

Livestock Notes

Alternative Sources of Protein for Beef Cattle

Protein costs can approach 50% of total feed costs in beef cattle diets. In the past few weeks the cost of soybean meal, a principal component of protein supplements for cattle, has risen in cost more than \$150 per ton. This has resulted in a sizeable increase in total feeding costs. However, there are alternative sources of protein for cattle diets. These include whole cottonseed, cot-

tonseed meal, fishmeal, linseed meal, urea, and dried brewers grain.

Urea is a source of non-protein nitrogen that can be very effective and cost-competitive when used appropriately in cattle diets.

Compare the relative cost of these feeds in terms of their energy contribution to the ration because their energy content may vary widely from that in soybean meal. With the escalating price of corn and other energy feeds, ener-

Protein Value (% of SBM) Equivalent Cost (\$/ton) Energy Equivalent (% of SBM)	Distillers Dried Grains	Whole Cottonseed	Menhaden Fishmeal	Cottonseed	Linseed Meal
	68.1	52.3	147.7*	93	86
	272.40	209.20	590.90	372.00	344.00
	80	111	89	96	97

*Cannot be more than 3% of the ration.

Vegetable Growers Announce Plans

BRIDGETON, N.J. — The Vegetable Growers Association of New Jersey will hold their 1991 annual meeting on January 15, 16, and 17 at Trump Castle Hotel and Casino in Atlantic City. This year's meeting will offer educational sessions, a trade show, spouses program, and annual banquet.

Last year's meeting and trade show was the largest ever and plans are being made to host more than 2,000 participants this year. Growers, agribusiness representatives, spouses, Department of

gy content is a concern.

The following table shows the relative protein value and equivalent cost per ton as a protein source, as well as the relative energy value of these protein alternatives. They are compared to soybean meal priced at \$400 per ton.

Check local prices on these feeds and use a least-cost ration program to determine the extent of their use in rations.

Agriculture experts, and university specialists from Rutgers and the eastern United States will be attending the educational sessions and trade show. Like all activities supported by Rutgers Cooperative Extension, the VGANJ meeting is open to all registered persons without regard to race, sex, color, national origin, handicap, or age. The meeting is one of the largest, most informative vegetable meetings on the East Coast.

The annual meeting is being organized by the same team that coordinated last year's highly successful meeting. VGANJ secretary, Philip Traino, and Mrs. Marion Savoca are coordinating registration, VGANJ activities and the dinner show. Dr. Steve Garrison and Dr. Steve Reiners, of Rutgers Cooperative Extension, are coordinating the educational program sessions and Rocco DiGerolamo is coordinating the Trade Show again this year.

For information on registration, contact Phil Traino, 377 North Locust Avenue, Marlton, NJ 08053 (609) 985-4382.

Trade Show

This year's Trade Show will feature more than 130 exhibit spaces, all located in one large

area, the Crystal Ballroom. Agribusiness representatives will display new tillage, irrigation, planting, seeding, packing, and pesticide application equipment. Suppliers and distributors of fertilizers, pesticides, containers, plastics, and many other farm supplies, will be available to discuss the use and performance of their products. We are looking forward to the best trade show ever. Don't miss this opportunity to learn about new products and services, and to exchange information with other growers and industry representatives!

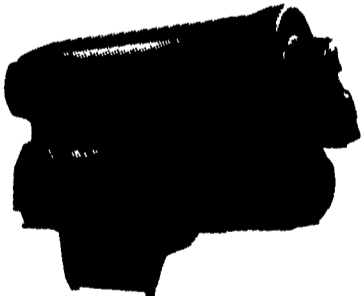
Education Program

The program committee has developed 14 interesting sessions, offering information on topics and issues of special concern to growers.

Featured speakers at this year's meeting include leading researchers, Extension specialists, industry scientists, growers, and county agents. Speakers from Virginia, Delaware, Maryland, New York, Illinois, Florida, North Carolina, Pennsylvania, Massachusetts, Ohio, and New Jersey will offer new ideas, share their experiences, and present results of their latest studies.



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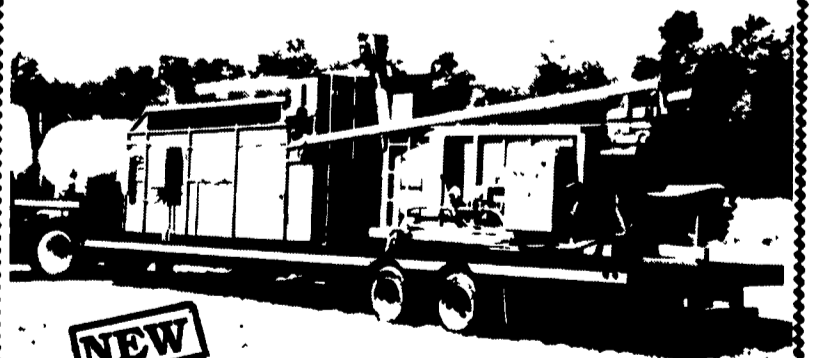
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