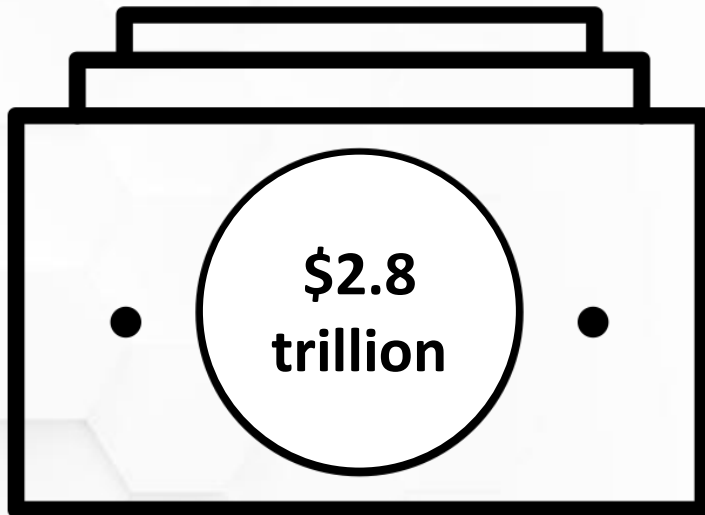




**EVERY FARMER, EVERY ACRE AND EVERY VOICE MATTERS  
TO CREATE SUSTAINABLE FOOD SYSTEMS**

**BRODY STAPEL, WISCONSIN DAIRY FARMER  
FEBRUARY 13, 2020**

# Agriculture's Impact

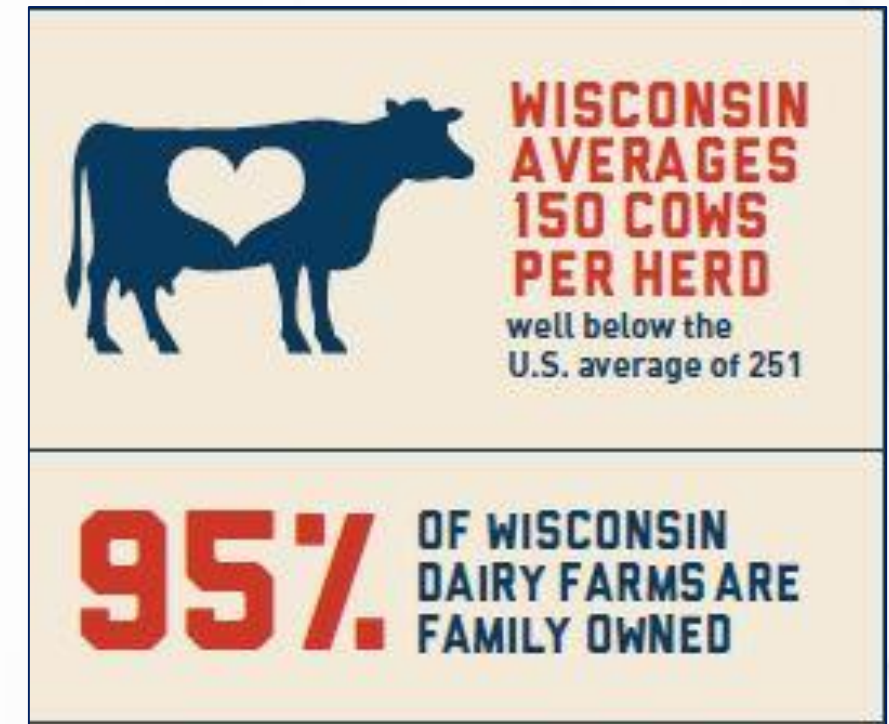


Created by Andrei Yushchenko  
from Noun Project





# America's Dairyland



# Agriculture's Challenges

WE LOSE 175 ACRES OF  
FARMLAND EVERY HOUR, MOSTLY  
TO URBAN ENCROACHMENT.



According to American Farmland Trust, the United States loses about 175 acres of farmland every hour, mostly due to the expansion of urban and suburban areas. This equates to nearly 3 acres of farmland lost per minute – farmland that cannot be replaced once gone.

★ U.S. Farmers & Ranchers Alliance ★

Source: American Farmland Trust

DISASTER EVENTS HAVE CAUSED  
OVER \$560 BILLION IN DAMAGES IN  
THE UNITED STATES FROM 2010-2019  
- AND THEY ARE INCREASING.



