

# Dairy Facts

## Milking Cows

Cows respond best to patient, kind handling and regular, routine procedures. They are milked 2 or 3 times a day.

On many farms, computers keep track of how much milk a cow produces at each milking.

A farmer can milk about 6 cows an hour by hand.

The milking machine was invented in 1894. With milking machines farmers can milk 100 cows an hour.

### Milking Procedure:

- 1) The cow's udder and teats are cleaned & the first milked is stripped out before she is milked.
- 2) The milking machine is attached to the cow's 4 teats.
- 3) The vacuum of the milking machine gently squeezes out the milk--similar to the action of a sucking calf or a baby sucking his thumb. The milking machine does not hurt the cow.
- 4) The milk is cooled and stored in large tanks called bulk tanks until it is picked up and brought to the dairy plant to be turned into different dairy products.