

4. The following grain mixtures will be found advantageous in finishing steers. Start feeding grain at the rate of 2 pounds per steer, daily, at the earliest part of the feeding, and finish at from 10 to 12 pounds per steer, per day.

Grain Mixtures: No. 1.—Bran, 2 parts; ground oats, 2 parts; ground barley, 2 parts; cottonseed meal, 9 parts. The cottonseed meal may be replaced by either linseed oil meal or ground peas.

No. 2.—Ground oats, 3 parts; ground barley, 3 parts; ground peas, 2 parts.

No. 3.—Bran, 3 parts; ground corn, 3 parts; linseed oil meal, 2 parts.

No. 4.—Bran, 4 parts; ground corn, 2 parts; ground oats, 1 part; linseed oil meal, 1 part; cottonseed meal, 1 part.

No. 5.—Equal parts ground oats, ground barley, and cottonseed or peas.

Rations. A number of rations particularly adaptable to conditions in Western Canada are as follows:—

No. 1.—Hay, 5 pounds; turnips, 70 pounds; oat straw, ad lib., approximately 12 pounds daily; ground oats and barley equal parts, started at 2 pounds and finished at 15 pounds.

No. 2.—Straw, ad lib.; hay (alfalfa if available), 5 to 8 pounds; or good prairie hay, 7 to 12 pounds daily; cured oat sheaves, 1 daily; turnips if available, 40 pounds; or ensilage (corn or peas and oats) if available, 30 pounds; grain composed of oat and barley chop or a mixture of ground corn and oats, or ground peas and oats, starting at 2 pounds and finishing at 15 pounds per steer daily.

No. 3.—The same roughage ration as in No. 2 with a grain ration composed of ground oats, 2 parts; ground barley, 2 parts; ground wheat, 1 part, fed from 2 to 15 pounds daily.

No. 4.—Alfalfa hay, 12 to 15 pounds; cured green oat sheaves, 1 daily; roots if available, 30 pounds; grain, equal parts ground oats, barley and wheat, 2 to 12 pounds daily.

No. 5.—Straw, all they require; green oat sheaves, 2 daily; grain ration composed of equal parts ground oats, barley, and wheat, 2 to 15 pounds.

Feeding Steers at Shipping Time: Previous to loading on cars, feed only very lightly on roots, ensilage, pasture, or other succulent roughages, as the tendency will be to scour the animals and cause heavy shrinkage. Feed liberally on good clean hay with a light grain ration. Best results will follow. Many stock-yards prohibit grain feeding after the animals are unloaded; hence the best quality of hay in liberal amounts and a reasonable amount of salt and good drinking water will fill the animals to best advantage for sales.

Feeding the Beef Cow: The feeding of the hand-milked beef-bred cow will be identically similar to that of the dairy cow. If, on the other hand, she is to suckle her calf well through the first nine months after its birth, feed liberally on good pasture and on succulent roughages.

Feeding the Beef Bull: The same principles apply in the feeding of both beef and dairy bulls. Keep the bull in fair flesh and very thrifty condition during the breeding season, else the progeny will not be as large, vigorous, virile, and resistant to disease, as should be. Over-feeding on roots and ensilage is to be guarded against. Good clean hay, particularly alfalfa or clover, with a light ration of roots or ensilage or a mixture of these two in the winter, or a grass paddock in the summer, will answer admirably as a roughage ration. The grain ration should be fed as needed. A mixture of equal parts bran and ground oats will probably give best results.

Rules in Feeding: Following are a few rules in feeding, which apply to all other classes of stock and which point toward the most economical feeding and the healthiest animals.

- (1) Guard against overfeeding.
- (2) Refrain from underfeeding and starving the cows.
- (3) Make all changes in feeding gradually.
- (4) Cater to the individual needs of the animals.
- (5) As with all breeding stock, avoid extremes of condition, and supply reasonable exercise, fresh air and dry comfortable quarters.