

Research Findings Could Change Methods Of Veal Production

Two animal scientists at Brigham Young University have recently concluded a two-year research project on the feeding of calves, and their findings could change veal production.

Dr. Robert W. Gardner and Dr. Max V. Wallentine have established that grain-fed calves can produce the same quality veal as milk-fed calves if five per cent tallow (animal fat) is added to their feed. Until now, grain-fed calves were considered to produce veal inferior to milk-fed calves. However, the milk cost alone is approximately \$60 as opposed to only \$23 for feed costs when using grain.

This means that grain-feeding (including tallow) results in a saving of more than 50 per cent in feed cost-per-calf over milk-feeding.

Dr. Marion Bennion, chairman of BYU's Food and Nutrition Department, said that a taste panel could not detect any differences in the appearance of the cooked

meat, or its flavor, odor, juiciness or tenderness. Dr. Gardner added that the chemical composition (protein, fat) of milk and grain-fed calves is identical at equal carcass weights. The only major difference in the raw meat is the intensity of red. Milk-fed calf meat is lighter since these calves tend to be anemic.

The grain-fed calves were fed primarily barley and 20 per cent alfalfa hay plus the five per cent tallow. Dr. Gardner said this was the first time tallow had been added to the diet of grain-fed veal calves and only three pounds of feed was required per pound of weight gain compared with 11 pounds of milk for every pound of weight gained by milk-fed calves. Added tallow results in an improved fat color and covering of the carcass, comparable to milk feeding.

Silo filling time is at hand and many tons of corn silage will be stored in our huge silos in the coming weeks. The danger of silo gas seems to be on the increase and I'd like to caution all farmers against this danger. We have more trouble with this gas in the past decade because we are using more fertilizer on our corn crop and the silos are getting larger, resulting in a greater concentration of this livestock feed. As the silage ferments, there are a number of gases that may be given off. Farmers are urged to warn all members of their family of this danger and keep them away from the silo. The danger period is during the filling operation and for a week to ten days after the silo is filled. Details of this problem may be obtained by contacting our Extension Office.

For Safety's Sake
All poisons and household chemicals must be kept in their original containers so they are used according to directions on the labels, says Delbert L. Bierlein, pesticides coordinator with The Pennsylvania State University Cooperative Extension Service. He cautions against putting a chemical into an empty food container. Toddlers can't distinguish food from poison and will eat or drink anything.

Keep Quality In Eggs
For best quality, store eggs promptly and large end up in your refrigerator, advises Catherine Love, Penn State extension consumer education specialist. Storing with the large end up will keep the yolk from sticking

to the shell and help eggs keep their natural quality longer. It's essential to get eggs under refrigeration as soon as possible to preserve their quality.

Color is a Safety Feature
Color is a safety feature to consider when buying or making clothing for children, reminds Mrs. Ruth Ann Wilson, Penn State extension clothing specialist. Light, bright colors for jackets and coats are good choices and make children more visible to motorists on dark days. If coats and jackets are of dark colors, it might be well to use some bright reflecting tape on the fronts and backs of the garments.

Equipment Feature At Penn State Field Day

Demonstrations of harvesters for fresh market sweet corn and cabbage will be featured at a Vegetable Crops Field Day to be held September 9 at the Horticultural Research Farm of the Pennsylvania State University. Located 10 miles west of the Penn. State campus on State Route 45, the farm is part of the new Agricultural Research Center at Rock Springs.

Equipment will be demonstrated on a number of sweet corn and cabbage varieties planted especially for this event, according to C. J. Noll, program chairman and associate professor of olericulture.

Field Day visitors are invited to assemble at the Research Farm between 9:00 and 9:30 a.m. on September 9. Lunch will be available at the farm for a nominal charge. The day's events will close about 3:30 p.m.

The program will show variety trials involving eight different kinds of vegetables. Weed control trials will be shown on several vegetable crops. Nutritional studies involving nitrogen and magnesium will be featured. Breeding plots will show experimental varieties of sweet corn, peppers, eggplants, and tomatoes.

Tomato plots will show comparisons of staked varieties, for machine harvesting. Experiments with tomatoes will also show breeding lines.

Convenience Foods

It's possible to have a well-balanced meal with little effort and time with the use of convenience foods, points out Mrs. Ruth J. Buck, Penn State extension foods and nutrition specialist. A fruit or vegetable salad and a glass of milk will round out the missing nutrients. Nutritionally well-balanced meals every day will provide the variety in foods each person needs to maintain his health and vitality for living.

Current predictions for the state's turkey crop indicate that 4,987,000 of the big birds will be raised this year. This would top last year's figure by 23 percent and be the second largest crop since 1956.

A survey by the Pennsylvania Crop Reporting Service breaks down the present forecast to 1,731,000 heavy breed birds, and the balance of 256,000 in light breed.

Nationally turkeys raised in 1969 are expected to total 106.4 million, less than 1 percent below last year.



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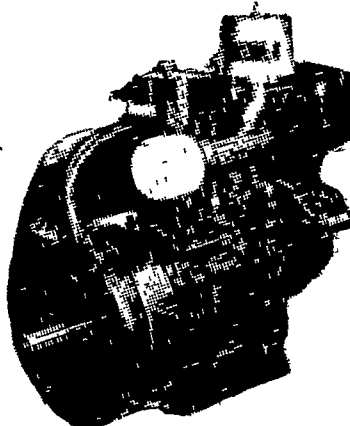

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