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UNIVERSITY OF IDAHO

COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE EXTENSION DIVISION

> E. J. IDDINGS DIRECTOR

Suggestions for Profitable Dairying

By

D. L. FOURT and F. W. ATKESON



Idaho Alfalfa Hay and Dairy Cows Are Good Business Partners

COOPERATIVE EXTENSION SERVICE IN AGRICULTURE AND HOME ECONOMICS OF THE STATE OF IDAHO UNIVERSITY OF IDAHO COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE AND UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE COOPERATING

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FOREWORD

THE MATERIAL presented in this bulletin was prepared as exhibits for the dairy demonstration train run through southern Idaho in July, 1928. The purpose is to furnish interested farmers material of the exhibits for further study.

The Idaho dairy demonstration train was a cooperative enterprise between the Union Pacific Railroad and the University of Idaho College of Agriculture. The Idaho State Department of Agriculture assisted. The following national breed associations gave valuable assistance through their western representatives: American Jersey Cattle Club, American Guernsey Cattle Club, and the Holstein-Friesian Association of America. The following furnished exhibit cattle: S. W. High, New Plymouth, two Jersey cows; L. R. Wilfong, Emmett, one Jersey cow; Ira W. Blankenship, Emmett, one Jersey cow; R. M. Sherwood, Emmett, one Jersey cow; Mrs. Minnie W. Miller, Wendell, one Guernsey cow; Harry Knowlton, Sweet, one Guernsey bull; L. K. Saum, Emmett, one Ayrshire cow; University of Idaho, Moscow, two Holstein cows, one Holstein bull, one Jersey cow and one Jersey bull.

The Intermountain Dairy Supply Company, Salt Lake City, furnished stall equipment for one car. County agricultural agents and the newspapers of the state contributed greatly to the success of the train. Many other agencies and individuals cooperated to make this demonstration train a success.

PURPOSE OF TRAIN

THE TRAIN visited all the irrigated valleys tributary to the Snake River served by the Union Pacific. The central thought back of all exhibits was more profitable dairying through greater efficiency in operation. It was believed that profitable dairying in such a favorable region would bring expansion as fast as advisable.



QUALITY IS SUPREME

THE DAIRY industry has grown during the past ten years into L one of Idaho's most important industries. Ten years ago Idaho was importing dairy products. Now she exports large quantities and is in competition with other states for the sale of her surpluses. California, particularly Los Angeles, is the primary market for Idaho dairy products. The future expansion of the dairy industry in this state will depend upon whether or not Idaho can successfully compete with other states in economy of production and quality of products. Idaho has more favorable conditions. such as feed and climate, than many of the other states with larger dairy industries; and if the dairy farmers of Idaho will use efficient methods in production they will be able to compete successfully with other areas in cost of production. However, economical production is not all that is necessary. High quality products must be produced in order to find a ready market in competition with other sections.



BASIS OF QUALITY IS CLEAN MILK



THE BASIS of high qualier it be butter, cheese, evaporated milk, or any other manufactured product, is clean milk. Clean cows, clean milkers, clean barns, small top milk pails, sterilized utensils, and an absorbent cotton strainer pad will get results.

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QUICK COOLING of milk keeps down bacterial development and makes possible better quality of manufactured products. Cool the milk to 50° F. within two hours. Stirring the milk while cooling increases the cooling process many fold. Utensils are some of the greatest source of milk contamination. Sterile utensils are essential.





IDAHO'S NEAREST FEED MARKET IS THE DAIRY COW



D AIRYING affords a most effective way of marketing the large surpluses of feed on Idaho's irrigated farms. Shipment of the feed crops themselves is almost prohibited by their bulk and by the expense of transportation. Forty cars of hay can be condensed into one car of butter. The value of a car of hay would be less than \$200 while the value of a car of butter would be about \$9,000. The freight rate on \$1,000 worth of butter would be only six per cent of the freight

on the same value of hay. Idaho's distance from market demands condensed products of high unit value.



