

EMMONS COUNTY RECORD

701.254.4537 • info@lintonnd.com • www.ecrecord.com • Founded June 10, 1884, by Darwin Reed Streeter • USPS-175-340 Williamsport, Dakota Territory

For one Linton couple, the dairy industry is their life

By Nicole Vander Vorst

The love for dairy is evident everywhere you look on the Jerome and Rita Mosset farm. As you enter the farmstead, a Land O' Lakes sign greets you. Walking into the Mosset home, Holstein decor adorns the walls and ledges. And on Rita's shirt it reads, "I (heart) MILK."

The dairy business has become more than a business for the couple. It is a way of life and has been ever since they were married 36 years ago.

The Mossets milk around 100, mostly Holstein cows in a double six milking parlor, and feed about 40 bottle and pail calves.

But milking isn't the only way that the Mossets are involved in the dairy business. When Rita isn't in the barn, she is busy promoting dairy as she serves on numerous dairy boards including the Land O' Lakes Region 66 Unit Delegate and Nominating Chairperson as well as the Chair of the District 4 Midwest Dairy Association Board.

In early April, Rita traveled to Scottsdale, Ariz., to take part in the National Midwest Dairy Conference. There, she learned about promoting dairy and how the dairy farmers checkoff dollars are being used to help increase dairy consumption.

Rita said that at the conference, concerns from dairy farmers were discussed and heard.

"One of the main concerns was milk price and what's driving the milk price down. It seems like the main problem is exports. Other countries are producing more milk and aren't buying as much from us. We just have too much supply and not enough demand. People need to start drinking more milk," Rita said.

Another important topic included the dairy industries partnership with big companies.

"Partnerships with companies like McDonalds, Fairlife, Dominos and Pizza Hut are huge! Their sales really have a big impact on overall consumption numbers," Rita said.

Educating the public, and especially people who influence what we put into our bodies, about the importance of dairy in our diets is another issue the group is addressed. The "Fuel Up to Play 60" program, which began with the Midwest Dairy Association



Jerome worked to milk their nearly 100 cows. The Mosset's have been milking together for over 36 years.



Rita helped a calf find the bottle of milk that she placed in the bottle holder. Their calves and cows, like other dairy farmer animals, are well taken care of.



In early April, Rita traveled to Scottsdale, Ariz., to take part in the National Midwest Dairy Conference. Pictured at the conference are, left to right, Susan Kleingartner, Jerry Messer, Rita Mosset and Lilah Krebs.

tion has been a big highlight in getting the word out about the importance of dairy in a healthy everyday diet.

"I would really encourage schools to get involved in the "Fuel Up to Play 60" program. There is so much that program has to offer, including winning up to 5,000 dollars in grants to purchase foodservice equipment for storing, handling and delivering dairy foods."

Midwest Dairy is also trying to debunk myths that animal activists publicize. Rita said that she feels dairy farmers have been doing a good job about getting the word out that their animals are well taken care of, which helps the consumer trust the farmer.

If the animals at the Mosset farm had a voice, they could attest to that fact, as they get spoiled by Rita and the



The Mosset's granddaughter Bethany, occasionally gets to take in some of the action in the milking parlor.

rest of her family. Rita and Jerome's kids and grandkids love to pet and feed the animals whenever they get the chance, and Rita's love for cows shows in the way she treats them.



Rita's love for the dairy industry is shown even in the clothes she wears.

As time goes on, the Mosset's family continues to grow, and the dairy loving tradition lives on. Their children include, Tyler, Kristy, Justin and Tiffany and the couple has been blessed with five grandchildren.

The Mossets farm southwest of Linton.



Subscribe to the **Emmons County Record** by credit card online www.ecrecord.com or by phone, or mail your check.

Send subscription to...

Name _____
 Address _____
 City _____
 State _____ Zip _____

SUBSCRIPTIONS (Must be paid in advance)	
Emmons, Burleigh, Kidder, Logan, McIntosh, Morton, McPherson & Campbell counties, One Year	\$45.00
Emmons, Burleigh, Kidder, Logan, McIntosh, Morton, McPherson & Campbell counties, Six Months	\$24.00
Rest of North Dakota, One Year	\$50.00
Rest of North Dakota, Six Months	\$26.00
Outside of North Dakota, One Year	\$55.00
Outside of North Dakota, Six Months	\$30.00
Student Subscriptions, Nine Months	\$30.00
Rates to Foreign Countries	Call
Online Subscriptions, One Year	\$45.00
Combo Online and Print Subscription, One Year	\$65.00