



WCMA NEWS

Your source for the latest
in dairy processing

July 16, 2024

news@wischeesemakers.org



NEWS



H5N1 Response

Register Now for Free WCMA H5N1 Webinars, Workshop



Make plans now to join WCMA's newest offerings to support the dairy industry's response to the ongoing outbreak of highly pathogenic avian influenza (HPAI or H5N1) in dairy cows:

- **Tuesday, July 30, 1:00 p.m. (CT):** WCMA Webinar: [H5N1 & Employee Safety](#)
- **Tuesday, August 6, 1:00 p.m. (CT):** WCMA Webinar: [H5N1 Food Safety Research & Regulatory Updates](#)
- **Tuesday, August 13, 11:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m. (CT):** WCMA Workshop: [Enhancing Biosecurity Practices On-Farm](#) (in-person or online)

WCMA is here to support you as the H5N1 outbreak evolves. For up-to-date information and resources, visit [our website](#). If you have questions, please contact [WCMA Senior Director of Programs & Policy Rebekah Sweeney](#).

WCMA Applauds U.S. Senate Committee Action to Fund Dairy Innovation, H5N1 Response

On Thursday, WCMA [cheered a successful effort](#) from Senator Tammy Baldwin (D-Wisconsin) to boost funding for



Dairy Business Innovation Initiatives (DBII) from the proposed funding of \$12 million to \$17 million in the Senate version of the Fiscal Year 2025 agricultural appropriations package.

Baldwin, at WCMA's request, also included language directing USDA to divert monies to DBII centers for H5N1 response.

The Senate ag appropriations package provides a total of \$27 billion in funding, with increased funding for agricultural research and nutrition programs as well. The Senate proposes a \$1 million increase to \$4 million for Healthy Fluid Milk Incentives projects, another WCMA priority.

WCMA is working with members to secure additional FY25 funding for DBII in the House of Representatives. [Complete WCMA's simple form](#) now to tell your lawmakers in Congress that you support dairy businesses!

OSHA Issues H5N1 Hazard Alert

The Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) has published a new Hazard Alert on [H5N1 \(Avian Influenza\) in Dairy Cattle](#), in coordination with the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA), and the National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH). The Hazard Alert will be available in other languages shortly, including Spanish, on the [OSHA Publications webpage](#). [READ MORE...](#)

Oklahoma Reports First H5N1 Positive in Dairy Herds

Oklahoma is the latest U.S. state where dairy cows have tested positive for H5N1, [officials confirmed yesterday](#). The news brings the total number of U.S. states with affected herds to 13, including Colorado, Idaho, Iowa, Kansas, Michigan, Minnesota, New Mexico, North Carolina, Ohio, South Dakota, Texas, and Wyoming. [READ MORE...](#)

FMMO Recommendations Published in Federal Register

Earlier this month, the U.S. Department of Agriculture shared its [recommended changes to Federal Milk Marketing Orders](#). Yesterday, the recommendations were published in the [Federal Register](#), beginning the 60-day comment period. WCMA will be commenting on behalf of members by the September 13 due date; please contact [Executive Director John Umhoefer](#) and [Senior Director of Programs & Policy Rebekah Sweeney](#) with related input.

Nominate Industry Leaders for 2025 WCMA Recognition Awards

Join WCMA in honoring dairy processing industry leaders by submitting nominations for the [2025 WCMA Recognition Awards!](#)

Nominations are open now through August 23 for five prestigious awards recognizing the industry's best and brightest. [READ MORE AND SUBMIT](#)



USDA Issues Solicitations, Seeks Input on Mozzarella CRD

The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) has issued a solicitation for the procurement of [cheddar cheese](#), with bids due tomorrow, Wednesday, July 17 at 1:00 p.m. (CT). Questions may be directed to [USDA staff](#).

USDA has also issued a solicitation for [yogurt and butter](#), with bids due Monday, July 29 at 1:00 p.m. (CT). Questions may be directed to [USDA staff](#).

A third solicitation, issued this week, seeks bids for [process cheese](#), with bids due Tuesday, July 23 at 1:00 p.m. (CT). Questions may be directed to [USDA staff](#).

USDA also [announced plans on Thursday](#) to purchase Swiss cheese, instant nonfat dry milk, and ultra-high temperature milk for distribution to various food nutrition assistance programs. Solicitation documents are expected to be available online soon. Questions may be directed to [USDA staff](#).

The agency also seeks industry input by July 19 on its [Draft Mozzarella Cheese Commodity Requirements Document](#) (CRD). Those with questions may contact [USDA staff](#).

