



**Eric Cooley** grew up in Sturgeon Bay and Deforest, WI. He earned undergraduate degrees in nuclear engineering from Thomas Edison State College, soil and water conservation from UW-Madison and a master's degree in soil physics from UW-Madison. Eric also served a 6-year enlistment in the US Navy as a nuclear reactor operator and water chemist. He was previously employed by the Door county Soil and Water Conservation Department where he specialized in nutrient management planning. In his free time, he enjoys hunting and fishing.

Eric started work for UW-Discovery Farms in December 2004 as an outreach specialist. His work focuses on natural resources issues in Eastern Wisconsin with an emphasis on surface water runoff and tile line drainage. He will be primarily working in Kewaunee and Manitowoc counties where there are currently three farms and 10 monitoring stations from which to collect data.



**Susan Radatz** joined the Discovery Farms staff last fall working with data collection. Her job encompasses organizing data coming from the Discovery Farms. The different types of data are crop information on fields, runoff events from USGS, and concentration data on those events from UW-SP. She is developing a database to store the information on each farm. Any requests for data from others outside Discovery Farms are streamlined through Susan. She helps the staff with graphs and charts for different presentations they are delivering.

She grew up on a Guernsey farm in Minnesota and graduated from UW-River Falls. Currently, she is taking additional courses in Geographic Information Systems which takes information and applies it to maps. She keeps busy with her husband and 2 boys on their hobby farm raising beef cows and a few llamas. Her favorite activity is weaving and teaching weaving to others.



**Amber Weisenberger** was born and raised in Etrick, WI on a small dairy farm. She graduated from Blair-Taylor High School in 2003. In the fall, she will be a Junior at the University of Wisconsin-Madison majoring in Soil Science, Business emphasis. In her free time she enjoys traveling and spending time with her friends and family.

Amber started work with the Discovery Farms Program during May 2004, and since then has worked part time during school and full time during breaks from the University. Her duties at Discovery Farms include website design and maintenance, designing newsletters like this one, collecting data, and organizing and presenting data using display boards at promotional events. In the future Amber would like to continue working with producers and government agencies to create regulations that are realistic for both entities. UW-Discovery Farms Program has fueled her interest in educating producers about farming practices that are successful for their operation, yet sustainable for the environment.



**Nancy Paul-Drummy** grew up in Minneapolis, MN and received her B.S. degree in Agronomy and Plant Genetics from the University of Minnesota.

After graduation, Nancy traveled to Cuba as part of an agricultural exchange between the Cuban government and the University of Minnesota. Here she saw agriculture under very different climatic, social, and economic conditions. "The experience

changed the way I look at agriculture. It helped me to understand how social and economic issues shape production agriculture.”

Upon her return to Minnesota, she worked with a small seedcorn company as an agronomist, and spent a short stint in Alaska. Then, she moved to Wisconsin to work for Land O’ Lakes Cooperatives. Here she worked as a Field Agronomist serving the farmer customers in Sturgeon Bay, Kewaunee, and Seymour, WI, and later went on to become District Sales Agronomist serving all the Land O’ Lakes cooperatives in NE Wisconsin and the Upper Peninsula. She joined the UW-Extension system in 1991 as a Watershed Educator with the Beaver Dam Priority Watershed Project in Dodge County. Her program emphasis was on nutrient management and conservation tillage.

Nancy began working with Discovery Farms in March 2004. \*\*Read more about Nancy’s work on Page 8 of this newsletter.\*\*

Nancy lives in Waupun, WI with her husband Neil. Together they farm 600 acres of corn, soybeans, wheat, and canning crops.



**Tim Radatz** has been working on and off for Discovery Farms since the summer of 2004. He was raised on his family’s dairy farm in Lewison, Minnesota. He graduated from Lewiston-Altura High School in 2002. Tim will be a senior this fall majoring in Biosystems and Agricultural Engineering at the University of Minnesota. He is interested in the environmental aspect of his major, mainly water and air quality.

His main duty at Discovery Farms has been working with the USGS to install, maintain, and sample the field runoff sites. He also worked with farmers in the Discovery Farms program to produce a system to record field data and participated in the odor study at Harrison’s.

In the future Tim would like to work with producers in the agricultural industry to ensure that environmental rules and regulations are practical; striving for environmental and producer stability.



**Tim Poppo** recently began his work as a conservation specialist for Discovery Farms. His work will focus primarily on the development of a clear and consistent format for CNMP’s that may be utilized both by producers on a wide range of livestock operations throughout the state and governmental agencies. Tim will be working out of the Pigeon Falls-Discovery Farms office and looks forward to the challenges involved with working with a diverse group of producers.

Conservation and Soil Science were Tim’s area of study for a BS degree from UW-River Falls. While in college and shortly after, Tim became involved with the research and development of nutrient management plans in conjunction with UW-Extension.

In addition to working for several LCD’s over the years, Tim has maintained a private sector career as both a crop consultant and a general contractor. Tim’s experience in both the private and public sector has allowed him to see objectively, the pro’s and con’s associated with new standards and regulations as they are implemented within the state.