

Overfeeding Of Beef Cows Is Expensive

An overfed cow may look nice, but she isn't as long-lived — or as profitable — as the cow fed just enough to stay healthy, ARS and Oklahoma scientists are finding.

Sixteen of 30 beef cows fed a restricted, but adequate ration since 1948 are still in an experimental herd. In contrast, only 5 of 30 overfed beef cows remain in the herd.

What's more, the leaner females have outperformed their better-fed companions. Accumulative totals show the leaner group had a bigger calf crop (90 percent weaned vs. 84 percent); a higher net return (\$29,500 vs. \$16,500),

Two Countians To Be Judges At Farm Show

Two local agriculture experts will be among the judges at the annual Pennsylvania State Farm Show, January 7-11 in Harrisburg, it was announced this week.

The two men will judge exhibits in the poultry show. Dr. William L. Henning, State Secretary of Agriculture and chairman of the Farm Show Commission, said the poultry and egg judges will select winners from nearly 2500 entries, comprising the largest single department in the whole show.

William A. Ebelhar, Ephrata will judge eggs while the baby chick exhibits will be placed by Dr. E. I. Robertson of Lancaster.

Twenty experts in the industry will judge the poultry exhibits in the 47th edition of the show.

● Co. Dairymen

(Continued from Page 1) a breed age average of 103.0 percent.

A certificate of this award has been sent to both breeders by The Holstein-Friesian Association.

A bronze year plate will be presented to them at a meeting of Holstein breeders from the area, to be added to the bronze plaque awarded when his herd first achieved the honor.



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and lower feed, pasture, and mineral costs (\$375 per cow vs. \$645).

The experiment was conducted at the U.S. Department of Agriculture Fort Reno Livestock Research Station, El Reno, Okla., to learn the best amount of feed to give cows on winter pastures.

The scientists intended originally that the maintenance-fed cows would be underfed. The animals each got about 1 pound of cottonseed meal daily from early November to mid-April each year, in addition to free-choice salt and bonemeal. The overfed cows got 2.5 lbs. of cottonseed meal and 3 lbs. of oats daily, plus the salt and bonemeal.

Despite the difference in feeding levels, however, the maintenance-fed cows weighed only about 50 pounds less than the overfed ones at maturity. The researchers say cows on the low feeding level were active grazers, while the others spent more time waiting to be fed.

About 50 percent more of the overfed animals were removed from the herd for fail-

ure to calve than those on restricted rations. And disease losses in the overfed group were twice as great.

The maintenance-fed group weaned lighter calves (an average of 479 pounds, compared to 483 pounds), but they lost fewer calves each spring between birth to weaning (3.9 percent vs. 8.6 percent).

Previous studies have demonstrated that when cows don't get enough feed to satisfy their nutrient requirements, their fertility decreases fast.

The researchers say the low level of winter feeding, satisfactory in this study, may not be sufficient in other areas. The cows in both groups always had adequate grazing; each have about 10 acres of excellent native forage.

The largest black bear on record in Pennsylvania is a 633 pound brum, weighed on the scales before being dressed. It was killed by Herman Crokyndall near Milford, Pike County on December 4, 1923. Total length of this record bear, from tip of nose to tail, was 9 feet.

The base of Mt. Kilmanjaro, East Africa, covers an area 55 miles by 35 miles.

Tomato Plant Suppliers Are Commended

HARRISBURG — Out-of-state suppliers of tomato plants for Pennsylvania growers in 1962 today had the commendation of Pennsylvania State Department of Agriculture officials for delivering high quality goods that was relatively free from disease.

Dr. T. L. Guyton, director of the department's Bureau of Plant Industry, reported that of 418 lots of plants that were inspected, five were found to be infested with root knot nematodes, although four of the five had only a trace of the microscopic worms. One lot had a 15 percent infestation. Other pests and diseases were reported practically nonexistent.

W. L. Yount, BEI pathologist who had charge of the state's inspection service, said most of the plants came from Georgia. Other suppliers were from North Carolina, Mississippi, Maryland, Florida, and Virginia.

GAME LAW VIOLATORS

Harrisburg, — Pennsylvania game protectors completed 889 prosecutions for violations of the Game Law during October, an increase of 83 over the same period last year. T. F. Bell, Chief of the Game Commission's Division of Law Enforcement in Harrisburg, reported that the total amount of penalties collected during the month was \$22,199; during October, 1961, the total amount of fines was \$23,223.25.

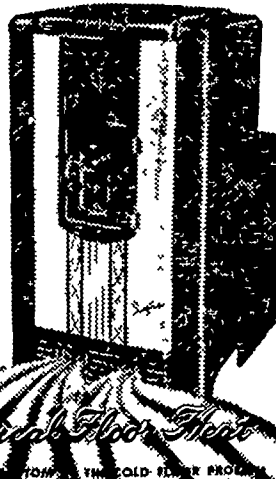


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