

DAIRY FACTS

DAIRY COWS ARE ROUGHAGE EATERS

Certain writers on economic problems state that in the future farm animals must more and more depend on roughage and the by-products of grain that are not suitable for human food. They say that this necessity will arise to supply food for the rapidly increasing numbers in the world's population. Whether this condition ever does come or not, we do know that the grain is the expensive part of the cow's ration, and the more nearly roughage can be made to supply the feed, the cheaper will milk and milk products be produced, writes W. H. Woodley, extension dairyman, college of agriculture, University of Arkansas. Grains, high in protein content, are especially expensive.

The farmer is fortunate in that he can raise a roughage that is high in protein and supply this much needed milk producing element in hay cheaper than he can buy it in grain. There is probably no section where some kind of legume hay cannot be raised. An acre of land that will produce two tons of soy bean hay yields three times the digestible protein that the same acre will produce in corn (ears and stover) and five times more than prairie or other grass hays can be raised. It yields about the same amount of total digestible nutrients as the acre of corn, and twice the amount in prairie or grass hay. So to the cow it is both hay and grain.

The milk cow with her four stomachs and her ability to consume about five times as much feed as the horse, is essentially a roughage animal, and can only do her best work, and do it most economically when she is supplied with all the roughage such as mentioned above, that she will consume.

A farmer can buy good grain in the market and the kind that he wants, but even if it was as economic to do so, he can seldom find hay of the quality and kind that it is best to feed, so in self-defense he must raise it.

Homemade Fly Spray Is Beneficial in Summer

Most owners of small herds will prefer to buy a prepared fly spray, but others prefer to mix their own. The following ingredients can be purchased at any good drug store and have been used successfully by the Iowa experiment station:

Coal-tar dip, 4 1/2 quarts; fish oil, 4 1/2 quarts; coal oil, 3 quarts; whale oil, 3 quarts; oil of tar, 1 1/2 quarts; laundry soap, 3 bars.

In preparing the spray, the three bars of soap should be dissolved in warm water. Then the other ingredients can be added separately and enough water added to bring the total amount up to thirty gallons.

This spray, like others, is most effective for a few hours after using. It has a pronounced odor which aids it as a fly repellent, but it does not seem to affect the milk unless some drops in the utensils. The oil in the spray collects dirt but most of this will wash out when the cows are out in the rain.

Lack of Proper Feeding Accountable for Losses

There is plenty of good authority for the statement that one-third of our dairy cows are unprofitable, one-third just about break even and the remaining third only are profitable. The situation is accountable in two ways. First, there is lack of proper feeding. A dairy cow must have a properly balanced ration in order to do her best. Second, there are dairy cows whose breeding is such that they can never be made into profitable producers, no matter how they are fed. Just a glance at some cows will tell any person that they will never be suitable for profitable dairy production, but there are large numbers of the in-between kind that can only be told after they have been tested and fed properly.

Cut Dairy Heifer Cost by Reducing Protein

That tremendous saving in the cost of raising dairy heifers can be made by reducing the amount of protein in the ration heretofore considered the minimum amount necessary for normal growth, has been shown by 12 years of investigation at the Missouri College of Agriculture. Former standards for the minimum amount of protein are really 20 to 60 per cent too high, according to the tests. As protein is the most expensive part of the ration and is usually the part that must be purchased, a tremendous saving can be made on the \$400,000,000 required annually to maintain the present cow population.

LIVE STOCK

ESSENTIALS FOR PROFITABLE PORK

Normal, healthy parents, clean farrowing pens, and proper feeding and management of the lactating sow are necessary to profitable pork production.

By the time the pigs are two or three weeks old they will show a desire to eat something besides milk, says Edgar Martin, University of Arkansas. This desire should be satisfied with good pasture and a suitable grain mixture, remembering that skim milk and buttermilk are very high in protein and are, therefore, an excellent growing feed for the rapidly developing pigs.

Along with a suitable quantity and quality of feed, including the mother's amount of exercise, preferably at pasture and in sunshine. The greatest mistakes made in raising young pigs are underfeeding and underexercising. If small pigs are furnished an abundance of exercises at pasture, and given the proper feeds, overfeeding is not likely to occur until after weaning time. Pigs being developed for breeders should not be allowed to become too fat. This is accomplished by hand feeding and governing the allowance by the condition of the future breeders, always giving an abundance of exercise, pasture, shade in summer, water, protein of the right quality, and minerals. Pigs to be sold on the market should be full-fed from birth until weighed to the butcher, and the self-feeder is probably the best method.

Hog Feeding Floor Is Beneficial to Animals

If a hog feeding floor is located on the south or east side of the hog house, the animals will be protected from cold winds and will also receive a maximum amount of sunlight.

Where the ground is firm and well drained, the concrete for the floor may be laid directly on the soil, after it has been levelled and firmly compacted, and all refuse has been removed. If the drainage is poor, however, a six-inch fill of cinders or gravel is recommended.

The concrete used for feeding floors is made with five and one-half gallons of water to the sack of portland cement. In most cases a suitable concrete can be made with 2 cubic feet of sand and three of pebbles or crushed rock to a sack of cement. If this mixture is too dry, use less sand and stone, if it is sloppy or wet, add more of these materials.

