

# NHHC

*young*  
**LEADER**  
PROGRAM 

GOLDEN HORSESHOE TOUR



# ARMSTRONG MANOR FARM

[www.armstrongmanorfarm.ca](http://www.armstrongmanorfarm.ca)



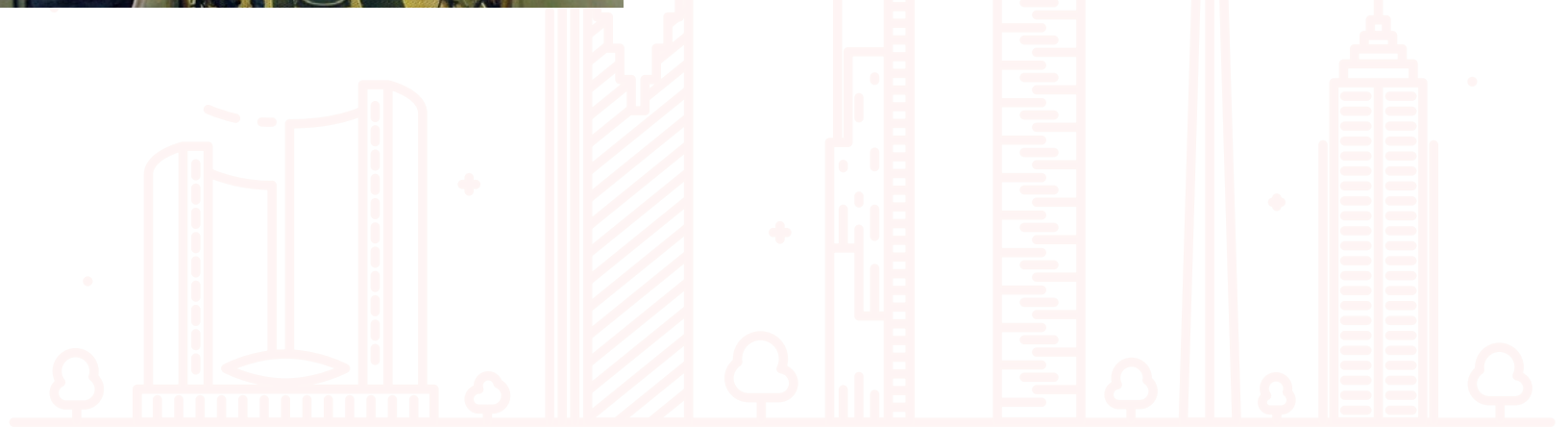
The Armstrong Family settled in the Caledon area in 1828. They own 100 acres and rent about 1,400 acres, growing corn, wheat, soybeans and hay. They originally milked in an older barn, gradually expanding the herd and buying quota. They were milking 185 cows in the 50-cow tie stall barn (a lot of shifting). In 2001, they built the new dairy barn that houses 250 cows with a double twelve parallel milking parlour. They started milking in October 2001. The cows were averaging about 27 litres when they left the old barn.

They started milking three times a day in April 2008. This increased their milk production from 33 to 34 litres per day to 39 to 40 litres per day. They are very pleased with how this has turned out. Their current BCA is 295 for milk, 310 for fat, and 295 for protein. Milk 12,700 kg, Fat 525, Protein 410 (305 day production). They are currently milking 300 cows with 40 dry cows.

In 2006, they built the Cover-All heifer barn. It is a self-cleaning barn. It has a 7% slope in the bedding pack. They have never had to clean out the bedding pack. They scrape out the alleys 3 times a week. The heifers enter the barn at 3 months of age and move through the barn according to age. The final group is 12 months and older and this is their breeding group. Once they are pregnant, the heifers are moved to the old free stall barn.

In 2007, they built a calf barn with the Urban robotic milk feeder. This has saved them a lot of labour, about 2 hours a day, without sacrificing quality of health as opposed to hutches.

In 2015, they added 130 stalls to our dairy barn, for a total of 370 stalls. In 2016, they expanded their maternity barn.





# FOOTHILL GREENHOUSES

[www.foothillgreenhouses.com](http://www.foothillgreenhouses.com)

