



McCarty-VanTilburg Partnership

Two fourth-generation farm families are partnering to build a new, state-of-the-art dairy in Mercer County, Ohio that will produce milk to meet fulfill demand for Dannon dairy products.

Project Basics

Who	McCarty Family Farms and VanTilburg Farms have formed MVP Dairy, LLC (A McCarty-VanTilburg Partnership). This will be the fifth McCarty Family Farms' dairy, but first in Ohio. The VanTilburgs are lifelong residents of Celina, Ohio with a vested interest in responsible and sustainable production agriculture close to home. The family lives and works adjacent to the new farm site.
What	The new dairy will house approximately 4,500 cows in 6 barns. The cows will be milked in a state-of-the-art carousel milking parlor
Where	Sited in northern Mercer County, on 82 acres adjacent to Hasis Rd and the south side of U.S. Route 33. This location is outside of the Grand Lake St. Marys watershed, and in the St. Marys River watershed.
When	Construction will begin in early summer of 2017, with the goal of having the dairy operational in early spring of 2018
How	An innovative and patented anaerobic treatment cell system on the farm will significantly reduce waste solids, consumption of water and waste odor, with a recycling system beneficial for animals, crop care and the environment. The core of this system is a proven technology used by many municipalities throughout the United States, including eight Mercer County municipalities.
Economic Impact	35 new jobs will be created, stimulating the local economy

Caring for cows

The dairy will include a rotary-style parlor, which benefits the health and well-being of the cows by providing a predictable and efficient milking routine that allows them more time to eat, drink, sleep and interact with other cows. They will be monitored daily and provided routine health screenings and veterinary attention as needed.

McCarty Family Farms have each been certified by Validus, an independent firm with the most stringent requirements for socially responsible, scientifically based, economically viable long-term solutions for dairy animal care. In addition, all employees at each McCarty dairy are regularly trained, and some are certified in the Beef Quality Assurance program.

Caring for consumers

The McCartys and VanTilburgs strive to produce high quality and fresh milk. The farm is being built specifically to supply milk for growing consumer demand for Dannon's dairy products. Plans include a visitors' center that will be open to the public where visitors can learn about the dairy and milk production.

Caring for community

"Our success is dependent on these communities, and when they grow and prosper, so do we." ~ Clay McCarty

The McCarty family and the VanTilburgs came together as partners in this endeavor because of their shared vision of creating sustainable agriculture operations that have positive social, economic and environmental impacts on the communities in which they live and operate. Together, they're building a cutting-edge, efficient and environmentally friendly operation the community will be proud to call their neighbor.

From protecting local watersheds with an innovative, patented anaerobic treatment cell recycling system to implementing a youth yogurt program with local schools where their farms operate and more, McCarty Family Farms has a solid track record of innovative and award-winning operations that reduce environmental impact, increase sustainability and bring positive impacts to the communities where they operate. The McCartys have recently been named the Innovative Dairy Farmer of the Year (2013) and receive the Outstanding Dairy Sustainability award (2014) for their achievements.

About McCarty Family Farms

Over one hundred years ago, the McCarty family started and ended every day milking cows by hand in a small barn without electricity in northeast Pennsylvania. Four generations later, they call Kansas home. Much has stayed the same since 1914 - their commitment to cows, people and the land. Yet, much has changed to take better care of their cows and natural resources and to bring even better dairy foods to consumers' tables. They operate four dairies across the country in Beaver City, Nebraska; Bird City, Kansas; Rexford, Kansas; and Scott City, Kansas.

About VanTilburg Farms

VanTilburg Farms, Inc. was incorporated in 1977, but the agrarian history started long ago. Boyd VanTilburg, the great grandfather of current co-owners Matt, Kyle and Luke VanTilburg, began farming in 1902. In addition to grain farming, the VanTilburg family business has grown and evolved into a staple agricultural service provider in northwestern Ohio, specializing in multiple services including cover crops and custom fertilizer and chemical application, poultry litter, soil sampling and trucking. Other business ventures include a commercial grain elevator, crop insurance business, trucking division and an excavation company.