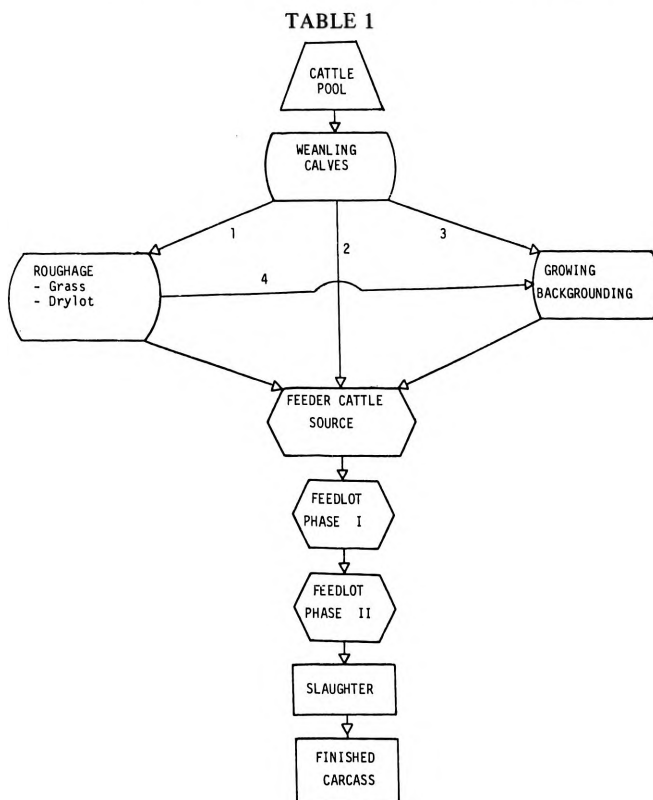


Feedlot Nutrition

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It is certainly a pleasure to have an opportunity to visit with you gentlemen this afternoon concerning the area of feedlot nutrition. We will take a look at the various routes which the weaning calf might follow in reaching the position of a beef carcass with particular emphasis on the general aspects of nutrition in feedlot cattle.

Table 1 illustrates a flow chart or general route by which an animal might proceed from his mother to a finished carcass.



reduces the amount of “riding” that occurs with the higher level of diethylstilbestrol implantation.

Another ingredient, rather common today, is melengesterolacetate (MGA) used in heifers commonly at 0.4 mgms per head per day.

In the area of feed formulation, the California Net Energy System is commonly used today, but I would like to warn you against this system. It is only of value if all other nutrients are balanced before you start using it. The system also tends to underestimate the predicted gains, or the predicted feed requirements and least cost formulation.

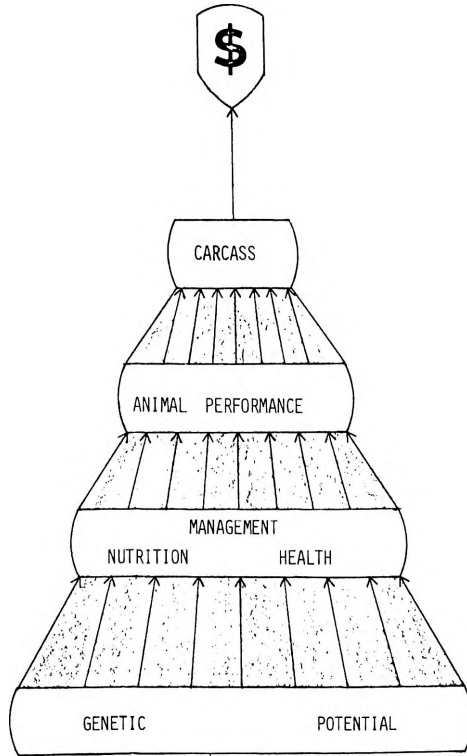
Another topic which receives considerable attention today is *grain processing*. A general recommendation concerning this area is really impossible because of: 1) lot size, 2) feed types availability and cost, 3) available facilities, and 4) cost of processing and many others. However, certain types of grains are commonly processed in certain ways—corn for example. Considerable amounts of shell corn are being fed today, and you have possibly seen a lot of steam flaked corn being fed, some ground corn, some high moisture in silo corn. Milo, in the southwest, mostly steam flaked and some popping occurring. Barley and wheat most effective when dry rolled. All of these four main grain sources can be fed as the entire grain source, and we might caution you here on wheat. A considerable amount of research has been conducted lately which showed that we can use 100% wheat as the grain source but the management problems become much greater.

A good recommendation if you are not familiar with grain would be to use 50% wheat and 50% other grain source. You will find tremendous numbers of digestive problems in cattle which are on a grain ration which may contain wheat for a few days, then omitted, but replaced later.

Moving down our flow chart from the feedlot area to slaughter, the end of Phase II, probably the most critical factors here for feedlotmen is to withdraw antibiotics from the feed additives. If antibiotics are fed at high levels, they should be withdrawn seven days before shipping. At low levels, 70 milligrams per day, remove 48 hours before shipping. Diethylstilbestrol should be withheld for seven days before shipping. We must pay attention to this. With implants, the animal cannot be shipped for 120 days after implantation. MGA should be removed 48 hours before departure.

To terminate our discussion of the flow chart, we come to the finished carcass. The animal has “traveled” from the cattle pool to the finished carcass. Table 2 summarizes our efforts in the medical and nutritional aspects of animal production. As we mentioned, a newborn calf has a tremendous potential for maximum production. We can not increase this; we can only decrease it by human error. Through proper nutrition and health management, we hope to realize maximum animal performance. In other words, to obtain as much performance as possible from that animal. The subtotal is, of course, reflected in the quality of carcasses produced, whereas the total (top of Table 2) is

TABLE 2



reflected as dollars and cents in terms of profit that we realize from this animal.

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