

July 3, 1918

(1487) 15

supposed, as shown from the following table:

	1915	1916	1917	Dec. 1, '16 Oct. 16, '17	May 20, '18 May 20, '18
Daily gain in pounds	1.86	1.88	1.81	1.81	1.78
Cost per pound gain	7.38	7.38	8.15	12.24	10.77
Selling price per lb.	7.78	8.60	12.50	12.80	10.80
Spread in cents	4	2.21	2.35	4.59	.03

Valuation of Feeds

The valuations placed on the various feeds used were based on the market value of these commodities on the farm during October, 1917, when our supply of feed was stored for winter consumption. Our main endeavor during the entire feeding period was to avoid setbacks and keep the animals steadily going on. The largest daily gains, 2.61 pounds were made during December, 1917. At December 1, 1916, the average weight of the steers was 519.56 pounds, and the average cost per head at 7.56 cents per pound was \$39.30. At May 22, 1918, the average weight of the steers was 1,369 2/3 pounds, realizing 16.80 cents per pound or \$230.10 per head.

COST OF PRODUCTION AND NET PROFIT OF 1918 SHIPMENT

First Period

30 steers weighing 15,587 lbs. Dec. 1, 1916, cost \$1,178.95.	
Amount and value of feed consumed from Dec. 1, 1916, to June 1, 1917:	
17,194 lbs. oats at 43c per bush	\$747.45
4,597 lbs. barley at 60c per bush	275.82
6,642 lbs. bran at \$28 per ton	93.00
5,078 lbs.ilage at \$3.50 per ton	177.73
19,354 lbs. oat shives at \$7.50 ton	72.60
32,494 lbs. hay at \$10 per ton	324.94
12,453 lbs. cut hay, shives and straw, at \$7.00 per ton	871.71
214 lbs. salt at 14c per lb.	30.00
Grinding \$7,792 lbs. grain at 10c per cwt.	77.92
	\$2,600.79
Weight of steers at June 1, 1917 21,977 lbs.	
Daily gain per head	1.64 lbs.
Cost per lb. gain	12.1 cts.

Second Period

Feed consumed from June 1, 1917, to Oct. 16, 1917:	
12,491 lbs. oats at 43c per bush	\$538.03
12,494 lbs. barley at 51c per bush	637.59
2,091 lbs. bran at \$28 per ton	58.55
41 months pasturage at 80c.	328.00
450 lbs. salt at 14c per lb.	63.00
Grinding 27,792 lbs. grain at 10c per cwt.	277.92
	\$1,503.07
Weight of steers Oct. 16, 1917 29,982 lbs.	
Daily gain per head	2.07 lbs.
Cost per lb. gain	6.24 cts.

Third Period

Amount and value of feed consumed from Oct. 16, 1917, to May 20, 1918:	
20,184 lbs. oats at 51c per bush	\$1,040.64
28,080 lbs. barley at \$1.04 per bush	2,919.52
6,646 lbs. bran at \$28 per ton	186.53
18,892 lbs. linseed cake at \$60 per ton	1,133.52
18,066 lbs.ilage at \$4.00 per ton	722.64
6,772 lbs. turnips at \$4.00 ton	270.88
26,450 lbs. oat shives at \$7.00 per ton	1,851.50
44,726 lbs. hay at \$10 per ton	447.26
8,351 lbs. alfalfa at \$15 per ton	1,252.65
4,819 lbs. blue joint hay at \$16 per ton	771.04
15,030 lbs. cut feed at \$5.00 per ton	751.50
700 lbs. salt at 14c per lb.	98.00
Grinding \$6,354 lbs. grain at 10c per cwt.	635.40
	\$11,944.57
Weight of steers on May 20, at farm	41,580 lbs.
Weight of steers May 22, less shrinkage	41,090 lbs.
at \$16.80 cwt.	6,903.12
Daily gain per head	1.78 lbs.
Cost per lb. gain	10.77 cts.

Statement

30 steers sold for	\$6,903.12
Cost of 30 steers Dec. 1, 1916	\$1,178.95
Cost of feed Dec. 1, '16, to May 20, '18 12,182.43	
Selling charges and commission	\$7.51
Freight	22.00
Net Profit	\$2,552.23
Net profit per head	\$85.07

The cattle were purchased by the P. Burns Company, who have kindly furnished the following figures covering the costs and dressing returns:

No. of Head	Live Weight	Live Cost	Value	Dressed Weight	Yield percentage
30	41,090	\$16.80	\$6,903.12	24,699	60.10

As stated in our pamphlet "Production of Baby Beef in Alberta," published in 1916, our experience in feeding beef at Strathmore is given only for what it is worth; we make no claim that our methods or rations are the best available. There are many good

feeders in Alberta and it is our earnest hope that more of them will interest

themselves in the production of early finished beef and by making their experiences public, shed more light on the best methods and best rations to secure the best results.

Forming a Bull Club

Twenty farmers in Missouri have formed a bull club. The members have 195 cows. The plan is to serve 50 cows with each bull. Each division of 50 cows will be known as a block, and each bull will stand in a given block for two years. He will then be moved to another, without extra cost. Only animals of the very best breeding will be bought. This will give each man the use of a well-bred bull for a ten-year period at a minimum cost.

The farmers have also organized a cow testing association, composed of 26 members who have 450 cows.

Cement Feeding Floor

There is a great waste of feed when the cattle and hog feeding lots are poorly drained and are a mass of mud. The advantages of a paved lot and feeding floor are: The stock make greater gains, feed is saved, feeding is made easier, manure is saved, sanitation is improved, thereby reducing disease, and clean animals usually bring better prices.

The cost of the average feeding floor, even at the present prices, should not be more than ten cents a square foot. On many farms it can be built for less cost, because often all material except cement is at hand. Any concrete worker who can build satisfactory sidewalks should be able to construct a feeding floor. At the present price of meat, the sale of a hog will pay for feeding floor space for from 30 to 50 head. Investigation shows that the floor will often pay for itself in one feeding season.

Paralysis of the Hind Quarters

Paralysis, or loss of power, in the hind quarters is met with from time to time in weak unthrifty cows, during the last few weeks of pregnancy. When the cow becomes affected with this condition, she is unable to rise and remains recumbent. She, however, does not suffer any pain, and her appetite may remain good, so that she continues to eat and drink and chews her cud. It is only when she attempts to rise that the loss of power of the hind limbs may be evident. The cause is supposed to be due to bodily weakness and as a result of the gravid womb or "calf head" pressing on the nerves going to the hind legs. In dealing with cases of this kind, an endeavor should be made to make the animal as comfortable as possible. She should be kept well bedded with clean dry bedding. She should be given assistance to get up, and, if unable to get up, she should be turned over from one side to the other every morning and evening at least. Careful attention should be given to the diet to prevent constipation and, for this purpose, sloppy bran mash should be given, also small doses of Linseed Oil and injections of warm soapy water into the rectum. In the majority of these cases, if the cow can be carried along safely until parturition, she usually regains the use of her limbs and is able to support herself on her feet within a few days after calving.

Sheep Pests

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