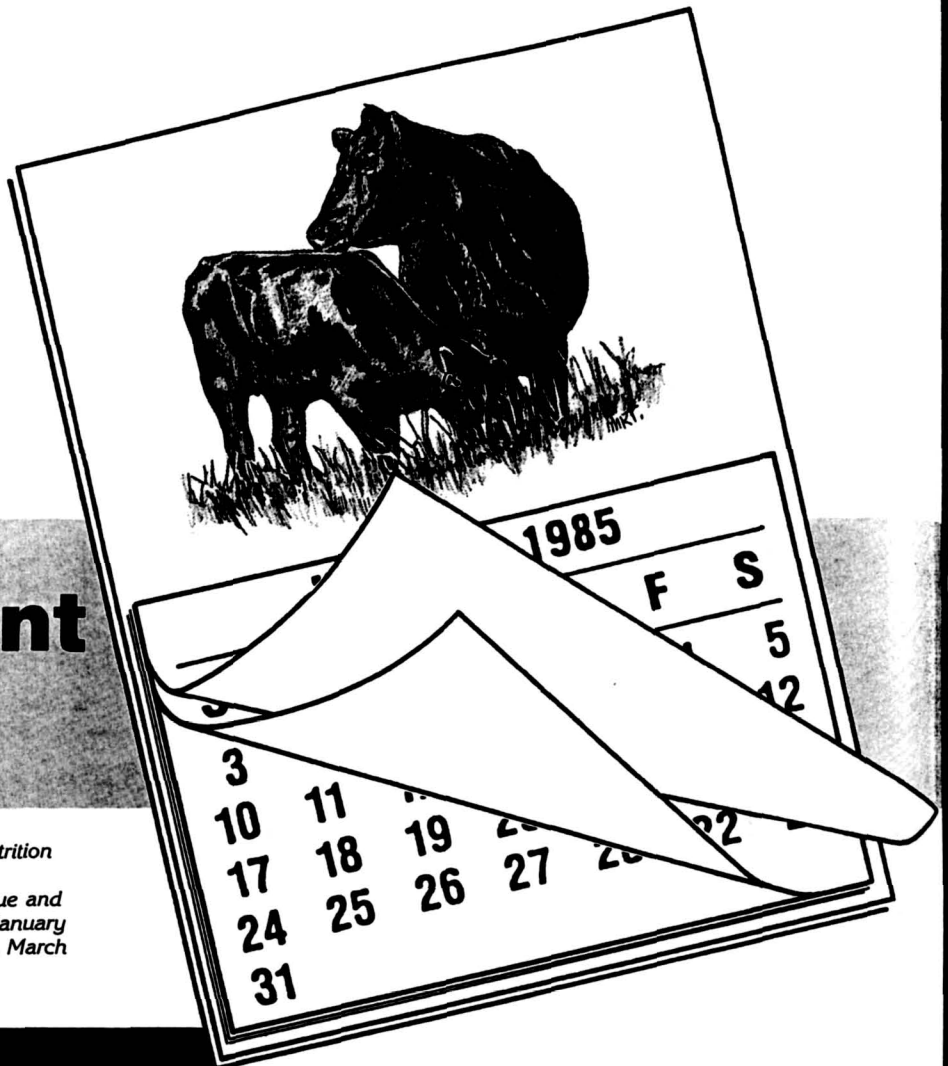


Management Calendar

Some basic but timely tips concerning health, nutrition and management are highlighted here. October, November and December are included in this issue and represents the final quarter of the year. For the January through September calendars check the January, March and June-July issues.



OCTOBER (April if fall calving)

Wean and Work Herd.

- Wean and weigh calves when seven to eight months old. Send in weights to be entered on your AHIR records.
- Permanently identify calves with tattoos or brands. Use ear tags for quick identification.
- Vaccinate calves for blackleg if not done earlier.
- Check with your veterinarian for advice on vaccination of calves for IBR, BVD and PI₃.
- Worm calves. Treat for grubs and lice, if they are a problem in your area this early in the fall.
- Avoid all unnecessary stresses on calves for two weeks following weaning. Pen heifers separately from bulls and steers. Select your replacement heifers on their adjusted 205-day weight ratios and structural soundness.
- Pregnancy check cow herd (or have a veterinarian do it for you). Cull open and unsound cows and heifers. You can't afford to winter empty cows. Worm cows at the same

time as you preg check.

- Retag cows and calves that lost ear tags.

