

featured project **JEFFREHOLME FARMS**

Through the years, the Jeffrey family has pushed through their share of struggles to get to where they are today. Mark Jeffrey's dad, Ken, moved to their farm in 1934 at the age of 10. Before moving to the farm, he had spent two years in a halfway house because his family had lost their first farm during The Great Depression.

During this time, Ken's father became sick and could not run the farm. The family consisted of 7 boys and 4 girls, and Ken was 5th in line. They rented the farm for 17 years, and then Ken, at 27, helped his mother buy the farm. In 1970 Ken bought the farm from his mother and ran the farm with his wife and three children until 1987 when he sold the farm to Mark.

Dairy cows have been on the farm since the 1950s. They were shipping in cans until they upgraded to a bulk milk tank in 1966. As a young boy, Mark recalls the days when his family was milking with buckets and carrying the milk to the milk house to dump it into the tank manually. Then in 1970, Ken put in a pipeline, and by this point, they had also advanced to using a stable cleaner and a silo unloader.

Since 1987, Mark milked in the tie stall barn with a pipeline and added various silos and equipment along the way. He says, "Now in my late 50's it was time to do something, and selling was not an option for me. So I toured both parlour and robot barns with Dairy Lane Systems, and I knew what I wanted as soon I saw Comrie Farms. So I built a 3 row free stall barn with sand, 2 GEA R9500 robots and GEA manure equipment." The barn also features Jourdain stabling, Easy Swing cow brushes, DLS tip troughs, DLS X-brace panel fans and DLS curtains. DLS curtains and GEA manure equipment are all controlled by the Maximus system.

Concerning his decision to go with the GEA R9500 robot, Mark also said, "Technology doesn't scare...[See more on page 4](#)



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APRIL 7-8, 2021
9:00am - 4:00pm EST

EMPLOYEE ANNOUNCEMENTS

DLS is pleased to welcome the following people to the Dairy Lane team:



Tiaz Hayter

Part Time Assembly
Technician



Jacob van Erp

Student Coop Program



Craig Elliott

Welder/Fabricator



Joel Griffin

Milking Equipment
Installation Technician

Crosssome Holsteins Project

We love seeing our customers in action! Watch the cows enjoying life and being milked after transitioning from a tie stall facility to this sand bedded free stall barn with a Double 10 Vertical Lift Parlour and tunnel ventilation! If you missed our January newsletter, be sure to read their story @ go.dairylane.ca/january



EMPLOYEE SPOTLIGHT



Joel Windsor

Stabling & Manure
Installation/Service

Joined DLS September 2011



Joel started with DLS after finishing high school doing odd jobs under the direction of Scotty P. He did some work on the original biogas plant at Koskamp Family Farms as well as Marlcreek Renewables. At the end of the summer, John van Logtenstein asked if he wanted to officially join the DLS team as a permanent employee, and clearly his answer was yes!

This fall marks 10 years with the company! Manure and stabling are Joel's areas of expertise, but he's also dabbled in parlours and biogas during his time here. A fun fact about Joel - he is very interested in history and enjoys watching documentaries. Now there's a side to Joel not many of us know about!

In his off time, Joel enjoys four-wheeling, fishing, camping and spending time with his wife Holly, their sweet little girl Ruby and their two chocolate labs Hershey and Gus.

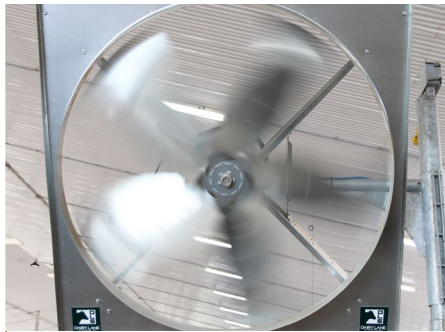
When Joel's not working at DLS or enjoying one of his hobbies, you'll find him farming alongside his dad and brother. One day farming full time is what he aspires for his future.

