

## **Steam Rolled Barley With and Without Hay for Fattening**

On April 29, 1960, thirty yearling heifers that had been wintered alike were divided as evenly as possible into six lots. Duplicate lots were fed steam rolled barley in self-feeder, steam rolled barley 12 pounds per head plus crested wheatgrass hay 4 pounds per head, and steam rolled barley 6 pounds per head plus crested wheatgrass hay 10 pounds per head. All lots received 1 pound per head of special mineral and vitamin supplement. In order to even up the protein content of all rations, one-half pound of soybean meal was added per head for those receiving six pounds of barley.

A period of two weeks was allowed to bring the heifers up gradually in barley consumption to 12 pounds per day. Hay was decreased as barley was increased. In spite of our precautions, one heifer became ill May 12, with symptoms that suggested acute poisoning. All feeds were tested for poison content and found negative. The sick heifer responded very slowly to treatment with antibiotics and digestion aids. She began to eat hay again, but would not eat barley, so was turned out to pasture June 8 weighing 455 pounds. On October 31, she was brought in from pasture weighing 460 pounds. It is our opinion that she will never recover from the effects of over-eating rolled barley. A steer in another lot suffered a less serious illness of similar nature.

Later in the feeding period, some of the animals became stiff and sore-footed. It is not known whether the stiffness was the result of over-eating or deficiency of Vitamin A., or both. The supplement used in all lots was custom-made, according to an ever-changing formula. It was fed in either pelleted or loose form, and was never fully satisfactory, in that the cattle did not eat it well in some lots.

The supplements were mixed as follows:

	First Mix	Final Mix
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Ground Alfalfa Hay	360	350
Ground Barley	250	0
Ground Corn	0	243
Soybean Meal	210	200
Steamed Bonemeal	65	62
Ground Limestone	25	25
Trace Mineral Salt	90	20
Molasses	0	100
Vitamin D	1.0 Million Units	1 Million Units
Vitamin A	1.5 Million Units	5 Million Units

Table 10. Steam Rolled Barley, with and without Hay for Yearling Heifers						
	Lot 6	Lot 7	Lot 8	Lot 9	Lot 10	Lot 11
	Self-fed		Hand-fed		Hand-fed	
No. Head/lot	5	5	5	5	5	5
Initial Wt.	567	569	568	567	568	567
Final Wt.	905	859	895	869	857	858
Av. D. Gain	2.21	1.90	1.81	1.67	1.60	1.61
Days on Feed	153	153	181	181	181	181

Daily Ration:						
Steam Rolled Barley	14.75	14.30	11.78	11.78	6.00	6.00
Crested Wht. Hay	.76	.76	4.17	4.16	9.76	9.76
Vit & Min Supp.	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00
Soybean Meal					.50	.50
Feed Per 100 Gain:						
Steam Rolled Barley	667	755	652	706	376	373
Crested Wht. Hay	32	44	231	249	610	608
Vit & Min Supp.	45	51	55	60	63	62
Soybean Meal					31	31
Feed Cost/100 Gain	\$12.98	\$14.76	\$14.81	\$16.04	\$15.01	\$14.91
Selling Price/100	\$20.70	\$20.70	\$21.30	\$21.48	\$20.90	\$20.90
Feed Prices Used: Barley was priced at 72 cents per bushel plus 20 cents per Cwt. rolling hay was priced at \$18.00 per ton; supplement at \$60.00 per ton, and soybean meal at \$80.00 per ton.						

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