Nutrition.

- Turn cows into stalk fields if available. Plan 60-cow days per acre when grazing (two cows per acre per month).
- Dry, pregnant, mature cows during the early part of gestation can be maintained on crop residues or poor pasture.
- Consider strip grazing cornstalks. In areas of grass grazing check pastures frequently. A guide for good range management is to "graze one-half, leave one-half."
- Provide supplemental vitamin A in the form of an injection to cows running on dry grass. Provide supplemental vitamin D when cows are in confinement.
- Provide growing ration for weaned heifers to provide good gains without fat. Set target weights and feed accordingly.

Ration #1

25 lb. corn silage, 1 lb. legume hay per 100 lb. bodyweight, free choice mineral mix.

Ration #2

10 lb. legume hay, 1 lb. oats per 100 lb. bodyweight or $\frac{3}{4}$ lb. corn per 100 lb. bodyweight, free choice mineral mix.

Ration #3

Good-quality pasture plus mineral supplement free choice.

Record-keeping duties.

- Obtain necessary A.I. certificates for registering A.I. calves. Check your calf book for correct birth dates and sire listings. Send registration forms to the American Angus Assn. as soon as possible. (The registration fee for calves three to 10 months old is \$8.)
- Plan on nominating potential herd bulls to area bull tests.
- Watch for the 1985 Sire Evaluation Report in the October issue of the Angus Journal.

NOVEMBER (May if fall calving)

Wean summer calves.

- Wean summer calves before hard winter weather sets in. They will do better on grain plus hay or on corn silage than if left on their mothers (unless you creep feed).

Winter feeding.

- Plan winter feeding program based on weight changes from fall weight to time of calving:
 - Mature cows of average flesh—to lose no more than 10 percent of their fall weight.
 - Three- and 4-year-old cows and thin mature cows—to lose no weight from fall to time of calving.
 - Bred yearlings—to gain 100 to 125 lb. to time of calving. Or,
 - Feed the level that will provide each cow with nine lb. of Total Digestible Nutrients (TDN) per day prior to calving.
- Dry, pregnant, mature cows can be maintained on crop residues up to 90 days before calving (with limited supplement) or until snow prevents normal grazing activities.
- Replacement heifers should be fed at the level necessary to ensure that they will weigh 650 lb. at the start of breeding season. But, do not get them fat.
- * Keep mineral feeders filled, and ample water supply.

Healthy winter tips.

- If cattle must be confined to tight barns during the winter, provide adequate ventilation to reduce disease problems.

- Consider adding an antibiotic to the feed for feeder calves if they are kept over the winter.

Management preparation.

- Contact your local cooperative extension agent and find out if any beef production short courses are planned for your area.
- Increase your knowledge about the beef business with:
 - Research and extension publications.
 - Farm press articles.
 - Information from commercial firms and other consultants.
- Repair corrals and breeding chutes for next season.
- Plan winter management program for herd sires.

DECEMBER (June if fall calving)

Attention to feed details.

- If cows are still grazing crop residues, be sure they have enough to eat. If not, supplement accordingly.
- For best results, divide herd into groups for winter feeding: 1) weaned heifer calves; 2) first- and second-calf heifers and old thin cows; 3) the rest of the dry herd; 4) lactating cows with fall calves; 5) herd sires.
- Check winter rations. Use the following as a guide:
 - Weaned heifer calves: full-feed hay plus 5 lb. grain or 40 lb. corn silage plus $1\frac{1}{2}$ lb. supplement.
 - Two-year-old pregnant heifers, thin 3-year-olds and thin old cows: full-feed hay or 45 lb. corn silage plus $1\frac{1}{2}$ lb. supplement.
 - Dry, pregnant, mature cows in good condition: 17-25 lb. hay or 15 lb. straw plus 10 lb. hay or 40 lb. corn silage.
 - Lactating cows: full-feed hay or 60-75 lb. corn silage plus $1\frac{1}{2}$ - $2\frac{1}{2}$ lb. supplement.
 - Herd sires: full-feed hay or silage (add grain to diet according to condition).
- In those areas where fescue is adapted and winters are relatively open, make maximum use of this grass for winter grazing.
- Put priorities on winter forage supply:
 - Feed lowest quality forage to mature dry cows during early winter.
 - Feed highest quality forage to young stock and to lactating cows.
 - Feed medium quality forage to dry cows during late pregnancy and to mature herd sires.

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