

Factors Influencing Rate of Gain, Quantity of
Feed Consumed and Carcass' Grade

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PRELIMINARY REPORT

The two lots of heifer calves in this test were selected from 75 range bred heifer calves purchased last fall. The 75 heifers were a uniform group, all of which would be classed as good to choice feeder calves. The 10 heifers in Lot 1 of this test were selected as the least desirable, and the 10 heifers in Lot 2 as the most desirable of the 75 head. The sort was made on the evidences of probable gains and carcass grades as indicated by capacity for feed, chest room, bone, heads, muscling and general appearance.

Experimental Procedure:

The individual heifers in each lot were graded by using a standard feeder chart. The heifers in Lot 1 graded average good, and in Lot 2 low choice. Each heifer was also graded on a chart devised to furnish a record of apparent differences in body capacity, chest room, heads, muscling, bone and general appearance. These means were used to provide a record of the characteristics of each heifer as shown at the start of the test.

The heifers in each lot have received the same kinds of feeds consisting of ground corn, cottonseed meal and silage. Ground limestone has been fed at the rate of 1/10 of a pound per head daily. The amount of corn fed was increased gradually during the first 56 days until they were receiving a full feed of grain. Since that time both lots have been self-fed grain. Silage has been fed twice daily in the amount that the heifers would consume.

Observations To Date:

1. Both lots of heifers have consumed practically the same amount of corn.
2. The heifers in Lot 2 have consumed more silage than the heifers in Lot 1.

When these heifers are marketed the dressing percentage and carcass grade of each individual will be determined. When the trial is completed the following information will be provided for each lot.

1. Average rate of gain made by each heifer.
2. Quantity of feed consumed per 100 pounds of gain.
3. Market grades of the individual carcasses.
4. Dressing percentage of each heifer.

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Preliminary Report - December 5, 1946 to April 11, 1947 - 130 Days

1. Lot Number	1	2
2. Number of heifers	10	10
3. Average daily ration:		
Ground shelled corn	8.44	8.51
Atlas sorgho silage	10.18	14.15
Cottonseed meal	1.36	1.36
Ground limestone	.10	.10
4. Average Initial Weight	383.00	454.00
5. Average Final Weight	608.00	688.00
6. Average Gain	225.00	234.00
7. Average Daily Gain	1.73	1.80
8. Feed Cost for 100 lbs. Gain	17.26	17.25
9. Appraised Value per Cwt. May 3, 1947		

FEED PRICES: Ground shelled corn, \$1.40 per bushel;
Silage, \$5.00 per ton; Cottonseed meal,
\$90.00 per ton; Ground limestone, \$20.00
per ton.