

Broken Bow Dairy On-Farm Labor

Outline of Need: Doug and Linda Hodorff grew up on dairy farms as kids and now own and operate dairies in both Nebraska and Wisconsin. The Broken Bow Dairy, located in Milburn, Nebraska, is a 400 cow registered Holstein operation. With each cow producing an average of 80 pounds of milk per day (almost 10 gallons), the dairy nearly runs around the clock. They employ six full-time and two part-time employees. Housing for employees and their families was substandard and the nearest town was 20 miles away.



How Rural Development

Helped: USDA Rural Development provided a \$215,000 loan through the Multi-Family Farm Labor Housing for On-Farm Labor program. With the loan, the

dairy was able to provide housing for two of their employees and their families by purchasing two modular homes.

“Since milking cows is a 24 hour per day operation, we needed nearby housing for the comfort of our employees and the convenience of the farm. The farm is 20 miles from town and very few rural homes are nearby for rent. Qualifying for the On-Farm Labor Housing low interest Rural Development loan allowed us to purchase two well built homes. If we had not qualified for the program, we could have only afforded used mobile homes. The USDA Rural Development Program has allowed us to improve the appearance of our rural neighborhood and is helping us attract and retain capable employees.”
-- Doug and Linda Hodorff, Owners of Broken Bow Dairy LLC

The Results: The employees and their families are enjoying their new homes. Both families were very excited and proud to be living in their two bedroom homes at the Broken Bow Dairy. The homes are energy efficient and are great assets to the Broken Bow Dairy. They will provide adequate housing for years to come.