



marshfield.ars.wisc.edu

**CONSERVATION
FARMING**

208356 Drake Avenue
Stratford, WI 54484
(715) 687-4624
marshfield@cals.wisc.edu

MARSHFIELD

AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH STATION



COVER CROPS

NUTRIENT
MANAGEMENT

GRASS-BASED
FORAGE SYSTEMS

MANAGED
GRAZING

SOIL HEALTH



**Marshfield Agricultural
Research Station**

COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURAL & 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

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.

PRODUCTION
ACRES
780
PROJECTS
PER YEAR
~50

Today, Marshfield Agricultural Research Station has 780 acres of cropland 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 present, minimum tillage is practiced on nearly all of the station’s acres, around 70 percent of solid livestock manure is composted and land applied, and there are 106 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.

