 1

Tuesday, April 14 | Northwest Wisconsin

Bus departs from and returns to:

AmericInn Hotel & Suites Eau Claire
6200 Texaco Drive, Eau Claire, Wis.

Board bus at 7:30 a.m. | Return at 5:00 p.m.

FIVE STAR DAIRY, LLC, ELK MOUND, WIS.

Owners: Lee Jensen, Dr. Jean Amundson and Jim Jensen

CALF BARN – Performance and comfort are priorities on this dairy that has 1,000 head of milking cows, with steps in place to minimize respiratory disease and get calves started on a healthy, productive life. It's all about a calf barn designed to be employee friendly with calf health and comfort at the forefront. Learn the "why" for this barn design and learn how their implemented SOPs are working for this high performing dairy and its 18 employees.



RUSK ROSE HOLSTEINS, INC., LADYSMITH, WIS.

Owners: Eric and Carol Hillan and son Evan Hillan

CALF BARN & AUTO CALF FEEDERS – You'll see a new custom-designed calf barn that features a scrape alley and bedding pack barn which can be easily cleaned and allows for better air flow eliminating odor issues. The Hillans will share the reasons for their barn design and what drew them to their auto feeder system that automatically sanitizes nipples between feedings. They'll also discuss how this new facility and management methods compare to their previous use of hutches on this 325-cow dairy.



FOUR MILE CREEK DAIRY, LLC, RICE LAKE, WIS.

Owners: Jim and Audrey Kusilek

HEIFER FACILITY – Heifers from this 1,400 cow dairy start out at a calf ranch, returning at 6 months of age and go into bedding pack pens. Calves then move to a 140 animal group with mattress stalls. At 12 to 13 months of age, the calves move to one of two breeding pens that has mattress bedded stalls with headlocks.



TRANSITION COW BARN – Six box stalls, a headlock, a heated utility room and four 4 x 8 pens for newborns comprise the maternity area. The area has an adjustable cover that allows for fresh air in the summer and a heat lamp in the winter.

BUSSE BARRON ACRES, BARRON, WIS.

Owners: Norman and Judy Busse,
Sherry Arnold and Micah Halvorson

CALF FACILITIES (BARN & HUTCHES) – This custom calf-raising business manages a successful operation of thriving calves from multiple farms all in northern Wisconsin, where outdoor elements can be a challenge. The operation consists of 900 calf huts, three calf barns, a repair shop and milk mixing shed. New arriving calves are housed in huts until 60 days of age when they are moved to a calf barn where comfort is a priority. Proven protocols and SOPs will be shared as you learn how they minimize the spread of disease and optimize calf development.



DAY 2

Wednesday, April 15 | Northeast Wisconsin

Bus departs from and returns to (park on north side):

Fox Valley Tech College Chilton Regional Learning Center
1200 E. Chestnut Street, Chilton, Wis.

Board bus at 9:00 a.m. | Return at 4:30 p.m.

3-D DAIRY, MALONE, WIS.

Owners: John and Linda Diederichs, Joe and LuAnn Diederichs
and Bill and Julie Diederichs

CALF BARN & AUTO CALF FEEDER – This 1,200-cow dairy added a calf barn with automated feeders six years ago and went to sand bedding and implemented a sand separator. Calf barn design and management keep the first 60 days a priority so calves stay healthy and reach their full potential. Genomic testing on the calves help manage the herd and bottom line.



HEIFER FACILITIES – In 2010 a 93' x 200' heifer barn was built for weaned thru 8 month old heifers and in 2012 a 114' X 580' heifer barn was erected to house heifers from nine months to springers along with dry cows. These facilities were designed to enhance heifer performance. Find out how they are achieving their desired results.

J & J PICKART, MALONE, WIS.

Owners: Jeff and Tammy Pickart and
parents John and Shirley Pickart

CALF FACILITIES – Switching from group pens in 2013, the Pickarts now have a 32' x 160' tube-ventilated calf barn with 85 individual pens. Calves are raised to 2.5 to 3 months, then sent to three



different heifer growers. Hear their before-and-after story and how change equals results.

TRANSITION COW BARN – This facility holds 180 animals, has two maternity pens and houses pre-fresh, far off dry cows and fresh cows. A calf warming room is near the maternity pens, and fresh cows are milked in the maternity pens so newborn calves get colostrum in the first hour. Learn how this facility brings optimum care to both cow and calf.

WAYSIDE DAIRY, LLC, GREENLEAF, WIS.

Owners: Dan Natzke, son Jeremy Natzke and nephew Paul Natzke

TRANSITION COW BARN – With feeding a challenge in their previous three-row rubber mattress barn bedded with sawdust, Wayside Dairy built a new barn in 2012 that houses all transition cows in one facility. The barn features 50-inch stalls for pre-fresh cows, 48-inch stalls in other pens and a drovers lane that allows cows to be easily moved by one person. This uniquely designed hybrid-tunnel barn is ventilated with fans in warm months and natural ventilation in cooler months and allows a lot of sunlight in. Discover how this team has increased its RHA and dropped in DOA rate.



