

UNIT : THE GROWING AND FINISHING ANIMAL – NUTRITION AND FEEDING

STAFF

INTRODUCTION

The purpose of this Unit is to introduce the range of systems practiced whether the origin of the calves is the

On completion of the Unit students will be able to describe a range of calf rearing systems

KEY WORDS

KEY PHASES IN THE PRODUCTION CYCLE – rearing, growing, finishing

THE LIKELY MARKET

NUTRITION AND FEEDING – Energy, fibre, protein, minerals and vitamins

FEEDING FOR GROWTH – Fibre, protein – 15-16%, minerals and vitamins – esp calcium for bone / carcase growth – **Moderate energy density**

FEEDING TO FINISH_– Energy e.g. cereals, protein – 12-15%, minerals and vitamins – esp balanced to avoid urinary calculi (stones in the urethra) – **High energy density**

TYPICAL FEEDS – grazed grass, silage or hay, straw, forage crops, by-products, concentrates

FEED CONVERSION EFFICIENCY

FINISHING SYSTEM – Cereal Beef Systems, Grass / Cereal Beef Systems, Maize silage / Wholecrop Beef / Alternative Feeds and Fodder Systems, Finishing of store and suckled calves

FEED BUDGETING

RESOURCES

EBLEX (2006) Beef Action for Profit – 17 – Optimised Use of Minerals and Vitamins

EBLEX (2008) The Mini Feeds Directory

Farming Connect (2008) Feed Budgeting for the Winter Nov 2008

HCC (2006) Practical Beef Cattle Nutrition

www.feedsdirectory.co.uk

LEARNING ACTIVITIES