



VIRTUAL FARM TOURS 2020 UNIT

Pennwood Farms Tour Discussion Guide

Name: Answer Key

- How many cows are milked at Pennwood Farms? **600 cows**
- When did the Stoltzfus family start farming in their current location? **1999**
- Why did the Stoltzfus family move to Somerset County?
They needed more land to keep entire family involved in farming.
- What type of milking parlor is used on this farm?
Rotary parlor or carousel parlor
- How many times per day are the cows milked at this farm? **Three**
- How long does it take for the carousel to make a full revolution?
8 1/2 - 10 minutes
- What information does the activity monitor on the cow's leg show?
Measures step and activity; hours of standing and laying down; pounds of milk cow given
- What activities do the cows do on a typical day at this farm?
Eat, drink, go to parlor to be milked and rest
- What breeds of dairy cattle are milked at this farm? **Holsteins and Jerseys**
- What type of housing is used for the cows on this farm?
Free stall barn
- What is the average age range of cows on this farm?
4 to 6 years olds
- Name two ways that the barns are climate controlled.
Curtains on the sides of the barn; fans
- Fill in the blanks. Holsteins produce the most amount of milk, while Jerseys produce the most amount of butterfat.



Pennwood Farms Tour Discussion Guide (continued)

- How do they keep the cows clean from the manure?
They scrape the manure into a tunnel leading to the manure lagoon three times per day.

- Why do the milking cows live in the barn and not outside on pasture?
Keeping the cows in the barn keeps the cows safe, secure, warm and healthy.

- What cows are on pasture at this farm?

Heifers and dry cows

- How are the baby calves housed on this farm after birth?

Baby calves are housed individually in their own special room with sawdust and straw.

- Name three things baby calves are fed in the first eight weeks of their lives at this farm. **Feed (sweet trail mix grain), water and milk**

- How are the baby calves kept warm in their kennels?

Blanket (jacket) on them and curtains closed

- What is the main crop harvested on thousands of acres of this farm?

Corn

- What two types of feed are stored in the bunker or trench silos?

Chopped corn and chopped hay

- How does this farm reuse tires?

The farm uses the tires to keep or hold the plastic down in the trench silo to keep the feed fresh.

- If the farm loses electricity, where does this farm get their electricity to operate?

The methane digester or the generator with the methane digester

- What is the most common medical condition requiring surgery on cows at this farm?

Displaced abomasum (DA) or twisted stomach

