

February 2019



The Dairy Center Connection

NEWS FROM THE NORTHEAST IOWA DAIRY FOUNDATION



Hi, there!

Think warm thoughts. Think warm thoughts. Think warm thoughts.

Punxsutawney Phil didn't see his shadow so that should mean an early spring, right? With a snowstorm in the forecast for tomorrow and unfavorable weather predicted for next week, it doesn't sound like spring will be here anytime soon. But I'm really looking forward to spring not only because of the warmer weather and melting snow, but because of all of the exciting things we have happening here at Iowa's Dairy Center. Last weekend we announced our spring dairy tour to Central Plains Dairy Expo in Sioux Falls, S.D. The trip will bring together dairy farmers, students and industry members and will visit the expo along with dairy farms and industry stops. We'll also be gearing up for an artificial insemination course, Iowa's Dairy Story and begin the planning for Breakfast on the Farm. With all of the exciting things coming up, it's hard not to think warm thoughts!

Mariah Schmitt
Coordinator, Northeast Iowa Dairy Foundation



What's Happening at Iowa's Dairy Center

Central Plains Dairy Expo Bus Trip Announced

March 26-28 | Sioux Falls, S.D.

Join the Northeast Iowa Dairy Foundation, Iowa State University Extension and Outreach and Western Iowa Dairy Alliance for a three-day bus trip to Central Plains Dairy Expo in Sioux Falls, S.D. This trip offers dairy farmers, students and industry members an opportunity to visit the expo along with industry stops and dairies of varying size, management and technology. Tour stops include:

- **Trans Ova Genetics:** Providing industry-leading reproductive technologies and expertise, Trans Ova works closely with clients to understand breeding goals and help advance and extend superior genetics.
- **Stensland Family Farms Creamery:** A family-owned 200-cow dairy and creamery that produces freshly bottled milk, ice cream, aged cheese and cheese curds.
- **Central Plains Dairy Expo:** The biggest all dairy trade show between Madison and Tulare that includes a free welcome reception, concert and trade show with 300 exhibitors from all over the United States.
- **Gehl Manufacturing:** Located on 34 acres, the 260,000 square foot Madison site is a state-of-the-art manufacturing facility equipped with laser cutters and robotic welders.
- **Rock Bottom Dairy:** First generation dairy farmers purchased an older 100-cow dairy and expanded their farm to 1,800 Jersey cows.
- **Great Heritage Holsteins:** A 50-cow registered Holstein dairy that has bred over 100 Excellent cows and has exhibited cattle at the district, state and national level.

[Register](#)

Seats Available for Spring Artificial Insemination Training

March 12-14 | 9 a.m. – 3 p.m. | Iowa's Dairy Center

This is a three-day hands-on class for those who wish to artificially inseminate their own cattle or gain experience to work for others. The class will cover all aspects of bovine reproduction, from anatomy and hormones to heat detection. Students have actual insemination practice on cattle at Iowa's Dairy Center. The minimum age requirement for this class is 16. The class is taught by Select Sires.

[Register](#)

Miss a Newsletter?

Did you miss a newsletter for the Northeast Iowa Dairy Foundation? No worries, all editions of the Dairy Center Connection can be found on our website. [Read more.](#)



NICC News

Students Put Knowledge to Test at Midwest Regional Dairy Challenge

Three Dairy Science Technology students recently attended the Midwest Regional Dairy Challenge in Freeport, Ill. There, students were placed on aggregate teams with students from other Midwest colleges and universities. Together as a team, they analyzed information on a real-life dairy, including production and farm management data. Following a farm evaluation, teams developed recommendations for nutrition, reproduction, milking procedures, animal health, housing and financial management. Participants from NICC were Ryan Kenyon, Whittemore, Iowa; Ryan Guese, Postville, Iowa; and Avery Enyart, Postville, Iowa.

Agriculture & Animal Science Program Preview Scheduled

March 1 | 10 a.m. | Iowa's Dairy Center

Our instructors are proud to showcase our College, their facilities and expand your knowledge of the program, career opportunities and learning potential. At our Agriculture & Animal Science Program Preview Day, you have the opportunity to learn about multiple programs of your choice through interactive tours and presentations at Iowa's Dairy Center. [Read more.](#)

Save the Date: Dairy Science Club Sale

The NICC Dairy Science Club will be hosting their annual sale on Saturday, Apr. 6 at the Howard County Fairgrounds in Cresco, Iowa. Be sure to follow the [NICC Dairy Science Club](#) Facebook page for updates.



Dairy Profile: Matt Henkes

Matt Henkes of Luana, Iowa, was recently featured in an article written by Michelle Miller, also known as the Farm Babe. Matt, a former member of the Northeast Iowa Dairy Foundation's board of directors and NICC alum, shared the importance of cow care and comfort despite the economic downturn. [Read more.](#)

Industry News

Iowa State University Extension and Outreach will host Boots in the Barn, a program for women beef and dairy producers. [Read more.](#)

Iowa Farm Bureau is looking for a new Young Farmer Advisory Committee member from Northeast Iowa. For questions, contact Tim Niess at tniess@ifbf.org.

Mark your calendars for the 2019 PDPW Business Conference: March 13-14 at the Alliant Energy Center in Madison, Wis. [Read more.](#)

Calendar of Events

Visit our [website](#) to see all upcoming events and continuing education courses.

Dairy Foundation Operations/Exec Committee Meetings

Feb. 22 | 10:30 a.m.-2 p.m. | Iowa's Dairy Center

Agriculture & Animal Science Program Preview

March 1 | 10 a.m. | Iowa's Dairy Center

Artificial Insemination Training

March 12-14 | 9 a.m.-3 p.m. | Iowa's Dairy Center

Central Plains Dairy Expo Bus Trip

March 26-28 | Iowa's Dairy Center



Northeast Iowa Dairy Foundation
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