The concrete is placed in alternate sections, each of which is ten feet square. As soon as these sections have hardened, the intermediate ones are placed.

If the floor is sloped slightly in one direction, it will drain quickly after rain. A curb placed on three sides of the floor will prevent the hogs from pushing their feed into the ground, where it will be wasted.

Need Less Protein to Grow and Fatten Hogs

Less feed, and especially less protein, is needed to grow and fatten hogs when good pasture is provided. But experiments show that to make the cheapest gains, unless corn is high the hogs should have plenty of feed and some supplement such as skim milk or tankage along with even the best of pastures. Estimates of the amount of pork an acre of forage will produce range between 240 and 600 pounds depending on the amount and method of feeding. All of them show that there is very little gain while on pasture unless they get some grain with it. It is usually more economical to give a daily feed of three pounds of grain and supplements combined for each 100 pounds of live weight. A quarter of a pound of tankage or its equivalent in milk products to a hog each day when they are getting plenty of grain on pasture will make fast and cheap gains and save grain.

Live Stock Notes

It is very important to keep feed for little pigs fresh and clean to prevent scours.

It may sometimes be better to fatten thin stockers up to the butcher class than selected feeders up to prime beef.

It costs more per pound to fatten a steer than the extra flesh will sell for. Consequently the selling price for the whole carcass must be enough greater per pound to pay the loss on the added flesh and make a profit.

Not Confined to a Few

I have found that the flame of moral judgment burns just as brightly in the man of humble and limited experience as in the scholar and man of affairs.—Woodrow Wilson.

Another View

"I visit my friends occasionally," remarked the book lover, "merely for the purpose of looking over my library."

Great Religious Sects

The world's population of Mohammedans and Buddhists is estimated at 730,000,000.

Useless Information

An industrious statistician has discovered that Great Britain uses an average of 2,708,373,100 buttons a year.

Let Charity Be Wise

It is wicked to withdraw from being useful to the needy, and cowardly to give away to the worthless.—Epietetus

Elephant Good Swimmer

The elephant swims more easily than it walks. It simply stands upright and treads water.

Epoch in History

Coal was discovered in America 250 years ago.

He that walketh with wise men shall be wise; but a companion of fools shall be destroyed.—Proverbs 13:20.

Three of the five men that drafted the Declaration of Independence were scientists.

If one is tender-hearted, may the Lord give him wisdom with it.

Unless a man possesses self-control he is little better than a slave.

The popularity of some people is due to the things they don't say.

Few people impair their eyesight looking on the bright side of things.

Study your own self.—St. Bernard.

Molasses Not Treacle

The words "molasses" and "treacle" are often used as synonyms, but properly speaking molasses is the uncrystallized sirup produced in the making of sugar, while treacle is obtained in the process of refining sugar.

Oxen in Farming

South African farmers find oxen profitable in farming. A two-year-old steer costs \$25, and after four or five years' work, the butcher will pay \$50 for him.—Farm & Fireside.

Alpaca and Sheep

The body of the alpaca has somewhat the form of a sheep, but it has a long neck. It is also more active and carries its head erect.

Uncle Eben

"We all have an ear for music," said Uncle Eben, "an' many a man is heard wif attention, simply because he has a good bass voice."—Washington Star.

Derivation of "Latin"

The word Latin is derived from Latinum, which was that part of ancient Italy which included Rome.

Banana Prolific Plant

An ordinary crop of bananas yields approximately 32,000 pounds of food per acre.

The Pity of It

Lots of people are sure they are right who never go ahead.—Boston Transcript.

Idleness and pride tax with heavier hand than kings and parliaments.—Franklin.

The man who can acknowledge a mistake without blaming it on some one else has true moral courage.

In some families, if they can get it, they think they can afford it.

He who takes no position will not sway the human intellect.—Shedd.

Logic proves or disproves all things but it doesn't accomplish any of them.

Old Queen of the Seas

The United States superdreadnought Wyoming on July 19, 1912, made 22,045 knots on her standardization trial. This was the largest and fastest battleship afloat at the time with twelve-inch guns.

Height of Wisdom

"We regard our ancestors as wise," said Eli Ho, the sage of Chinatown, "especially those ancestors who attained riches we hope to inherit."—Washington Star.

The Verdict

"Beautiful," murmured the flapper tourist as she gazed upon the image of the sphinx. And as an afterthought she added, "but dumb."

Worth Remembering

When a man offers you something for nothing, don't accept it unless you can afford to pay at least double its value.—Exchange.

Few Do It

Another good intelligence test is the ability to memorize good poetry—and never quote it.—San Francisco Chronicle.

Poor Policy

To lose our charity in defense of our religion is to sacrifice the citadel to maintain the out-works.—Colton.

Turks Bar Christianity

Turkey is the only country in the world in which Christianity is not accepted as a religion.

Evil in Satiety

I hold this to be the rule of life: Too much of anything is bad.—Terence.

Its Significance

The gold fringe on the American flag denotes that it is regimental colors.

It takes a pretty girl of eighteen, with lots of company, to brighten up the gloom of a big old mansion.

A man gets great diversion out of his reason if he has a good one.

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