

RETURNS FROM ONE ACRE OF FEED

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DESPITE ASSERTIONS MADE TO THE CONTRARY BY AGRICULTURAL EXPERTS, MANY FARMERS KNOW THAT MONEY HAS BEEN MADE THROUGH THE RETURNS FROM LOW-PRODUCING COWS AND THEY HAVE BANK BALANCES TO PROVE IT. THAT THE LOW-PRODUCING COW IS NOT SO PROFITABLE AS THE HIGH PRODUCER IS NEVER DISPUTED, BUT WHY IS IT THAT MANY FARMERS ARE SATISFIED WITH THE COMMON, LOW-PRODUCING SCRUB COW?

ONE OF THE ANSWERS TO THAT QUESTION IS ATTEMPTED IN THE FOLLOWING TABLE OF FIGURES. THE NUTRIMENTS DEMANDED BY THE COWS AND PRODUCED IN THE FEED ARE TAKEN FROM HAECKER'S FEEDING STANDARDS. THIS IS NOT AN ATTEMPT TO JUSTIFY THE POOR COW BUT TO EXPLAIN HOW SHE DOES RETURN A MARGIN OF INCOME OVER COST OF FEED.

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DISPOSITION OF FEED	CLOVER HAY	ALFALFA HAY	CORN SILAGE	GRAIN: $\frac{1}{3}$ CORN, $\frac{1}{3}$ OATS, $\frac{1}{3}$ BARLEY
IF SOLD FOR CASH	\$18.00	\$30.00	\$30.00	\$18.10
FED TO 150# B. F. COW	21.50	35.00	35.00	14.50
FED TO 210# B. F. COW	26.30	44.00	44.00	18.50
FED TO 300# B. F. COW	32.10	54.00	54.00	22.50
FED TO HOGS (PASTURE)	39.20	41.30	—	23.10
AV. COST OF PRODUCTION	9.00	12.00	20.00	12.50

SUPPLEMENTARY NOTES TO TABLE --

CLOVER, 2 TONS PER ACRE @ \$9.00; ALFALFA, 3 TONS @ \$10.00; SILAGE, 10 TONS @ \$3.00; CORN, 40 BU. PER ACRE @ 60¢; OATS, 40 BU. @ 35¢; BARLEY, 30 BU. @ 55¢; 5 LBS. GRAIN TO 1 LB. PORK @ 7¢ PER LB.; PASTURE FIGURES FOR HOGS, 560 LBS. OF PORK PER ACRE OF CLOVER, 590 LBS. PER ACRE OF ALFALFA. (Mo. BULLETIN 110.) BUTTER FAT AT 30¢ PER LB.

AT ABOVE YIELDS AND PRICES:

THE 150 LB. COW RETURNS \$3.60 LESS PER ACRE OF GRAIN THAN ITS CASH VALUE
 BUT SHE " 3.50 MORE " " " CLOVER " " " "
 AND " " 5.00 MORE " " " ALFALFA
 & SILAGE " THEIR " "

THE 300 LB. COW RETURNS \$4.40 MORE PER ACRE OF GRAIN THAN ITS CASH VALUE
 AND SHE " 12.10 MORE " " " CLOVER " " " "
 " " " 24.00 MORE " " " ALFALFA
 & SILAGE " THEIR " "

LABOR ON THE 150 LB. COW, AT 15¢ PER HOUR, COSTS MORE THAN THE GAIN MADE OVER MARKET PRICES OF THE FEED, BUT NOTE THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN THE COST OF PRODUCTION AND THE MARKET VALUE.

THESE FIGURES MEAN:

1. THAT THE BETTER GRADES OF ROUGHAGE HAVE A WIDE MARGIN OF PROFIT BETWEEN COST OF PRODUCTION AND MARKET VALUE, BUT EVEN A STILL WIDER MARGIN IF FED TO THE AVERAGE COW.
2. THAT THERE IS NO MARGIN OF PROFIT BETWEEN MARKET PRICES OF GRAIN AND RETURNS FROM COWS GIVING LESS THAN 200 LBS. OF FAT, BUT THERE IS A SMALL MARGIN BETWEEN COST OF PRODUCTION AND THE VALUE WHEN FED TO THE AVERAGE COW.
3. THAT IF FAMILY LABOR CARES FOR THE COW THE LOW-PRODUCING COW DOES RETURN A GOOD MARGIN OF INCOME OVER THE COST OF PRODUCING THE ROUGHAGE.