

The Hartford Courant

Monday, May 2, 2005

Letter to the Editor

Don't Cry Over Spilled Milk

The April 29 editorial "Invest in Farms" was totally off base, and I absolutely disagree with its content.

If Connecticut now has 200 dairy farms as compared to 4,500 in 1950, the reason is simply this: It takes 200 farms today to produce what it took 4,500 farms to produce 50 years ago. Farming is a business, pure and simple. We cannot get teary-eyed about it. If an area is supersaturated with any kind of business, those that cannot make it will have to go. That's just the nuts and bolts about it.

Sure, a herd of cows in a pasture is beautiful to look at, but that alone does not make a living for the farmer. Land in Connecticut is very expensive. Will running a dairy farm on expensive land bring in the best profit? Probably not. So let's dry our eyes, put away our hankies and get on with making a decent living, whatever that might be. For more than 700 former dairymen, it isn't farming. Sorry about that.

My husband and I are seniors, but during our working years, our income was derived from the dairy industry.

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