

Hello

We are interested in taking on a student for a paid work placement learning on our farm. I am unsure if this is something your college is interested in but I thought I would make contact to find out.

Our address is:
40 Learden Road
Gortin
County Tyrone
BT798QD
Northern Ireland

We milk 350 Holstein cows, the milking herd is housed all year round and fed TMR with dry stock and young stock grazing in the summer months. We run a fairly modern operation with 2 GEA robots milking 120 cows in a purpose built shed and the remainder milked twice a day in a fully equipped Delaval milking parlour, 16 doubled up with acrs, automatic feeding etc The milking herd are all on Bioret Agri water mattresses to optimise comfort and 180 easy fix cubicles are installed.

Milking usually takes around 2 hours. We have 2 Lely discoveries scraping slats and a GEA feed pusher. We also have a sit on bedder for doing cubicles. At the peak of calf rearing we have 3 automatic calf feeders running on the farm and calves fed ad lib meal from large hoppers. We try to make things as simple as possible. We run New Holland tractors with a T7210, T6.165 and an M115, feeding is done with a 360 Keenan diet feeder filled with a Schaffer telehandler. We also try to keep our diets simple with usually only grass silage, straw and meal. Cows are all bred to AI with a strong emphasis on sexed semen and this is managed by Genus RMS.

The farm is a family farm with Billy and his brother Colin and myself and my brother Ashley working on the farm with a few young lads helping at the weekend. There is good accommodation available in a large modern bungalow shared with Colin who lives in it alone.

I have also recently diversified and started selling Ice Cream from a shop on the farm and I am currently slowly building a production facility on the farm. Dukes Ice cream is our brand on Social Media.

We are located 2 miles from 2 local villages with shops, pubs, takeaways etc. Sports clubs are also only a few miles away. Omagh is our nearest larger town with supermarkets, cinemas etc.

If multiple students were interested in a placement in Northern Ireland there would be other local farmers also interested.

Please ask for any more information (JAWC1@outlook.com).

Thank You
Jonny