



Cushman Farms, LLP

A Family Partnership

Nathan Cushman & Susan Fridy

Donald & Janet Smith

Johanna, Samuel, Kieren and Oren

David & Rebecca Smith

Ethan, Prescott and Laura

James & Kathleen Smith

Beriah, Brandon and Blake

The Farmer's Cow Story



The seed was planted for The Farmer's Cow when our six Connecticut dairy farms, with shared concerns, began planning for the future of our family farms. With the growing interest in fresh, locally grown foods we believed consumers were looking for just what we produce: fresh Connecticut milk from Connecticut cows. So we formed our own milk company.

The Farmer's Cow is dedicated to putting a face on Connecticut Agriculture – educating people about farming, sustainable agriculture and ensuring farmland preservation. Our farm tours are one way we do this, offering the public a first-hand look into our working dairy farms. We understand the important role our dairy farms play in the economic health of our communities. We are committed to producing natural, Connecticut milk and other farm products, fresh daily.

Our Growing Product Line:

Milk • Half & Half • Heavy Cream • Ice Cream
Eggs • Apple Cider • Summer Beverages • Coffee



The Farms of The Farmer's Cow

Fairvue Farms, Woodstock • Hytone Farm, Coventry
Mapleleaf Farm, Hebron • Fort Hill Farms, Thompson
Cushman Farms, Franklin • Graywall Farms, Lebanon

49 Chappell Road, Lebanon, CT 06249

Email: farmers@thefarmerscow.com

www.thefarmerscow.com

Welcome to CUSHMAN FARMS



MEMBER FARM

A family partnership farming in
Connecticut for six generations

393 Lebanon Avenue
North Franklin, CT 06254
(860) 642-4711

Facts about Cushman Farms

Cushman Farms started as a 155 acre farm on Kahn Road that is now known as the 'Home Farm'. Nate's father, Nathan P. took over the farm in 1936. Nate & his sisters Pat & Gerry worked on the farm and raised purebred Holsteins as 4-H projects. During the 1950's Nathan P. would work on the farm during the day and at Pratt & Whitney Aircraft in Hartford at night. Pat and Nate would milk 20-25 cows before going to school. A stanchion barn was built in 1955 that is still used today. Nate graduated from UConn and went into partnership with his father. They built their first free-stall barn and milking parlor in 1966. Pat's sons joined the farm after studying vocational agriculture at Lyman H.S. with the addition of the Smith brothers – Donald, David & James – it became apparent that the farm needed to expand.

The family faced the decision of either moving out of state or building a new modern facility here. The Connecticut Farmland Preservation Program enabled the family to sell the development rights to a portion of their farmland and then invest the proceeds in a new facility. In 1990 the free-stall barn with 528 stalls, a 30 stall rotary milking parlor, bunker silo and commodity feed storage shed were built. In 1998 Cushman Farms Limited Partnership was formed between the family members. Cushman Farms believes in the future of Connecticut agriculture and the benefits that agriculture provides to our state.

The 'Home Farm' now houses the calves, young stock and a group of cows. A trail has been constructed, with the assistance of a grant from Wal-Mart, to the 'Home Farm' from the milking center.

LAND STEWARDSHIP

Over 1000 acres protected by Connecticut's Farmland Preservation Program

COWS IN HERD

700 Cows in the milking herd

MILKING FACILITY

Cows are milked three times per day

Milking herd takes about 5 hours

Daily milk production 46,000lbs; almost 6,000 gallons of milk/day

Cows are milked in a rotary parlor

This farm now produces enough milk for a city with the population of Norwich



CROPS GROWN

180 acres of corn for silage

200 acres of grass for silage and hay

170 acres of cropland rented

FEEDING THE COWS

Cows diet consists of corn silage, grass silage, Canola, Hominy, Vitamins & Minerals

900 acres of corn & 400 acres of grass

Corn & Grass are stored in trench silos

Oxygen must be squeezed out so that the feed will ferment properly

A large tractor with a bulldozer blade pushes the freshly harvested feed up the pile & packs it densely at the same time

A nutritionist formulates the cow rations

IN THE BARN

Free-stall barn is designed for cow comfort

Wide alleys & plenty of fresh water

Cows are free to roam around the barn

Cows need 18 ½ hours per day undisturbed

Time to eat, drink, socialize, exercise and rest

Stalls are well bedded for cow comfort

Alley scrapers remove manure from the barn

Fans cool the cows in hot weather