Eight of the last 10 years in the U.S. have experienced greater than the average number of billion-dollar disaster events, many of them from intense storms (thunderstorms, tornadoes, hurricanes, and blizzards) that greatly impact agriculture.

★ U.S. Farmers & Ranchers Alliance ★

Source: National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration – National Centers for Environmental Information (OESB), Billion-Dollar Weather and Climate Disasters, December.

# A Solution to Climate Change

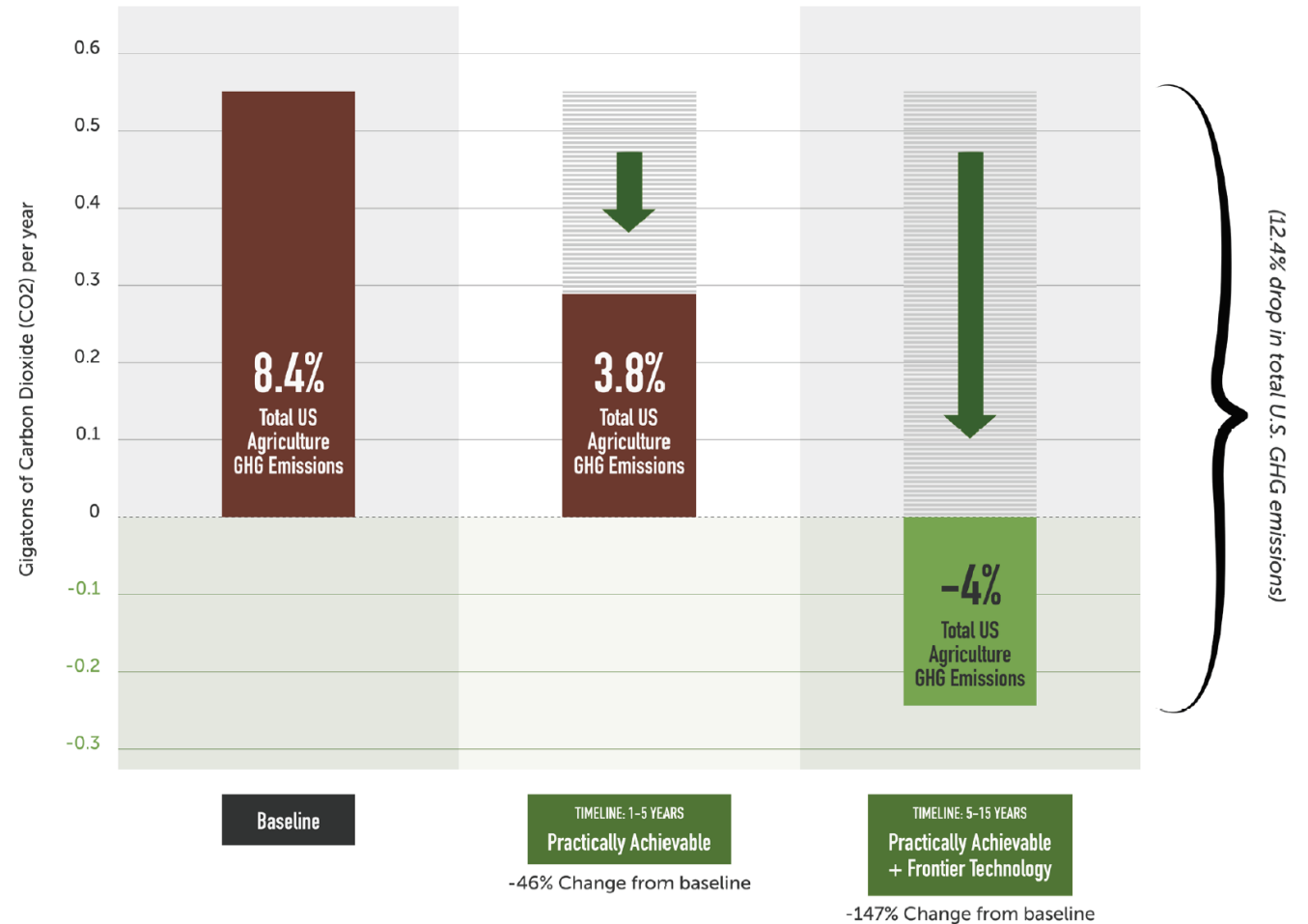
CURRENTLY, U.S. SOILS STORE 100 TIMES MORE CARBON THAN TOTAL U.S. EMISSIONS IN A YEAR.



