

● Feeding For Milk

(Continued from Page 13)
 However, not all cows benefit from increased feed. Some may just gain weight; they're the ones to cull. Even with good milk producers, the more feed — the more milk works up to a certain

point only, Calhoun reported at the University of Delaware's Farm and Home Week. "When you feed cows more to get more milk, you eventually reach a level where the feed doesn't change into milk as efficiently." The feed becomes less digestible and the animal

tends to gain weight.

Cows with the ability to produce large quantities of milk often rapidly lose weight after calving because they aren't getting enough nutrients to support increased milk production. Using feed to gain weight during late lactation and the dry period and later turning that weight into milk isn't very efficient, Calhoun

pointed out. "It's better to feed the cow the needed nutrients at the beginning of lactation when it can be converted to milk directly."

Although many cows do not get enough feed at any time, some receive enough total feed in a year, but too little early in lactation and too much late

in lactation. Giving the feed when it is needed has led to dramatic increases in milk production. Calhoun reported. This is one of the reasons for challenge or lead feeding.

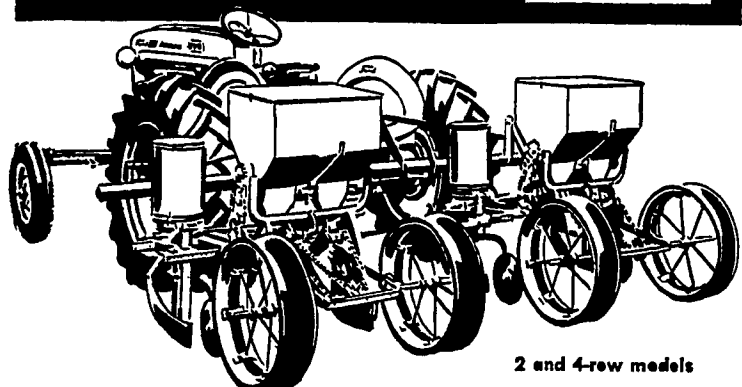
There are problems, however, Calhoun admitted. The cow may get off her feed if brought to full feed of concentrates too quickly. On the other hand, if the cow is underfed too long after freshening, the body reserves are drawn upon. If the reserves are used up quickly, production will go down. Also, continual underfeeding favors the development of ketosis.

Experience with cows giving 80 pounds or more milk per day shows that it's very difficult to get these cows to eat enough grain even with the challenge feeding and good quality roughage. According to Calhoun, one approach to the problem is to start feeding grain before freshening so that, by the time the cow freshens, a concentrate-feeding level of 15 to 18 pounds per day has been reached. Thus conditions the cow to handle large quantities of feed.

After calving, the level of concentrates is increased as quickly as possible to either greatest appetite or greatest milk yield, whichever is reached first. Thereafter, the concentrate level should be reduced to the lowest level which does not reduce the milk yield. A change in the amount of feed usually shows up in the milk yield within 30 hours. Therefore, with close attention, long periods of underfeeding or overfeeding can be avoided.

The most important single point to remember in any feeding program is that each cow is an individual; her habits and ability to handle feed may differ from other cows. A good herdsman has to watch his cows closely and feed according to the appetites of individual cows, Calhoun stresses.

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IHC 10 disc drill, Cannon sheller, 2 wheeled trailer, platform scales, 275 gal. oil tank, hayloader, hammermill, marker, drums, blacksmith forge, pot belly stove, saddle, 2 sets front gear harness, 2 sets britchman harness, baler twine, sawbuck, 8,000 tobacco lath, Minnich press, 1 set driving harness, some lumber, chicken crates and chicken picker, elec. welder, many, many other articles not mentioned.

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at 12:00 Noon

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HOT WATER OIL FIRED FURNACE WITH RADIATORS, WATER SOFTENER, HOUSE INSULATED AND COVERED WITH GYPSUM SHADOW GREEN SHINGLES, ALUMINUM STORM WINDOWS, CITY WATER, also well, 2 car garage and work shop. English walnut trees, fruit trees, asparagus, strawberries and grapes.

Inspection of Property Feb. 25 and March 4 from 1:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Real estate to be offered at 2:00 p.m.

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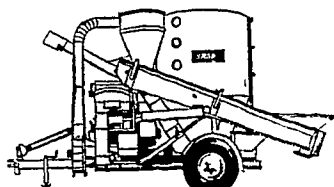
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