MARCH'S product of the month

It's never too early to start thinking about the summer heat waves and how you plan to keep your cows cool and comfortable. Which will in turn keep your milk production up!

The DLS X-Brace panel fan is 54" with 5 blades. It is designed to work well in free stall areas and areas that need extra airflow. This fan features an energy-efficient enclosed motor and is super quiet! All the components are made in North America, and DLS offers a 5-year bearing and shaft warranty.

Check-out our short video highlighting these fans @ go.dairylane.ca/xbracefan



JOB PROGRESSION HIGHLIGHTS



1

Stonecreek Farms
Centralia, ON (Whalen Location)

This Double 10 parlour stall reno was completed this past month with a Double 10 Vertical Lift Parlour. There's new life for this parallel parlour with vertical lift rapid exit and individual indexing.

2

Macksvilla Farms
Southwest Middlesex, ON

3 GEA R9500 robots are in place for this retrofit install inside their existing dairy barn. Temporary gates are in place right now for the cows to move to their current milking facility.

3

Rylie Hicks
Elmwood, ON

A Jourdain stabling job in progress for this upcoming beef barn. This includes Jourdain headlocks, and both 3 and 4 bar autolock gates.

featured project

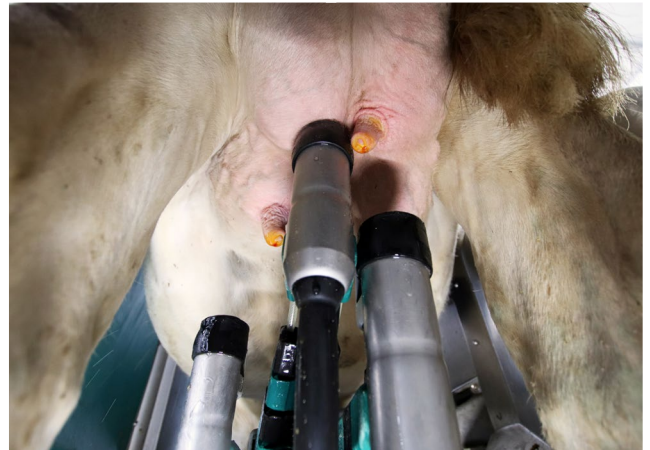
JEFFREHOLME FARMS

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...me, and the investment was at the right time. Knowing what I did about robots, I liked the new generation of GEA and the pit for attaching manually when necessary. Plus, I had already had a great friendship and working relationship with Dwight Garrett at Dairy Lane Systems."

Since moving into the new barn on November 3rd, they have experienced the benefits of multiple milkings per day, the cows' freedom in the free stalls, and the safer and easier animal handling practices that come with a barn equipped with headlocks. The cows have increased from a low 30L average to a high 30L average to their current 40L average. Somatic Cell Count (SCC) has been improving, and they haven't treated any cows for mastitis since the move. Mark said that "I have always wanted what was best for the cows, and you can give them the best in today's environment with the ProAction measures that are in place for us to follow and the technological advancements that are available to us."

In addition to the tie stall to robot transition, another key transition has occurred on Jeffreholme Farms since the start-up. Mark has invited Dwight Garrett to be a partner with him on the farm. Dwight lives close to the farm, and he and his children have worked part-time there for several years. Dwight is still maintaining his DLS position, so you'll still see him in your barns doing milking analysis, parlour audits, barn tours, etc. Speaking about this transition, Mark says, "I have always wanted to help someone get into this incredible industry, and I want to be able to continue farming for years to come. I realized that the only way to do that is to work with someone. Hence the reason Dwight is here. We see eye to eye on many things and have the same end goal in sight. The knowledge base combined has gone well."



6403 Egremont Dr.
Komoka, ON
N0L 1R0

519.666.1404
info@dairylane.ca
www.dairylane.ca



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