

DAIRY FARM ECOSYSTEM INFOGRAPHIC



DAIRY FARM ECOSYSTEM

full list and definitions

FOODS

Milk: Milk is a white liquid produced by a mammal. Milk is also used to make delicious milk products.

Yogurt: Yogurt is made from milk and is white and creamy. The texture is silky, thick and smooth.

Cheese: Cheese is made from milk and comes in a wide range of flavours and textures.

Kefir: Kefir is similar to yogurt but is tangier and slightly carbonated.

ANIMALS

Cow: A bovine that produces milk.

Calf: A young cow (female) or bull (male).

Herd: A group of cows and calves on a farm.

EQUIPMENT

Smartphone and computer: Used by farmers to check the weather, view equipment manuals, monitor cows via webcams and analyze data gathered by automated farm machinery.

Milking machine: Used to milk the cows.

Grooming brush: Cows use it to “scratch that itch” and get a massage. It removes dirt to help keep their skin and coat healthy.

Robotic feed pusher: A robot that helps keep feed close to the cows. Thanks to this robot, cows do not have to stretch their necks to reach their food.

Tractor: A vehicle used to perform many tasks in the fields and on the farm. It is used to pull specialized machinery.

Hay baler: A machine, pulled by the tractor, that gathers crops from the fields, such as cut dry hay, which is picked up and squeezed into cubes or round bales for future use.

Combine harvester: A machine that harvests grain crops that will be used to feed the animals later in the year.

Milk cooling tank: A large storage tank for cooling and holding milk at a temperature below 4°C until it can be picked up by the milk truck.

SOME CROPS FOR FEEDING ANIMALS

Forage or silage: Grass, clover, alfalfa and other grasses that are cut fresh and stored moist (protected from air) to feed the herd year-round.

Grains: Barley, corn and soybeans, dried and then stored dry for feed year-round.

SOME CAREERS AT THE DAIRY FARM*

Dairy farmer: Owns and manages the dairy farm and takes care of the animals. In Canada, farms are family owned and operated.

Field worker: Works in the fields to grow various crops and drives tractors.

CAREERS OF SOME OUTSIDE EXPERTS**

✓ **Veterinarian:** A doctor for animals.

Animal nutritionist: A specialist who tests the nutritional value of feed and designs nutritionally balanced diets for farm animals.

✓ **Hoof trimmer:** Gives pedicures to cows.

Agrologist: Provides advice about applying scientific knowledge to improve the cultivation of plants, the farm environment and animal care.

Equipment technician: Maintains and repairs farm machinery and equipment.

✓ **Electrician:** A licensed tradesperson who maintains and repairs electrical systems.

✓ **Mechanic:** An expert who maintains and repairs engines, tractors and other farm machinery.

Financial advisor and accountant: People who keep track of the farm’s finances, budget and taxes.

✓ **Milk truck driver:** A person who specializes in milk quality and who also delivers milk from the farm to the processor.

Assessor or validator: A trained independent assessor who verifies that the farm meets the standards for milk quality, animal care and more.

* On page 3 of this appendix, there are several pictures of different farms in Canada.

** The careers depicted in the infographic are indicated with a ✓

DIFFERENT DAIRY FARMS IN CANADA

