

## Apple Pomace Makes Good Feed For Beef Cattle

Beef animals may not need an apple a day to keep healthy. But beef heifers on test recently put on weight when they ate pressed apple cores, stems, and peelings as an experimental roughage in winter rations.

Cooperative research by the Virginia Agricultural Experiment Station and USDA's Beef Cattle Research Station at Front Royal, Va., showed that the pomace — as the apple leftovers are called — is every bit as nutritious as locally grown feedstuffs. And the animals eating it not only thrived but gained more than animals eating the locally grown feed.

This is good news to Virginia's apple growers, who annually produce several thousand tons of pomace in processing apples for cider. At one time, a market for apple pomace existed in the preserve industry, which extracted pectin for jams and jellies.

**BUT THIS MARKET** has shifted to citrus. That prompted researchers to investigate nearby cattle feeding as a possible market for pomace. Feeding tests were set up to see how apple pomace compared with locally grown roughage for wintering cattle.

Animal husbandman B. M. Pride, of ARS, and M. J. Burns, of the state station (now with ARS), fed two types of apple pomace to cattle having access to sparse winter forage. One type was wet containing 70 per cent moisture. The other was dry, derived from the wet pomace by partial dehydration with steam heat to a moisture content of about 4 per cent. The wet pomace was stored in a covered shed with no packing or preservative. Even under these conditions, the sugar-rich pomace remained nutritious, palatable, and unspoiled.

**UNBRED SHORTHORN** yearling heifers gained 115 pounds in 106 days — 109 pounds daily — on self-fed dry apple pomace and a pound of cottonseed cake daily. For comparison, a sorgo-Sudan grass-soybean silage and .75 pound of cottonseed cake were fed per day to some other heifers during the same testing period. They gained only 32 pounds, or 3 pound daily.

Animals on apple pomace ate 123 pounds of the by-product daily, while the other heifers ate 437 pounds of the mixed silage. The animals on apple pomace ate an average of a pound more dry matter daily than those fed silage. This undoubtedly accounts for part of the greater gain.

Heifers within each group gained uniformly, showing that competition for feed was low under self-feeding. Animals fed apple pomace were in much better condition at the end of the tests than those on mixed silage.

Pregnant cows were also fed apple pomace, but in fixed amounts. The pomace was fed to the animals with cottonseed cake and hay, or cottonseed cake alone. This gave as good or better results than mixed alfalfa-barley silage fed with cottonseed cake and hay or cotton seed alone.

**ALL PREGNANT COWS** lost weight during tests as a result of calving, suckling, and use of wintering rations. But the cows lost about the same (and their calves gained about the same) as groups fed other roughage.

Animals stayed thrifty despite weight losses. In each group on limited rations, some cows lost much more weight than others. The scientists think this was due to competition for the limited feed supply resulting from natural variations in aggressiveness among animals.

There was no evidence of toxicity in any of the pomace rations. But processors should be alert against hardware and foreign materials.

## It's The Law

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**Q** I live in a village in Pennsylvania. I own eight acres of ground and would like to dig a dam or pond. If anyone got drowned in it, could I be sued for damages? **G M**

**A** Yes, even though you have fenced in your pond and have properly posted it, as a pond owner, under certain circumstances, you can be held legally liable for injuries or death in the pond. For this reason it would certainly be advisable to carry comprehensive liability insurance for protection from financial loss should such accidents happen.

Besides the risk of being legally liable for injuries or death of

Researchers feel that the results obtained in this series of tests could also be applied in planning various dry lot feeding operations.

persons in the pond, State permits are required for any dam which is large enough to cause danger to life or property in the event of its failure or for a dam which obstructs the flow of water from a drainage area of 320 acres or more. In such cases the State Department of Forests and Waters at Harrisburg should be contacted for approval.

**Q** If a man deserts his family, leaving many unpaid bills, and goes to another country, is it possible that he can be made to come back and support his children and pay the bills? If so, how? **L T**

**A** The Uniform Enforcement of Support Law, as in effect in Pennsylvania, can be used to enforce an obligation of support only in a State, territory or possession of the United States and the District of Columbia. There appears to be no way in which a man can be brought back from a foreign country for the purpose of making him support his family.

One possibility of enforcing the man's obligation to support his family might be to issue execution against property which the man might own in this country, or to attach any pension or insurance, etc., to which the man might be entitled in this country.

**Q** In an estate left to nieces and nephews what happens to the share of a deceased one? Does the wife get it or daughters of the deceased one? What happens in the case of a house left unsettled but occupied by a member of said estate, the house taxes are paid by the occupant and property listed in occupant's name. I do

not know if the deed to the house has been changed. If it has, could occupant have done it without remaining heirs signing off or without their knowledge of said transaction? **I W**

**A** Under the Wills Act of 1947 the share would go to the daughters of the deceased nephew unless the uncle died with a wife or issue surviving.

One of the heirs who occupies the home could not sell it without the signatures of all the heirs unless he were also the executor or administrator of the estate of the decedent. You should obtain counsel to investigate the handling of this estate.

**Q** How can a man go about getting a divorce from a woman who had four children and only one is his? Does he have to pay support for the four children even though all are not his? **G E W**

**A** The first step in seeking to obtain a divorce from a wife who is allegedly guilty of adulterous conduct during the marriage is to see the advice of a lawyer as to whether there are grounds for divorce, and if there are grounds, whether or not they can be proven in court.

As to the husband's duty to support children of whom he claims he is not the father, the law raises a strong presumption that children born to a married woman are legitimate. Any effort by the husband of the married woman to avoid his obligation to support such children born to his wife would have to be supported by strong and convincing evidence that he was not the father of the children.

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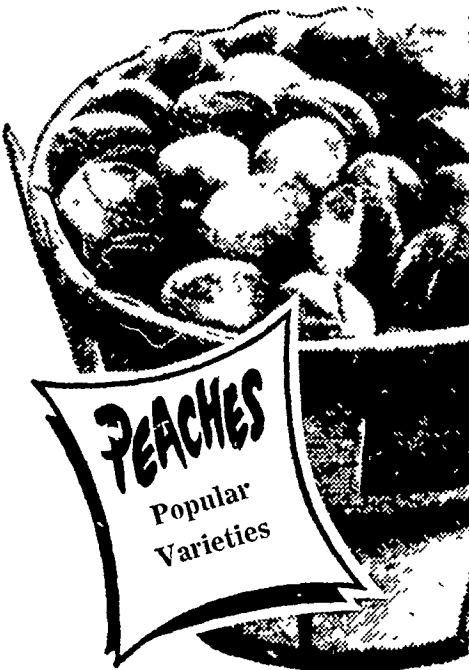
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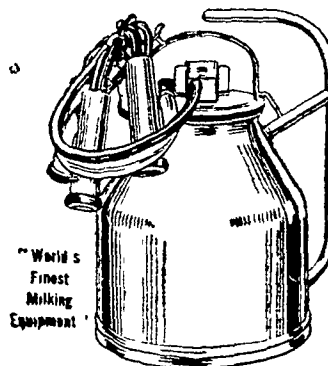
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