

Dairy's Foundation

The Professional Dairy Producers Foundation raises funds and awards grants and sponsorships for educational programs and initiatives that benefit the dairy community. PDPF is committed to uniting the industry on issues of common concern to achieve its vision of a professional, proactive and prepared dairy community.

Working together, we accomplish more. Dairy faces many issues, and those issues do not stop at state lines. Milk flows across the country, and so should ideas, resources and solutions. In addition to shared issues, each dairy region has its own strengths and challenges. For this reason, PDPF established a competitive grant program to bring great ideas and new projects to light. The Foundation's goal is to strengthen its people and maintain public trust in what happens on dairy farms.

If you'd like more information about your dairy foundation, visit www.dairyfoundation.org

Impact

PDPW Food and Policy Summit



Understanding the issues that are influencing consumers' food buying decisions is critical to maintaining public trust and sustaining the dairy community for generations to come. The Food and Policy Summit brings together a diverse group from across the food-value chain to gain insights into the perceptions that consumers have of modern farming, and the science behind key issues. Understanding where all the stakeholders are is critical to producers being able to shape a conversation that will benefit the cow, the industry and our consumers.

Lafayette Ag Stewardship Alliance (LASA)

Working with PDPF, this farmer-led organization has committed to the faithful and sustainable stewardship of their natural resources. Through innovation and collaboration, LASA identifies, shares and promotes conservation practices that demonstrate continuous improvement and preserve and enhance the quality of life in the community. LASA recognizes its responsibility to protect the natural resources, help the public to understand general farming practices and empowers members to improve farming techniques. These goals will be achieved through communication and a willingness to share knowledge and research while being open to new on-farm practices.



Financial Literacy for Dairy®



As the next generation transitions into dairy management, they need to acquire the skills to be leaders on their dairy. Financial Literacy for Dairy® is a multi-level financial curriculum designed to grow dairy producer professionals' knowledge and confidence in dairy finance. In the inaugural class launched in October 2017, thirty-five producers participated in two levels of curriculum authored and instructed by Dr. David Kohl.

"It was one of the best programs I have attended through PDPW. I better understand the benchmarks and ratios we review on our operation. I learned how to apply economics to many of the decisions we make daily." - Steven Orth, dairy farmer, Cleveland, WI

Peninsula Pride Farms

The goal of the Peninsula Pride Farms (PPF) farmer-led watershed initiative is to leverage the ingenuity of the agricultural community, university research and scientist to meet the challenges in water quality. Focused on protecting surface and ground water through innovative practices, PPF cost-shares farm assessment to identify and prioritize best-management practices, farming systems and landscape features to reduce the risk of ground water contamination. Field days and demonstrations showcase innovative planting techniques such as cover crops and no till planting that improve soil health and water quality.

"We recognized the need for our members to serve as the voice of agriculture on the (Wisconsin) peninsula. Our commitment is to demonstrate through our actions that clean, safe water, and a vibrant agricultural community can coexist."
- Don Niles, dairy farmer and PPF President, Casco, WI

PDPW Water Tours

Water tours engage elected officials, dairy producers and community leaders through education aimed at sharing best-management on-farm practices and solutions. The water tours focus not only on educating farmers but also the regulatory and non-agricultural community. UW Discovery Farms partners in the project to empower dairy and non-dairy leaders to share successes and solutions while



also touring and showcasing techniques that our best managers are successfully using to ensure a safe, affordable and efficient water supply for generations to come.

PDPW Mentor Program

The Mentor Program pairs college, technical and short course students with influential dairy producers in an on-farm, hands-on educational experience. This program creates an accelerated opportunity to connect the next generation of dairy professionals with all aspects of dairy and allows students to envision the possibilities for future dairy careers. Alliant Energy Foundation along with PDPF invests in the Mentor Program.

PDPW Dairy's Visible Voice®



Never has it been so important for dairy producers to effectively share their dairy story. Dairy's Visible Voice is a five-part training that teaches farmers to proactively communicate why they dairy and to articulately convey these messages in a world where most people are generations

removed from life on the farm. With an end goal of strengthening and maintaining public trust that our farms are responsibly operated, this program equips farmers with the tools they need to have a crisis-communications plan in place while also building connections with the non-agricultural public. Dairy's Visible Voice provides the communication education that dairy farmers need and helps them illustrate the passion they have for their land, people and animals.

One Foundation, Two Ways to Support

An "I Believe" donation crystallizes your commitment to the dairy profession. "I Believe" donations support important efforts that ensure that dairy farms remain viable and socially responsible for generations to come.

The "Two Cents for Tomorrow" campaign is independent, professional dairy farmers donating two cents for every hundredweight of milk produced on their farm, to support programs that grow the next generation, build producer professionalism and public trust in what we do.

For more information, visit www.dairyfoundation.org, or call 800-947-7379.



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