

Untitled Document

Elsabé Maré

Do you remember the days when milk was delivered to your doorstep? Chances were



A painting of George Harrop- Allin snr and Hazel

Chances are also that you'll recognise the name Harrop-Allin, a family who played a m

The dairy started out in The Willows and was known as Willowdene "but as the town m

The only traces left of this family's occupation in The Willows can be found in street na



The Willows on Willow Valley Farms really do credit to the name

Cattle

The herd of cattle started with George Harrop-Allin snr and his brother-in-law, Hubert H

The farm started producing certified raw milk, then pasteurised and now homogenised

Farming at Willow Valley started in 1972 but as the farm was out of the designated arti

These were the top bulls of the time and were used to improve the herd. They were all



The Willow Valley label



On Mondays and Wednesdays

school journey services visit the

farm; Michael

Cullinan

Today Willow Valley farms nestle in the valley of Rietfontein in the countryside situated near Cullinan. The various farming activities are closely linked and it comprises five farms, namely Willow Valley, David's Place, Michael's Gem, Dottie's View and on Lulu's Land the latest addition, Branch-Out Tree Farms.

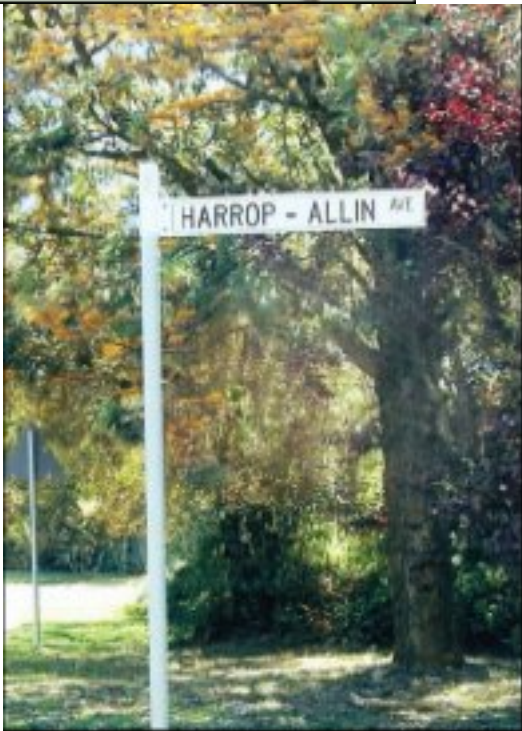
The farms consist of a total of 275,34 hectares that are used for grazing crop

production. The herd size is 384 animals, with 163 currently in milk. The current milk production is 29,5 litre per cow per day with 3.8% butterfat and an intercalving period of around 390 days.

The herd is TB and CA certified and has been for the last 46 years. Cattle are on total mixed ration and all roughage is grown on the farm. Maize silage also forms an important part of the ration. They grow their own maize and mix concentrate to suit their needs. All non-producing animals are on pasture and maize-residue.

The dairy markets and distributes all its own milk, cream, maas and yoghurt under the Willow Valley label. The milk is tested independently to ensure that they maintain the highest possible standard after milking as well as during the bottling and packaging process. This takes place in a well-equipped factory on the farm. Willow Valley is a member of the Milk Producers Organization, SAMPO, SA Holstein Breeders Association and of Milk Recording and they believe in organised agriculture.







On the left of Willowdene, the original Harrop-Allins farm was the home of the legendary Harrop-Allins.



Onderstepoort final year students pay the well-equipped factory on the farm a visit