



**The New Wisconsin Minimum Wage and
Agricultural Employee Wage Rates
June 2005**

**Ken Barnett
Extension Educator
Center for Dairy Profitability**

On June 1, 2005, Wisconsin's minimum wage for adult employees increased from \$5.15 per hour to \$5.70 per hour. The new minor employee rate is \$5.30 per hour.

Wisconsin's minimum wage rates for agricultural employees are as follows:

- **The agriculture minimum wage rate for workers age 18 and over** increased from \$4.05 per hour to \$5.15 per hour
- **The agricultural minimum wage rate for workers age 17 and under** increased from \$3.70 per hour to \$4.25 per hour

The rates have also increased when meals or lodging (or both) are furnished by the agricultural employer (and accepted/received by the employee). A deduction from the employee's cash wages may be made, but cannot exceed the following amounts:

All Employees

Meals (Adults)	\$68.40 Per Week \$2.95 Per Meal
Meals (Minors)	\$51.00 Per Week \$2.40 Per Meal
Lodging (Adults)	\$41.20 Per Week \$5.90 Per Day
Lodging (Minors)	\$34.00 Per Week \$4.85 Per Day

Employers with questions concerning the new minimum wage rates may contact the Wisconsin Department of Workforce Development's Equal Rights Division for more information either at the Madison office [608-266-6860] or at the Milwaukee office [414-2274384] or the Department's website at www.dwd.state.wi.us/.