Milk fresh from a farm



Out in Lim Chu Kang is a farm with a herd of about 100 cows, with names such as Suzy, Lara, Daisy and Carol.

They produce milk for an Italian-style dairy called Cantalatt, which opened in February last year.

Their milk is available in some stores and when a friend invited me to do a blind taste test, I jumped at the chance.

When you taste different brands of the same food side by side, you notice differences in them very starkly.

Cantalatt's milk smelled good. There was a hint of butter, an aroma that promised extreme creaminess.

And when I drank it, well, all I could think of was hightailing it to the nearest store that stocked it.

The milk was thick and rich, not as sweet as other brands.

There was something wild about it, something that said it had not been processed in a big factory. That I liked very much.

When you let the milk sit for a while, cream floats to the surface.

Spoon it up and spread on warm scones with jam. I don't ever drink milk on its own.

Usually, I have it with cereal or coffee, but this milk might change that.

Mr Cesare Cantarella, who started the farm, did so because he wanted people to appreciate pure, preservative-free milk.

The 45-year-old, who comes from the Amalfi Coast, in Italy, worked in the food and beverage industry when he moved here in 1991.

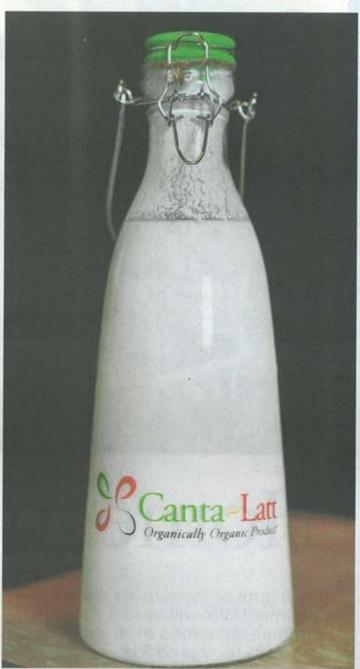
His mother's side of the family ran butcheries and a latteria, which makes cheeses, and he is working with the authorities here to expand his business.

If he gets his way, he plans to sell fresh cheeses such as ricotta and mascarpone, butter, yogurt, beef and vegetables such as beetroot, corn and fava beans.

He also wants to open the farm to visitors, who can then visit the cows that produce their milk.

Let's hope he gets his way.

Cantalatt milk, \$10 for a 1-litre bottle, from Huber's Butchery, 18A/B Dempsey Road, tel: 6737-1588, open: 9am to 8pm (weekdays), 9.30am to 7pm (weekends and public holidays). Home delivery direct from the farm is available on Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Fridays, with a minimum order of 2 litres of milk. E-mail info@cantalatt.com.sg or call 9633-9388



ST PHOTOS: MUGILAN RAJASEGERAN