

Example Feeding Programs for Drought Conditions

Example 1. Program Fed High-Concentrate Diet

1,200 pound Mid-Gestation, Non-lactating Beef Cow

Adapt cattle by starting with hay and begin feeding rate at 8 lb/d. Increase feeding rate 1 lb/d and decrease hay intake until eating 16 lb/hd/d of the program fed ration.

Cattle may act hungry as a result of limited fill. Monitor body condition and weight to ensure diets are meeting maintenance requirements.

Feeding Rate: 16 lb/hd/d as sole source of protein and energy.

Ingredient	Amount of Mix
Moderate to low quality hay or cottonseed hulls	20%
Corn (1/2 chopped for blending w/other ingredients.)	74.5%
Cottonseed Meal	3%
Mineral (6 to 1 Ca:P)*	1.5%
Limestone	1%

*Rumensin option for improved feed efficiency.

Feeding Rate: 16 lb/hd/d as sole source of protein and energy.

Ingredient	Amount of Mix
Moderate to low quality hay or cottonseed hulls	20%
Corn gluten feed	30%
Soybean hulls	48%
Mineral (6 to 1 Ca:P)*	1.5%
Limestone	0.5%

*Rumensin option for improved feed efficiency.

Example 1. Program Fed High-Concentrate Diet (continued)

1,200 pound Late-Gestation, Non-lactating Beef Cow

Feeding Rate: 19 lb/hd/d as sole source of protein and energy.

Ingredient	Amount of Mix
Moderate to low quality hay or cottonseed hulls	20%
Corn (1/2 chopped for blending w/other ingredients.)	68%
Cottonseed meal	10%
Mineral (6 to 1 Ca:P)*	1%
Limestone	1%

*Rumensin option for improved feed efficiency.

Feeding Rate: 20 lb/hd/d as sole source of protein and energy.

Ingredient	Amount of Mix
Moderate to low quality hay or cottonseed hulls	20%
Corn gluten feed	40%
Soybean hulls	38%
Mineral (6 to 1 Ca:P)*	1%
Limestone	1%

*Rumensin option for improved feed efficiency.

Example 2. Free-choice Intake

1,200 pound Mid-Gestation, Non-lactating Beef Cow

Feeding Rate: 25 lb/hd/d (full feed)

Ingredient	Amount of Mix
Moderate to low quality hay or cottonseed hulls	20%
Corn (1/2 chopped for blending w/other ingredients.)	20%
Rice Mill Feed	55%
Cottonseed Meal	3%
Mineral (6 to 1 Ca:P)*	1%
Limestone	1%

*Rumensin option for improved feed efficiency.

Feeding Rate: 25 lb/hd/d (full feed)

Ingredient	Amount of Mix
Moderate to low quality hay or cottonseed hulls	20%
Corn Gluten feed	14%
Soybean hulls	14%
Rice mill feed	50%
Mineral (6 to 1 Ca:P)*	1%
Limestone	1%

*Rumensin option for improved feed efficiency.

1,200 pound Late-Gestation, Non-lactating Beef Cow

Feeding Rate: 27 lb/hd/d (full feed)

Ingredient	Amount of Mix
Moderate to low quality hay or cottonseed hulls	20%
Corn (1/2 chopped for blending w/other ingredients.)	30%
Rice Mill Feed	45%
Cottonseed Meal	3%
Mineral (6 to 1 Ca:P)*	1%
Limestone	1%

*Rumensin option for improved feed efficiency.

Feeding Rate: 27 lb/hd/d (full feed)

Ingredient	Amount of Mix
Moderate to low quality hay or cottonseed hulls	20%
Rice mill feed	40%
Corn gluten feed	19%
Soybean hulls	19%
Mineral (6 to 1 Ca:P)*	1%
Limestone	1%

*Rumensin option for improved feed efficiency.

Example 3. Beef Cows Grazing

Feeding 1% or greater body weight of a high quality grain or byproduct feed will allow for substitution of feed for forage. Feeding 6 to 1 calcium to phosphorus ratio mineral will help keep them in balance when feeding high rates of grain or byproducts. This is not necessary if using soybean hulls. Protein in the form of cottonseed meal or soybean meal should be added if feeding corn to ensure protein is not deficient for late-gestation and mid-lactation cow herds.

Example 4. Developing Early-Weaned (4 month old) Calves

Start calves on a medicated weaning ration. Switch to a grower ration that contains roughage and can be fed as the sole feed, or hand feed a high-concentrate supplement with free-choice access to hay or pasture.

Example ration is for a 350 lb calf to gain 2.0 lb/d. Example ration below can be fed at 2% body weight to achieve approximately 1.5 to 2 lb/d gain or fed free choice for approximately 2 to 2.5 lb/d gain.

Ingredient	Amount of Mix
Cottonseed hulls	30%
Soybean meal	16%
Corn chops	46%
Molasses (liquid preferred)	5%
Complete minerals/vitamins w/ionophore	2%
Limestone	1%

Slowly adapt calves to high level on intake by starting at 1% body weight and increase feeding rate 1 lb, every other day, until at desired feeding rate.

Additional Notes:

- **All rations can be modified based on locally available feedstuffs. Example rations are based on NRC values and requirement tables and can be found in UA Extension publication MP 391, *Beef Cattle Nutrition Series, Part 3: Nutrient Requirement Tables*.**
- **Monitor body condition and growth rate to ensure adequate animal performance.**
- **Always adapt cattle slowly to high concentrate diets to avoid digestive disorders.**

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