

























































DGA-NATIONAL.ORG



# DGA: First In The Nation National Standards for Training in Managed Grazing Dairy Production

- Guided work experience
- Related instruction
- Facilitated peer group
- Industry networking
- Pathway to farm ownership



#### -

## **Employee Development**

## A Proven Educational Model Formal Apprenticeship: 4000 hours over 2 years

- 3718 hours of on-farm employment and training, guided by "Job Book"
- 288 hours of related instruction
  - Herd Health
  - Milk Quality
  - Dairy Nutrition
  - Pasture Management
  - Holistic Management
  - Peer Discussion Groups
- Financial planning services



#### **Education/Outreach Materials**









**EXPLORE** new models of

ACHIEVE your dream of

farmer and help shape the

future of the dairy industry.

becoming an independent dairy

and farm transfer.

investment, equity building.

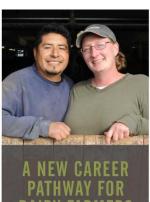
GAIN knowledge and experience within a structured program of support under the guidance of an experienced dairy grazier.

**DEVELOP** skills that will prepare you for positions in management, partnerships, and farm ownership.

RECEIVE professional financial analysis and business planning support.

Must be at least 18 years of age and have a high school diploma or SED,

Pre-Apprenticeship Internships may also be available.



Dairy Grazing Apprenticeship is the first accredited Apprenticeship program for farming in the United States.

Our program consists of 4,000 HOURS of training over a TWO YEARS period.

Combining 3712 hours of employment and mentoring under a master grazier and 288 hours of related instruction that include:  Courses in Pasture Management, Milk Quality, Herd Health, Dairy Nutrition, and Soils, Nutrients, and Composting

 Discussion Groups, Pasture Walks, Farming Conferences, and Networking

 Holistic Management and Professional Development Training

DGA provides business planning for apprentices and masters.

Opportunities are available to graduates t advance into management, equity earning farm start-up or farm transfer.

DGA is an FSA approved yeardor.





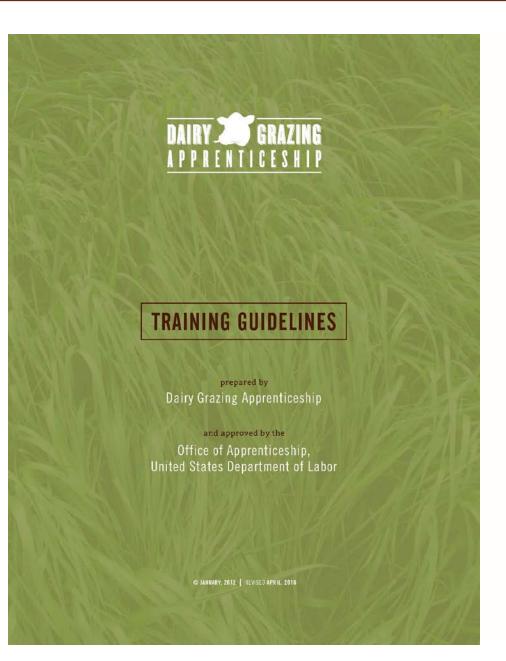








## **Training Guidelines**



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Evaluate can needs and use appropriate resources to meet the requirements      E. Establish cow breeding cycles	
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B. Select feed appropriate to livestock needs	
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### **Training Guidelines**

#### MAJOR WORK CATEGORIES



All work items are mandatory unless specifically identified as "Not Mandatory."

#### 1 MANAGE CATTLE APPROPRIATELY (INCLUDES HEIFERS/DRY COWS, CALVES AND MILK COWS)

CRITERIA FOR EVALUATION	MASTER SIGNATURE	APPR. INITIALS	DATE COMPLETED
1) Maintains appropriate flight zone distances.			
The animals move calmly in the desired direction.			
3) Remains calm.			
4) Correctly uses head lock and halter.			
Properly uses safeguards while isolating an animal, including gates and proper deterrent tools.			

#### MAJOR WORK CATEGORIES

condition scoring.

2) Monitors daily milk production.

3) Comprehends and monitors breeding records, and records breeding dates.

