



DABRO FARMS

DABRO FARMS

Owners: Chad Davidson (33) farms alongside his father, Darren Davidson (60), wife Lauren Davidson (33) and their three children Anna (5), Clara (3) and Brita (1).

Service Center: Wancion Mill, New Brunswick
Dairy Nutrition Advisor: Cynthia Campbell

Breed	Holstein
Number of Milking Cows	105
Milking System	Robots
Production Metrics	40kg at 4.75% butterfat and 3.4% protein



What are you most proud of on your operation?

In the past three years we have invested into our cows and we have seen the results we had hoped for. Three years ago, we were faced with a parlor that was one of the oldest around, it was small, and worn out. As the 6th generation was about to take over/buyout half the farm, we decided to opt for a barn reno. The reno, paired with a few great forage years, have really allowed us to push milk production to new highs. Although the reno has not provided us with a new barn and the luxuries that come along with it, it has allowed us to increase kgs/cow/day, utilize our quota holdings year-round, fill incentives and be in a position to lease.

What is the next project that you are working forwards on the farm?

It is now time to get comfortable with where we are at. To me this means it's time to start fine tuning our herd. We will begin to look more closely at things such as components of individual cows, how well they work in our robot barn and their genetics. Production is where it needs to be, so the improvement now needs to be to hold overall production with fewer cows. We can now start to think about what's next for us and the growth of the farm.



It's a pleasure working with the entire team at Dabro Farms, they are open-minded, incredible communicators and always willing to involve me in all aspects of the farm. The Davidsons strive to do everything they can to ensure their cows have simple lives, from investing in technology to learning the appropriate time to harvest forages and everything in between. I look forward to working with them for many years to come!

Cynthia Campbell, Trouw Nutrition Advisor

One of Trouw Nutrition's advisors, Cynthia Campbell, connected with her customer, Lauren Davidson at Dabro Farms to gain insight into how Newton® is helping them achieve their herd goals.

When you hear the term precision nutrition, what comes to mind?

Creating a ration that is most beneficial to our cows and our pocketbook. We make sure to look ahead to determine what feed will be fed next to ensure sampling is done prior to feed changes. We are also constantly rechecking feed quality and moistures. We work diligently to follow our batch based on the number of cows in the barn and take note of any refusals. We ensure we are doing everything in our power to land the best TMR in front of the cows every day at the same time.

What changes have you noticed since utilizing Trouw Nutrition's Newton ration formulation program?

Since switching to Trouw Nutrition, we have been able to hit our production goals and maintain them throughout the whole year. Newton helps us to be more accurate with our rations and our butterfat had never stayed as high in the summer as it did last year, ultimately making us more profitable.

How do you feel Newton brings value to your operation?

We take comfort in knowing Newton has a focus to use our on-farm ingredients as much as it can. We've decreased the percentage of concentrate in our diet and focused on harvesting high quality forages and grains to meet the cows' requirements, with less. This has led to more money in our pocket.

What do you feel is unique about Newton formulation?

We were halfway into our corn and grass silage bunks when we became Trouw Nutrition customers. We had to learn what the Newton fractions were, as we had never seen them on a forage test before. We no longer talk much about protein or starch, but more so how to optimize digestibility and degradability of each ingredient on farm.

How do you feel that Newton's ability to balance rumen modifiers has affected your production?

Our advisor has incorporated feed additives into our mineral premix that make our cows more efficient. How these additives effect the cows are calculated whenever she balances our diet. We've been able to control dry matter intake, limit concentrates, and have seen positive component results because of these additives.