

Chapter 1 : 10 Dairy Facts the Industry Doesn't Want You to Know

"The take-home message is that the dairy industry is changing to meet consumers' expectations for improved health and well-being of dairy animals, while at the same time increasing food production in a sustainable manner.

Welfare legislation says that calves should only be held in solitary pens until they are eight weeks old, but Animal Equality claims that the battery calves it photographed at Grange Dairy in Dorset are up to six months old – too large for their hutches – and say that some have grazes on their backs. But trading standard officers say there is no evidence of any breach of animal welfare requirements. Upsetting as the story is, what happens elsewhere in the dairy industry amounts to systematic cruelty. In reality, the daily practices of most dairy farms are more distressing than those of meat production. A mother cow only produces milk when she gets pregnant. So, starting from the age of 15 months, she will usually be artificially inseminated. Dairy is proving to be a vulnerable spot for the entire slaughter racket. When she gives birth, her calf will typically be removed within 36 hours, so the farmers can steal and sell you the milk that is meant for her baby. Wildlife experts say that a strong bond between cow and calf is formed quickly after birth. Following that callous separation, the mother will bellow and scream for days, wondering where her baby is. The answer depends on the gender of the calf. If male, he will probably either be shot and tossed into a bin, or sold to be raised for veal, which delays his death by just a matter of months. But if the calf is female, she will usually be prepared for her own entry into dairy production, where she will face the same cycle of hell that her mother is trapped in: For at least six months of the year, she will often be confined inside dark sheds. Although growth hormones are banned in the UK and antibiotic use is limited, a dairy cow can be given reproductive hormones and prescribed antibiotics by a vet to ensure she is kept in a condition to produce an unnatural amount of milk. Under normal circumstances, she would generally only have a maximum of two litres of milk in her udder at any one time, but rapacious farmers may force her to carry 20 litres or more. Her udder becomes so heavy that it makes her lame and she often develops an agonising infection called mastitis. The strain this puts on her body means she is exhausted by the age of five. Soon, her milk yield will no longer be considered profitable. Or she might simply collapse under the agony of it all. Either way, she will be dragged off by a tractor, squeezed into a cramped truck, and driven to the slaughterhouse, to be killed and turned into burgers or baby food. Her throat slit after five sad and torturous years – under natural circumstances she could have lived to

Chapter 2 : Change is coming to the dairy industry

The dairy industry is rapidly changing across the United States. We have seen a 33% decline in the number of total dairy operations from 97, operations in to 65, in in the United States, while at the same time we have increased total milk production and the number of cows (USDA,).

Dairy The dairy industry is rapidly changing across the United States. Dairies with more than cows are increasing, also indicating growth in the number of employees on dairy farms MacDonald et al. Presently it is estimated that the average dairy operation in had head of cows-per-farm and employed 5. Of those workers, 2. In the average dairy had 19 cows, whereas in the average herd was head MacDonald et al. Milk production also increased from 9, to 19, pounds-per-year per cow. This same trend is also noted in South Dakota as the National Agricultural Statistic Service reported there were 90, dairy cows as of January 1, and 91, as of January 1, The number of dairy farms in South Dakota, however, declined drastically in this same period with dairies in July and as of January while cow numbers increased slightly Bones et al. Agriculture is continually evolving, and it is no longer the case where a large family farm is able to solely exist with family labor. A majority of these workers are Hispanic coming from Mexico and Central America. It is estimated that today there are approximately 2 million immigrants working in all aspects of production agriculture. Obviously, these wages were reported in and have increased due to reduced labor supply and greater cost-of-living. The dairy industry requires workers that are willing to work consistently because cows need to be milked and fed on a daily basis. We know that within large dairy farms, jobs are often specialized, requiring workers to perform the same tasks for hours-per-workday Callan, One example would be working in a modern milking parlor where one person can easily milk 80 to cows-per-hour. Unfortunately, many domestic workers are not willing to milk cows and thus the dairy industry is dependent on immigrant labor to perform such tasks This same sentiment was also reported in the Farm Foundation Symposium where farmers who seek to remain profitable face a declining labor supply and end up turning to immigrant labor. The world population is expected to increase to 9 billion people by A majority of this growth will come in developing countries where people are often malnourished and unable to afford high food prices Farm Foundation, This compound effect on the dairy economy in the United States and abroad will result in a necessity to keep input costs, such as labor and feed, at a profitable level in order to sustain the dairy farms. This leads one to ask what the impact would be if foreign labor is lost in US dairies? With dairies trending larger, additional employees will be hired and a majority of these employees will be of Hispanic origin. The challenge of hiring immigrant labor is the language barrier between workers, literacy level of employees, and cultural differences that exist between employees and rural communities.

