



***2020 Midwest Regional Dairy Challenge  
February 12-14, 2020  
Hosted by University of Wisconsin – River Falls in River Falls, WI***

***Optional Pre-contest or Post-contest Dairy Tour***

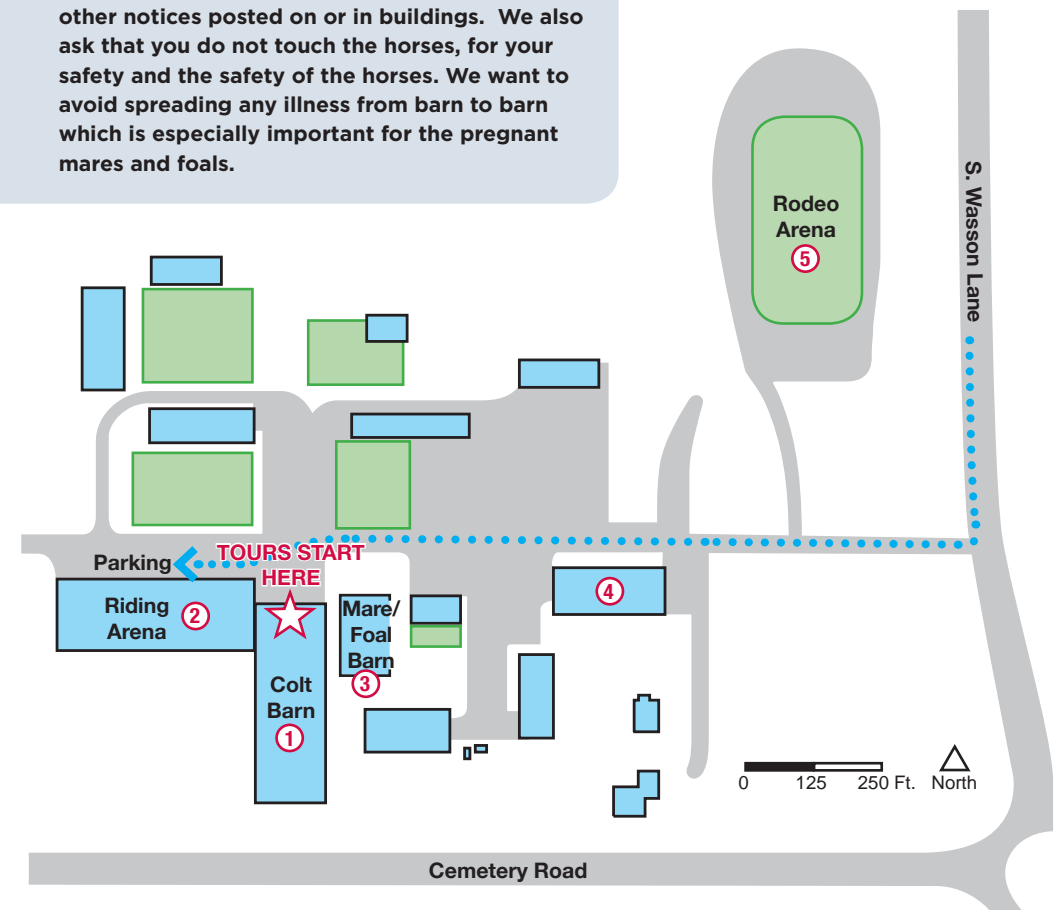
The University of Wisconsin River Falls Dairy Farm is offering tours of their facilities on Wednesday afternoon 12:00 -3:00 PM and again on Friday afternoon 3:00 - 5:00 PM. Tour guides will be available as well as the current herd summary sheet. The attached brochure shows our Campus farm (horses) as well as the Dairy farm. Tours are available only at the Dairy farm however you may stop out to see the horses as well, if you would like.



# CAMPUS FARM

1475 So. Wasson Lane, River Falls, WI 54022

We have established biosecurity measures to reduce the risk of diseases being brought into or carried off of the farm. Please respect any instructions in this pamphlet, and any signs or other notices posted on or in buildings. We also ask that you do not touch the horses, for your safety and the safety of the horses. We want to avoid spreading any illness from barn to barn which is especially important for the pregnant mares and foals.



**1** The heated **Brainard-Kasten Colt Barn** has 50 individual stalls equipped with automatic waterers and in-stall ventilation. The south end of the barn has informal classroom space used for unmounted equine management courses. In the summer and fall, this building provides stalling for shows, clinics and camps hosted at our facility. In the spring, the barn fills with two-year-old colts used in the Colts-in-Training class. While some of these colts are bred and raised at the university, the majority are consigned by outside breeders, trainers and owners in the horse industry. Students enrolled in the Colts-in-Training course are assigned an unstarted young horse and are taught aspects of the training process, progressing from initial groundwork, through the first rides in the roundpen and subsequent training during the course of one semester. Students also learn techniques in equine marketing and sales, culminating in preparing their assigned colts for the annual UWRF Colt Sale the first Saturday in May.