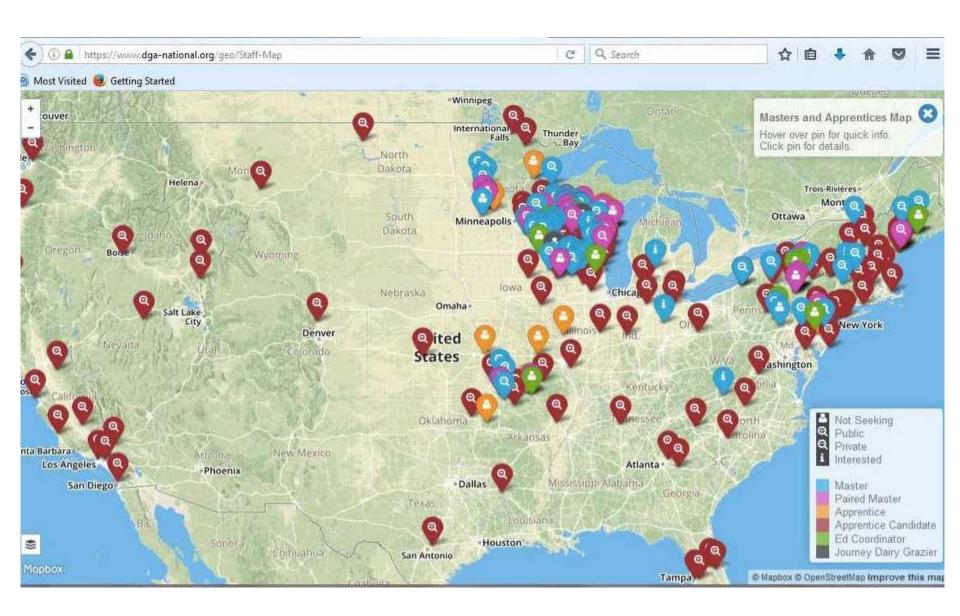
TRAINING GUIDELINES

B VERIFY HERD HEALTH AND WELLNESS

CRITERIA FOR EVALUATION	MASTER SIGNATURE	APPR. INITIALS	DATE COMPLETED
While conducting farm operations, such as milking, recognizes symptoms and abnormal behavior that would indicate illness.			
Follows proper protocols to determine whether a contacting a veterinarian is necessary.			
3) If contacting a veterinarian is not necessary, determines and administer the necessary on-farm treatment (ex. common metabolic disorders).			
C EVALUATE ANIMAL PRODUCTIVITY			
CRITERIA FOR EVALUATION	MASTER SIGNATURE	APPR, INITIALS	DATE COMPLETED

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#### Staff Map



#### Website/Database



YOUR
FUTURE IS
FUTURE
OF DAIRY

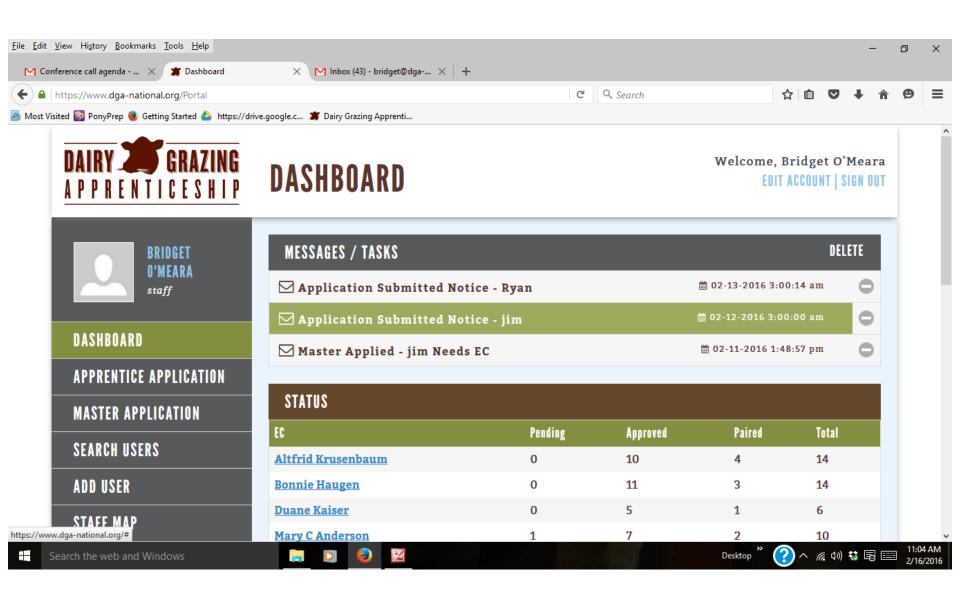
## **APPRENTICESHIP**

Apprenticeship is a structured system of training designed to prepare individuals for skilled occupations by combining on-the-job training with related instruction.

