



## featured project **CNOSSOME HOLSTEINS**

Symen and Andrea Cnossen purchased a 35 cow tie stall farm located in Brunner in 2009 on the new entrant program. They have three children, Ben (12), Ella (10) and Ryan (6), who are all showing an interest and enjoy helping out on the farm.

Early on, they worked hard to establish themselves and grow the farm by both working part-time jobs and continually placing bids on quota. As the farm grew, they built an addition on the tie stall, which allowed them to grow from 60 cows to 80 cows. In the last couple of years, they knew they would need to make some changes. Their milking equipment required upgrading, the barn was full with no extra space, and working in the tie stall with two people was proving to be too labour intensive.

As they started planning, the one thing that was very important to them was tunnel ventilation. Symen says that *"There is nothing better in the summer. Every year dairy magazines are filled with articles related to heat stress during the summer months - it is a HUGE topic that farmers experience with their cows every year! We believe tunnel ventilation gives us the most control over our barn environment in both the summer and winter months. As a bonus, we hate flies, and tunnel ventilation eliminates that issue!"*

The barn ventilation features DLS tunnel fans, DLS X-brace panel fans, ceiling air inlets, DLS inlet curtains and Maximus control units. The air inlets in the ceiling give more control over the environment, and the panel fans help push the air. The benefit of combining the panel fans with the tunnel fans is to increase airspeed and keep the cows cool, especially on days with high humidity and no wind. It also helps where the air gets stopped from the end walls in each free stall section. The Maximus system allows them to adjust the fans and curtains by wind and...[See more on page 4](#)



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## Last Chance for a 2021 DLS Calendar!

The year has started, but it's not too late to get your hands on our large desk/wall calendar! Be sure to connect with us if you'd like one.

**JANUARY**  
- 2021 -

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Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					New Year's Day Oct 11 Jan 22	Oct 12 Jan 23
Oct 13 Jan 24	3 Oct 14 Jan 25	4 Oct 15 Jan 26	5 Oct 16 Jan 27	6 Oct 17 Jan 28	7 Oct 18 Jan 29	8 Oct 19 Jan 30
10 Oct 20 Jan 31	11 Oct 21 Feb 1	12 Oct 22 Feb 2	13 Oct 23 Feb 3	14 Oct 24 Feb 4	15 Oct 25 Feb 5	16 Oct 26 Feb 6
17 Oct 27 Feb 7	18 Oct 28 Feb 8	19 Oct 29 Feb 9	20 Oct 30 Feb 10	21 Oct 31 Feb 11	22 Nov 1 Feb 12	23 Nov 2 Feb 13
24 Nov 3 Feb 14	25 Nov 4 Feb 15	26 Nov 5 Feb 16	27 Nov 6 Feb 17	28 Nov 7 Feb 18	29 Nov 8 Feb 19	30 Nov 9 Feb 20
31 Nov 10 Feb 21					<div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between;"> <div>           December 2020            1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31         </div> <div>           February 2021            1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28         </div> </div>	

## EMPLOYEE SPOTLIGHT



**Alex Murphy**  
Stabling/Manure Service  
Joined DLS June 2019



Alex started on the stabling team working under the tutelage of Joel Windsor. He's now mainly dedicated to stabling and manure service working and learning the ropes from Scotty Prest (Scotty P).

Alex knew school was not for him; he's a hands-on learner, so he spent some time after high school doing odd jobs while figuring out what he wanted to do. First, he got involved in some trades work, and then he worked in a steel fabrication shop in Sarnia. He also did some reno work with a carpenter along the way, but he knew there was no looking back when the opportunity at DLS came along!

Fishing is something you will find Alex doing to relax; he bought a boat last year and has some big plans to get out on the water next summer! Scotty P recently introduced him to shooting, which he has found he enjoys and says he isn't too bad at (maybe we should check with Scotty P about that)! He said one day perhaps he'll become a hunter. Also this past summer, he renovated his new home and moved in the week before Christmas – just after popping the question to his now fiancé Brittany – CONGRATULATIONS!!!

Alex wants to continue learning and growing at DLS, he hopes to one day get his own truck and have the ability and knowledge to train the new guys as Joel and Scotty P have done with him.



# JANUARY'S product of the month

The DLS DXP 60" Composite Fan with its variable speed DC drive is the most efficient tunnel/cross-ventilated fan on the market. The fan is made with a durable military-grade polymer material that is UV and chemical resistant. A Mazak fibre-optic laser is used to precisely fabricate the fan's aerodynamic and structural components. There is also a belt driven version available for this fan.

All the components are made in North America, and DLS offers a 5-year bearing and shaft warranty.

Here's a short video showing a tunnel ventilation set-up from a few years ago @ [go.dairylane.ca/DLSTunnelVent](https://go.dairylane.ca/DLSTunnelVent)

Also this aerial video of our steel structures shows a cross ventilation barn and two tunnel barns @ [go.dairylane.ca/eyeinsky](https://go.dairylane.ca/eyeinsky)



## JOB PROGRESSION HIGHLIGHTS



1

**Windulan Holsteins**  
Monkton, ON

A GEA 50 stall external rotary is being installed where the previous rotary was in place. In the meantime, a temporary parallel parlour was set-up for them to keep milking the cows on the farm throughout the construction process.

2

**Brent Vink**  
St. Mary's, ON

Congratulations to Brent Vink and his family on starting up their GEA R9500 milking robot last month! Brent qualified for the new entrant program and renovated an older dairy barn to start-up with about 30 cows.

3

**Stanton Farms**  
Ilderton, ON

In 2018, a 36m diameter anaerobic digester with three 250 kW engines was commissioned at Stanton Farms. This digester sells electricity back to the grid on the FIT program. A second digester is currently in construction and is our first digester that will be used for renewable natural gas (RNG).



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continued from page 1

...temperature easily.

*"In terms of the panel fans, we can tell how well it works when we see certain ones kicking on at 20 degree set temperatures. In the summer, we expect to get an air velocity of 550-600 feet per minute. Overall, the climate has been very consistent with the tunnel ventilation system, and the cows are evenly spread throughout the barn versus being clustered in pockets."*

Other features of the barn include a D-10 DLS parlour with used GEA equipment, Jourdain stabling, DLS tip troughs, Easy Swing cow brushes and GEA manure equipment. The transition of the cows from tie stall to parlour went very well; much smoother than they expected with only needing to push cows for a few days. They said that *"The most significant progress we have seen in the transition has been milking the 2-year-olds; it is a dream now compared to the tie stall!"* Also they now have more time as they save 1 hour per milking.

The cows are happier and look comfortable laying in the sand bedded free stalls with the Jourdain dogbone loop and a concrete brisket. There have been no swollen hocks since making the transition to sand bedded stalls. In terms of labour and bedding, they went from bedding with straw daily to bedding with sand every ten days. They said the money they save on bedding and hired help almost accounts for 3/4 of the monthly barn payments!

*"The barn is built in a way that is easy to expand in the future, and for the present, if we milk 5 or 10 extra cows, the additional work is unnoticeable. Milking is easy, goes fast, and when milking is done, we're done too!"*



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