HOW TO FEED FOR PROFIT

CONOMICAL production requires the judicious selection of L home grown feeds in the proper mixtures and in correct ratio to production. Feeding in the irrigated sections of Idaho where there is an abundance of low priced alfalfa hay calls for a different schedule than other areas.

When alfalfa hay is the only roughage, feed one of the following mixtures in these proportions:	When alfalfa hay is supplemented with silage, wet beet pulp, or pota- toes, feed one of the following mix- tures in these proportions:
Mixtures By Wt. Daily Production I	Mixtures By Wt. Daily Production
Barley or Corn 3 parts Bran 1 part Less than 1 lb. fat: No Grain	I Barley or Corn 1 part Oats 1 part Bran 1 part Less than 1 lb. fat: No Grain
II 1 lb. grain per 5.5 lbs. high test milk Barley or Corn 4 parts 1 lb. grain per 7.0 lbs. low test milk	II 1 to 1½ lbs. fat: 1 lb. grain per 4.0 1 bs. high test milk
Oats 1 part Bran 1 part July to 2 lbs fat: 1 lb, grain per 4.0 lbs high test milk 1 lb, grain per 5.0 low test milk	Wheat 1 part Oats 1 part Bran 1 part 1 ½ or more lbs. fat: 1 ½ or more lbs. fat: 1 bb. rain per 3.0 bb. high test milk
III) Above 2 lbs. fat:) ibs. low test milk
Corn & Cob meal 2 parts 1 lb. grain per 3.0 lbs. high test milk Oats 1 part 1 lb. grain per 4.0 lbs low test milk	Barley or Corn 4 parts Oats 2 parts Oilmeal 1 part
	Barley or Corn 1 part Bran 1 part
NOTE: Substitute molasses for barley pound for pound.	V Barley 1 part Oats 1 part }
Summer Sugges	stions Tonics and Patent

More milk per acre from good pasture, than any other feed

Pasture grasses grow less in late summer-supplemental feeds are necessary

Feed alfalfa hay once daily Heavy producing cows should have grain Feed minerals while cows

Then the grass gets less

are on pasture

Tonics and Patent Medicines

- Healthy cows do not need tonics
- Sick cows need specific medicines
- Tonic feeds cost too much and have little value
- Call a graduate veterinarian for sick cows

Commercial Feeds

Ready-mixed feeds no better except greater variety

Some mixed feeds good, some very poor Value depends on:

- 1. Digestible nutrient content
- 2. Cost per pound of nutrients
- 3. Kind and quality of ingredients
- 4. Adaptability of feed to community
- 5. Performance record

Proprietory mixed feeds not recommended except for very high producing cows



Minerals Liable to Be Deficient

Salt, Iodine, Calcium (lime), Phosphorous

Guard against goitre in calves

Feed iodized salt regularly or feed solution of 15 grains of potassium iodine in 1 oz. of water on grain once each week, last 3 months of pregnancy

When and What Minerals Are Needed

- Low producing cows probably do not need minerals unless they have de-praved appetites indicated by eating bones, dirt, etc.
- High producing cows may need minerals
- Alfalfa hay usually furnishes sufficient lime
- Wheat bran is a good source of phosphorous
- In southern Idaho phosphorous is more often deficient than lime

By-Products

Dairy cows convert low value byproducts into valuable products Cash in on Idaho's waste feeds by feeding to dairy cows Convert: Cull potatoes Wet beet pulp Beet molasses Cannery wastes Apple pomace Bean and pea by-products -Into dairy products

MINERALS HAVE A DEF-INITE FUNCTION IN NUTRITION

THEY ARE NOT A CURE-ALL FOR ALL TROUBLES

THEY ARE NOT A SUBSTI-TUTE FOR OTHER FEEDS

Commercial Mineral Mixtures

- 1. Usually cost too much
- Often unjustifiable claims 2.are made for them
- 3. Sometimes contain unessential ingredients
- 4. May not be adapted to region
- No better than cheaper home mix-5. ture