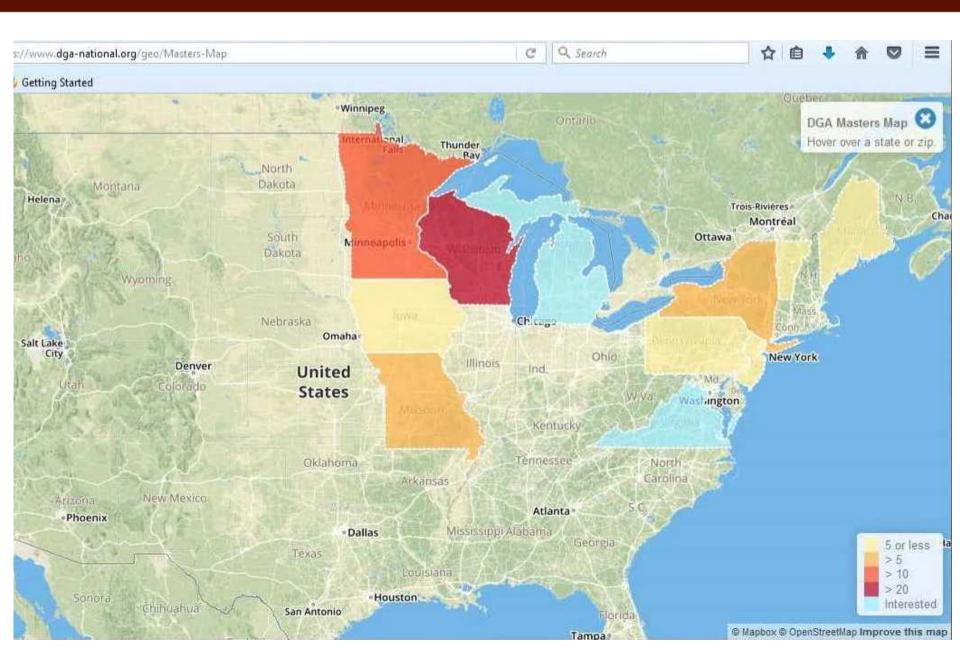
Apprentices earn while they learn and their skills are nationally recognized.

For 100 years, skilled trades have used Apprenticeship to train certified skilled workers and ensure their standard of training.

