



CENTER FOR  
**Dairy**EXCELLENCE

## For Immediate Release

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### **PA DAIRY PRODUCERS ENCOURAGED TO ENROLL IN “FARM SPANISH BASICS” COURSE**

*The Center for Dairy Excellence Is Offering a \$100 Discount for the Winter Course*

**Harrisburg, Pa.** – The United States has the second largest Spanish-speaking population in the world, and 80 percent of the agricultural workforce in the U.S. speaks Spanish. To assist dairy farm families in enhancing communication and building rapport with Hispanic employees, the Center for Dairy Excellence is offering a \$100 discount to Pennsylvania dairy producers who sign up for the “Farm Spanish Basics” online course this winter. The eight-week Spanish course is being held on Tuesday and Thursday evenings from January 12 – March 4, 2021 and is led by lifelong dairy farmer Katie Dotterer-Pyle. Pennsylvania producers who sign up will receive access to 16 online, interactive classes.

“The biggest reason I've created these courses is to help the dairy industry not only bridge the communication gap within our industry but also build rapport and respect at the same time,” said Katie Dotterer-Pyle, the course leader and dairy farmer. “Respect is a two-way street, and learning even just a little bit of another culture and language shows that you value a person as an individual and not just part of the workforce.”

See how the course can help dairy professionals of all ages improve communication on the farm:

- **Learn specific dairy vocabulary in Spanish:** “I took Katie’s Spanish 101 class last year along with four of my farm’s team members. We all had varying levels of Spanish comprehension going into the class. I would strongly encourage any person planning to work on a larger dairy farm or currently working on a dairy farm with native Spanish-speaking staff to take Katie's class. She tailors the class to help you understand the basics of the language and specific vocabulary centered around dairy farms that we use every day. Her format and passion for teaching Spanish and making connections to dairy farming is infectious! During the live part, she encourages participation and questions which makes the learning experience even better.” –Walt Moore, Dairy Farm Owner, West Grove, Pa.
- **Bridge the language gap:** “I took both of Katie's "Spanish on la Granja" 101 and 201 courses and was wishing for a third. The course is focused on teaching Spanish

vocabulary that is used every day on the farm. The greatest benefit of taking this course is the rapport that is built with Spanish-speaking employees when they see you working at bridging the language gap. Not to mention Katie is just a lot of fun!" –Dr. Jennifer Kauf, Dairyside Veterinary Service, Martinsburg, Pa.

- **Enhance knowledge learned in the college classroom:** "I am interested in this course for two reasons: to be able to better communicate with Spanish-speaking employees and to be able to communicate with international professionals in the dairy industry. In May of 2018, I went to the Dominican Republic on a school service trip, and during that time, I realized how useful Spanish would be to acquire. Since then, I have wanted to revisit this subject but have not had the curriculum offered at my school. From this course I hope to learn common communication between on-farm employees, such as how to ask questions, understand responses, and understand the language presented during emergency situations." –Claire Brown, a college student at Delaware Valley University

The "Farm Spanish Basics" course is held online with live classes that are recorded for dairy farmers to watch at their convenience. The 16 classes span over a total of eight weeks and include two, one-hour classes per week. Classes are interactive with in-class work and participation as well as homework for reinforcement of the material. The course will begin with Spanish basics and expand to include specific dairy vocabulary that will help farmers better communicate with employees.

Learn more about the course:

- **When:** January 12 – March 4, 2021
- **Live Class Time:** 5-6 p.m. EST on Tuesdays and Thursdays from Jan. 12 – March 4, 2021
- **Cost:** \$225 for PA dairy producers, which includes a \$100 discount from the Center for Dairy Excellence
- **How to Sign Up:** Pennsylvania dairy producers should visit [www.centerfordairyexcellence.org/spanish-basics](http://www.centerfordairyexcellence.org/spanish-basics) to sign up and receive the discount. You will receive details on how to access the course after registering.

For dairy producers outside of Pennsylvania, visit [www.cowcomfortindairy.com/8-week-spanish-course-information](http://www.cowcomfortindairy.com/8-week-spanish-course-information) to register for the course.

Katie Dotterer-Pyle is a lifelong dairy farmer who received her bachelor's degree in secondary education, Spanish. She worked as a Spanish teacher in middle and high school for 4+ years, and has worked to develop curriculum and instructed online courses for the dairy industry for

two years. She is certified in ESL- English as a Second Language and received the 2008 Employer of the Year (Dotterer Dairy) from The PA Department of Education Migrant Education Program.

Visit [www.centerfordairyexcellence.org/spanish-basics](http://www.centerfordairyexcellence.org/spanish-basics) to learn more about the discount and the course, or call 717-346-0849 for more details.

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The Center for Dairy Excellence is a non-profit organization initiated by the Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture in 2004. Bringing together people from more than 40 different dairy organizations in Pennsylvania, the Center's mission is to enhance the profitability of the dairy industry by empowering people, creating partnerships, and increasing the availability and use of resources. Learn more at [centerfordairyexcellence.org](http://centerfordairyexcellence.org).

**Center for Dairy Excellence ▼ 2301 North Cameron St., Harrisburg, PA 17110 ▼ 717-346-0849 ▼**

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