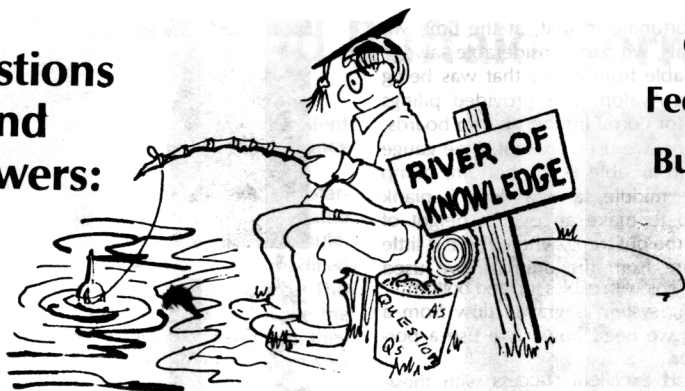


Questions and Answers:



On Feeding Buffalo

Q: What feed ration is recommended for fall weaned calves until grass the next spring?

LW—(S.E. Iowa): Shelled corn and oats and the best hay you have. Our buffalo will not eat hay that has been baled too green.

CT—(S.E. New York): Oats are the best all around feed. For practical use a good dairy or horse feed is excellent: *Very Important:* In the first week or two after weaning, mix some Terramycin as directed on the bag to wean. The Terramycin takes the place of the antibodies in the mother's milk until the calf is on its own.

RH—(Central South Dakota): Prairie or wild hay. Oats or protein pellet.

JE—(N.E. North Dakota): Corn silage, hay and a small amount of grain.

DL—(N.E. Colorado): Grass or 1st cutting alfalfa hay along with cracked wheat and barley mix, trace mineral blocks and salt.

JE—(E. Central, Wyoming): 50/60% grains rolled or pelleted (fed through self-feeder). 40/50% roughage (fed on ground). We have designed a self-feeder that will handle ground hay so we will be weaning our calves now on a ration of 50% ground barley and 50% ground hay with enough molasses to hold the dust down and to add vitamin A and minerals.

DA—(N.W. Ohio): 40% Bison Roughage*, plus Corn Fodder, free choice.

DS (North-central Missouri): When calves are first weaned, they are put on a commercial preconditioning feed for the first month. After that we work them into a straight grain ration.

LB (North-central Kansas): We keep prairie hay in their feeders all the time. We grind alfalfa and brome together and feed that to them in their bunks, once a day.

BN (Alberta, Canada): Any good hay.

Q: What feed ration is recommended for slaughter animals?

LW: Corn with an all natural protein and good quality hay.

CT: Corn & cob meal with hay and corn silage.

RH: Prairie hay, ground corn and oats protein pellet.

JE: We do not have any ration but feed what is available. We feed cull potatoes and tailing from beet factory along with corn silage and hay. We are slaughtering bulls that are not 2 years old that are dressing close to 600 pounds.

DL: Grass or alfalfa hay along with flaked corn and salt block.

JE: For feeding out young animals: 70% grain and 30% roughage. For short-term feeding of mature animals: 80/85% grain and

20/15% roughage.

DA: 40% Bison Roughage* plus Corn Fodder, r, free choice.

DS: Whole corn with some protein supplement.

LB: We feed corn screenings and ¼ alfalfa pellets together, in self-feeders. We also keep good prairie hay in their bale feeders, all the time.

BN: Rolled barley and good hay.

Q: Is the use of grain self feeder common for slaughter animals?

LW: We do not self feed our buffalo. The main reason is to keep them coming into the lot each morning for their feed. If we need to slaughter or sort one out, we have them corraled without the hassle.

CT: We find they eat more grain than needed in self-feeder. I like 10-20 pounds of corn per day plus hay.

RH: Yes.

JE: We have never self fed.

DL: Yes, unless you have extra time at an added expense to feed by hand.

JE: Yes for buffalo. No for beef animals.

DA: It is what we use in our operation.

DS: No, so we can control the consumption.

LB: Yes, we feel that it is a very easy way to grain feed, because you don't have to worry about the buffalo over-eating. I don't think buffalo would ever over-eat on grain, as long as they have hay, also. When we start our buffalo on feed, we put them on full feed.

BN: Yes.

Q: How long are slaughter animals fed before butchering?

LW: Our animals have a portion each day. We slaughter according to demand for meat.

CT: 120 days or more.

RH: 60 to 90 days.

JE: Ours are slaughtered before 3 years of age so they are on pasture along with potatoes and silage and hay if needed.

