

ANIMAL WELLBEING

Our commitment to providing high-quality milk begins with taking good care of our cows. Working closely with our veterinarian we keep our cows healthy and comfortable.

- . Sometimes it's necessary for us to treat cows with antibiotics when they are ill, just as humans sometimes need medication when they are sick.**
- . A cow being treated for illness is separated from the milking herd and milked separately to ensure her milk does not go into the milk supply.**



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CALF AREA

Calves are born without an active immune system so it is critical they receive prompt attention. We keep them healthy by doing two important things:

- **At birth, calves are fed a precise amount of colostrum (their mom's first milk) which protects and stimulates the calf's immune system.**
- **Calves are housed individually for the first few weeks of their lives. This reduces the spread of germs and provides the best possible care and monitoring of each calf.**



COW HOUSING

Cow comfort is a top priority on our farm. Comfortable cows produce high-quality, wholesome milk and live a longer life with less stress when they receive good care.

- **Our cows are provided clean, soft bedding and access to food and water 24-hours a day.**
- **The cows are free to move about to eat, drink or rest whenever they like.**
- **The alleys are scraped several times a day to help keep the animals clean.**
- **Adequate ventilation is important for cow comfort and health.**



COW NUTRITION

- **We work with an animal nutritionist who balances the diet for each of our cows with the proper ingredients and amounts fed daily.**
- **Cows eat a ration of forages for fiber, corn for energy and soybeans for protein along with added vitamins and minerals.**
- **Our cows have 24-hour access to fresh feed and water and will eat many times throughout the day and night.**



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MATERNITY BARN

We bring our cows to this area before they give birth. We pay close attention to the cow and the calf to protect the health of both animals.

- **Like all mammals, cows must give birth before they produce milk.**
- **We provide extra bedding and additional care to both the cow and calf making sure they are clean, dry and comfortable.**
- **After birth, we move the calves from the maternity area and keep them in clean, individual pens so they are not exposed to germs.**



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MILK QUALITY AND SAFETY

Milk is one of the most highly regulated foods. From the dairy farm to your table, milk goes through strict quality controls to ensure freshness, purity and great taste.

- **Milk from the cow is transferred into a stainless steel milk tank where it is quickly cooled to 38 degrees.**
- **Every load of milk is tested before it leaves the farm to ensure quality and safety.**
- **All milk sold in stores is pasteurized. Pasteurization is a simple, effective method to kill potentially harmful bacteria. It does not affect the nutritional value of milk.**



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MILKING PARLOR

Cows come to the parlor 2-3 times a day to get milked. It takes about 6-7 minutes to milk each cow.

- **The cows' udders are cleaned and sanitized before milking equipment is attached.**
- **Milking equipment and milk lines are cleaned and sanitized after each milking.**
- **The milking equipment replicates the calf suckling, gently removing the milk from the cow.**



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NATURAL RECYCLING

Did you know that:

- A 1,400 pound cow will produce approximately 10 gallons of milk, drink 40 gallons of water and eat 100 pounds of feed in just one day
- The 17 gallons of manure produced daily is applied to the farm field as fertilizer
- This manure has enough nutrients to grow 56 pounds of corn



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NUTRIENT MANAGEMENT

- Like all farmers, we have a stake in following best management practices to protect the health of our family, our cows and our environment.
- Farmers use different manure storage options to capture the nutrients that can be applied to the land.
- Nutrients are applied to the land to replenish the nitrogen, potassium and phosphorus crops use.



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TRACTORS & MORE

Farmers have a large investment in machinery. These tools help us plant, harvest, and apply manure when field conditions are just right.



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