



On the MOO-ve!

Meet some real family farmers who keep dairy farming on the moo-ve with new technologies!

Alliance Dairies, Trenton

The St. John family owns and operates Alliance Dairies in north central Florida. Their 6,000-acre farm has one foot in traditional farming and the other in the high-tech world of renewable energy, thanks to their methane digester which allows them to turn cow manure into power.



M&B Dairy, Lecanto

The McClellan family has been in the dairy business in Florida for four generations. Today, their farm milks around 700 cows each day and ships three times each day and ships the milk to their processing facility in Tampa. M&B is one of the few dairies in Florida that bottles its own milk.



The McClellans have been processing their own milk for decades, but what sets them apart is their love of innovation. Their plant has been recognized for its proactive approach to meeting Florida school nutrition guidelines.



Today's Technology



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Thanks to their methane digester, which processes cow manure and takes the methane gas out of it, Alliance Dairies is able to provide electricity for itself as well as create mulch which can be recycled in other areas of the farm.



Dairy farming has been on the moo-ve since the first cows arrived with the early colonists at Jamestown. Check out this timeline to learn more about the growth and advances in dairy farming in America!

1600

1611
Cows come to America with the Jamestown colonists.

1700

1776
As the United States declares its independence, cows graze on the small family farms that dot the countryside.

1800

1856
Louis Pasteur begins scientific experiments leading to the pasteurization process.

1850
Almost every American household has its own cow to supply the family with milk.

1862
President Abraham Lincoln establishes the U.S. Department of Agriculture.

1879
Thomas Edison invents the incandescent light bulb.

1878
First automatic milking machine invented.

1884
First glass milk bottles used.

1890s
Milk homogenizer invented.

Late 1800s
Farmers begin breeding cows specifically for milk production - dairy cows.

1900
First milk tanker trucks used to transport milk.

1900
Pasteurization used in all dairy farming.

1914
First successful use of a methane digester in American farming, on a hog farm in Iowa.

1945
The first year that the use of tractors exceeds the use of horses on farms.

1946
National School Lunch Act signed, designating milk as part of the school lunch menu.

1947
Robotic milking machines invented.

1994
Farmers begin using satellite technology to track and plan farming practices.

2000

2014
Of the more than 51,000 working dairy farms in the U.S., 97% are family-owned, and all help provide you with fresh, wholesome dairy products all year long!

Local milk is available 365 days a year.