

NEW YORK FEEDLOT AND CARCASS VALUE DISCOVERY PROGRAM

*Facilitated by
Cornell University Department of Animal Science
Cornell Cooperative Extension*

PURPOSE:

Teach cow/calf producers the value of their calves based on performance in the feedlot and on through the packing plant.

Who should participate. Commercial cow/calf and seedstock producers interested in evaluating their breeding and sire selection programs.

What. Four steers or four heifers from the same sire (recommended) are to be consigned. They will be fed a high-energy ration to their optimal profit potential (OPP). The OPP will be determined by animal performance, cost of gain, market conditions and evaluation by the test station manager.

Where. Cattle will be fed at the Cornell University Teaching and Research Center, Beef Unit located in Harford, NY. *Cornell University assumes no responsibility for the loss of cattle consigned to this program.*

REQUIREMENTS:

1. Recommended minimum of 4 steer or heifer calves. For the most meaningful information, it is recommended that the calves be from the same sire. Minimum (recommended) weight at delivery: 450 lbs. If space allows, more than eight head per consignor may be accepted.
2. Castration and de-horning is to be completed, healed and dry prior to October 1.
3. Heifers are to be guaranteed open.
4. Cattle are to be weaned no later than October 1. It is highly recommended to begin the first series of vaccinations four to six weeks prior to weaning, so that entire health program is completed two weeks prior to weaning.
5. Vaccinations are to include BRSV, IBR, PI-3, BVD, 7-way Clostridial, Haemophilus somnus, and Mannheimia haemolytica (formerly Pasteurella haemolytica) and Pasteurella multocida. (leucotoxin). Booster is to be given according to label.
6. Calves are to receive a selenium injection, be de-wormed, treated for grubs, and free of ringworm and warts.
7. Calves should be fed a 12%-14% crude protein grain mix at 1-1.5 lbs. per 100 lbs. of body weight. For example a 550-lb. calf should receive 5 lbs-7.5 lbs. of grain/day.
8. Beef Quality Assurance guidelines of neck only and when possible subcutaneous injections are to be followed.
9. Beef Quality Assurance certification strongly recommended.

2008 TIMETABLE:

September 15	Consignments, along with \$30/head due.
September 15	Recommended last day to complete vaccinations (including boosters)
October 1	Last day to wean calves.
October 10	Mandatory last day to complete vaccinations (including boosters)
November 5-6	Deliver calves to Cornell Beef Cattle T& R Center, Harford, NY
November 20	Official start of program.

COST. Cattle will be charged for feed, yardage, medical, freight and a \$30 fee to cover costs of individual data collection. Total cost will vary with performance. The total average cost in the 2008/2009 feeding period was \$355. A check payable to Cornell University for \$50/head is due at delivery to cover initial costs.

INFORMATION. At a minimum, consignors will receive:

1. Feedlot performance-total gain, average daily gain, dry matter intake, feed efficiency.
2. Carcass measurements: carcass weight, ribeye area, back fat, quality and yield grade.
3. Economic performance-cost of gain, profit, feeder calf value.

To consign cattle, or for more information, contact Mike Baker, Cornell Extension Specialist, 607-255-5923, email mjb28@cornell.edu.