Our Young People ... The Future of the Dairy Industry

The future of the dairy industry depends on young people who are well trained and excited about the range of career opportunities in the industry.

Be Part of a Program that Emphasizes:

- Real-world learning
- Program diversity and flexibility
- Student and industry interaction
- Unique programs and opportunities
- Personal and professional development

“Junior DAIRY LEADER is a great way to explore the diversity of the dairy industry. This program is great for someone like me who was unsure about my career path. Even if you know what you want to do, it is an amazing opportunity to broaden your understanding of the dairy industry and gain a great appreciation for all it has to offer.”

Jean Gallagher ’04

For more information and questions, contact:
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“Junior Dairy Leader program was a great experience and opportunity to meet kids with the same interests as me from around the state and I established wonderful relationships. It helped me decide which college is right for me and exposed me to all the unique opportunities there are in the dairy industry. I grew as an individual and learned more about myself and some skills it takes to be successful in a career. I would recommend this program to everyone and I cherish every minute I spent in the program.”

Hannah Young ’04

Visit us online at prodairy.cals.cornell.edu

NYS Junior DAIRY LEADER
Preparing young people for successful careers in the dairy industry

Sponsored By:
- PRO-DAIRY Program
- Cargill Animal Nutrition
- Dehm Associates
- Genex/CRI
- Northeast Agribusiness and Feed Alliance
- Northeast Agricultural Education Foundation
- Northeast Farm Credit AgEnhancement Program
- NY Corn and Soybean Growers Association
- NYS 4-H Foundation
- Professional Dairy Producers Foundation
- Select Sire Power
**MISSION**

To give young people an opportunity to build enthusiasm for the dairy industry along with personal, professional, and leadership development in a networking environment, while they discover the diversity of career choices in agriculture.

**OBJECTIVES**

- Expose young people to herd management, crop management, and farm business management techniques on farms in the Northeast and Wisconsin
- Explore career opportunities through interaction with dairy industry leaders and professionals
- Enhance teamwork approaches to problem solving
- Develop and improve communication skills
- Develop the leadership skills to make positive changes and contributions to the dairy industry and New York State dairy youth programs

_The DAIRY LEADER program has opened my eyes to the many different farming techniques and management ideas in the dairy industry and allowed me to build friendships that will last a lifetime._

*Betsey Howland ’05*

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The Junior DAIRY LEADER program is intended to reach youth between the ages of 16 - 19 who have an interest in exploring careers in the dairy industry through hands-on experiential learning.

The program presents youth with a realistic view of the dairy industry as a viable, profitable and progressive business sector, while also building personal and professional skills

The program consists of a series of workshops that focus on multiple facets of the dairy industry, personal development and technical skills. Opportunities include:

- Representing New York at the National 4-H Dairy Conference
- Interaction with Dairy Producers and Agribusiness Professionals
- Resume Development
- On-Farm Production Management Experiences
- Leadership Development and Team Building
- Dairy Farm and Production Facility Tours in the Northeast and Wisconsin
- Technical Skills Seminars in Herd Health, Calf Care, Dairy Nutrition, and Artificial Insemination

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**ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS**

- At least 16 but not more than 19 years of age by August of the current year and at least starting their junior year of high school in the fall in which the program begins
- Have potential interest in dairy industry careers
- Can reasonably commit to the program from September of the current year to August of the following year
- Are not exhibiting animals at the World Dairy Expo during the current year
- Are not participating in the National Dairy Cattle Judging Contest during the current year

_Students can apply for both the Junior DAIRY LEADER and the new Beginning DAIRY LEADER program in the same year, however, students cannot participate in both programs in the same year. Programs have separate application processes._

The committee will select 25 - 27 of the top applicants by evaluating the quality of written applications, strengths portrayed in letters of recommendation, and personal qualities highlighted in a written essay.

Each delegate will be required to evaluate how dairy industry conferences, workshops, and agricultural tours have enhanced the development of their career opportunities in the dairy industry. These reports will be compiled and delivered in an oral presentation to program sponsors, local extension groups, NYS 4-H representatives, dairy industry leaders, agriservice professionals and future dairy interested youth.