



## **Hidden Acres Cattle Care Guide**

**Practical Care • Healthy Herd • Farm Life**

## Basic Cattle Information

- Average body temperature: 100.5°F
- Heat cycle: 21 days
- Gestation: ~283 days (9 months)
- Productive life: 10–12 years
- Cattle are ruminants with a multi-compartment digestive system



## Types of Cattle

- Dairy – bred for milk production
- Beef – bred for muscle and meat production
- Exotic – closer to wild species like bison



## Life Stages & Terms

- Calf – birth to weaning
- Weanling – 4–6 months
- Heifer – young female (do not breed before 18 months)
- Cow – mature female after first calving
- Bull – intact male
- Steer – castrated male



## Feeding & Forage

- Cattle consume ~40 lbs of forage daily (dry matter basis)
- Provide pasture, hay, or stored forage
- Ensure constant access to clean water
- Monitor body condition regularly



## Housing & Environment

- Provide clean, dry, well-ventilated shelter
- Protect from wind and rain
- Prevent overheating
- Ensure space for movement and resting



## Health & Wellness

- Observe daily for illness
- Work with a vet for parasite management
- Maintain nutrition
- Address lameness quickly



## Life at Hidden Acres

At Hidden Acres, we raise our cattle with care, respect, and a deep love for farm life.