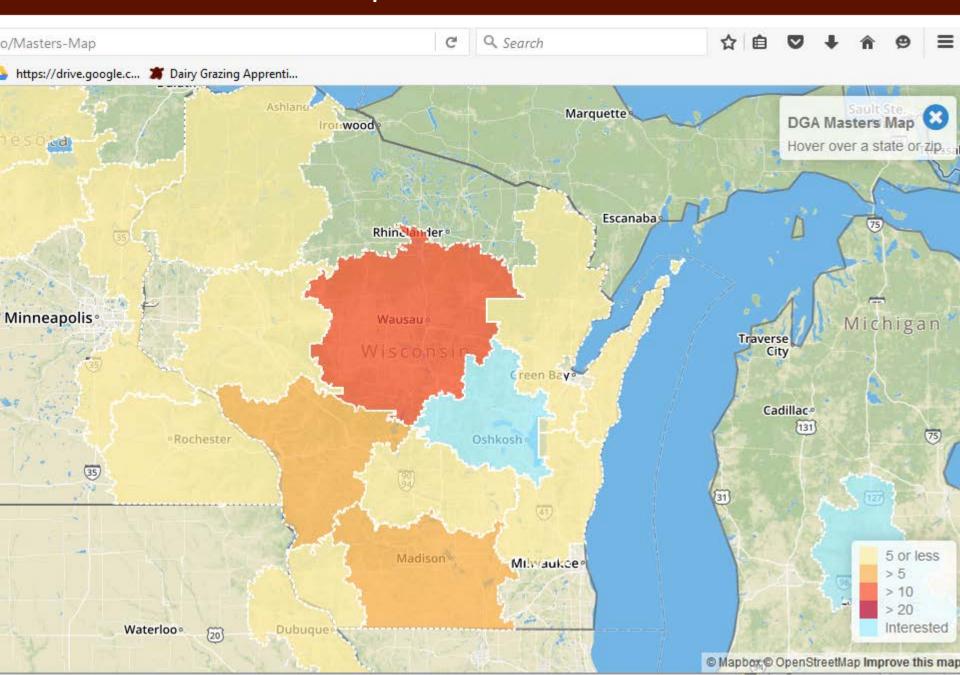
#### Staff Dashboard



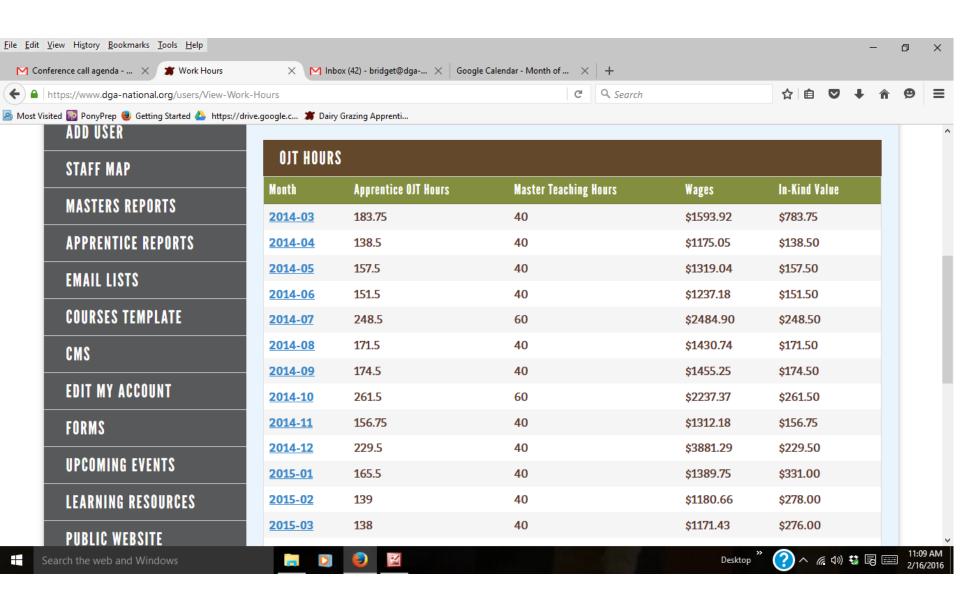
### Master Map



### Zip-Code Area Detail



### **Apprentice Training Hours**



#### **Current Status of DGA**

- 2 approved Master Dairy Graziers in nine states: Iowa, Maine, Missouri, Minnesota, New Jersey, New York, Pennsylvania, Vermont, and Wisconsin.
- 35 active Master-Apprentice pairs, 11 Journey Dairy Graziers, and 176 Apprentice Candidates seeking to be hired.
- Training manual, guidebooks, outreach materials.
- Website with online applications and searchable database to facilitate Master-Apprentice matches.
- Relationships with private investors.
- 501(c)3 Non-Profit Status.



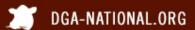
# **Administrative Partners**

- Cornell University Small Farms Program and SUNY Extension
- University of Missouri Extension
- Pennsylvania Association for Sustainable Agriculture (PASA)
- Wolfe's Neck Farm and University of Maine Extension



# **Funding Partners**

- The Brookby Foundation
- The Cedar Tree Foundation
- The McKnight Foundation
- The Otto Bremer Foundation
- Organic Valley/ Farmers Advocating for Organics
- USDA-NIFA Beginning Farmer and Rancher Development Program
- USDA-NRCS Conservation Innovation Grant
- Whole Foods Market
- WI Department of Agriculture, Trade, and Consumer Protection
- Wisconsin Farmers Union



# Skilled People are the Key





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