Important Tips

1. Feeding tips
   If introducing the feed to cattle for the first time, it is advisable to deworm the cattle first. Then start feeding with small quantities of feed and gradually increasing over a period of 10 days.

2. Urea
   Urea in feed is potentially poisonous to cattle if the feed is not used correctly. Therefore, ensure all concentrate beef feeds are mixed thoroughly and correctly with the recommended additions before feeding. In the case of signs of poisoning drench cattle with vinegar.

3. Roughage
   You must provide as much roughage as possible in the form of hay, stover or grazing.

4. Water
   Water should be clean, cool and available at all times.

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Beef feed range

PROfeeds
The performance feed

Introduction

Beef cattle are farmed for meat in commercial farms. In small holder and communal areas, beef cattle are kept for their meat, milk for home consumption, draught power, manure, investment saving and cultural reasons.

In commercial farming beef cattle are fed normally to fatten for the purpose of being sold and to sustain their health during harsh conditions like winter and drought. In this case the purpose would be to maintain their condition and keep them alive.

In communal and small-scale farming areas, beef cattle are fed as a way of supplementing their nutrition during harsh conditions. However some communal farmers feed their cattle to fatten them before selling, to get better prices. In most cases breeding cows and bulls are also fed just before the breeding season to increase their performance.

Besides feeding for total nutritional purpose, some specialised supplementation is also required for cattle in some cases. This includes rock mineral salt to supply mineral ions that get depleted, especially in hot weather and also in strenuous work like ploughing. Phosphorus supplementation is also required during summer for all cattle in Zimbabwe.

Beef feed range

To assist beef farmers to properly raise and maintain their animals, Profeeds has developed a range of superior multi-purpose feed products.

Beef Finisher Meal (12.5% CP)

This is a beef fattening meal for beef cattle that are to be fattened for slaughter. In this case feed 3% of body weight or 8kg -13kg per animal per day depending on condition. Feed also to Beef cattle that have lost condition and need a supplement to gain condition, for instance, in the dry season or in drought. In this case feed from 2 - 6kg per head per day depending on condition.

Beef Finisher Concentrate (32% CP)

This is a concentrate version of the Profeeds Beef Finisher Meal. Mix with snap corn or the equivalent in the ratio of 1 Part concentrate: 4 parts corn. Feed as per Profeeds Beef Finisher Meal either for fattening or conditioning.

*NB Snap corn is a milled cob of maize with its grain and sheath. If this is not available please consult Profeeds Technical Team for advice on alternatives.
*NB This feed contains Urea and must be used with caution.

Beef Survival Meal (11.5% CP)

Beef Survival Meal is a complete and balanced meal that can be given adlib if there is zero grazing available at a rate of 3 to 3.5% of body weight. If hay or another alternative is available, the feeding quantities can be reduced.

Cattle Rock Salt Blocks

These are 60kg blocks of high quality salt for cattle.

They are meant to be licked as a way of consuming the salt.
It is advisable to make these blocks available to your cattle all year round.

Cattle salt has many benefits for your cattle. The salt stimulates the appetite, enabling the cattle to consume more feed, especially grazing.
The salt replenishes those ions lost in sweat when the cattle are foraging or working hard (draught power). These ions are very important for the overall health of the cattle.
The salt blocks can also be used as a management tool to ensure that the cattle are at a particular point, eg. for counts, because wherever they are given these blocks at a particular time everyday, they will always come back to that point at the same time.