



December 2025 Newsletter

Graff Joins WVS as Field Technician



Please welcome Stacy Graff to the WVS team as our field technician. This new position was created to support our dairy farmers.

Stacy has a degree in animal science and ag business from the University of Wisconsin-River Falls graduating in 2023 where she was involved in the Dairy Club and Block and Bridle. She grew up in Markesan on her family's farrow-to-finish swine farm where they focus on producing quality show pigs and commercial pigs. Prior to raising swine, her family milked cows for many years. Growing up in the Markesan area she was very active in FFA and 4-H showing swine and dairy steers.

Stacy was previously the Green Lake County Fair coordinator and the UW-Extension office coordinator for Green Lake County. Stacy is a people person and was looking for a change in her career so she could be more involved with farmers. She comes to us eager to get out on the farm and help producers.

Stacy's position as a field tech was newly created and will include helping with on-farm inventory monitoring/control and product ordering. Our goal is to integrate her in the ordering process to support herd health veterinarians. We have a long list of ideas on how she can help us help producers and we would welcome your input as well.

Please welcome Stacy out on your farm. She will be riding along with several of the vets in the upcoming weeks to learn about our practice area and the amazing producers we work with.

What to do if ICE Comes to Your Farm

Do you have a lawyer that you can reach out to, at least during business hours that knows you and will help you out? Is the phone number on your phone? One of the seminars I attended recently in Nebraska discussed ICE raids on a business. I took home three main points.

First, you don't want to be looking on Google for a local law firm if ICE shows up. Do a little planning, contact a lawyer, make sure the lawyer or law firm is willing to help if there is an ICE visit to your farm, and get their OK.

Second, if ICE shows up on your farm, stop and take a deep breath. Ask to see the warrant, take a picture, and see if it is signed by a judge. There are two kinds of warrants, a judicial warrant and an administrative warrant. A judicial warrant is a search warrant which gives any law enforcement offices free reign to investigate within the scope of the warrant. It will be signed by a judge. If the warrant is not signed by a judge, it will be an administrative warrant and that has limited authority.

Importantly, an administrative warrant allows you to request the enforcement officers come back later, especially if you are busy. Obviously, next year isn't going to be within the scope of "come back later," but at least it buys time to get your thoughts together and contact your lawyer.

Do you have I-9 forms stored where you can find them and are they organized? Also, try to contact another team member so you can share the anxiety.

Third, you might want lots of clarification on this, but my understanding is that ICE officers can only enter public areas of a farm with an administrative warrant.

Clear signage may be needed to define "public areas," and this is a simple thing you can do now, and it is also a good idea for biosecurity.

Drop Ship Reminders!

Animal Health will be closed on Wednesday, December 24th and Thursday, December 25th. Orders placed on Monday of that week will not ship out until Thursday, December 26th, after the holiday.

Please try to place all orders the week of Dec. 15th to ensure you receive your orders and products during the holiday shipping rush. For Christmas and New Year's please make sure to stock up on all products for those two weeks.

Please be aware when shipping orders with the cold and snow that any products that are refrigerated once shipped from the Animal Health warehouse are not covered by Animal Health. The product will be at a loss/no good to use if it gets too warm or freezes.

Raw Milk in the News

There is a major lawsuit in Florida alleging a child was hospitalized and a mother had a miscarriage from drinking raw milk that was sold to the family. A total of 21 people were sickened.

It is illegal to sell raw milk in Florida, which makes the sale an immediate liability to the farm and makes the lawsuit against the farmer that much harder to defend.

It is illegal in Wisconsin to sell raw milk, which makes it a huge liability. It is also important to recognize that selling raw milk, if it is illegal under state law, allows your insurance company to deny any coverage.

Lots of us drank raw milk out of bulk tanks for years. We are probably immune to the diseases we may have contracted. But food has fewer pathogens today and people in the city aren't exposed to all the disease that farmers and farm kids are exposed to.

You should probably think twice about selling or even serving raw milk to guests.



Dr. Al's Thoughts on the Gas Station Line

We all know the name of that quick stop store we get gas and food at. I stop because I can swing in and get out fast, get gas, and use the restroom. My only complaint is the checkout lanes, and it's not the store's fault, but sometimes fast isn't to be.

First, we have the 'unprepared' in no hurry shopper. Suddenly, when told what the bill is, they realize they need money. They go through their pockets looking for their wallet while I wait impatiently behind them. They pull out their bills, and then look for change. Out comes a plastic clamshell coin holder and they slowly count through several coins, getting the right amount of pennies, maybe a lot of pennies while I watch the sunrise. Then they slowly and carefully rearrange their pockets before shuffling away from the counter.

Of maybe it's the 'lottery ticket aficionado'. They present 5 different winning scratch off lottery tickets with \$2 to \$10 winning in each. Then they go on to order 18 more scratch off tickets, methodically putting deep thought and attention into each ticket while I watch dozens of cars come and go at the gas pumps. To make it worse, they scratch off a ticket or two while I'm waiting in line behind them. Cattle prods should be legal for people.

Then there is the 'chatter'. This person may or may not know the checkout attendant, but you would think they are best friends. You get to hear about last Thursday's party or Cousin Billy's birthday party. The coffee machine attendant makes three new pots of coffee while this person chats. My coffee cup is empty by the time I pay for it. I do have empathy for the elderly because this may be their only exposure to other humans, or they may be happy to not have to talk to their spouse.

And last, we have the 'I forgot'. These come in various forms, most with IQ's lower than a below average sheep. Really, they put their money away and realize they need a pack of cigarettes? They bought a pack every morning for 23 years, and today it's different? Or they suddenly realize that they need something to drink with their lunch so with the cash register finished they head to the back of the store for a coke while I wait. The best is the mom with three kids, almost done and kid one walks up with a piece of candy. Instead of swatting the kid in the butt, which would have happened when I was a kid (not a swat) the mom lets the kid buy the candy and instantly the other two kids are off to the candy isle. Now I'm watching the sun set.

I think stores need a stupid people line. My golden retriever can run the cash register for them.