Chapter 3 : Changing Dairy Industry | Compass | PBS

"It also will feature five Industry Segment Boards that will drive policy and strategy â€” representing fluid milk, ice cream, cheese, yogurt and cultured products, and dairy-derived ingredients, with the option to add boards as the industry continues to evolve and product categories increase.

Consider the following 10 dairy facts, most of which are common to all forms of dairy farming: Like all mammals, cows must give birth in order to make milk. Like human mothers, they carry their babies for nine months, then begin to lactate for the sole purpose of nourishing their young. Even so, virtually all dairy calves are stolen from their mothers within hours of birth in order to maximize profit. On so-called humane dairy farms, cows are often taken within the first hour of birth as separation of mother and calf is considered less stressful when they have not been allowed to bond see video clip below. The constant cycle of forced pregnancy and birth creates a huge surplus of calves. Dairy cows are forcibly impregnated once a year to keep them at peak lactation. Artificial insemination involves invasive, nonconsensual rectal and vaginal penetration. Some female calves will join the milking herd. They typically spend the first 2 to 3 months of life confined in lonely hutches, fed a diet of milk replacer while humans drink the milk intended for them. The veal industry would not exist without the dairy industry. Of the 9 million dairy cows in the U. Feel-good dairy labels, like all humane labels, are merely so much window dressing. Check out our Guide to Going Dairy Free for tips and recommendations on remarkable plant-based milks, cheeses, creams, yogurts and more. To learn more about the injustices perpetrated even on small and so-called humane dairy farms, see our feature: The Spiked Nose Ring: A Symbol for All Dairy Cruelty. Educate others by sharing information about dairy production with them. Genetics of health traits in Holstein cattle. Journal of Dairy Science 74 3: Johns Hopkins University Press.

Chapter 4 : Equipment dealers adjust to a changing dairy industry - Progressive Dairyman: Canada

The dairy industry, like much of U.S. farming, has trended toward fewer but larger farms since the s, when organic milk was available only at farmers markets or specialty grocers and the milk came from small-scale dairy farms selling to a local cooperative.

Inside Chick-fil-A Meet Fairlife, a network of farms in the pursuit of perfect milk Sue McCloskey is one half of the team that founded what has sparked a transformation in the dairy industry. I never imagined it would get this big. It all started with one farm and a big dream – the pursuit of perfect milk. They started small, with a cow farm and then a 1, cow farm. Both knew they wanted to make a bigger impact on the industry, so they joined a respected co-op of farms in New Mexico. But instead of settling into the norm, together, they shook up the establishment that was big dairy. Fair Oaks is the model – and the standard – for more than 90 partner farms nationwide under the fairlife name. Everything – from the grass, to the cows, to the trucks, to the dairy products made there. A fairlife worker feeds a calf. The company has pledged fair animal treatment. The McCloskeys have gained national and international recognition for their patented milk filtration system – a system they developed somewhat by chance. It is the same technique they later applied to milk. The water, minerals, lactose, protein and fat in milk all have five different sizes, which allows the fairlife farmers to catch it in filters, concentrating the best nutrients and filtering away the rest. That means Fair Oaks grows its own crops, instant-chills its milk at 37 degrees within minutes of milking the cow , fills its own milk trucks and bottles its own milk. The farmers at Fair Oaks also select to make their own cow feed. That means the milk can be traced from grass to glass ensuring fairlife milk is coming from some of the most well-fed, and "happiest," cows in the country. Mike and Sue give all their cows comfortable sand beds in free stalls. This way the cows can move freely and are protected from the weather. In the summer months, the McCloskeys combat the heat by turning up fans to blow a consistent seven-miles-per-hour breeze on the bovines, and sprinklers even spray water to help keep them cool. Just last year, more than half a million people flocked to the farm to experience everything from watching cows being milked on a cow dairy-go-round, to crop education, to live calf births.

Chapter 5 : Organic dairy farmers vow to compete in changing industry – Idaho Business Review

The changing face of US dairy industry - Cow numbers to reach m by Friday, September 16 th, The US dairy industry is undergoing change and cow numbers are expected to reach m head by , according to Dr Robert Johansson, Chief Economist with the US Department of Agriculture.

