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#### ● Cattle Feeders

(Continued from Page 1)  
ter, salt and mineral — free-choice

7—Keep dogs and strangers out of the feedlots

8—Don't handle the animals any more than necessary  
**UREA**

In discussing the advantages of using urea as a low-cost source of protein for steer feeds, Burdette said it should only be used with high energy rations. "It contains no energy, no vitamins, and no minerals," the livestock specialist noted, "but it can reduce your cost per pound of gain when compared to vegetable protein sources."

#### OYSTER SHELLS

Oyster shell as a roughage substitute in high energy rations has been getting a lot of attention in the press, Burdette said, but he noted that any research he had seen on the subject was disappointingly inconsistent.

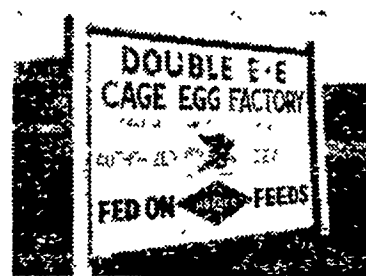
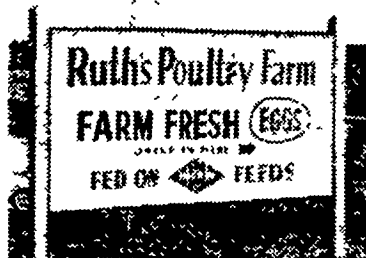
In discussing minerals, Burdette said, "The salt block should be thrown out. Cattle don't get anywhere near their proper salt requirements from a block." He added that there is no one mineral mix that fits all situations.

Extension agronomist Dr. John Baylor discussed the ad-

vantages of silage for beef cattle, and told the cattlemen how to get the most return for their silage dollar.

Harvesting silage at the proper time is important, Baylor said. He noted that immature corn silage will result in low quality feed, and that a well-formed ear contributes about 40 percent of the plant's feeding value. But, he cautioned, "corn can get too mature." He advised making silage when corn is in the full-dent stage. Waiting until full maturity reduces the amount of dry matter per acre, and can account for as much as one-sixth of the crop never reaching the silo.

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In The Egg Business? Come to the EGG MARKETING meeting being held February 7th by YOUR Lancaster County Poultry Association.

#### DOUBLE ROWS

"High population corn generally gives lower quality feed—if it can be harvested at all," Baylor said.

Using the "double-row" planting system, the agronomist noted, can increase yields by 10-15 percent. But the plants per acre must be increased to 25,000-35,000. The double rows should be spaced 6-7 feet apart, and plants should be 38-40 inches on center, Baylor suggested, noting that this system permitted better utilization of light than simple, high-density planting.

"To get the best dollar value per acre," Baylor advised, "grow corn at the right population density for your operation, harvest it to yield a Total Digestible Nutrient (TDN) content of 70 percent, and supplement it as needed."

#### HAY SILAGE

In explaining low-moisture hay silage, Baylor told the cattle feeders that it involves less handling, yields more feed per acre, the animals like it better, it provides flexibility for storage, there is no seepage, it has a good odor, and it doesn't freeze.

To produce low-moisture silage, the agronomist advised:

- 1—Harvest for best yield at the bud stage
- 2—Use a hay conditioner
- 3—Wilt to 40-60 percent moisture
- 4—Chop as short and fine as possible
- 5—Use a covered wagon for hauling it
- 6—Fill silo rapidly
- 7—Store it in a tight silo

In response to a question on the best corn to use for silage, Baylor told the cattlemen that "The best corn for silage is also the best corn for grain. It should be a hybrid that will reach the right stage of maturity at the time you want it."

#### ● Crops & Soils

(Continued from Page 1)

eastern Field Research Farm.

At 9:45, George Berggren, extension agronomist will discuss "Weed Control Practices To Boost Crop Yields".

10:30 — James Eakin, chairman agronomy extension section, will handle discussion on four topics: "Soil Testing Changes Coming", "Soil Amendments", "Fertilizer Usage And Recommendations"; and "General Trends In The Industry".

1:30 — Lueck will present Corn Club and Hay Show awards.

1:45 — Clarence Byner, extension agronomist, "Getting The Most From An Acre Of Corn".

2:30 — Larry Click, extension agricultural engineer, "Handling and Storage Of Farm-Grown Feeds".

The program will conclude at approximately 3:30 p.m. Lueck said.