

# Exploring Manitoba's Dairy Industry

## DAIRY FARMING FOOD CHAIN ANSWER KEY (Gr 4)

During the spring and summer, plants like corn , grass , and wheat use energy from the sun to make their own food. In the summer, dairy farmers like Stefan cut grass and chop it up to make silage that is stored in big white plastic bags. In the autumn, the entire corn plant including stems, leaves and ears is cut and chopped up to make corn silage . Wheat is harvested and ground up into whole wheat flour . Stefan mixes corn silage, grass silage, and ground up wheat together with a supplement that includes vitamins and minerals to make a healthy balanced diet for his cows. Dairy cows turn the feed that they eat into nutritious milk . People can't eat grass , but they can drink milk . Milk is rich in protein and vitamins including riboflavin, vitamin D, vitamin B<sub>12</sub>, and minerals including calcium and phosphorous. Milk and milk products like yogurt and cheese are part of the protein food group on Canada's Eat Well plate .

## CREATE A DAIRY FARMING FOOD CHAIN

