From field to food quiz

1) **What is silage?**
   Silage is grass or another crop which is left to ferment, producing a moist and palatable food source.

2) **Why can cattle digest tough fibre which pigs, chickens and humans can’t?**
   Because they are ruminants (or ‘they chew the cud’).

3) **How many litres of water can the rumen (the first part of the stomach) hold?**
   100 litres

4) **Cattle have four stomachs (True/ False)**
   False! It has four compartments, but technically only has one stomach.

5) **Which greenhouse gas do cows produce in their burps?**
   Methane

6) **What percentage of the energy input into feeding cattle ends up in beef?**
   Only 4%

7) **Out of these three methods of raising cows in the UK, which one requires the highest proportion of ‘pellets’ (concentrated plant-material) to be fed to cattle?**
   - **Intensive Beef Production**
   - 18 month Beef Production
   - Grass Beef Production

8) **What is a carbon footprint measured in?**
   Carbon Dioxide Equivalents, which is the equivalent concentration of the CO₂ needed to cause the same atmospheric damage as a corresponding unit of another gas, such as methane.

9) **List three processes that contribute to the carbon footprint of beef:**
   *Making pesticides and fertilisers for growing crops for feed*
   *Transport of crops, feed, animals, meat*
   *Farm machinery*
   *Methane emissions from burps*
   *Processing, refrigeration and cooking of meat*

**Bonus Questions!**

10) **Cows can have best friends (true/ false)**
    True! Studies carried out by scientists at Northampton University showed that cows that were separated from another cow they recognise had a higher heart rate than when they were placed with their friends within a herd. Stress levels and levels of a hormone known as cortisol were seen to significantly decrease once more when the cow was kept with his herd companion.

11) Cows can walk up and down stairs (true/ false)
False! Cows can indeed walk up stairs but cannot come down them again- their knees don’t have the ability to bend that way.

http://www.dairymoos.com/interesting-facts-about-cows/

12) Cows don’t have fingerprints, they have nose prints instead (true/ false).
True, cows can be identified using their nose prints.

http://www.express.co.uk/fun/top10facts/393776/Top-10-facts-about-cows

13) What is the highest number of calves produced by one cow?
The answer is 39, produced by a cow known as Big Bertha throughout the course of her lifetime.