★ U.S. Farmers & Ranchers Alliance ★

Source: Second State of the Carbon Cycle Report (SOCCR2): A Sustained Assessment Report, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (2019).

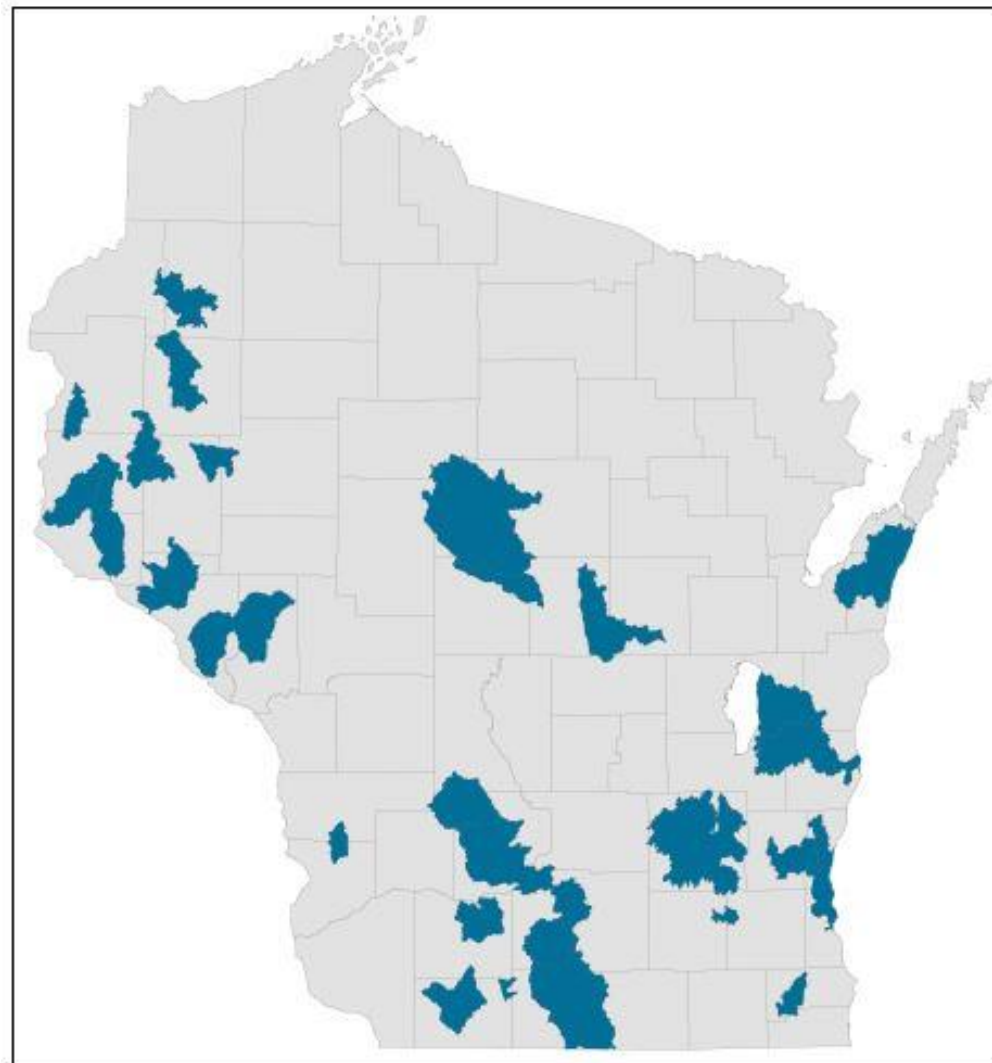
Agriculture carbon removal estimates





# Farmer-Led Watershed Conservation

- 31 organizations
- Sensitive watersheds
- Continuous improvement
- Stakeholder partnerships
- Innovative solutions



# Dairy Strong Sustainability Alliance



Continuous improvement:

