

De Grins Oer Dairy Breakfast on the Farm scheduled for Aug. 16

Breakfast on the Farm will be heading to Mecosta County Aug. 16. The fun, free and family-friendly event is designed to give consumers a taste of modern farm production. The event will be hosted by De Grins Oer Dairy, 2386 Adams Rd. Blanchard, from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m., with breakfast being served from 9 a.m. to noon

The MAEAP-verified farm was established in 1999 and is owned and operated by Tjerk and Romana Okkema and their children, Dirk-Thomas, Cora and Evelyn. They currently house approximately 700 head of cattle and farm 900 acres of alfalfa and corn.

"The family farm also features a small flock of Suffolk sheep," Ashley Kuschel, Michigan State University Extension Breakfast on the Farm program coordinator, said. "The Okkemas are excited to be able to share information about more than one aspect of Michigan agriculture."

The farm has been awarded the 10-year quality award from Michigan Milk Producers Association (MMPA) and has been recognized by MMPA from being MAEAP verified. The family is also a proud member of the

Mecosta County Farm Bureau, MMPA and the National Corn Growers Association.

At Breakfast on the Farm, visitors will have the opportunity to take self-guided tours to see how the farm's cows are milked and housed, as well as the daily practices that go into running a dairy farm. They will also be able to see the equipment it takes to run a farm with 900 acres of crops. A pancake breakfast featuring Michigan products will be provided in the morning, and children will have the chance to participate in fun, educational activities.

The farm tour and breakfast are free, but tickets are limited and required to eat breakfast. Visit www.breakfastonthefarm.com for more information.



The Okkemas will host the second Breakfast on the Farm event of the summer on their Blanchard dairy farm.

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