Utah State University DigitalCommons@USU

All Archived Publications

Archived USU Extension Publications

1-1-1997

Comparison of Rations at Weaning

Clell V. Bagley

Norris J. Stenquist

Warning: The information in this series may be obsolete. It is presented here for historical purposes only. For the most up to date information please visit The Utah State University Cooperative Extension Office

Recommended Citation

Bagley, Clell V. and Stenquist, Norris J., "Comparison of Rations at Weaning" (1997). *All Archived Publications*. Paper 110. http://digitalcommons.usu.edu/extension_histall/110

This Article is brought to you for free and open access by the Archived USU Extension Publications at DigitalCommons@USU. It has been accepted for inclusion in All Archived Publications by an authorized administrator of DigitalCommons@USU. For more information, please contact becky.thoms@usu.edu.







COMPARISON OF RATIONS AT WEANING

Animal Health Fact Sheet

USU-1994



Clell V. Bagley, DVM, Extension Veterinarian *Norris J. Stenquist*, PhD Utah State University, Logan UT 84322-5600

July 1997 AH/Beef/32

Calves in three groups were fed grass hay for 24–36 hours after weaning. For the next 2 weeks they were fed the rations below. For the final 2 weeks, all groups were fed ration number two.

Calves were individually weighed at weaning, at 2 weeks, and at end of trial.

Group/Ration	Number of Calves	Gain (lbs)		
		0-2 weeks	2-4 weeks	Total
1) Alfalfa (12#) + Barley (4#)	33	-3.6	46.2	42.5
2) Alfalfa (10#), Barley (4#), Silage (6#)	32	12.8	30.0	42.8
3) Grass hay (ad. lib)	32	6.1	6.4	13.0

Calves fed only grass hay for two weeks gained significantly less than calves on either of the other rations. There was only one ill and one bloated calf, both in group one, and their inclusion/exclusion did not affect the significance of the gain data.

It would appear the best weaning ration for our area may be:

- Feed grass hay for 1-2 days.
- Top dress onto the grass hay a ration of chopped alfalfa, rolled or ground barley, and corn silage.
- Gradually increase the mixed ration and decrease the grass hay.
- For bloat control, include some grass hay in the mixed ration and increase the silage if needed.

Utah State University Extension is an affirmative action/equal employment opportunity employer and educational organization. We offer our programs to persons regardless of race, color, national origin, sex, religion, age or disability.

Issued in furtherance of Cooperative Extension work, Acts of May 8 and June 30, 1914, in cooperation with the U.S. Department of Agriculture, Robert L. Gilliland, Vice-President and Director, Cooperative Extension Service, Utah State University, Logan, Utah. (EP/DF/07-97)