



# VIRTUAL FARM TOURS 2020 UNIT

## Maple Bottom Farm Tour Discussion Guide

Name: Answer Key

- How many cows are milked at Maple Bottom Farm?  
**78 cows**
- Name the two agritourism opportunities offered on this farm.  
**Bed and breakfast and a sunflower maze**
- How long has the Baker family been dairy farming?  
**14 years or since 2006**
- How many acres of land are cropped?  
**350 acres**
- What crops are farmed?  
**Corn, soybeans (in the past), sorghum and sunflowers**
- How long does the manure storage last until it has to be hauled out?  
**3 to 4 weeks**
- What do they use to manage all of the cows?  
**RFID tags**
- Name the breeds of cows milked on the farm.  
**Guernseys, Jerseys, Holsteins, Brown Swiss and Milking Shorthorn**
- What do the cows get only by going through by the robotic milker?  
**Water to drink**
- Why do they call the cows "Golden Guernseys"?  
**Guernseys do not digest the beta carotene which is passed into the milk with a golden color.**
- What breed of dairy cattle carries A2/A2 betacasein primarily?  
**Guernseys**
- What is betacasein? **Protein in milk**
- What is lactose? **Milk sugar**



## Maple Bottom Farm Tour Discussion Guide (continued)

- What are the two groups milked on this farm?

**Robot group and Guernsey group**

- What is the goal of Maple Bottom Farm in the future?

**Downsize herd to 60 cows and only milk Guernseys with the robot**

- How are cows selected into the “Princess Pack”?

**Special needs cows and special cows**

- What is fed to calves right away after birth and then eight hours later?

**Colostrum**

- How are the calves housed on the farm?

**Calves live in individual hutches so they can social distance from each other.**

- In November, the sunflowers will be harvested for what purpose?

**Birdseed**

- What was the design of the sunflower maze in 2020?

**Milk bottle with the word MILK inside it**

- What is the average age of the cows on this farm?

**5 years old**

- What is the main reason for calves being separated from their moms?

**Health for the calf; the calf is not born with an immune system and needs to build it.**

- What is the goal of the Guernsey Cooperative?

**Be able to market Golden Guernsey milk**

- What dairy products are made from the cooperative’s Guernsey milk currently?

**Cheese (cheddar) and cheese curds**

- How many pounds of milk are shipped every other day from this farm?

**7,800 to 8,000 pounds of milk**

