Why UW Dairy Science

Who? Dairy Science is an applied major for students with interest in biology, genetics, biochemistry and microbiology. No dairy experience? No problem! Experiential learning opportunities will help you learn the practical side of the dairy industry.

Why? Dairy accounts for 413,500 jobs or 11.9% of the state’s employment. Dairy Science majors have excellent internship and career placement opportunities.

What? We have small class sizes (10:1 student to faculty ratio) with plenty of hands-on learning. Your teachers would be internationally recognized experts in the field. Extracurriculars include undergraduate research opportunities and clubs for networking and developing leadership skills.
Dairy Science Degree Program

- Simple for student and advisor
- Tailor a set of courses to each student’s needs and interests
- Change specialization without extending time to graduation
- Easy to double-major, even outside of CALS
What Fields Our Students Go Into

Industry demand for dairy science grads is greater than supply

- Veterinary medicine
- Animal nutrition and consulting
- Livestock reproduction
- Dairy Genetics and breed associations
- Dairy Herd Management
- Laboratory research
- Information technology
- Agricultural Extension
- Sales, marketing and international business
- Agricultural Communications
Dairy Science awarded $177,000 in undergraduate student scholarships for the 2020-21 academic year, the most for any major in the College.

Placement of Dairy Science BS grads ~100%
- Median starting salary = $50,000
- Employment breakdown (roughly):
  - 30% graduate or professional school
  - 40% dairy industry (technical support, sales)
  - 30% farm management/ownership

Financing Your Education

Dairy Science awarded $177,000 in undergraduate student scholarships for the 2020-21 academic year, the most for any major in the College.
Campus Dairy Cattle Center

- 80 cow teaching and research herd right outside your classroom door
- The facility also employs students, providing them with a convenient opportunity to gain practical experience and earn some income while attending classes

Arlington Blaine Dairy

- State-of-the-art research facility for 500 lactating cows
- Hosts instructional labs

Marshfield Agricultural Research Station

- Unique research facility for 550 growing heifers
- Studying the impact of dairy on soil, air and water quality
Research Lab Opportunities

For dairy, UW-Madison is home to some of the world’s leading experts in

- Dairy Cattle Nutrition
- Genetics
- Lactation
- Reproduction
- Animal welfare
- Precision Management
Badger Dairy Club

One of the largest student organizations

Events
• World Dairy Expo
• BDC Cheese Stand
• Badger Invitational Sale

• Serves as a workforce for many service activities, including the FFA Dairy Judging Contest, 4-H Dairy Quiz Bowl, and the Midwest National Spring Show Youth Showmanship contests
Becoming a Dairy Science Major

Curious about Dairy science and want more information?

Contact Ted Halbach Dairy Science Advisor:  tjhalbach@wisc.edu
Or
Liv Sandberg Undergraduate Student Services Coordinator:  jsandberg@wisc.edu

Click on the link to research information about Department of Animal and Dairy Sciences, major information, our faculty and their research efforts, animal research farm activities, and extension programs
https://andysci.wisc.edu

Recommended exploration course:
An Sci/Dy Sci 101 Introduction to Animal Science - offered fall semester.