Progressive Dairyman asked several dealers across Canada to share how changes at the farm level have impacted their businesses. Here are the answers from those who responded. Please describe your business. Norwell is a family-owned business started in We currently employ staff, operate a fleet of plus vehicles and are based in four locations across Ontario. Our main business focus is sales and service of milking equipment, cooling equipment, animal housing, cow comfort and farm supplies. We have also recently expanded in feeding automation. Our customer base is diverse in size and includes dairy cows, dairy goats, dairy sheep and buffalo. Our dairy equipment company started 30 years ago, going against the odds by entering in a market as a newcomer compared to other mainstream milking companies. We ended up as a mainstream dairy equipment dealer with the amalgamation of Westfalia and Surge, now called GEA. We are heavily involved with milk production and processing of manure and, as of late, we are involved in the robotics sector of milking equipment. Because we have proven ourselves to work with parlors, we are ready and not afraid of the robot market. Barn Equipment started in with John Dortmans supplying barn feeding equipment. Over the years, the business has grown in its product offerings. We now sell, install and service almost any equipment that goes into a barn, such as milking systems robotic, parlour and tiestall , feed handling, manure handling, stabling, ventilation, etc. We provide services such as customized CAD drawings for barn design, milk time analysis and equipment cleaning supplies. Service is the most important focus of our business, providing hour service, seven days a week. We are privileged to enjoy relative stability in the Ontario dairy industry; therefore, most change in the industry has had a positive impact. The main changes that come to mind are quota policy changes, biosecurity, increasing implementation of automation and animal welfare. Further to these, we could also include adoption of social media, online banking and the vast amount of information available. The biggest changes in the dairy industry today have to do with automation. It was difficult as we saw the competition introducing robotics around us, but we were excited to see the engineering of GEA introduce developing historic patents, and we are confident with their strong technology. This technology, combined with the quality of milk it produces, will give us a good base for the future. As GEA is the second-largest milking equipment company in the world, we have confidence in the future of working with their equipment and their ability to adapt to the changes of automation. The dairy industry is changing and, if you are not changing with the industry, you are falling behind. As the consumer knows less and less every year about where food comes from, there is an increasing demand for higher and higher standards of food production. Therefore, the dairy industry is experiencing increasing regulations, policies, paperwork, automation, technology and efficiencies. At Norwell, we have: Implemented account managers Installed a robust server and enterprise resource planning system to facilitate infrastructure required for email, texting, online payments, etc. My partner Garry Franz and myself saw this trend towards automation coming very early on. Since we did not have robots, we emphasized a very strong line of meters, ID, sort gates and management. While our GEA robots came into the market five to eight years later than the other companies, we have achieved well over robots in our market area through our parlour and box robots in just over two years. Here in the West, we see a very progressive dairy industry that certainly adapts very quickly. We saw this 30 years ago and know this has not changed. Good automation with good milk quality has the best chance to progress for the future dairy farmers. We have expanded our customer base and territory, which has helped us focus on certain areas. We now have excellent staff trained and passionate about milk time analysis, goat milking facilities and technology, milking robotics, automated feed systems, CAD barn design, milking system cleaning specialists, route truck customer care call-ahead program, dedicated scheduled maintenance staff with follow up and much more. We are always looking for new things we can bring to the industry. What are the biggest challenges you currently face? In the current economy, we are constantly challenged to find

and hire sufficient qualified staff. The dairy equipment installation and service business is a non-licenced trade in Ontario, and we face the dilemma of knowing what category we fit in when audited by regulatory bodies or when encouraging staff to take further training. We also are dealing with a shortage of resources in the construction industry, resulting in delays of expansion in the dairy industry. This shortage results in booking a project two to three years out, which is challenging when considering currency exchange rates and price increases. Our biggest challenges are equal to all dairy farmers, which include:

Chapter 6 : The role of new technology in the dairy industry - calendrierdelascience.com

The dairy industry, like much of U.S. farming, has trended toward fewer but larger farms since the s, when organic milk was available only at farmers markets or specialty grocers and the milk.