Headlines

Wisconsin

- Wisconsin Public Radio: [Pasture-based farming leads Wisconsin cheesemakers to award-winning taste](#) (Featuring WCMA member Uplands Cheese)
- Green Bay Press Gazette: [Seven non-Madison capitals in Wisconsin: Paying homage to curds, UFOs, brats and grouse](#) (Featuring WCMA member Ellsworth Cooperative Creamery)

National & Global

- Brownfield Ag News: [Additional dollars in Senate Appropriations bill good for dairy](#) (Featuring WCMA)
 - Dairy Processing: [Great Lakes Cheese names next CEO](#) (Featuring WCMA member Great Lakes Cheese)
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EVENTS & CONNECTION

View WCMA Golf Outing & Trap Shoot Participant List

[Course assignments and an updated list of participants](#) are now available for the sold-out WCMA Golf Outing and Trap Shoot, set for tomorrow, Wednesday, July 17 in central Wisconsin. All name changes must be made on-site.



Have questions? Please contact [WCMA Contest Director Kirsten Strohmenger](#).

[VIEW COMPLETE LIST](#)

Reach the Next Generation at WCMA's Young Professionals Event



Show your support for the dairy processing industry's next generation: sponsor the WCMA Young Professionals Brewer Game and Tailgate on Thursday, August 29!

[Sponsorships of just \\$350](#) include one free event registration, recognition of your organization in advance meeting promotions, and more.

Don't miss this opportunity to connect with industry professionals and market your company!

[BECOME A SPONSOR](#)

Upcoming WCMA Events

July 17	August 20	August 29	September 10
2024 Golf Outing & Trap Shoot	Technology Committee Field Day at Nasonville Dairy	Young Professionals Brewer Game Outing	Front-Line Leadership Part A: Essential Leadership (Virtual)

[VIEW ALL & REGISTER](#)

FEATURED

Learn more about WCMA's programs and member services in this special rotating section! This week, we spotlight WCMA's free, monthly, members-only webinars.

[Watch Free PPE Webinar Online Now](#)



July 9, 2024

A recording of WCMA's latest members-only webinar, focused on innovations in personal protective equipment (PPE) for dairy processing employees, is [now available online](#). Members can also find a copy of the presentation used during the session, as well as a list of key contacts and resources, at [WisCheeseMakers.org/Webinars](https://www.wischeesemakers.org/webinars).

Have questions? Contact [WCMA Communications Director Grace Atherton](#).

WCMA Webinar Library Offers Resources, Contacts

Launched in 2021, WCMA's [free, monthly members-only webinars](#) offer expert insight, useful resources, and practical solutions. Webinar topics are driven by member feedback and cover a range of themes such as business development, communication strategies, and industry resources.

Recordings and resources from previous WCMA webinars are [available online](#) to logged-in members anytime. Have a suggestion or idea for a future webinar? [Let us know!](#)

EDUCATION

Join Virtual WCMA Front-Line Leadership Tracks This Fall



Encourage growth among your employees - no matter where they're located - with virtual offerings of WCMA's popular [Front-Line Leadership](#) trainings! This three-part series helps both new and seasoned supervisors hone their leadership skills and drive productivity in their plants. Registration is [open online now](#) for two virtual tracks of the course, offered this fall, in addition to an in-person session exclusively sponsored by Nelson-Jameson.

[SIGN UP NOW](#)

Sponsor WCMA Front-Line Leadership Today!

Show your support for the dairy processing industry's next generation of leaders by [sponsoring a virtual track](#) of WCMA's Front-Line Leadership Series. Each exclusive sponsorship includes:

- Two spaces reserved for your clients or staff in all three parts of the course (a \$954 value),
- Company recognition in promotions and during sessions,
- Access to class lists for follow-up, and more!

Just two of these opportunities remain available, so act now at [WisCheeseMakers.org](https://www.wischeesemakers.org).

For more educational opportunities from WCMA and our partners, visit: ..

[WisCheeseMakers.org/Events](https://www.wischeesemakers.org/Events)

IN MEMORIAM

Randy LaGrander



WCMA mourns with the friends and family of Randy LaGrander, who passed away Friday at the age of 70. He earned his cheesemaking license at 15 years old and later achieved Wisconsin Master Cheesemaker certifications in Cheddar, Colby, and Monterey Jack. In 2019, Randy was elected by his industry peers to serve as a member of WCMA's Board of Directors. His hard work and passion for cheesemaking is apparent in the success of LaGrander's Hillside Dairy, a legacy that now continues with his two sons Ryan and Joey.

A celebration of life will take place Sunday, July 21. Details are available in [Randy's obituary](#).

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