

# About The Farm

Mapleton's Organic Dairy is a family owned and operated farm. We raise and care for the cows that supply the milk for our delicious ice cream, frozen yogurt, and fresh yogurt. Besides a dairy herd, we also raise young dairy animals, a flock of laying hens to supply eggs for our ice cream, and pigs for organic pork.

In the summer we raise grain-fed, free-range chickens and turkeys. All the feed for the animals is grown here on our farm and the manure they provide is used (after composting) to fertilize the fields. In addition to growing all the feed for the animals, we also grow some crops for human consumption such as spelt, soybeans, corn, potatoes, and pumpkins.

Mapleton's Organic Farm provides the public with healthy, local, and environmentally sustainable products. But we also believe we have the responsibility to show young people about the cycle of responsible food production. We host tours and special events and we welcome our guests to observe our farm up close.

## History

In 1980 we (Ineke Booy and Martin de Groot) emigrated from Holland with our two children, Elske and Arwa (who works at Mapleton's) and began working a 250-acre dairy farm. After farming conventionally for 10 years, and having two more children, Egbert and Norman, we became concerned about the impact of conventional farming and how it affected our own health, the environment, the community, the welfare of the animals, and the health of consumers. We didn't want to be commodity producers but rather food producers, in touch with the earth and our consumers.

After much consideration, the decision was made to become organic. The farm today consists of 600 acres of certified organic land, 75 milking cows and their offspring, chickens, turkeys, pigs, donkeys, alpacas, a pony, a number of cats and kittens, as well as an Austrian Shepard named Fife.

Mapleton's Organic Dairy was born in 1999, when we began processing milk into organic ice cream, frozen yogurt, and fresh yogurt on the farm with a small retail store. In 2004 an ice cream café was added to better serve the steady stream of ice cream lovers. Today, Mapleton's serves organic lunches and packaged organic products including dairy, meats, dry goods, and seasonal produce.