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Leaders Key to True and False Test covering "Facts about Cattle" for 4-H Baby Beef and Breeding Clubs : Extension Circular 2-65-2

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Leaders Key to True and False Test Covering
"Facts About Cattle" for 4-H Baby Beef and Breeding Clubs

These true and false questions can be used at any time during the project year and should be of help in bringing out some of the points important to successful cattle production. They do not cover all the points but offer an opportunity for discussion. Perhaps the following paragraphs will be of help to you in this work.

1. (false) - The old statement "Well bought is half sold" is still as true as it ever was. Too often club members get enthused with the idea of buying a grand champion and pay excessive prices for their feeder calf. A calf well bought is more likely to be a profitable investment for the club member.
2. (true) - The things members learn about feed requirements and feeding practices from their 4-H club records will stay with them in later years and be of help to them when they go into beef production on a commercial basis.
3. (false) - Many calves will not gain during July and August or will put on a limited gain unless cool, comfortable quarters are provided for them during the daytime.
4. (false) - Calves do not get lazy as they get fat and the added weight will cause more trouble in breaking them to lead or to show. The quicker you start the easier it is.
5. (false) - Corn meal gums up in a calf's stomach and tastes disagreeable to him. If feed is not fed whole it should be cracked only.
6. (true) - It is possible to get an animal fat without protein supplements, but gains will be faster and in most cases more economical if a good protein supplement is supplied. Even when on pasture the addition of some protein is desirable.
7. (true) - Silage is bulky but it is more palatable and more beef per acre can be obtained from either corn or sorghums when using it as silage rather than as fodder.
8. (false) - Calves like variety as well as we do. In many cases feed consumption can be increased by mixing several grains together. This may help during hot weather to keep the calf eating.
9. (false) - Calves can be castrated when a day or two old and by all means should be castrated before they are three months old.
10. (true) - Blackleg is always a dangerous disease and vaccination is the safest way to prevent it.
11. (false) - Salt should be made available to calves at all times. It is preferable to have it in a loose form so they can help themselves.

12. (false) - The early gain obtained on a young, growing calf will pay dividends in the long run regardless of whether it is used for fattening or breeding purposes.

13. (true) - Many experienced feeders can start their cattle gradually on shelled corn and work up the ration until they are on full feed. Club members will probably have better success starting with ground snapped corn, ground ear corn or by feeding a limited mixed ration including more bulky feeds.

14. (true) - In addition to the large feeding operations of beef cattle in this state we have in the sand hills area the greatest cattle producing area in the world.

15. (false) - Water is one of the most important things in a calf's diet. Keep it in front of him at all times and keep it clean and cool.

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