Suggested Mineral Feeds-If Needed

200 lbs. sterilized bone flour or meal, or spent bone-black

100 lbs. salt

100 lbs. sterilized bone-meal

100 lbs. finely powdered limestone (non magnesian)

- 100 lbs. salt (1 or 2 lbs. iodized calcium is desirable)
- Mix and feed as 3% of the grain mixture. Also keep before animals at all times

GOOD PASTURES-THE FOUNDATION OF SUCCESSFUL DAIRYING

O^{NE-HALF} of the year's feed supply is pasture but only onefifth of the year's feed cost is pasture. Average yearly feed cost per pound of butterfat is 20 cents. Feed cost while on pasture is 8 cents per pound of butterfat.

Dairy cows will return \$75.00 to \$125.00 per acre on good pasture. Just open the gate and let the cows do the harvesting. Pasture is the only crop that can be harvested every day for six months.

Why not get \$125.00 per acre instead of \$50.00? The following table summarizes two years' results in pasture management studies at the Caldwell Substation of the University of Idaho agricultural experiment station. Field I was 8 years old and Field IV was 13 years old when the experiment started. The pastures were originally mixtures but had been abused in so many ways that they were mostly bluegrass. The cows used averaged a little less than one pound of butterfat per day.

PASTURE	S LIKE AN APPLE TREE - IT GROWS
Tenta of apples	State of the state
THE BETTER	THE PASTURE TODAY - THE NORE PASTURE TOMORROW

UNIVERSITY OF IDAHO CALDWELL SUBSTATION EXPERIMENTS (Old Bluegrass Pastures)

Field I (Per Acre)								
Treatment	Light Irriga- tion	Light Ir- rigation & Cultivation	Proper Irriga- tion	Proper Ir- rigation & Cultivation	Light Irriga- tion	Light Irri- gation & Manuring	Proper Irri- gation	Proper Ir- rigation & Manuring
Daily Carry- ng capacity cows) Beason Milk	1.19	1.02	1.42	1.39	1.15	1.45	1.35	1.71
Production pounds) Pasture Returns	5,289.6	4,405.6	6,151.1	5,738.3	4,709.3	6,057.8	5,731.9	7,158.6
dollars)	\$85.27	\$72.05	\$106.34	\$93.63	\$78.02	\$103.02	\$96.64	\$119.73

Cultivation did not pay; in fact, it reduced the returns. Top dressing of manure with light irrigation more than equaled proper irrigation. Manure and proper irrigation gave best returns. When the returns per acre can be increased from \$78.03 to \$119.73, it pays to study pasture management.

PASTURE IS NATURE'S COW TONIC

- It helps prevent breeding troubles The best way to feed minerals 1.
- 2.
- 3. It helps prevent mineral deficiency
- 4. It furnishes essential vitamines
- 5. It helps correct winter feeding mistakes
- It stimulates milk flow 6.

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- Ideal before the cow freshens

GOOD MANAGEMENT

- 1. Don't turn on too early in spring
- Don't overstock the pasture
 Divide pasture into 3 fields and use alternate grazing system
- Don't irrigate while cattle are grazing, but irrigate well when needed
- 5. Keep the weeds clipped
- 6.
- Manure the pasture every fall Scatter droppings of previous year 7. in early spring

Pasture Mixtures That Have Been Successful in Idaho

Mixture Number 1

Ladino	clover	 4	lbs.
Orchard	grass	 4	Ibs.
Meadow	fescue	 4	Ibs.

Mixture Number 2

Kentucky bluegrass	2	Ibs.
Orchard grass	4	lbs.
Meadow fescue	6	Ibs.
Fall oat grass	4	lbs.
Italian rye grass	4	lbs.
White sweet clover	5	lbs.
	_	
These lands and a second	10.00	

Total per acre.....

Total per acre

GIVE YOUR CALF A CHANCE

.12 lbs.



