

TWO-YEAR-OLDS vs. YEARLINGS.

In order to obtain information as to the best age at which to fatten steers, experiments were carried on in 1904 and 1905 in which yearling steers were compared with two-year-olds. The yearlings were about 18 months at the beginning of the test and the two-year-olds were about 30 months. They were given the same feed but the two-year-olds were allowed a slightly larger quantity per steer. The ration consisted of corn fodder, corn ensilage, oat straw, turnips, bran and chopped grain. The experiment was conducted with a very narrow margin between buying and selling prices. Both years they were bought for $3\frac{1}{4}$ cts. per lb. and one year they were sold for 4 cts. per lb. and the other year for $4\frac{1}{4}$ cts. per lb., hence the profits were small.

AVERAGE RESULTS—2 YEARS.

Age of Steers.	Profit per steer.	Average gain per day.
2 Year old.....	\$2 87.....	1 lb. 9 oz.
Yearling.....	2 03.....	1 lb. 11 oz.

Mr. Bedford's conclusions were as follows:

1st. The amount of gain in weight per day is practically the same with each lot of steers.

2nd. The two-year-olds were in both instances more profitable than the one-year-olds.

TWO-YEAR-OLDS vs. THREE-YEAR-OLDS.

A lot of two-year-old steers was compared in 1907 with three-year-olds. Both were fed the same ration, the three-year-olds getting a larger quantity in proportion to their weight. The ration consisted of straw, silage, hay, roots, and grain. The results were as follows:

RESULTS 1907.

Age of Steers.	Profit per steer.	Average gain per steer.
Two years.....	\$8 99.....	2.1 lbs.
Three years.....	6.66.....	1.7 "

This would appear to give two-year-olds a decided advantage over the older animals.

OUTSIDE vs. INSIDE.

Starting in the fall of 1907 and continuing each season until 1912, an experiment has been conducted to test the practicability of fattening steers outdoors, and to compare the profit of feeding in that way with that obtained from the usual method of feeding in a stable.

Mr. James Murray, who started the experiment, gives the reasons for doing so as follows: