The Farm at Wheeler Mountain
Westmore, Vermont
The Lidback Family
- 80 Cows
- 50 Heifers
- 2 Bulls
- 4 Steers
- 1 Dog

- Milk
- Local beef
- Compost
- Wood
- Maple
@JoannaLidback
23 Apr 2017:

“So kind of a big week. We bought the farm! #farmlove”
Northeast Federal Order Uniform Price Per Cwt. and Net Cost of Production

*Federal Milk Marketing Order One
*Northeast Dairy Farm Summary
National Attrition is Sobering

• 2,731 dairy farms exited
• 6.8% attrition rate (highest since 2001)
• Biggest dairy States lost the most in terms of #’s of farms
• Licensed dairies down 59% in last 20 years,
  → Milking 2.7% more cows

• Northeast reflects national stats
  • NY lost 280 last year (#3 for losses)  -6.26%  4,190 left
  • PA lost 370 (#2 for losses)  -5.63%  6,200 left
  • VT lost 90 (#9 for losses)  -10.98%  730 left
Kirby View Farm: The End Of An Era

Last North Kirby Dairy Farm Sells Off Cattle

Amy Ash Nixon  Apr 17, 2019 Updated Apr 18, 2019  📣 0
"Dairy farming is the only kind of farming in Vermont in which the majority of farmers generated most of their income from farming."

Vermont Sustainable Jobs Fund, Farm to Plate Strategic Plan, Executive Summary
Small State, Big Impact

63% of milk produced in New England comes from Vermont.

15% of the state is covered by dairy farms and the fields that provide their feed. = 900,000 acres.

Over 80% of Vermont’s farmland is devoted to dairy and crops for dairy feed.

Dairy is 70% of Vermont’s Agricultural Sales.

Vermont’s economy is small—just 0.2% of the US economy. But we produce more than 1% of the nation’s dairy products. That’s 5x our “economic share.”

“No other state has a single commodity that accounts for such a high percentage of its agricultural sales.”

Dairy businesses invest $500 million+ to support Vermont’s agricultural economy every year. Dairy helps provide the infrastructure other Vermont farms rely on. Dairy businesses spend some $500 million to support Vermont’s "agricultural web" of goods and services needed for all types of farming—like competitive pricing for farming equipment and machinery, hay and feed, veterinarians, etc.

Each year:

VERMONT DAIRY BRINGS $2.2 BILLION in economic activity to the state of Vermont

$2.2 Billion in economic activity includes:

• VALUE OF PRODUCTS SOLD
• INDUCED IMPACTS (dairy businesses’ wages and profits affect the local economy)
• SECONDARY IMPACTS (benefits to local agriculture, tourism, real estate, and more)

Every day:

Dairy brings approximately $3 MILLION in circulating cash to the state of Vermont

It’s not just cows:
The Vermont sheep and goat-based dairy business is small but growing steadily.

In 2012, the revenue from sheep & goat farming (including wool and mohair production) was $5 MILLION+.

For more information and to read the full economic report, please visit www.vermontdairy.com
Every Vermont dairy cow provides $12,500 in economic activity to the state annually.
Dairy = 6,000-7,000 Vermont Jobs

Provides $360 Million in wages & salaries
A polling of Vermonters shows that:

- 97% say dairy farms are important to the state
- 91% say dairy is important to Vermont's future
- 93% agree that dairy is important to Vermont's economy
- 91% believe buying locally-produced products is important
- 92% say dairy farms add to the beauty of Vermont
- 85% are willing to pay a little more to insure their dairy products are sourced from Vermont
- 91% say it's important to Vermont's quality of life

For more information and to read the full "Dairy in Vermont: Vermonters' Views" Poll, please visit www.vermontdairy.com
'2018 is by far the worst year the dairy industry has ever been through.' It might get worse.

Ryan Mercer, Burlington Free Press
Published 7:00 a.m. ET Jan. 9, 2019 | Updated 5:48 p.m. ET Jan. 9, 2019

Vermont Farmers Grapple with Significant Drop in Milk Prices

Vermont dairy is in crisis: 4 years of bad prices take a toll even on industry leaders

Dan D'Ambrosio, Free Press Staff Writer
Published 6:00 a.m. ET May 29, 2018

Selling the Herd: A Milk Price Crisis Is Devastating Vermont's Dairy Farms

By PAUL HEINTZ @PAULHEINTZ
Where's Dairy Headed? Farmers In Our Region Weigh In

By MITCH WERTLIEB & RIC CENGERI • MAR 28, 2019

Dairy Farmers Hear Some Hopeful News On Milk Prices At Vermont Conference

By JOHN DILLON • FEB 26, 2019

NORTHEAST DAIRY FARMERS, EXPERTS DISCUSS INNOVATION, PROGRESS, AT 2019 VERMONT DAIRY PRODUCERS CONFERENCE

Posted February 28, 2019 at 9:10am by Rene Thibault

Younger generation leads Vermont dairy into the future

LISA HALVORSEN