

Small Paved Strips Near Feed Bunk Can Increase Feeder Cattle Gains

Beef cattle kept out of the mud will gain extra pounds. When the cattle have a firm footing they put on more weight than when they have to wade around in muddy yards, say animal husbandry research men at Purdue University.

Dr. W. M. Beeson and Dr. T. W. Perry found out that even a small strip of concrete alongside a feed bunk will more than pay for itself in increased beef gains. In a research trial (using two lots of 14 steers confined for 112 days) the

average gain per steer in the lot with a 16-ft concrete strip on one side of the feed bunk was 95 pounds compared to only 62 pounds for each steer confined to the unpaved lot.

EACH STEER on concrete gained 33 additional pounds. The steers in the unpaved lot ate less total feed, but each steer required 35 pounds more feed to make a pound of gain.

Income from this extra beef means that paved strips are profitable. And by paving a small section of the yard each year, you will soon have a complete paved holding area which will lessen cropland and reduce labor.

ALSO, VALUABLE manure can be saved—and more easily handled on a paved yard.

This and other valuable research information was made available to farmers, stockmen and agricultural editors attending Purdue's Cattle Feeders' Day, Friday, April 25.

A copy of the full research report on the paved versus unpaved strips is available on request to the Portland Cement Association, 33 West Grand Ave., Chicago 10, Ill.



MUDDY LOTS MEAN that cattle use up energy that could have gone into extra weight gains. Stock is harder to manage—more likely to get disease and infection.

Much of the fertility value of manure is lost for good. Extra labor is needed to fill up holes in unpaved lots.

LIVE POULTRY

PHILADLPHIA JUNE 18—Unsettled Demand was fair but very selective on size and quality. Supplies of all classes were more than adequate for immediate requirements.

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The feeding of trace minerals in a fattening rationing for heifers has considerable value, according to results of tests at Kansas State College. Heifers fed a corn full-feeding ration for 105 days are reported to have gained 37 pound more daily when trace elements were added to the ration than did a group of control heifers. The heifers getting the trace mineral ate slightly more grain and utilized it more efficiently.

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