

Iowa State University

Dairy Science Student Profile



Name: Nicole Engelken
Hometown: Earlville, Iowa
High School: Maquoketa Valley
Class Size: 57
Farm Name: Delta Acres Dairy
Major: Dairy Science

Why did you decide to attend ISU? Growing up my family always cheered for Iowa State. Once my cousins were old enough to go to college, they chose Iowa State and would always say how amazing it was. I chose Iowa State because of their great Dairy Science program, and it is an added bonus that I am continuing my family's tradition.

What has been your most memorable college experience? One of my most memorable experiences would be attending the U.S. Education and Training Consortium in Clovis, New Mexico this past summer. I was able to take knowledge gained through my courses at Iowa State as well as what we were learning in the classroom there and apply it in a real world setting. Furthermore, I was able to make friendships from across the US and world that will last a lifetime. Another one was my study abroad trip to Antarctica. I traveled with a diverse group of individuals, whom I never would have met without this experience, and the natural beauty and wildlife of Antarctica is breathtaking.

What has been your favorite course? My favorite course has been lactation with Dr. Leo Timms because of the practical aspect of the class and engaging environment. Dr. Timms challenged us to not only learn about how lactation and milk affected the dairy farmer but the industry as a whole. Additionally, I enjoyed learning about how unique milk is to each species. We also discussed "current" events where we were able to learn about many things that milk can be used for besides the typical dairy products.

What are your future career goals? After graduation I hope to become a dairy consultant in Northeast Iowa. As a dairy consultant I will be assisting farmers in maintaining a healthy and profitable herd as well as increasing the cows' longevity, which has been a passion of mine for many years. Along with being a dairy consultant I would like to eventually return to my family dairy farm.

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