***Lesson: Exploring Livestock***

**Purpose:** Imagine you are walking through your local grocery store. As you wander the aisles, you come to the dairy section and you see many varieties of milk, cheese, yogurt, and butter. You then walk over to the meat counter where you see dozens of different looking cuts of meat. There are many unique aspects that produce these differences, but perhaps the most important in the difference in the livestock from which the product was made. Even if you at a meat counter with an untrained eye it can look like nothing more than a counter filled with a lot of meat that looks exactly the same. Different types of livestock produce very unique products of food, drinks, and other useful products.

**Directions:** Access the commodities and products tab on the AgMRC website (<http://www.agmrc.org>) and find the link to Livestock. Utilize information located here to answer the questions below:

1. According to the AgMRC website, what attributes of an animal allows it to be considered livestock?
2. How many types of livestock are outlined on the AgMRC website?
3. What types of livestock produce marketable fibers (fleece, wool, feathers, velvet, etc.) according to the AgMRC website?
4. What types of livestock are produced for meat consumption according to the AgMRC website?
5. Select three different types of livestock and describe how you can utilize them to add value to an operation as described by AgMRC.

**Reinforcement activity: One commodity = endless uses**

For this activity you will create a list of everyday items you use that are made from livestock.

Thinking of items found in your house, list 10 items that are made from livestock, and list the species of livestock it came from.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Item** | **Species** |
| 1. |  |
| 2. |  |
| 3. |  |
| 4. |  |
| 5. |  |
| 6. |  |
| 7. |  |
| 8. |  |
| 9. |  |
| 10. |  |