The Danger Age



Six Months of Age Raised on Skim Milk, Grain and Hay



Well Grown Yearling

WHAT TO FEED

First 3 to 4 days with dam. Three to 14 days—6 to 10 lbs. whole milk, according to size and condition

- 14 to 21 days-Gradually substitute skim milk for whole
- milk All hay and grain calf will consume 21 days to 4 or 6 months—10 to 20 lbs, skim milk according to age. Homegrown grain up to 2 lbs, daily. Legume hay or good pasture. Plenty of pure water and salt
- 6 months to 2 years-Legume hay, or good pasture, 2 lbs. homegrown grain daily. Plenty of pure water and salt

WHEN SKIM MILK IS SCARCE

- 10 to 12 lbs. of skim milk to 70 days, plus plenty of good 1. hay and grain
- Dried buttermilk: 1 part to 9 parts warm water Dried skim milk: 1 part to 9 parts warm water 3.
- Semi-solid buttermilk: 1 part to 3 parts warm water 4.

Any one of these is satisfactory when fed in the same manner as skim milk

DO

- Wash and sterilize buckets 1.
- 2. Feed according to condition
- Weigh milk to each calf 3.
- Feed calves in stanchions 4.
- Feed skim milk direct from separator without foam Feed milk at uniform temper-5.
- 6. ature
- Keep pens clean, well venti-lated and well lighted 7.
- 8. Treat sickness promptly

DON'T

- 1. Use dirty buckets
- 2. Underfeed
- 3. Overfeed
- 4. Feed as groups
- 5. Feed sour milk
- 6. Feed cold milk
- 7. Use dirty pens
- 8. Neglect sickness



THE COW TESTING ASSOCIATION DID THIS BY:

Finding and eliminating low producing, unprofitable cows

Determining the value of bulls and saving the good cows

Stimulating improved methods of feeding and management

Developing greater interest in dairying Checking inefficient separators Locating and developing heifers from the best cows

Cow Testing Associations are available to every dairyman See your Extension Agent

A TALE OF TWO HERDS

Returns Over Feed Cost



Why the Difference?

16 Cows Grade Holsteins \$52.53

177.6 lbs.

Not the size of herd Not the breed Not feed cost per cow 6 Cows Grade Holsteins \$86.23

It Was

Average production of fat

446.6 lbs.

Note: Actual cow testing association records in the same community, the same year.

IT PAYS TO KEEP RECORDS

RECORDS GIVE LIGHT-WHY WORK IN THE DARK?

- I. Breeding records show:
 - 1. When to dry each cow and prepare her for next freshening
 - 2. The sire of each animal
 - 3. The age of each animal
 - 4. Shy breeding and sterility of each cow and the bull
- II. Production records show:
 - 1. Profit or loss from each cow 2. Amount to feed and when
 - to change the ration

- 3. Value of a sire through pro-
- duction of daughters The sale value of a cow and
- The sale value of a cow and her calves
- III. Registration, transfer and pedigree records:
 - 1. Assist in selling or advertising
 - 2. Insure confidence in purity and value of cattle
 - 3. Increase sale value of cattle

YOUR FUTURE HERD DEPENDS ON YOUR PRESENT BULL



Would you buy a 1910 model auto? The scrub bull is as out of date as the one cylinder right-hand drive.

Think This Over

A survey of 295 Idaho dairy farms showed: Less than one-half herd bulls registered. One-fourth were *just scrubs* Only 43 per cent of the farmers owned bulls

Here Are Your Facts

Herds with registered bulls Herds with unregistered bulls	Cost of Bulls \$95.42 44.68	Income Per Cow \$92.70 79.57	Income Per Herd \$954.81 819.67
Difference	\$50.74	\$13.13	\$135.14

A saving of \$50.74 in cost of bulls lost the dairymen \$135.14 yearly on each of their herds of 10.3 cows

METHODS OF SELECTING A HERD SIRE

The successful breeder considers everything Bull's offspring—Production and type of a bull's daughters are the best guide



Pedigree—The bull's breeding qualities are influenced by characteristics of his ancestors.



