Flat Aggie Adventures Edition 1 Past . Present . Future



DID YOU KNOW?



Bovine: A distinct family of ruminant mammals, referring to cattle.



Dairy Cow: Cows raised to produce milk.

Holstein: Breed of dairy cow.



Technology: The application of scientific knowledge to solve a problem.



Milking parlor: Barn used for milking cows.



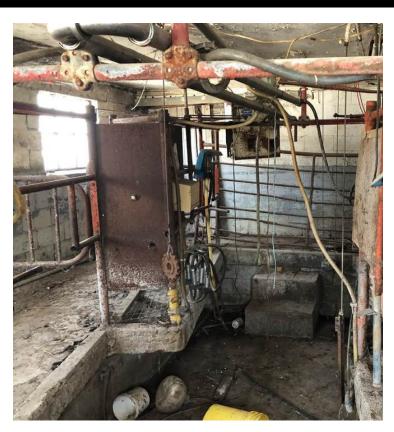
Herd: Group of cows.

DAIRY IN THE PAST

Flat Aggie gave us a tour of the original milking parlor. The Lindsay Dairy LLC began the business generations ago with a four stall parallel milking parlor.

Technology greatly improved in the 1900's but dairy farming was still very labor intensive.

In 1950's the dairy industry boomed. Advancements in refrigeration, transportation and genetics increased production. The average farmer in the 1950's could milk 100 cows in two-three hours.



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DAIRY IN THE PRESENT

The Lindsay Dairy LLC built their current free stall barn and parallel milking parlor in 2007. Technology has allowed them to milk 290 cows with greater efficiency. The parallel milking parlor holds 16 cows at a time and it takes just around two hours to milk morning and night. Automation technology has increased production and improved animal welfare. Flat Aggie is demonstrating the milk claw in the photograph to the left. The milk claw is a machine that is attached to the cow's udder whose massaging action encourages the cow to release the milk. Computer and scan technology provides Flat Aggie with a great deal of knowledge about each cow.

DAIRY IN THE FUTURE

In 1992 there were 131,535 dairy farms in the United States. Today, there are less than 41,800 dairies which is slightly more than the number of undergraduate students enrolled at Iowa State University. The number of dairy farms is expected to decrease to about half by 2030 meaning farmers will need to produce more milk with less farms to feed a growing world. The dairy industry continues to improve efficiency and increase production by studying feed rations, genetics and the environment.

YouTube Video: 70 Point De-Laval Rotary Milking Parlour. Glenapp Farm Ayrshire.DairyCo.

FUN DAIRY FACTS

- All 50 states have dairies.
- Dairy cows came to Jamestown, Virginia in 1611.
- In 1967 plastic milk bottles were introduced to replace glass.
- The first ice cream parlor opened in 1777.

JOKE OF THE DAY

How do farmers count their cows? With a cow-culator



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