

Huls Dairy Incorporated

Location: Corvallis, Montana

Application: Six row dairy free-stall

Building Series: TITAN **Building Size:** 120' x 360'



Milk in the Valley

Huls Dairy Incorporated of Montana is an excellent example of a family dairy operation creating the future. Presently, Huls Dairy Incorporated is operating the most current state-of-the-art dairy facility in the State of Montana.

"About 10 years ago we became an incorporated company and started planning to update our facilities for future expansions," says Dan Huls. "Our goal was to be as efficient as possible within a clean environment and to get maximum milk production. We designed the barn to create a **natural ventilation system** which helps to eliminate operating costs," says Huls. Down the center of the 360 foot long Cover-All is a two foot wide ridge vent. "The center ridge vent combined with ten foot side walls, roll up curtains and large end wall entrance-way **allows the building to self ventilate**. We don't require fans or misters to keep our cows comfortable," says Huls. "We get really warm days and then very cool nights, which at times created moisture problems in our conventional barns. This building ventilates very well so excessive moisture is not a problem. The Cover-All free-stall barn provides a **huge natural shade effect**, it's like being under a tree on a hot day," says Huls.

Cow comfort is provided by the green and white 120' x 360' Cover-All TITAN building. "After eight years of research we decided on a Cover-All fabric building," says Huls. "There is **no comparison in natural light and air quality** between a Cover-All free-stall barn and a conventional free-stall barn. The environment in the Cover-All is much more natural." The six row free-stall barn has a feed alley down the center and contains Artex Y2K stall dividers over Pasture mat mattresses. A Dairy Master alley scraper system and gravity flow manure channel keep the alleys clean with minimal effort. Inside the milking center you will find white silicone covered walls, a Westfalia Surge 24 stall rotary milking system with computer cow ID, metatron milk meters and stimopulse pulsation. Vacuum is provided by a variable speed vacuum pump. An automatic sort gate in the exit alley segregates cows that need special attention.

"People were amazed at the speed which the barn went up. It took a crew of four men only ten days to completely install the 43,200 square foot free-stall barn! We were doing the inspection on the eleventh day, that's impressive," says Huls.

"We are **extremely pleased** with the results we are now getting. We are now milking 350 cows as quickly as we were milking 175 cows a year ago, with **less production costs**. The **natural light transmission** we have in the Cover-All free-stall barn provides a pleasant year-round environment. The cows are not fidgety and they are spending more time in the stalls. Everyone who walks into this facility is impressed, it's completely state-of-the-art," says Huls.



The natural light and air quality of the Cover-All provides maximum year-round cow comfort



Installation of the 43,200 sq. ft. free-stall dairy required only 10 days



Huls Dairy is the most state-of-the-art dairy facility in the state of Montana



Huls Dairy is now milking 350 cows as quickly as 175 cows a year ago

Building Highlights

Building Features

- The DuraWeave® fabric provides shade and wind protection
- A center ridge vent, dairy eaves, 10' side walls, and large end wall entrance ways allow the building to self ventilate
- The building end walls were configured to match the alleyways and allow easy access for equipment and personnel

Installation

- Installation was completed in 10 days, final inspection was done on day 11