Type—Breed type is essential in breeding uniform cattle of highest value

Consider not only the type of the bull but his ancestors as well

Idaho Violet and Three Sons Good Type Bulls from Good Mothers Should Breed Type

-

WHAT A GOOD BULL DID

What Is a Good Bull Worth?



His Daughters

Improvement of his daughters over their dams

The Bull

Lbs. Milk Lbs. Fat Age 12 daughters 454 2 yrs. 5 mos. 17 days 303 2 yrs. 4 mos. 15 days 12 dams 8,526 Increase (lbs.) 151 . 4,717 Increase (%) 55.3% 49.8%

151 lbs. fat×40c=\$60.40 yearly per cow. \$60.40×12 daughters=\$724.80 yearly. \$724.80×5 milking years=\$3,624.00 worth of fat from 12 cows in their lifetime due to a good bull

Would You Buy a Dead Bull?

Many breeders wish they could buy back the bull that went to the butcher. Thirty-three Idaho bulls have been proved, but 18 were dead before their value was determined. *Good bulls are too* valuable to be eaten.

You Never Know-Until the Bull Is Proved

Of 33 bulls proved in Idaho

5 decreased production an average of 60 lbs. fat per cow

5 just about held their own-16 lbs. fat increase

23 increased production an average of 81 lbs. fat

Exchange bulls with your neighbors and keep both alive until their daughters freshen.

What Idaho Farmers Have Done Thru Bull Associations

				No. of years	Bull
Cost of bull	Ave. size	Bull cost	Bull cost	bulls	per cow
Before organization\$ 82.00	10.1	\$82.00	\$6.09	2	\$4.05
After organization	33.4	35.00	6.36	6	1.06

A Bull Association: Reduces bull costs; furnishes bulls out of record dams; standardizes breed in community; keeps bulls in service until value proved.

PLAY FAIR WITH YOUR BULL

- Give him exercise—it helps prevent sterility
- 2. Use large pen at least 1800 square feet. Overhead or ground cable; safe-keeper breeding chute
- safe-keeper breeding chute
 Do not use before one year old limited service until 2 years. Allow cows only one service
- Do not let run with cows—overworks bull and dangerous
- 5. Use Bell metal ring Jansen halter where ring is torn out of nose

- Let bull drag a 20-foot small link chain from horns or halter and through ring
- 6. Keep feet trimmed lengthens usefulness of bull
- Feed—limited amount of hay; do not allow large barrel to develop
 - -limited amount of grain mixture of oats and wheat-keep in good flesh but not fat

-salt-fresh water

-green feed or grass occasionally



THIS IS DAISY

172 lbs. fat Her owner milked her 600 times in a year for \$28.33 over feed cost Not so good: But see her daughter



THIS IS POLLY

470 lbs. fat

. . .

Polly's owner milked her 600 times in a year for \$128.85 over feed costs A good cow-but see her daughter by a bull association sire



THE MOST EXPENSIVE COW IN THE WORLD

THE SCRUB PUREBRED

In one year she produced only 5,538 lbs. milk and 170 lbs. fat Her feed cost \$46.55

She made only \$28.28 above feed cost She did not pay expenses Don't keep a scrub even though she

is registered



THIS IS DAISY'S DAUGHTER

By a good registered bull-378 lbs. of fat

The same dairyman milked her 600 times also, but got \$111.25 over feed cost-equal to four cows like her mother

A good bull made the difference Why use scrubs?



THIS IS POLLY'S DAUGHTER

691 lbs. fat

The same dairyman milked her 600 times and got \$212.22 over feed costs

Good proved sires make a herd better Don't let the profits backslide



A GREAT LOSS TO DAIRYING A STUNTED COW

- This heifer was freshened at 14 months
- A boarder now
- A low producer always
- Breed heifers to freshen at 24 months or over

Types of Barns and Equipment Influence Overhead and Labor Requirements



One Story Barn

L OW COST, good light, convenient, and minimum labor are some of the advantages of this milking barn. It is recommended to be used in connection with an open shed. The cows are turned in only for milking and grain feeding, then turned out into open shed. The rigid wooden stanchion is cheap and quite satisfactory when the cows are in only at milking

time. If cows are kept in at night, the model stall or modified model stall is more comfortable and keeps cows cleaner.



