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# MARSHFIELD

AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH STATION



DAIRY HEIFER  
RESEARCH

FEED EFFICIENCY

RUMINANT  
NUTRITION

MILK QUALITY

MANAGED  
GRAZING



Marshfield Research Station  
COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURAL AND LIFE SCIENCES  
UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN-MADISON





The **Marshfield Agricultural Research Station** is located near the state's geographic center, in the area with the state's highest concentration of dairy farms. It's a great region for growing the forage crops that are foundational to dairy production, yet the area features some of the most difficult-to-manage, poorly-drained soils in the state—creating a challenging situation for farmers. The primary mission of the station, which was established over 100 years ago, is to support farmers' livelihoods, while protecting the natural resources of the area.

Marshfield station is home to one of the nation's premier dairy heifer research facilities. A unique partnership between the UW-Madison and the USDA's Environmentally Integrated Dairy Management Research Unit allows university and federal scientists to collaborate on research at the station. Each year, approximately 30 research projects are conducted at the station, with around 60 percent of the Marshfield dairy herd utilized for research at some point during the year. The facilities house around 550 heifers and 125 dairy cows at any given time.

Heifers raised at Marshfield are part of the university's research herd and ultimately integrate into the UW-Madison Department of Dairy Science's milking herd, which is housed at the Emmons Blaine Dairy Cattle Research Center at the Arlington Agricultural Research Center; the Dairy Cattle Center on the UW-Madison campus; and the U.S. Dairy Forage Research Center in Prairie du Sac.



#### OF NOTE:

Marshfield's unique dairy research amenities include 63 electronic feeding gates and 76 research cattle pens, options that offer researchers the ability to explore experimental dietary treatments for dairy cattle—individually or in groups.



EST. IN  
**1912**

TOTAL  
ACRES  
**955**

# OF  
HEIFERS  
**550**

PROJECTS  
PER YEAR  
**26-33**



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ON THE FRONT: PHOTO BY MICHAEL P. KING; THIS PAGE, CLOCKWISE FROM TOP: COURTESY OF NANCY M. ESSER (PHOTOS 1 AND 3); SEVIE KENYON (PHOTOS 2 AND 4)