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CONSERVATION
FARMING

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MARSHFIELD

AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH STATION



CROPS AND
FORAGES

NO-TILL
PLANTING

COVER CROPS

MANAGED
GRAZING

SOIL HEALTH

CONSERVATION



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.



EST. IN
1912

TOTAL
ACRES
955

TILLABLE
ACRES
755

PROJECTS
PER YEAR
~40

OF NOTE:

The station studies and utilizes managed grazing of dairy heifers, a low-input conservation practice that promotes farm profitability, animal wellness and soil health.

Today, Marshfield Agricultural Research Station has nearly 750 acres of cropland that are managed with various soil and water conservation practices in mind, including no-till planting, cover crops, perennial cropping and managed grazing. Research projects on soil, forage production, nutrient management and grazing dot the station landscape. At this point, 100 percent of the station's acres are no-till, around 120 acres are managed organically, and there are 100 acres of perennial pasture.

Over the years, the station has built a reputation across a broad spectrum of stakeholders as a leading authority in the research, demonstration, and promotion of soil and water conservation across the state and beyond. Demonstration projects displaying conservation practices draw visitors from all over the region each year.



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