

A DAIRY GLOSSARY

BREED

A particular type of animal. The Holstein is the most popular dairy cow breed in Canada.



DAIRY

A type of farm that produces milk and milk products.

FEED

Food for farm animals. Forage is a special type of feed. To produce milk, cows need to eat a mixture of grass hay, alfalfa hay, grains as well as corn and grass silage.

BULLS

Adult male cattle. Bulls are the fathers of the herd. Young males are called bull calves.

CALF

A young female dairy animal. These are the babies of the herd.

COW

An adult female dairy animal. A cow starts to produce milk after her first calf is born, when she is about two years old.



CREAM

The thick part that is separated from the milk that contains fat. We make butter from cream.

GRAZE

To feed on a field or land covered by grass.



CUD

A small part of partly eaten food that a cow burps up and chews on again before she digests it in her stomach.

HERD

A group of cows that are kept together as livestock.

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MANURE

Solid waste from farm animals put on land to improve the soil quality and make it better for growing crops.

MILKING PARLOUR

A special area on the dairy farm where the cows are milked. Cows are brought into the milking parlour for milking 2 or 3 times a day.



MINERALS

Natural substances in food that help keep us healthy and strong. Milk is full of vitamins A and D, calcium and protein, and is a part of a healthy and balanced diet.

RAW MILK

Milk that comes straight from the cow.



TEAT

A cow's milk flows from each of the four teats on her udder.

PASTEURIZATION

Heating and cooling raw milk quickly to kill harmful bacteria without effecting the taste or nutritional value.



UDDER

The part of a cow's body where milk is made. A cow makes and stores milk in her udder. An udder has four parts and each part has a teat.