Our class fees are generally less than other schools, yet we still aim to provide a quality horse for each individual student in a class.

**2** The **indoor riding arena** accommodates our riding lab classes as well as serves as practice space for students in the Intercollegiate Horse Show Association (IHSA). Students competing on the Hunt and Western Show Teams represent UWRF at IHSA shows across our region and nationally. In 2014, the Western Team qualified for IHSA Nationals, taking 6th place! This arena also provides a space for horse shows, clinics, judging competitions and numerous student organization activities.

We employ 10-12 students on the Campus Farm.

**3** The **mare/foal barn** was built in 2012. As part of our equine breeding program, students are assigned pregnant mares to foal out during spring semester. Students learn all aspects of pregnant mare management and care of foals during their first days and weeks of life. Students then learn the

process of re-breeding the mare for the coming year including implementation of live, cooled and frozen breeding methods. Stallion management is also incorporated as a part of this program. This barn is also periodically used to house horses that are part of applied undergraduate research studies. These projects allow students the opportunity to work with faculty in the research process - conception, design, execution, data collection and analysis. Past projects include feeding palatability trials and diet/diabetes studies.

The Animal and Food Science Department website has a list of stables in the area for students that are interested in having their horse nearby. We do not board student horses on the farm.

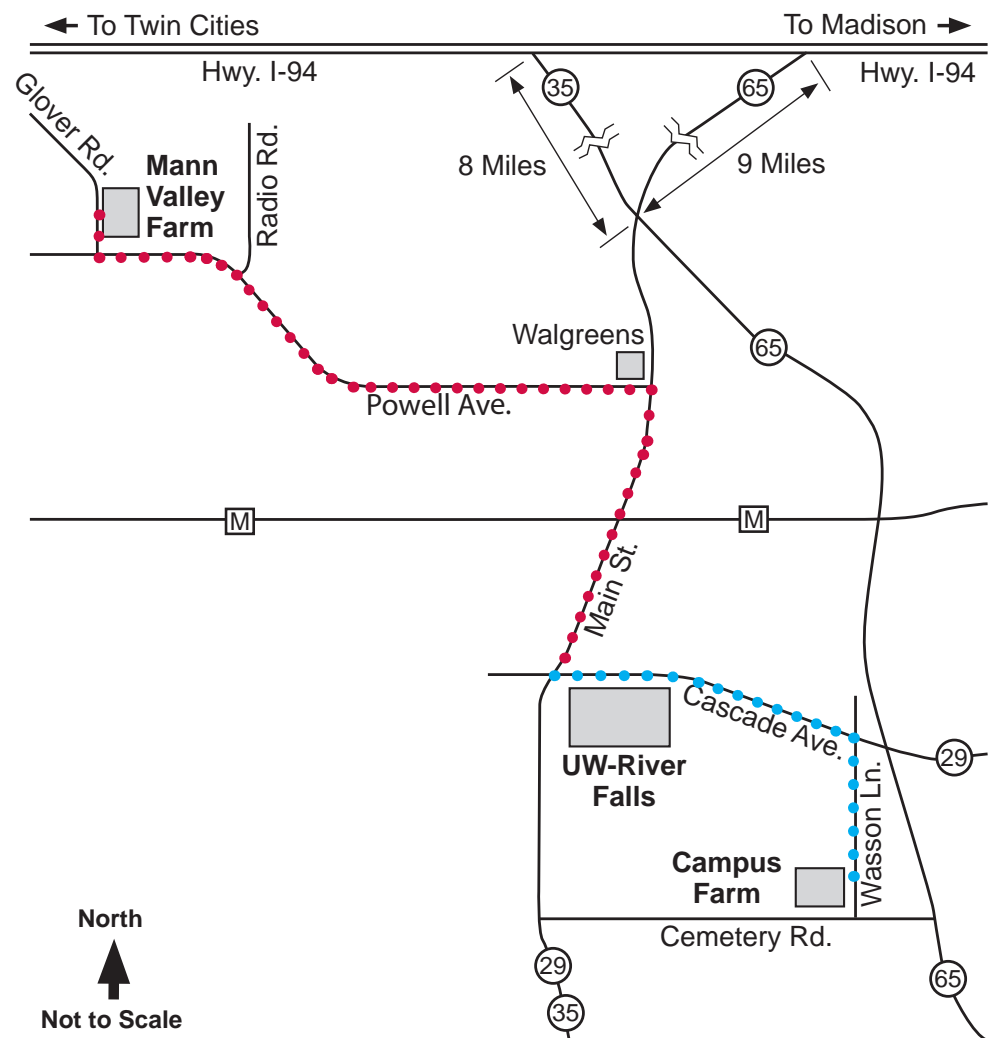
**4** The **pavilion building** currently provides classroom space for equine production labs as well as serving as the site for our equine breeding operations including stallion collection, semen processing and mare ultrasound and insemination. The classroom was recently updated. In summer 2019 the pavilion space was updated including the addition of a concrete floor to better accommodate equine lab courses.

We use stall, paddock and pasture management techniques on the farm.

