



Photo by Alita Films

DAIRY FEED IN FOCUS

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

The Dairy Feed in Focus program is helping farmers adopt an array of practices expected to deliver climate, soil, and water quality benefits on dairy farms of all sizes, while helping companies achieve their sustainability goals. These practices include: (a) soil health practices like cover crops and crop rotation, (b) edge of field practices such as harvestable buffers, grassed waterways, and pollinator strips, (c) nutrient and manure management, (d) feed management practices such as alternative feed rations and/or feed additives/ingredients, and (e) grazing management.

OBJECTIVES

- Increase number of farmers implementing climate-smart agriculture and feed efficiency practices.
- Reduce GHG emissions in the U.S. dairy industry.
- Improve soil health and water quality, while lowering farmer costs.
- Collect data to measure and verify climate mitigation benefits of climate-smart agriculture practices.

PATHWAYS FOR SCALING



Dairy Feed in Focus is a model for how companies can meet their sustainability goals by engaging with farmers to support climate-smart practices.



Funding from the Farm Bill and Inflation Reduction Act can help provide technical assistance and incentives to encourage farmers to adopt climate-smart practices.



USDA awarded a \$537,440 grant to the Innovation Center for U.S. Dairy, the Institute for Feed Education and Research, and TNC to explore innovative feed management strategies that can reduce enteric methane emissions in dairy cattle.

LOCATION

Wisconsin and Michigan

FUNDING AMOUNT AND SOURCES

Over \$1.5 million secured for farmer incentives from Nestlé USA, Rotary International District 6310. An additional \$1 million in program funding provided by Syngenta and Innovation Center for U.S. Dairy.

PROGRAM PARTNERS

Innovation Center for U.S. Dairy, Syngenta, The Nature Conservancy, Foremost Farms USA, Michigan Milk Producers Association

PROGRAM PARTICIPATION



14 farmers

using new conservation practices.



2,467 acres

have been committed to the Feed in Focus program for three years.



20+ additional farmers

will be enrolling in program in 2023.

For more information about this and other innovative and scalable projects implementing Natural Climate Solutions in the U.S., please visit www.usnature4climate.org/building-ambition/.