Driving on a gorgeous day in rural America, one can hardly go very far without passing a pasture full of cattle grazing. It’s an awesome sight for someone from the city to be able to view these animals up close.

But how much do you know about cows, bulls and steers? Here at Perdido River Farms, we have about 1,651 in our herd as of summer 2016. Our herd consists of 1,075 cows, 51 bulls and 525 calves.

Here are a few facts about the cute agricultural animals we adore:

1. The term “cow” actually refers only to the female bovines. The broad and preferred term for all the herd, regardless of gender, is “cattle,” which is plural. There is no singular term. Males are called bulls or steers. Heifers are cows that have never given birth.

2. The gestation period for a pregnant cow is the same as humans. It lasts nine months.

3. The average cattle sleep about four hours a day, but they spend about 10 hours lying down.

4. Cattle have only one stomach, but it has four chambers for digestion: rumen, reticulum, omasum and abomasum.

5. Cattle can walk up a flight of stairs but they cannot come back down. No, it’s not because they are scared. It’s because their knees don’t bend properly to accommodate a downstairs walk.

6. Bovines can’t see the color red, and therefore do not become angrier when a red flag is held in front of them. They also cannot see green. However, they are not completely color blind.

7. The amount of methane gas a bovine produces per day. As cattle digest its food, fermentation causes the animals to produce methane.

8. The world’s most expensive cow was Missy, who was sold for $1.2 million in 2009 at the Royal Agricultural Winter Fair.

9. Cows do not produce milk until after having a calf. It takes 350 squirts to make a gallon of milk.

Learn more about Perdido River Farms at http://tinyurl.com/prfatmore.