

# Nutrition, Pasture & Supplementation for Beef Cattle

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# Things to remember...

- Cattle don't "need" high-quality forage.
- Prefer grass, but will utilize shrubs at different times of the year
- Requirements vary throughout year

# Nutrient Requirements

1,200 Cow

## Maintenance

DM – 20.8 lbs.

TDN – 10.1 lbs.

CP – 1.4 lbs.

Ca - .19 % (18 g)

P - .19 % (18 g)

## Early Lactation

DM – 23.0 lbs.

TDN – 12.8 lbs.

CP – 2.1 lbs.

Ca - .27 % (28 g)

P - .22 % (23 g)

# What Does Feed Provide?

- Alfalfa Hay – 1 lb.  
DM – 90% = .9 lbs.  
TDN – 51% = .51 lbs.  
CP – 15.3% = .15 lbs.  
Ca – 1.27% = 5.76 g  
P – .22% = 1.0 g
- Alfalfa Hay – 23 lbs.  
DM–90% =20.7 lbs.  
TDN–51% =11.7 lbs.  
CP– 15.3% = 3.5 lbs.  
Ca – 1.27% = 132 g  
P - .22% = 23 g

# Is it enough for Maintenance?

## Maintenance

DM – 20.8 lbs.

TDN – 10.1 lbs.

CP – 1.4 lbs.

Ca - .19 % (18 g)

P - .19 % (18 g)

## Alfalfa Hay – 23 lbs.

DM–90% =20.7 lbs.

TDN–51% =11.7 lbs.

CP– 15.3% = 3.5 lbs.

Ca – 1.27% = 132 g

P - .22% = 23 g

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# Is it enough for Lactation?

## Early Lactation

DM – 23.0 lbs.

TDN – 12.8 lbs.

CP – 2.1 lbs.

Ca - .27 % (28 g)

P - .22 % (23 g)

## Alfalfa Hay – 23 lbs.

DM–90% =20.7 lbs.

TDN–51% =11.7 lbs.

CP– 15.3% = 3.5 lbs.

Ca – 1.27% = 132 g

P - .22% = 23 g

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# Combined Ration

Early Lactation

DM – 23.0 lbs.

TDN – 12.8 lbs.

CP – 2.1 lbs.

Ca - .27 % (28 g)

P - .22 % (23 g)

Alfalfa Hay – 23 lbs.

DM–90% =20.7 lbs.

TDN–51% =11.7 lbs.

CP– 15.3% = 3.5 lbs.

Ca – 1.27% = 132 g

P - .22% = 23 g

Barley – 3 lbs.

DM–88% = 2.6 lbs.

TDN–76% = 2.3 lbs.

CP–11.9% = .12 lbs.

Ca – .04% = .54 g

P – .34% = 4.5 g

# Is it enough for Lactation?

## Early Lactation

DM – 23.0 lbs.

TDN – 12.8 lbs.

CP – 2.1 lbs.

Ca - .27 % (28 g)

P - .22 % (23 g)

## Meadow Foxtail – 88 lbs.

DM–26% =22.8 lbs.

TDN–19% =16.7 lbs.

CP– 4.5% = 4.0 lbs.

Ca – .15% = 60 g

P - .12% = 48 g

## Meadow Foxtail – 60 lbs.

DM–26% =15.6 lbs

TDN–19% =11.4 lbs.

CP– 4.5% = 2.7 lbs.

Ca – .15% = 41 g

P - .12% = 33 g

# Other ESSENTIAL Nutrients

- Water
  - Clean
  - Fresh
  - Warm (winter)
- Salt & Minerals
  - Salt is cheap
  - Mineral blocks
  - Loose minerals
  - Molasses-based tubs

# Grazing Schemes

- High-Intensity, Short-Duration (Summer)
- Grazing Standing Corn (Winter)

# Pasture Management

- Grazing animals **MUST** be managed!
- Forage Farmer or Cattle Baron???
- Keeping both pasture and cattle healthy requires effort.
- Cattle can be maintained on small, irrigated acreages.

Questions???

