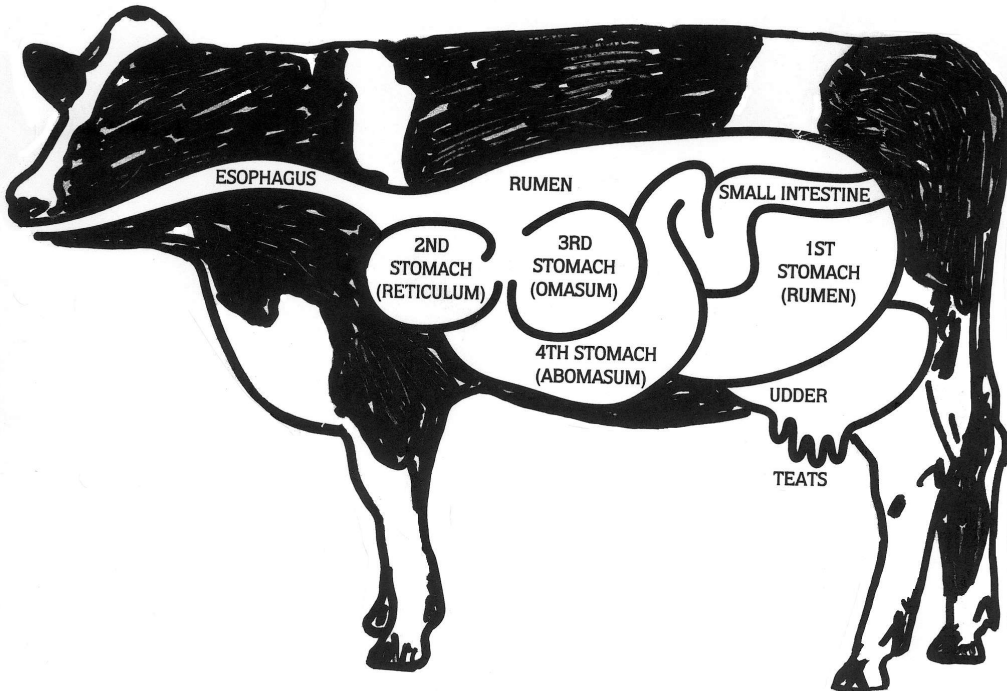


THE BOVINE DIGESTIVE SYSTEM



Cows have a unique digestive system:

- * Cows swallow food without chewing it.
- * The food goes into the first and second stomachs - the rumen and the reticulum.
- * After a cow has eaten, she burps up a small amount of food (cud) to chew again.
- * After chewing her cud, she swallows again and her cud goes into the third stomach - omasum.
- * From there it moves to the fourth stomach - abomasum where digestion actually occurs.
- * Cows spend about 6 to 7 hours a day eating.
- * A cow's body uses part of the food to grow and stay healthy and the other part of the food to make milk.
- * It only takes the cow's body about 2 days to process her food into milk.