DAY 3

Thursday, April 16 | Southeast Wisconsin

Bus departs from and returns to:

Bublitz's Restaurant and Alehouse
580 East Ave., Lomira, Wis.

Board bus at 9:00 a.m. | Return at 4:00 p.m.

HILLTOP DAIRY, MARKESAN, WIS.

Owners: Rich, Cal and Loren Greenfield

HEIFER FACILITIES – Heifer calves of this 1,100 head dairy are raised in outdoor hutches or indoor hutches in a remodeled tie-stall barn at Cal's farm, located 3.5 miles from the dairy. Heifers return to Hilltop Dairy approximately 2-3 months before calving. A recent addition is a 300-stall post-bred free-stall facility that offers the option of outside pasture or sand bedded free-stalls.



TRANSITION COW BARN – Hilltop Dairy's entire herd is housed under one roof, with designated areas for close-up cows, cows that have calved, "far-off" lactating cows and dry cows, etc. See how transition cows receive the attention they need with this unique setup.

CLOVER HILL DAIRY, CAMPBELLSPORT, WIS.

Owners: Joe Bonlender Jr., wife Chris, children Sara and Brent and Joe's brother Gary Bonlender

HEIFER FACILITY – The Bonlenders are true to their mission "To provide a clean, comfortable, humane atmosphere for every animal on our dairy" and that includes their heifers. Clover Hill Dairy's heifer facility received a major remodel in 2012. While heifers previously grazed on pasture, the dairy added a temperature-controlled barn with group housing and free stalls so young heifers can enjoy the same comforts as their cows. Hear the results from the changes and designs made at Clover Hill's heifer facilities.



BECK DAIRY FARMS, LLC, ALLENTON, WIS.

Owners: Dave and Mary Beck

TRANSITION COW BARN – Lacking a decent place for newborn calves and with bedding so costly, the Becks' transition facility changed from a pen pack to individual calving pens with heated floors. Today's facility gives mother and new calf the best possible start, with everything needed to care for the pair easily and readily accessible. Postpartum conditions for cows have been improved and calf respiratory illness have been reduced.



UP TO 10.0 CEU

DAY 1 - 6.3 CEU
DAY 2 - 5.1 CEU
DAY 3 - 4.8 CEU



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University of Wisconsin-Madison

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**REGISTRATION FOR DAIRY FACILITY TOURS
FEATURING CALF, HEIFER & TRANSITION COW FACILITIES**



Please circle date(s) attending: **Tuesday, April 14** **Wednesday, April 15** **Thursday, April 16**

NAME _____ BUSINESS/COMPANY NAME _____

MAILING ADDRESS _____

CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____ PHONE (WITH AREA CODE) _____ EMAIL _____

NAMES OF OTHERS ATTENDING WITH YOU _____

Member Registration Rate* # of People		Non-Member Registration Rate* # of People		Credit Card Payment Information	
\$79/person for one day	X ____ = _____	\$129/person for one day	X ____ = _____	Visa, MasterCard, Discover accepted	
\$139/person for two days	X ____ = _____	\$245/person for two days	X ____ = _____	CARD # _____	
\$199/person for three days	X ____ = _____	\$325/person for three days	X ____ = _____	EXPIRATION DATE _____	CSC-CODE (BACK OF CARD) _____

*Registration fee covers charter bus transportation, lunch, snacks and beverages. Each tour will start and end at a designated location. If paying by check, make payable to PDPW. **Online registration is available at www.pdpw.org Questions? Call PDPW at 800.947.7379.**

Mail completed form to: **PDPW | 820 N. Main St., Suite D | Juneau, WI 53039**



PROFESSIONAL DAIRY PRODUCERS®
820 N. Main St., Suite D
Juneau, WI 53039



 **TAKE THE TOUR**



Hear from dairy owners and key team members firsthand about their calf, heifer and transition cow facilities and see the facilities for yourself.

Each tour will cover a different part of the state, visiting some of Wisconsin's most practical, innovative and well-managed dairy farms. These farms focus on doing what is best for their cattle and operation, with their facilities designed to promote care in raising an animal that is consistent with optimum care.

You'll discover what's working, the lessons they've learned and what they wish they had done differently when designing their facilities. You'll also get the inside scoop on how these dairy facilities are helping their calves, heifers and cows reach their full potential.



This is where you can learn something new, borrow ideas, ask important questions as well as network with others in the industry.

DR. NIGEL COOK will be on the bus Wednesday and Thursday and will share his expertise and insight. Nigel and The Dairyland Initiative team provide farm facility planning or troubleshooting consultation for producers considering plans for a new or remodeled facility.