Plan for One Story Barn



Shelter Shed

OPEN SHED keeps cows comfortable, must be bedded only two or three times a week, manure is preserved well, cows are clean, hand labor is minimized. The essential thing in building a shelter shed is to have it not too high and be sure to have it deep enough. Never less than 24 feet deep and in cold climates up to 30 feet deep.



Plan for Shelter Shed



Plan for Rigid Stanchion





Model Stall





Modified Model Stall



Plan for Modified Model Stall

THE MODEL stall and modified model stall are cheap, homemade, comfortable for the cows, require less bedding, keep cows clean, reduce labor in cleaning barn and cows. Recommended where cows are kept in the barn and open shed system not used.



Calf Stanchion



T HE MODIFIED model stall does not obstruct the light in the barn as badly as the model stall and the manger is better suited to feeding chopped hay. However, the stall partitions are not as strong as in the model stall.



Hay Rack



Plan for Hay Rack

IDAHO DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE Bureau of Animal Industry



ERADICATION of bovine tuberculosis goes hand in hand with the production of dairy products of the highest quality. Consumers of dairy products are demanding that the products they use come from tuberculin tested dairy herds. The dairymen of Idaho are fortunate that our good state ranks fifth of all the states in the union in the percentage of tuberculin tested cattle.

Bureau of Dairying

SCOPE OF SERVICE	FOR YOUR PROTECTION CREAM TESTERS MUST CONFORM	PRODUCTION OF BUTTERFAT AND MANUFACTURED PRODUCTS
EXAMINATION and LECISING OF disknowing Course Sung Schwar Course way and Schwar Schwar Course way and Schwar Course Alexandron Beneficient Schwart Schwar Beneficient Schwart Beneficient Schwart Beneficient Schwart COMPLATION OF DAIRY STATISTICS TOTAL 1028 LICENSE ISSUED Mathica Schwart Sch Comparison 30 Commercient 30 Amount Schwart 30 Commercient 30 Amount Schwart 30 Commercient 30 Commercien	TO THE FOLLOWING REQUREMENTS 1 Passe Oral and written Duminations Corring Addrock Field 2 Annonstrate Ability Is main awards Bet 3 Process Babbook Kaltres Levense 4 Oray Raim and Republicities governing test. 5 Revel number of wands of biellards purchase 6 Abil samples 48 heart after testag 7 Male reverts of tests for thirty days: 8 Maintain samitation in planet.	1920 1925 Butterfat 20,012,000 33,000,000 Crassery Butter 4 660,000 16,720,000 Checore 1,727,000 9,172,000 Checore 1,727,000 9,172,000 Candenset Mile 15,442,000 16,000 Ace Gram (fiel) 239,000 121,000 1925 192,7 192,7 Butterfat 3660,000 37,000,000 Checore 80,3000 7,528,852 Contensul Multe 20,280,000 11,208,000 Are Oram find 30,3000 464120,2000 Gatsein (Ma) 578,000 598,364



Future Dairymen

CONSTRUCTIVE program of better dairying calls for bet-. ter dairymen as well as better methods. One of the surest ways of developing high class dairymen for Idaho is by training the boys and girls in 4-H clubs.

POINTERS FOR PROFIT

- 1. Produce high quality products
- Stop separator losses
 Make the cows furnish the market for homegrown feeds
- 4. Reduce shipping costs by converting bulky feeds into concentrated dairy products 5. Feed grain according to milk pro-
- duction
- Utilize waste by-products
 Well managed pastures give big returns per acre
- 8. Well bred calves make profitable COWS
- 9. Cows Cow testing associations tell which cows are profitable and make possible intelligent culling
 Herd improvement best obtained
 - through high class bulls
 - 11. Proved sires are the surest method of herd improvement
 - 12. Keep down overhead and labor requirements by proper selection of barns and equipment



