

## New Investigator Award

### Dr. Sarah Adcock

Assistant Professor, Department of Animal and Dairy Sciences  
University of Wisconsin Madison



The recipient of the 2024 New Investigator Award was Dr. Sarah Adcock. She was nominated by her former advisor, Dr. Cassandra Tucker, who places her in the top 1% of graduate students she has mentored. She was unanimously selected for this award by the ISAE Award Committee.

Dr. Adcock demonstrates excellence as an applied ethologist and early career leader with 20 peer-reviewed publications, 70% as first or corresponding author, and \$2.4 million USD supporting her research program at UW-Madison. Dr. Adcock's groundbreaking research spans two major themes. Her work on pain in livestock has redefined understanding of procedures such as cauterizing disbudding in dairy calves and tail docking and mastitis in sheep. Using innovative technologies like real-time tracking, she has uncovered subtle behavioral changes associated with pain in sheep, paving the way for more humane animal husbandry practices.

In addition, Dr. Adcock is leading cutting-edge research in the emerging field of insect farming for food and feed. She directs a USDA-funded interdisciplinary project studying black soldier fly larvae, a sustainable alternative protein source. Collaborating with industry leaders like InnovaFeed, she is advancing welfare metrics for farmed insects, ensuring the ethical development of this rapidly growing sector.

Dr. Adcock's excellence extends beyond research. Her mentorship and teaching have inspired countless students. From receiving the UC Davis Chancellor's Award for Mentoring Undergraduate Research in 2020 to her exceptional classroom leadership at UW-Madison, her commitment to education is unparalleled.

Dr. Adcock's innovative and impactful work promises to shape the future of applied ethology. Please join us in congratulating her on this well-deserved recognition.

More information about Dr. Sarah Adcock can be found [here](#).