



Don Bennink

Don Bennink has spent a distinguished career revolutionizing the dairy industry by spearheading innovative genetic research and practices.

The hallmark of Bennink's career is his research in animal genetics and reproduction, which led to the development of his own system of genetic selection and genomic testing.

A native of western New York, Bennink moved to Bell in 1980 where he established North Florida Holsteins. Bennink became a regarded advocate for improving the Holstein breed, and in 2001, he began using tunnel-



ventilation barns to make cows more comfortable and productive. Recognizing the value of partnerships between universities and veterinary students, North Florida Holsteins has become a field laboratory for the University of Florida's College of Veterinary Medicine and Ohio State University's well-respected international student internship programs.

Bennink has earned numerous awards and honors, including the World Dairy Expo's Dairyman of the Year.