Curr. Agri.Tren.:e-Newsletter, (2022) 1(1), 1-4



Article ID: 101

Care Management Feeding and Breeding of Dairy Heifers

Sanjay Kumar Bharti^{1*} and Jay Kishan Prasad²

¹Head, Department of Veterinary Anatomy, ²Dean, Bihar Veterinary College, Bihar Animal Sciences University, Patna – 800014



Corresponding Author Sanjay Kumar Bharti

Article History

Received: 21.08.2021 Revised: 4.09.2021 Accepted: 10.09.2021

This article is published under the terms of the <u>Creative Commons</u> <u>Attribution License 4.0</u>.

INTRODUCTION

The heifer should be growing and in good flesh at calving time. This is necessary so that she can produce milk at the most profitable level. Place the heifer in a separate shed about 6-8 weeks before she is due to calve. Feed 2 - 3 kg of concentrate daily and all the forage she eats, Four months of age (up to four months, the care and upbringing of a cow calf, whether male or female, is the same. After this, the male calf to make ox or bulls and the female calf to make them cows, their care, nurturing and there is a difference in the management), after the calving time, the care, upbringing and management of the heifers of the farm is very important. On basis of these things, production capacity of that heifer depends. While she turns into a cow. Small sized and low yielding cows are prepared only when proper type of balanced and necessary food is not given and proper care is not taken. Therefore, to prepare a fully developed size (according to their breed and ancestral qualities) and to produce maximum milk yielding, good care, upbringing and management of heifers is very important.

Therefore, that, the following important point are essential aspects of doing which are more essential for better care and management in respect to their feeding and breeding of dairy heifers.

- Planning for raising heifers
- Feeding concentrate
- Feeding hay
- Pasturing
- Feeding of silage
- Feeding of minerals and salt
- Breeding the heifers
- Feeding the bred heifer
- Managing the bred heifer we will briefly consider all these aspects here.

www.currentagriculturetrends.com

(1.) Planning for raising heifers: -

Make the heifers grow as fast as possible. May it be possible so that she can get pregnant soon. The healthier it is, the higher will be the milk yield. The higher the milk yield. The more profit will be more and sooner. At what age does the heifer become pregnant and how much physical development and physical weight it is able to do before becoming pregnant. It depends on the breed as well as on what and how much is fed to heifers. The rate of physical growth is very slow due to feeding of poor quality and small quantity of diet. Due to which the cost of rearing the heifer increases a lot. Feeding of good quality dry grass in sufficient quantity and the required quantity of good quality increases the rate of growth of the heifer and that method is beneficial from the economic point of view. Heifers should not be fed more than necessary. However, their growth should be kept maximum, in increasing the growth, special care should be taken that the heifer does not become fat.

For replacement of big cows, raising heifers is an expensive of life. Sometimes and elsewhere it is cheaper to buy a heifer from a pre wean than to raise it on your won farm. However, we have full knowledge of the health and production capacity of the calf reared on our farm. In raising the heifer, they get food, shelter, building, labour, interest, tax and veterinary fee etc. and the income comes only from

its dung. Therefore, it is very important to note that the heifer should always be reared only of the best breed of cows (bulls also), which are used for replacement.

Feeding the heifers. The heifer is very delicate at birth. However, at the age of six months it becomes very strong. After that, their growth is also very fast. If they are given a balanced and adequate diet, then they can be conceived at the age of fifteen months. Otherwise, she conceives at the age of 2 ½ - 3 years. Therefore, the heifers should be fed well, because the sooner they are young, the sooner they will give milk, the income will increase and thus the profit will increase.

(2.) Feeding concentrate -

By the time, the heifer is eight months old. Until then, they should be given four pounds every night. If the heifer is weak or the fodder is not of good quality, then five pounds should be given every day. If there is good fodder, more than three-pound night go to work dairy calf. To feed the heifer after the age of four months and after the age of 12 months, the heifer is fed like a cow.

(3.) Feeding hay feeding hay - -

Give the heifer as much dry grass as it can eat. Only feed it. After the age of four months, two-leaved dry grass is good. It is better to feed good quality fodder than to feed more nights.





www.currentagriculturetrends.com

(4) Pasturing –

Heifer can be grazed from the age of six months. If they are being given four pounds per night, along with very dry grass of good quality, on days when there is less grass on the pasture, then special care should be taken in their diet. In such a situation, their requirement should be fulfilled by giving them dry grass and silage. They should be given di calcium phosphate, steamed bone meal etc. on the pasture itself.

(5) Feeding of silage -

Until the age of four to eight months, three to five pounds of silage should be fed to the heifers daily. After the age of eight months till the age of twelve months, the amount of silage should be increased gradually and after twelve months of age, she should be fed as much silage as she can.





(6) Feeding mineral and salts -

Due to the growing condition, the heifers need many minerals. Which can be replenished with di calcium phosphate or steamed bone meal. They should be mixed at the rate of 1% in the night.

(7) Breeding the heifers -

The age of the heifers according to their breed varies because this variation is due to the rate of physical growth and age of sexual maturity according to their breed. For example, small sized breeds mature sooner than large sized breeds.

The call, which is born at the age of 36 months or more, remains gross, heavy and healthy. Small size heifers should not be conceived until their body size is according to their breed. The size of the heifer's

body is closely related to the time of conception of the heifer.

(8) Feeding the Breed Heifer -

Good type of fodder should be fed to the pregnant heifer. When fed in a tied condition on a peg, she can eat as much dry grass, green fodder, and maize silage as she can. Must be fed the heifer should be fed only when it has good pasture. Feeding on poor quality pasture stops the growth of heifers and their body weight also starts decreasing 2-4 months before hatching, 14% ration of its diet should be given to the heifer. Therefore, while feeding the heifer, it is also worth keeping in mind that along with the heifer, you are also feeding the children born from it.

www.currentagriculturetrends.com

(9) Managing the breed heifers -

There is a need to make special arrangements for the heifers who are pregnant for the first time. Arrangements for their stay should be made at such a place where they remain under your care, so that when they come again in the season, you will know when they come again in the season. If this season of theirs passes, then they will go back from 16 to 20 – 31 days. The pregnancy diagnosis should definitely be done 60 days after the calf has been conceived.

Sometimes the heifer does not come into the season even though it is not pregnant due to the stagnation of the corpusluteum (Corp.vis luteum). Which causes great loss.

If the heifers are not kept properly during pregnancy, then they create difficulties after weaning. Therefore, they should be completely domesticated before hatching. At least ten days before the expected date of hatching, the calf should be closely monitored and kept in a separate safe, healthy, dry and comfortable place.