

Water Buffalo Facts

1. Water buffalo, or bufala, are a completely different species than North American buffalo, which are actually bison. One of the greatest differences between these two animals is that water buffalo are an excellent source of dairy, as well as healthy red meat.
2. Water buffalo in Ontario are primarily raised for their milk and meat, offering a unique alternative to traditional dairy and beef production.
3. They are not native to Canada but have proven adaptable to colder climates.
4. They produce a rich, mild milk used for various dairy products, including cheeses, yogurts, and gelato.
5. Water buffalo meat is considered lean, low in fat, and easier to digest than beef.
6. Buffalo milk is known to be an alternative for those with milk allergies and offers a different nutritional profile compared to cow's milk. Water buffalo gives about 1/3 of the milk a Holstein cow does. Water buffalo average approximately 8.5 litres per day of milk.
7. A mature water buffalo cow weighs around 1800 lbs
8. WATER BUFFALO MEAT IS ANTIBIOTIC AND HORMONE FREE.
9. In Canada, for example, all water buffalo must be individually identified with an RFID tag and a secondary tag that is readable at a distance.
10. The animals in a barn where they have free access to feed and water.
11. They are fed hay and other forages grown on the farm, with a small amount of corn.
12. You cannot cross a water buffalo with a cow (they have a different chromosome count).
13. The unique characteristics of water buffalo, including their temperament and the quality of their products, are making them a growing choice for farmers.