

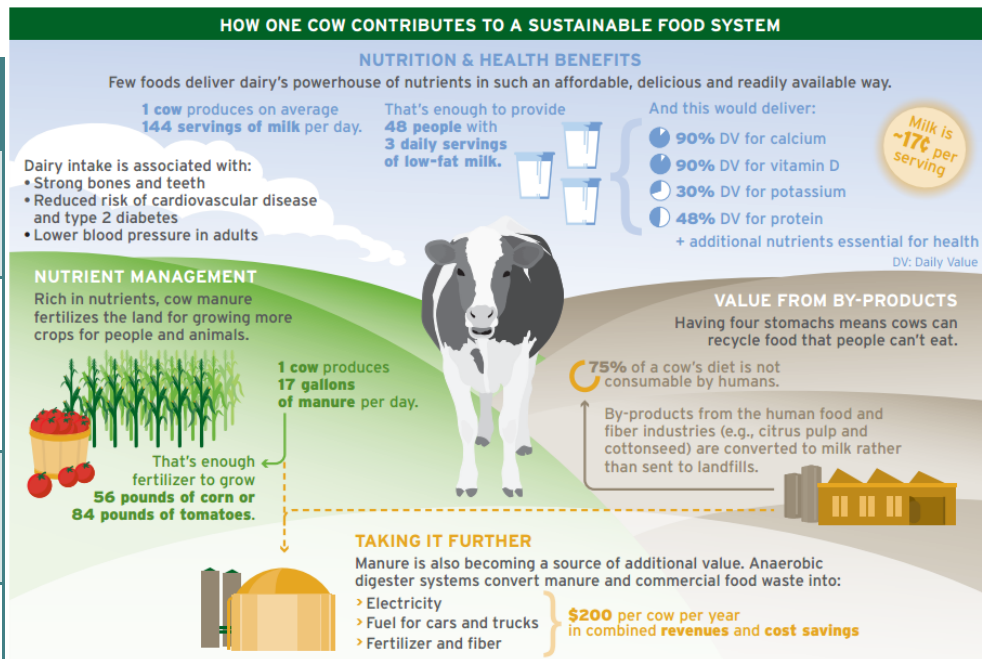
Cornell University Cooperative Extension Chautauqua County

Right here in Chautauqua County...

1,515	Farms in the county, ranking us number one in the state.
236,546	Acres in farms, 35% of the county's total acreage.
\$161 million	The total market value of agricultural products sold in the county, making it the county's largest industry.
57	Years old is the average age of the county's 823 principal farm operators.
200+	Dairy farms in the county that produce enough milk to meet the dietary needs of nearly 700,000 people.
100+	Farms that sell their products directly to consumers.
\$2.29	Is generated in the community for every dollar of income created by the agricultural industry.
90,000	Tons of grapes produced by 250 growers with a typical farm gate value of \$22 million.
52	Maple producers that produce 6,254 gallons of maple syrup with 39,899 taps.



Dairy Farming in WNY



Sources: Nutrition: A. Drewnowski, Am J Clin Nutr, 2010; USDA National Nutrient Database for Standard Reference SR25; 2010 Dietary Guidelines for Americans; Nutrients and reuse: Est. of human-edible and inedible materials computed from the avg. Midwestern lactating cow ration published by Thoma et al.; Greenhouse Gas Emissions of Fluid Milk, 2010; Erb, Kevin; Manure 101, University of Wisconsin Extension, 2010; Digester: Innovation Center, Case Study: Food Waste, 2013.



INNOVATION CENTER FOR U.S. DAIRY.
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WHERE DOES YOUR MILK COME FROM?

Learn to read the Code: 36 = NY

Buy Local – Buy Fresh

Some milk travels thousands of miles, so look for “36” to know that your milk was processed in New York State or “42” for Pennsylvania, with milk sourced from local dairy farms.



Dairy Farming is an act of caring...

Caring for the Cows

Dairy farmers care for their cows by providing a nutritious diet, good medical care, and healthy living conditions.

- Many cows are fed a “total mixed ration” diet, which is corn and hay forages and grains blended into a balanced diet. A farm nutritionist is employed to develop the proper diet for each cow based on their age, size, and milk production. The cows have access to fresh food almost all of the day!
- Modern farms precision-build their barns and housing areas to make sure they are comfortable, clean, easily accessible, and safe for their cows who spend 1/3 of their day lying down.
- Dairy farmers take excellent care of their animals and watch them every day for signs of illness. Just like humans, sometimes cows can get sick and require medicine and extra care. All medical procedures and medications are used under the direct supervision of a veterinarian and follow strict protocols.

Caring for the Milk

Milk is the most tested food product in the United States, and several steps are taken to ensure that dairy products are safe and wholesome.

- At milking time, cows teats are cleaned with a sanitizing solution prior to attaching the milk machine. All of the milk machine parts are thoroughly washed in very hot water and sanitized before each milking.
- Milk is taken by milk truck drivers in large tanker trucks to the processing plant. All milk is tested for antibiotic residue, and if there is any detected, it is immediately discarded. Milk is also pasteurized to remove any potentially harmful bacteria before it reaches the store.
- Cows have to give birth to a calf before they can begin to produce milk.

Caring for the Calves

Healthy calves make healthy cows, and just like human babies, they are cared for and are watched closely.

- Our local farms pride themselves in the high-quality care their calves receive, including access to fresh water and feed all day. Calves are kept in a well-ventilated areas on fresh, clean bedding.
- Just like babies, calves have an underdeveloped immune system. Feeding the calves colostrum, or the first milk a cow produces after having a calf, helps boost their immunity. Young calves are fed from a bottle, older calves receive milk or milk replacer (similar to baby formula) 2 - 4 times a day.

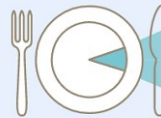
You can help support your local farmers!

- Shop at local produce stands, directly from farms, and farmers markets whenever possible.
- Let your elected officials know about the importance of productive farmland, supporting farmers, and funding for ag support agencies in your town, county, and state.
- Ask questions—farmers love to share their passions and experiences.
- Visit www.cce.cornell.edu/chautauqua for more information about buying local!

Delivering dairy goodness to your table

Nutrient-rich milk and dairy foods help foster health and wellness among people of all ages.

Milk, cheese and yogurt contribute just 10% of calories in the U.S. diet



while contributing...

58% VITAMIN D
51% CALCIUM
28% PHOSPHORUS
28% VITAMIN A
26% VITAMIN B12
25% RIBOFLAVIN
18% PROTEIN
16% POTASSIUM
16% ZINC
13% MAGNESIUM

Caring for the Environment

Farms work hard to implement practices to preserve local watersheds, land, and air quality.

- Manure Management is a key component to dairy farming, and there are strict regulations as to when and where a farmer can utilize the manure for soil fertilizer.
- Farmers continue to maintain soil health by properly rotating crops, testing soil quality, and following the guidance of a crop manager.
- A gallon of milk produced in the U.S. has a carbon footprint of 17.6 pounds of carbon dioxide equivalent. Today, producing a gallon of milk uses 90% less land and 65% less water with a 63% smaller carbon footprint than in 1944.



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