

## *Upper Vocabulary*

**Acre:** A measurement used when speaking of land; one acre is equal to 43,560 square feet, or approximately the size of a football field

**Alfalfa:** A plant with clover-like leaves and blue flowers; usually planted as food for animals to be used in either dry or wilted form

**Calcium:** A nutrient found in milk that helps keep bones and teeth strong

**Conservation:** Controlled use and protection of the land, water and air

**Dry cow:** A time of rest for a pregnant cow between lactations

**Fertilizer:** Materials, like manure, that are spread onto the ground to help plants grow by providing nutrients

**Fresh cow:** A cow that has just given birth and is now producing milk

**Harvest:** To pick a crop when it is ripe

**Heifer:** A young cow between the ages of 0-2 that has not given birth to a calf

**Homogenized:** A process where the fat particles are suspended and dispersed throughout the milk, preventing fat from rising to the top

**Lactation:** A period of time that milk production occurs in female mammals

**Milk Tanker:** The truck that comes to the farm to take the milk to the processing plant

**Milking Shorthorn:** A reddish-brown cow with short horns and a stocky build; traditionally a dual-purpose animal for both dairy and beef production

**Milking Parlor:** Where the cows go to get milked.

**Milking Unit:** The machine that collects the milk from the cow's udder

**Nutrients:** The parts of food necessary for life, health and growth

**Pasteurize:** To heat dairy milk to at least 160 degrees Fahrenheit or above for 15 seconds to destroy bacteria and other harmful substances

**Pesticide:** A chemical used to kill harmful weeds or insects

**Processing Plant:** Where the milk from cows is made into dairy products and packaged for you to buy.

**Silage:** Feed that has fermented and has been preserved in a silo or bag

**TMR:** Total mixed ration.

**Whey:** The liquid that is left after cheese begins to form from milk