DL: 45 to 60 days depending on the animal's flesh when put on feed.

JE: Depends on type and age of the animals to be fed. Many animals are slaughtered in the fall right off the range. Weaned calves (12-14 mos. old): 175 to 210 days. Yearlings (20-22 mos. old): 150 to 175 days. Bulls (28-30 mos. old): 100 to 120 days. Mature bulls & cows: 60 to 90 days.

DA: From weaning until slaughter. We slaughter as early as 18 months of age (aprox. 1,000 pounds).

DS: at least 90 days.

LB: 120 to 140 days.

BN: We feed them from 100 days up de-

pending on what condition they come in at.

Q: What maintenance feed ration is recommended for mature animals (herd cows & bulls) in a dry lot situation?

LW: We do not keep our animals in a dry lot. They run on pasture 365 days a year.

CT: Some good and some coarse hay and salt and minerals.

RH: Prairie hay, protein supplement.

JE: Our herd is on pasture all winter but our grass is not good after freezing so we supplement with hay silage or potatoes. Do not get pregnant cows too fat. We have lost several from doing that.

DL: Mainly grass hay. Also cake them with grain & soybean cake about 5 pounds per day.

JE: Use the same ration as recommended in your area for running a beef herd in a dry lot situation.

DA: Corn fodder and mineral block. Plus Bison Roughage* one month before calving and during breeding season. Ours get some grass in the summer.

DS: Herd bulls 10 lbs of corn per head per day with free choice of hay. Cows just hay, and cows 4 and under a little grain may be added.

LB: I feed good prairie hay to cows in the winter and pasture grass in the summer, with no supplements other than salt and mineral. In a dry lot, we feed prairie hay and some alfalfa. We feel if we feed too much protein, we have calving problems.

BN: We feed free choice hay and free choice straw along with free access to salt and minerals.

Q: What type of hay do buffalo prefer or do the best on: native prairie hay, tame grass hay, alfalfa, clover, other?

LW: We have only alfalfa and orchard grass hay. If we have a wet summer and fall, we have giant fox tail that comes up in our seeding. This makes good hay.

CT: Some alfalfa mixed with timothy or orchard grass or broame.

RH: Native prairie hay.

JE: Prairie hay or tame grass.

DL: Native prairie hay.

JE: Buffalo prefer hay that is put up just prior to the peak of maturity of each type of plant. We made hay out of a field of wheat and the buffalo preferred the wheat hay over alfalfa and tame grass hay. But the animals didn't do as good on it. We tested the wheat and found it very low in protein.

DA: Ours like corn fodder because that is all they get, no hay at all.

DS: We have no native prairie hay in Missouri so we use grass hay for cows and bulls, clover mix on calves. In severe weather we feed cows and bulls alfalfa, also in the spring while the grass is greening up and lacks protein we feed alfalfa. We never feed calves straight alfalfa as the stems seem to be hard on the mouth and they tend to get scours.

LB: Prairie hay and a little alfalfa.

BN: Tame grass hay and alfalfa mixed.

Q: Have any buffalo producers used cubes, pettets, medicated feeds, molasses, feed supplements, lick blocks, or other types or forms of feed for buffalo?

LW: No answer.

CT: In the West people do but not in my area.

RH: Yes, cubes or pellets with a molasses base. Buffalo love molasses and will eat most anything when mixed with molasses.

continued on page 24

Comment Corral

continued from page 3

Dear Ms. Hebbing,

I was referred to your office by Mr. Robert Johnson, staff reporter for the Wall Street Journal.

I am with a registered broker/dealer in real estate tax shelters. I have, for some time now, been looking for investment information in your field, buffaloes. To date, the information gained has been very limited. The reason I have contacted you is because one of our clients has shown a great deal of interest in buffalo as a shelter. Would you please send me as much information as you can provide on the breeding and raising of buffalo.

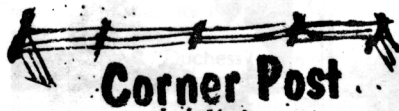
As you can see, our office is located in Buffalo, New York. My client feels that it would be a great advantage to have his breeder as close as possible to the Western New York area as possible. I'm sure you understand that any investor would want to inspect his investment from time to time. I would appreciate anything you can do to help me in this area.

Sincerely,

David P. Ott
Accountant

The Island Planning Group
675 Delaware Ave.
Buffalo, NY 14202

EDITOR'S NOTE: Buffalo producers in the northeast take note. If you are interested in starting an absentee owner program please let us know and also please respond to Mr. Ott.



