



National Diploma Animal Production

Livestock Production Part 5

Handout 12

Feed Management Plan Checklist

Feed Management Plan Checklist

The following checklist is designed to assist producers and their nutrient management advisor to determine feeding management factors that affect nutrient management. The checklist is meant to be used as an on-farm assessment tool. The factors contained in this assessment can be used as a guide to document and identify feeding management practices that will impact whole farm nutrient management.

To use this checklist, each practice should be discussed with the operator: Are they already implementing the practice? If Yes, indicate so and skip to the next question. If No, discuss whether or not the practice could be implemented and consider the economic implications.

Feed Management Considerations	Is it already implemented	Was it considered	Will it be economical	Will it be implemented	Will it be considered in the future
Target Nutrient Requirements					
Formulate multiple rations to meet nutrient requirements of cattle (multiple rations developed over the finishing period for weight groups)	Yes		Yes		Yes
	No		No		No
Animals sorted into groups on arrival by weight and gender	Yes		Yes		Yes
	No		No		No
Step-up diets	Yes		Yes		Yes
	No		No		No

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Analyse CP content of feed / grain / mineral mixes routinely	Yes		Yes		Yes		Yes		Yes	
	No		No		No		No		No	
Analyse P content of feed / grain / mineral mixes routinely	Yes		Yes		Yes		Yes		Yes	
	No		No		No		No		No	
Determine dry matter intake	Yes		Yes		Yes		Yes		Yes	
	No		No		No		No		No	
Ration Balancing: Reformulate rations routinely for the following:										
Roughage source quality (NDF, ADF, CP, P, starch)	Yes		Yes		Yes		Yes		Yes	
	No		No		No		No		No	
Changes in ration feedstuffs	Yes		Yes		Yes		Yes		Yes	
	No		No		No		No		No	

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Dry matter content of feeds	Yes		Yes		Yes		Yes		Yes	
	No		No		No		No		No	
Balance rations using either UIP / IP or MP	Yes		Yes		Yes		Yes		Yes	
	No		No		No		No		No	
Ration Management Practices										
Feed for limited feed refusal	Yes		Yes		Yes		Yes		Yes	
	No		No		No		No		No	
Assess feed bunks daily and maintain a consistent and fresh feed supply	Yes		Yes		Yes		Yes		Yes	
	No		No		No		No		No	
	Yes		Yes		Yes		Yes		Yes	

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Monitor ingredient loading for consistency and accuracy.	No		No		No		No		No
Evaluate timing of mixing process	Yes		Yes		Yes		Yes		Yes
	No		No		No		No		No
Clean feed bunks daily	Yes		Yes		Yes		Yes		Yes
	No		No		No		No		No
Clean water troughs: Weekly-summer Monthly-winter	Yes		Yes		Yes		Yes		Yes
	No		No		No		No		No

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Feed Management Considerations	Is it already implemented		Was it considered		Will it be economical		Will it be implemented		Will it be considered in the future	
	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	No
Production Aids / Enhancers										
Implants	Yes		Yes		Yes		Yes		Yes	
	No		No		No		No		No	
Lonophores	Yes		Yes		Yes		Yes		Yes	
	No		No		No		No		No	
Beta-agonists	Yes		Yes		Yes		Yes		Yes	
	No		No		No		No		No	
Estrus suppressants	Yes		Yes		Yes		Yes		Yes	

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	No		No		No		No		No	
Monitoring Tools										
Monitor N intake / N output	Yes		Yes		Yes		Yes		Yes	
	No		No		No		No		No	
Monitor water quality for minerals and nitrates	Yes		Yes		Yes		Yes		Yes	
	No		No		No		No		No	
Calculate P balance	Yes		Yes		Yes		Yes		Yes	
	No		No		No		No		No	
Determine N and P excretion from feed inputs	Yes		Yes		Yes		Yes		Yes	
	No		No		No		No		No	
Monitor ADG	Yes		Yes		Yes		Yes		Yes	
	No		No		No		No		No	

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Monitor feed efficiency / conversion	Yes		Yes		Yes		Yes		Yes	
	No		No		No		No		No	
Additional Comments	Yes		Yes		Yes		Yes		Yes	
	No		No		No		No		No	