

Elora Research Station – Dairy Facility

research



Cows in the lactating barn of the dairy facility are housed in eight freestall pens and produce up to 34 kg of milk per day. PHOTO: REBECCA REBUS

Dedicated to world-class dairy research

The Elora Research Station is one of the largest agricultural research farms in Canada, covering 2,310 acres. It's designed to support intensive research in crops, soils, beef and dairy.

The Dairy Facility at the Elora Research Station is often called the world's most advanced state-of-the-art dairy research station, drawing visitors from across the globe.

The \$25-million, 175,000-square-foot facility was completed in May 2015, and is a joint project of the Agricultural Research Institute of Ontario (ARIO), the Ontario Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Rural

Affairs (OMAFRA), the University of Guelph and the Ontario dairy industry represented by the Dairy Farmers of Ontario.

The facility's unique design allows researchers to conduct a wide range of research projects with adaptable, leading-edge technologies, while supporting education and training. Research at the facility includes optimal weaning strategies, genetics of feed efficient cows and reduced methane emissions, and best management practices for new technologies such as automated milk feeders for calves.

Our extensive research expertise in dairy



Animal health and welfare



Food science



Genetics and genomics



Food safety



Human health and nutrition



Environmental sciences



Computer sciences and engineering



Economics

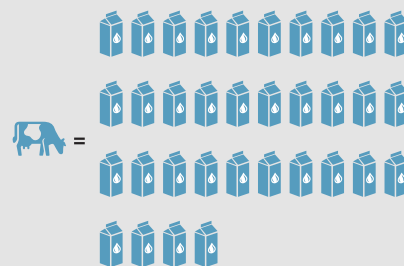


Business and management

Dairy facility fast facts



Total number of cows in the facility:
450, of which 215 are milking.



Average milk production per cow, per day: 34 kg



Number of research projects ongoing: 11

Learning and development opportunities



Elora facilities provide an unparalleled environment to train

the next generation of highly qualified individuals who will contribute to the health and productivity of the dairy sector. Undergraduate, graduate and DVM students have access to the facility to work alongside their advisers, professors and staff to learn about dairy management and take part in dairy research.

Visitors from around the world



The University of Guelph has hosted more than 100 tours involving 2,000 people, including guests from more than 10 countries, at our new dairy facility since 2015. Tours provide an inside look at this unique facility's design and research capacity and help foster opportunities for partnerships. Guests see first-hand how the provincial, national and international dairy sectors will benefit from the management practices and research developed at the facility to promote healthy herds and provide safe food to consumers.

Take a tour

Step inside and experience the leading-edge world of research, learning and outreach at the Dairy Facility at the Elora Research Station. Watch our short video and take in the outstanding facility we've created that's improving productivity, training students and conducting research to be applied on dairy farms in Ontario and around the world. bit.do/EloraResearchTour