

Dairy Cattle Vocabulary

Biosecurity:

Refers to measures aimed at preventing the introduction and/or spread of harmful organisms (e.g. viruses, bacteria, etc.) to animals.

Bull:

A male bovine animal

Calf:

The young of the domestic cow

Cow:

A fully grown female animal of a domesticated breed of cow, used as a source of milk or beef.

Freshening:

Term used to describe a heifer's first calf.

Gestation:

The gestation period is the time during which an embryo is developing and being born. (9 months for a cow.)

Heifer:

A young cow over one year old that has not produced a calf.

Pasture:

An area covered with grass or other plants used or suitable for the grazing of livestock or grassland.

Pasteurizing:

Partial sterilization of a substance and especially a liquid (such as milk) at a temperature and for a period of exposure that destroys objectionable organisms without major chemical alteration of the substance.

Sanitized:

To free from dirt, germs, etc., as by cleaning or sterilizing.

Breeds of Dairy Cattle



Holstein



Jersey



Guernsey



Brown Swiss