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FEEDING OF BREEDING YOUNG CATTLE

Albina Kaniyazova

Karakalpakstan Institute of Agriculture and Agrotechnologies Assistant of the "Zooengineering and Veterinary" department

Annotation: This article is devoted to give information about Feeding breeding young cattle, particularly in the context of beef or dairy production which is crucial for their growth, health, and future productivity.

Keywords: protein, feeding management, colostrum feeding, digestable, cell, grains.

It is fact that young cattle, especially those bred for future reproduction, have specific nutritional needs to support growth, skeletal development, and reproductive health. These requirements vary depending on the breed, age, weight, and intended purpose (beef or dairy). Furthermore, A balanced diet is essential, typically consisting of roughage (fiber), concentrates (grains), protein, vitamins, and minerals. The specific ratio and composition of these components may vary based on factors such as age, gender, breed, and health status. The importance of breastfeeding. Colostrum is that dark, creamy and yellow; is a colored secretory substance, When the cows give birth, they are separated from the herd.According to foreign experts, the cows are pregnant, The secretion that came out in my first milk is called colostrum.

In the initial diet, grains are usually ground. It is formed from a mixture of crushed powder. Giving a great amount of crushing is not recommended. The initial ration the quality of taste is increased by adding 5% molasses.

The amount of protein in the diet as the calves grow decrease and the amount of cell (fiber with neutral detergent) can increase. For calves aged 3 to 6 months it is not recommended to give low-quality hay and silage. Early aged calf, and low-quality hay and silage for carcasses when given, It is known that ration concentrate and mineral nutrients enriched The content of hay and silage is lacking digestible proteins are prepared as concentrates. Typically, calves are fed concentrates that have 16% crude protein can be used in the diet. Furthermore, Good-quality forage and roughage form the foundation of the diet for young cattle. This can include pasture grass, hay, silage, or other fibrous materials. Forage provides essential fiber for rumen development and promotes proper digestion.

Not only, feeding with hay, silage is taken into account, but also it is better to concentrate feeds such as grains (corn, barley, oats), soybean meal, and commercial feed mixes are often added to provide energy, protein, and other essential nutrients. These concentrates help support growth and meet the increased energy demands of young, growing cattle.

Biologically, protein is critical for muscle development, immune function, and overall growth. Young cattle may require higher levels of protein compared to mature animals. Protein sources include legumes (such as alfalfa), soybean meal, cottonseed meal, and various commercial protein supplements. In addition to protein, young cattle require adequate amounts of minerals (such as calcium, phosphorus, magnesium, and potassium) and vitamins (like vitamin A, D, and E) for bone development, metabolic processes, and overall health. Mineral supplements are often provided through mineral blocks, mineral mixes, or added to feed. Access to clean, fresh water is

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essential for young cattle. Water intake affects digestion, nutrient absorption, and overall health. Ensure that water sources are readily available and regularly monitored.

Feeding management practices should consider the specific needs of breeding young cattle. This includes providing a consistent feeding schedule, monitoring feed intake, and adjusting diet formulations as needed based on growth rates and body condition scores.

As for regular health monitoring, including deworming, vaccination, and disease prevention measures, is crucial for young cattle. Consult with a veterinarian to develop a comprehensive health program tailored to the specific needs of breeding young cattle. It is suggested that regularly monitor the growth and development of young cattle to ensure they are meeting growth targets and reproductive milestones. Adjust feeding programs as necessary to support optimal growth and prepare young cattle for breeding and reproduction.

Overall, providing a well-balanced diet, appropriate feeding management, and proper health care are essential for the successful development and future productivity of breeding young cattle in both beef and dairy operations. Consulting with nutritionists, veterinarians, and experienced cattle producers can help develop effective feeding programs tailored to specific herd requirements and production goals.Feeding breeding young cattle involves careful consideration of their nutritional needs, including the amount and duration of milk feeding. There are some following instructions for feeding breeding young cattle, focusing on milk feeding:

- Immediately after birth, newborn calves should receive colostrum, the first milk produced by the cow. Colostrum is rich in antibodies and essential nutrients vital for the calf's immune system and overall health. Ideally, calves should consume colostrum within the first few hours of life, as their ability to absorb antibodies declines rapidly after birth.

- After the initial colostrum feeding, calves transition to a diet of milk or milk replacer. The transition period typically lasts several weeks, during which calves gradually adjust to consuming milk or milk replacer as their primary source of nutrition.

- The quantity of milk or milk replacer provided to breeding young cattle depends on factors such as age, weight, breed, and growth rate. As a general guideline, calves may consume 10-12% of their body weight in milk per day. For example, a calf weighing 100 pounds might be fed 10-12 pounds of milk daily.

- Frequency of Feeding: During the early stages of life, breeding young cattle require frequent feedings to support growth and development. Calves are typically fed milk or milk replacer two to three times per day, with feedings spaced evenly throughout the day to ensure consistent nutrient intake.

- Duration of Milk Feeding: The duration of milk feeding varies depending on management practices, growth objectives, and production systems. In some operations, calves may be weaned from milk as early as 6-8 weeks of age, while in others, milk feeding may continue for 8-12 weeks or longer.

- Weaning Process: The weaning process involves gradually transitioning breeding young cattle from a milk-based diet to solid feed. This gradual transition allows calves to adapt to consuming forage, concentrates, and other solid feeds while gradually reducing their reliance on milk or milk replacer.

In addition to milk or milk replacer, breeding young cattle should have access to clean, fresh water at all times to support hydration and overall health. By following these instructions for feeding breeding young cattle, producers can help ensure that calves receive the nutrition they

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need for healthy growth, development, and eventual reproductive success. Regular monitoring, attention to detail, and adherence to best practices contribute to the overall well-being and productivity of breeding young cattle in beef and dairy operations.

If milk feeding is not an option for young cattle, there are alternative feeding options to ensure they receive adequate nutrition for healthy growth and development. These alternatives include:

If access to cow's milk is limited or unavailable, milk replacers specifically formulated for young calves can serve as an effective substitute. Milk replacers typically contain a balance of proteins, fats, carbohydrates, vitamins, and minerals designed to mimic the composition of cow's milk. Calf starter feeds are specially formulated to provide balanced nutrition for young calves transitioning from milk to solid feed. These feeds typically contain grains, protein sources, vitamins, and minerals essential for growth and development. Calf starter feeds should be introduced gradually and made available to calves alongside water.

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