How the dairy industry is changing schedule 6th November by Virtual College in Virtual College The dairy industry in the UK is a large one, with turnover in the tens of billions, and more than 70, people employed within it. Here at Virtual College, we like to keep our finger on the pulse when it comes to the industries we work with. Market Perhaps the largest change facing the dairy industry is quite simply that demand is falling for many products, with milk in particular an issue. This is down to a number of reasons, several of which will be covered later in this article. Dairy farms are struggling, with reports in the last couple of years expressing concerns that the UK industry could be significantly reduced over the next 10 years. Much of the problem is with the price of milk. It is so low that dairy farms tend to make a loss on every litre. This means many, if not most farms, are in considerable debt. Dairy farms will have to consider their operations and options carefully in the coming years if they are to remain in business. This said, certain areas of the industry are doing well. Specialist cheeses have benefited from higher demand, and strong input and demand from other regions across Europe. Much like other products, artisanal cheeses and more interesting variants are doing fairly well. Diversification The market challenges have of course driven many farms to figure out how they can do better, and how they can turn a profit when margins are particularly tight. Lots of dairy farms have for example, opened their own ice cream parlours, which can be especially lucrative during the summer months. Significant added value can be brought, with many dairy farms even opening their doors for viewing, animal interaction and more. Dozens of employees will need to be hired, which brings with it numerous challenges, ranging from staff management, to food hygiene training and more. Similarly, manufacturers have increasingly looked towards more specialist products as previously mentioned. The processes are ingenious. By combining a system of complex sensors and robotics, much of the milking process can be entirely automated. Cows are encouraged to enter a milking station with treats, the scanner checks to see if the cow has been milked recently, and then if not, robotic arms start the milking process. On farms where this has been trialled, the process has proven to be very effective, and the cows appear to prefer this method. Similarly, in the manufacturing stage of dairy products, automation is allowing products to be made more efficiently than ever before. Raw dairy produce can be turned into consumer-ready products faster than ever through automation, and as the costs of development comes down, this is something that can be accessed by smaller manufacturers. Climate change and sustainability Sustainability has significant impacts in all areas of dairy production, from the rearing of cattle, to production machinery and to packaging. There must therefore be a commitment to bring this figure down. This is difficult without reducing the number of cattle and increasing efficiencies, but headway is being made through more environmentally friendly energy and water consumption. In the UK, the dairy industry is in fact fairly effective in their sustainable packaging practices. The vast majority of packing materials are both made from recycled materials, and are recyclable themselves, which is well ahead of other industries. Part of this is down to the well-established habit of recycling plastic milk cartons among UK households. Nonetheless, the industry as a whole has committed to further improving on this to increase the use of recyclables. A reduction in waste sent to landfill is also a priority, and retailers in particular need to be at the forefront of this, both gauging and influencing customer habits. Increasingly, the public are becoming aware of the significant animal welfare issues that come with dairy farming. Veganism is on the rise, but perhaps more importantly, the wider market, including vegetarians and those with no strict policy towards their consumption habits, are cutting down on their dairy intake. A number of fairly high profile documentaries and stories have been aired and published recently, which highlight some of the poor conditions that many dairy cows must endure throughout their lives, as well as the controversial practice of separating calves from their mothers at a very early stage. Conclusion The dairy industry is at an interesting period of transition. The main producers, in the shape of farms, are struggling when it comes to the production of liquid milk, but there are options out there in the form of diversified product offerings, whether this is

directly at the farm, or later on at the end product production stage. Food allergy awareness, and total veganism will certainly have their impacts, and we may well continue to see a decline in milk consumption as consumers look for alternative liquids such as almond and soy milk, but the industry can remain healthy if it embraces changing consumer tastes, and expectations when it comes to the environment and animal welfare. Our training courses on food allergies and food hygiene may be of interest to businesses in the dairy industry, particularly those involved in the making of products for the end consumer, or those that may be thinking of branching out and diversifying their offering. [Click here to find out more.](#)

Chapter 7 : A Changing Dairy Industry and Its Labor Needs

Despite the decrease in the number of dairy farms and cow numbers, milk production grew 6 percent " from , million pounds in to , million pounds in According to the report, this increase is the result of large dairy operations boosting their share of production.

Chapter 8 : Organic dairy farmers vow to compete in changing industry - NEWS

Willemse: The dairy industry is changing and, if you are not changing with the industry, you are falling behind. As the consumer knows less and less every year about where food comes from, there is an increasing demand for higher and higher standards of food production.

Chapter 9 : Organic dairy farmers vow to compete in changing industry

"The structure of dairy farming has changed dramatically in the last two decades, with cows and production shifting to much larger operations," USDA noted, adding that these structural changes have likely affected dairy industry competitiveness in world markets.