**5** Since 1964, the **rodeo arena** comes alive every September when the UWRF Rodeo Club hosts the Falcon Frontier Days Rodeo. Students do not have to own a horse or rodeo competitively to be a member of the club. There are students from a variety of majors across campus participating in the rodeo club and on the team. The arena also serves as an outdoor space for riding and exercising the horses.



# VISIT THE FARMS





# MANN VALLEY FARM

129 S. Glover Road, River Falls, WI 54022



## MANN VALLEY FARM

**1** The **Dairy Learning Center** was opened in 2007 and includes 2 classrooms, outfitted with computer technology and facilities for laboratory work.

**2** The **milking parlor** features a Bou-Matic double-6 herringbone arrangement. Each cow has ID tags that identify them as they walk in so the milkers can look up information such as their milking history. Systems were incorporated in the facility design to minimize and reuse waste water and for solid-liquid manure separation.

**3** The cows are **housed on a composting bedded pack**. Twice a day, while the cows are milked, the pack is tilled to promote microbial aerobic composting and provide a cleaner surface for the cows. Once a year, the barn is cleaned out, with some of the manure bedding being further processed into compost and sold to the public, and the remainder being applied directly to the farm fields.

**4** 90% of the sawdust/manure from the horse stalls on the Campus Farm is reused in the bedded pack for the bulls and the dairy, then ends up on the 1.5A **compost pad**.

**5** The **special needs barn** allows for a quiet environment and close monitoring of cows before and after calving, and provides space to separate out sick cows. Video cameras allow staff and students to monitor the cows during calving or for heat detection.

**6** The **calf barn** has individual pens to separate calves to minimize disease transmission. Generally calves are fed pasteurized milk from milking cows.

**7** We demonstrate both confinement and pasture-based management systems as the heifers and dry cows have access to 40 acres of pasture from the **heifer barn**.

**8** The **sheep flock** consists of 50 ewes – 20 Dorsets and 30 Hampshires – and 2 rams of each breed; nearly all purebred registered. We graze the ewes in the summer. The Dorsets lamb in fall and the Hampshires lamb in spring, ensuring a supply of lambs throughout the year. Both are meat-type breeds and we market some of the meat through the Falcon Foods meat processing plant on campus. We also shear the wool. We also have 6 Boer goat does that kid in spring.

**9** The **pavilion** is heavily used by classes working with live animals. It is also used for judging teams, club activities, livestock sales (Dairy Club Falcon Premier heifer sale), outreach events (4H youth, WI and MN FFA Judging Contests) and is available for rent by outside groups (Indianhead Polled Hereford sales, etc.). The fenced area to the south provides companion animal emphasis students with space for canine demonstrations and off-leash training exercises.

**10** The 40 head **beef herd** consists of Purebred Hereford and Angus females as well as some commercial cross-bred cows. Calving occurs March-June in the portable calving shed near the winter feed lot where the hill that provides a natural windbreak. The cow-calf pairs are managed during the summer on 65 acres of improved pasture which is set up for managed intensive grazing. The calves are weaned in the fall and steers are finished on a corn-based ration and marketed locally. The new handling facility accommodates teaching and includes a “Bud Box” and double alley system for handling cattle which is now being used in segments of the beef industry.

The palpation chutes allow students in the bovine reproduction management course to gain hand-on experience in artificial insemination and pregnancy detection techniques. The UWRF Beef Management Team consists of 15-20 students, selected through an interview process, manages the herd in consultation with faculty and farm staff.

**11** UWRF hosts and manages the **St. Croix Valley Bull Test**. 70 yearling bulls are tested for average daily weight gain. Bulls arrive in November, and are sold at the Bull Test Sale in April.

**12** We purchase the majority of our feed, but use the **feed mill** for mixing small batches of feed for livestock or mixing special research diets and helps students understand simple grain processing and bagging.

**13** The equipment you see around the farm and by the **Machinery Service Center** is courtesy of Case IH, who provides us with brand new equipment at minimal cost. This state-of-the-art equipment is used on the farm and by classes/labs in precision ag, machinery and power, etc. We maintain certain other equipment for special tasks and for jobs that involve significant wear and tear on the machine.

**14** Four to five students that work on the farm have the opportunity to live in the **residence**.

**For biosafety reasons do not enter any of the swine facilities.**

**15** The **swine enterprise** consists of 30-40 purebred Yorkshire sows. They are housed in the larger hoop during gestation, with farrowing occurring every 49 days. The piglets are weaned at 28 days and moved to the nursery. At 80 days old they are moved to the hoop finishing barn, and at 6 months of age (270-280 lbs) they go to market. Overall, we raise >600 pigs/year for class use and ultimately market. We market Yorkshire X Duroc crossbred hogs, but breed purebred Yorkshires for replacements.

We have established biosecurity measures to reduce the risk of pests and diseases being brought in to or carried off of the farm. We ask that you respect any instructions in this pamphlet and any signs or other notices posted on or in buildings. Thank you for your cooperation.