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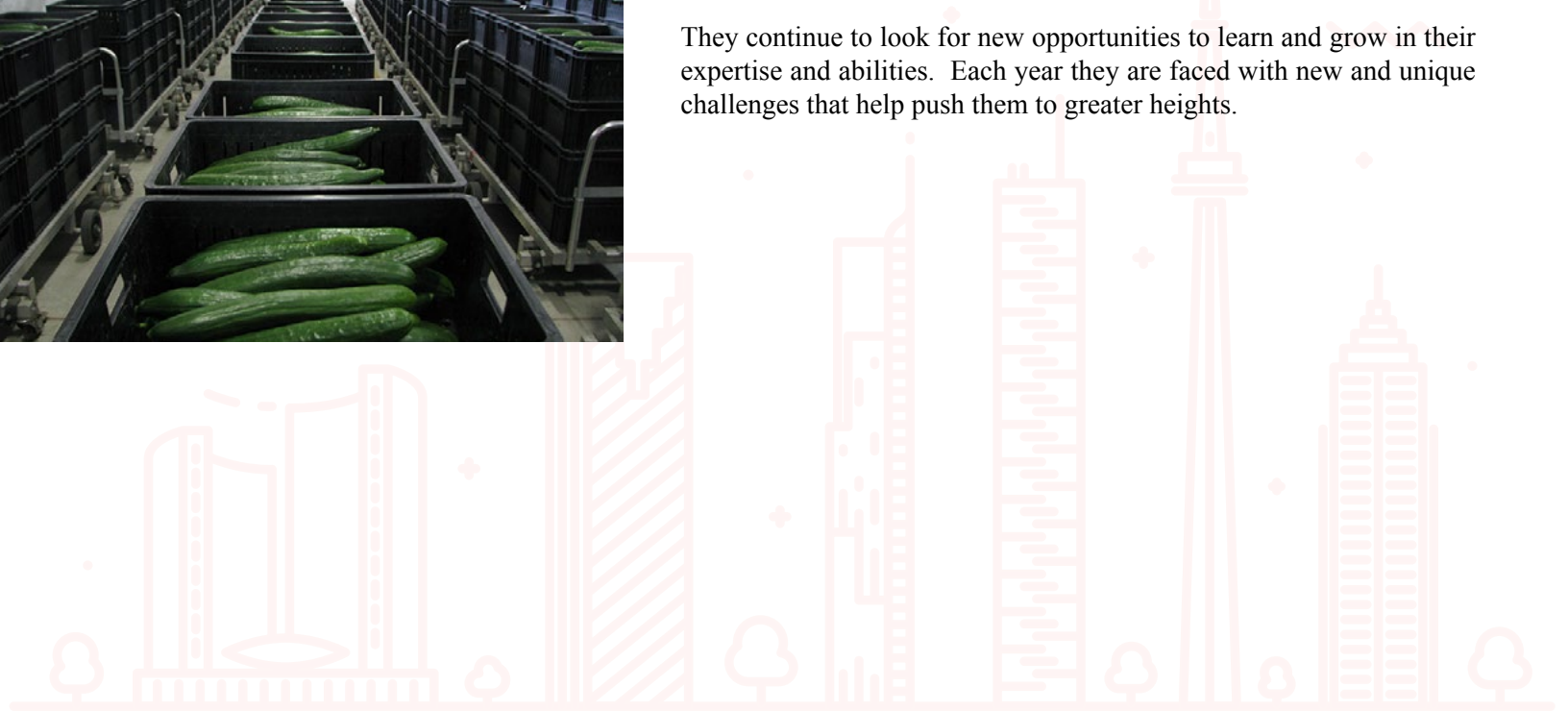


Foothill Greenhouses Ltd. is a family farm, owned and operated by Ron Voorberg. They are located just on the North end of the Greater Toronto Area, in the area known as the Holland Marsh. First established in the late 1950's, the farm has been dedicated to producing excellent greenhouse vegetables since day one. Over the years, they have developed principles and practices that enable them to meet this goal, and at the same time thrive and grow as a business.

They have 15 acres in production. In their peak season which is spring and summer, when their plants are producing large volumes of fruit, they can harvest up to 100,000 cucumbers a day! They grow their own seedlings in a plant propagation house using flood floors which allows them to water the seedlings gently by flooding the floor from below. They have a 20,000 square foot packaging and shipping building to accommodate storage as well as advanced machinery that is gentle and precise enough to handle the tender fruit and vegetables.

At Foothill, it's not just their cucumbers that are green. They are good stewards of the ecosystem around them, and are always open to investigating opportunities that are both viable from a business standpoint, and friendly to the environment. In regards to their practices and policies, they take great care in maintaining a standard of safety on their farm.

They continue to look for new opportunities to learn and grow in their expertise and abilities. Each year they are faced with new and unique challenges that help push them to greater heights.



# DANDYLAND HOLSTEINS

[www.dandylandholsteins.com](http://www.dandylandholsteins.com)

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Dennis, Sandy and Dan O'Hara and their families milk 75 cows in a sand bedded free stall facility and farm 650 acres in Ontario's York Region. Dennis & Sandy's son Devin came home to the farm in December 2015 after Classifying for Holstein Canada for 6 1/2 years. Special attention to the cows, in addition to using classification has added to this herd's success.

The O'Hara's believe in developing strong cow families with a balance of type and production. They believe in longevity and cow comfort. Dandyland started with 30 grade heifers in 1975 and worked towards their goal of receiving their Master Breeder award in 2013.

Dandyland is a family affair, Ashley, Dennis and Sandy's daughter, presently works off the farm focusing on Dairy Genetics but continues to keep Dandyland close to her heart with her advice and input. Dan's boys, Wes & Leo are involved with 4-H.





# QUALITY HOLSTEINS

[www.qualityfarms.ca](http://www.qualityfarms.ca)

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Quality Holstein is owned and operated by Paul & Ari Akstein. They have been in their current location since summer of 1980. The most unique part of their farm now is that they ‘manage’ to farm with the city enclosing around them.

Quality has been awarded Three Master Breeder Shields. Quality strides to try and breed the best cows possible and with every breeding their goal is to breed the next great home bred champion.

Quality has a long list of accolades showing their commitment to the breed and their continuous drive to strive for superior genetics. A York Region ‘Must See Herd’



# SHELDON CREEK DAIRY

[www.sheldoncreekdairy.ca](http://www.sheldoncreekdairy.ca)

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Sheldon Creek Dairy is built on the third generation Haanview farm in Loretta. It is definitely a family Affair!! At Sheldon Creek Dairy, they produce and bottle their milk completely on their farm they leave it as close to raw milk as you can buy. They believe in doing things the way nature intended. Sheldon Creek Dairy Milk is not homogenized.

Their philosophy is to process milk in the most minimal way possible that is allowable. And as it turns out, advances in medical technology demonstrate that food in its natural state is far healthier than highly processed foods, including milk! They produce both natural and the tastiest milk and yogurt possible.

Happy Healthy Cows makes the best Milk: Their cows are fed crops grown on their own land. They graze on pesticide and herbicide free grass in warm months and receive hay, grasses, and silage grown on their own farms during the winter months.