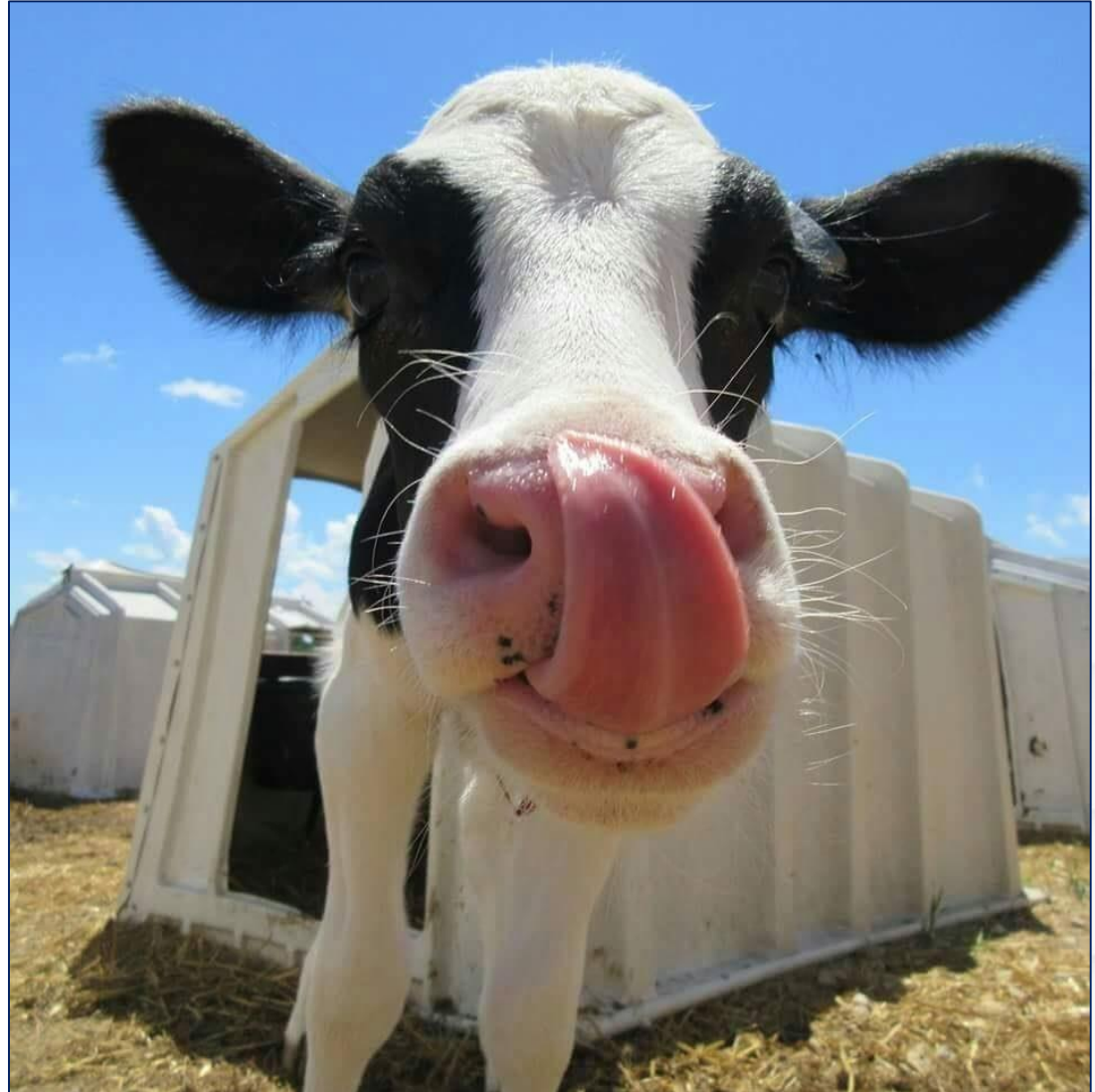
- Land use
- Soil health
- Nutrient management
- Water quality/quantity
- Greenhouse gas emissions
- Energy use



# Technology on the Farm



- 250 cows, 1,100 acres
- Fitbits for cows
- Precision technology
- Adaptability





# Changing to Cover Crops

- Reduce soil erosion
- Manage nitrogen, nutrients
- Boost water-holding capacity
- Protect water quality
- Sequester carbon
- Control weeds
- Increase yields





# Looking to the Future