Patty Schultze, 1637 Rimhurst Ave., Glendora, CA 91740 818-335-6485. Wants to buy any type of buffalo memorabilia, has items for trade or sale. Also wants back issues of BUFFALO!, Vol. 4, 5, 6, 7. Will buy one or entire group.

A. J. "Jim" White P.O. Box 162 Shoshoni, WY. 82649 307-876-2754 has duplicates interested in trading.

John Coates Jr., RD 1 Box 363 Belvidere, N.J. 07823 201-475-5458 will purchase duplicates and looking for sources of buffalo curios of all types.

Ginny Ake N51 W15744 Fair Oak Pkwy, Menomonee Falls, WI 53051 414-781-0085 has duplicates to swap.

Russell Bury Box 137, Stockland IL 60967 has collection for sale.

Ben P. R. Roose 10 F Philadelphia St. Rapid City, S.D. 57701 (605) 343-2996 has buffalo related historical photo prints to sell or trade.

Dr. Ronald H. Elser 410 W. Badillo St. Covina CA 91722 (213) 967-6461 liquidating collection of buffalo memorabilia - will send list and prices.

A. Dale Adams, Adams Buffalo Farms, Falmouth, KY 40140 (606) 654-3438 Trade or buy, books on bison or bison collectibles.

Lon Maxey, 1953 Belleridge Pike, Cape Girardeau, MO 63701, new collector, is interested in buffalo figures, memorabilia or curios related to the buffalo.

Questions and Answers

continued from page 8

JE: We have lick blocks but not with much success.

DL: We use cubes and lick blocks.

JE: Yes, we have used all of the above types of feed. Buffalo will adapt to all types of feed, therefore a buffalo producer can use the most economical types of feeds available in their local area.

DA: The 40% Bison Roughage is in pellet form and our cows get mineral blocks.

DS: We have used a lot of supplements, but normally corn is cheaper and buffalo eat it better than the protein blocks. We have never had success with lick tanks.

LB: We have used cubes for all our buffalo from time to time, but that is the only feed we have used, other than for the animals that are on full feed, which is corn screenings and alfalfa pellets.

BN: Not as far as we know in our area.

ADDITIONAL COMMENTS:

LW: My statements pertain to our area (southeast Iowa) but I feel they will qualify for most of the Midwest.

JE:(N.E. North Dakota): Buffalo will not choke or founder on whole potatoes as cattle do. We are trying to make enough on our buffalo so we can keep feeding cattle.

JE (eastern Wyoming): We recommend that all feeds be tested.

DA: We deworm with a pelleted feed that contains Tramisole three times per year. We have run as high as forty head in a feed lot with two acres of space. Our experience has been gained over nine years.

DS: Ground milo or grain sorghum has been supplemented with good results. Corn does not have to be ground as whole corn is just as good as ground corn and does not have the waste that ground corn does.

LB: We have tried several different ways to grain feed our buffalo. For us, it seems like it works the very best (and is the most economical) to put the animals in a dry lot and just feed corn screenings or ground corn,

1/4 alfalfa pellets and 1/4 oats in a self-feeder. You still can't marble the meat and you put very little cholesterol in the meat. We have had buffalo on grain for 140 days and the cholesterol count was still less than 5%. I think this is very unique, and just what people need—less cholesterol and more protein.

BN: It is hard to beat Mother Nature when it comes to caring for buffalo.

*40% Bison Roughage

GUARANTEED ANALYSIS

Crude protein, not less than..... 12.00%

(This includes not more than 2.2% equivalent protein from non-protein nitrogen).

Crude fat, not less than..... 1.30%

Crude fiber, not more than..... 20.00%

INGREDIENTS

Roughage products; processed grain by-products; grain products; can molasses; plant protein products; dehydrated alfalfa meal; calcium carbonate; urea; salt; animal fat (stabilized with BHT, citric acid); potassium sulfate; magnesium sulfate; monocalcium phosphate; dicalcium phosphate; dl-alpha-tocopheryl acetate; ferrous sulfate; zinc oxide; manganous oxide; vitamin A acetate with d-activated animal sterol (source of vitamin D3) in gelatin-sugar-starch beadlet; choline chloride; vitamin B12 supplement; riboflavin supplement; niacin supplement; calcium pantothenate; copper oxide; calcium iodate; white mineral oil; cobalt carbonate; sodium selenite.

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AGENT: "By Buffalo?"

LADY: "That's okay --- if the saddle is comfortable."

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