

## FEEDING OF CORN TO BROOD COWS DURING LIMITED FORAGE SUPPLY IS A VIABLE OPTION

*James B. Neel*  
*Professor*  
*Department of Animal Science*

Grazing forages is the most economical way to feed beef cows. However, in times of limited pasture and hay, cow-calf producers could consider limit feeding corn to brood cows.

Feeding corn and a high protein supplement and limited hay can meet the animal's energy and protein requirements. Corn is relatively cheap and hay might be both limited and expensive in many areas of the state later in the year. This would especially be true where army worm infestation was high and the forage harvested for hay.

A pound of corn replaces almost two pounds of hay. Following are some suggestions for limit fed rations using corn.

### Guidelines for Limit Feeding Corn to Beef Cows

Stage of Production	Corn as % of Body Wt.	Amount to Feed	
		38%-44% Protein Supplement (Lb./Day)	Grass Hay as % of Body Wt.
Pregnant	0.75	2.0	0.5
Lactating, Av. Milk Production	1.00	3.0	0.5
Lactating, High Milk Production	1.10	3.5	0.5

The corn can be fed whole on sod but feed bunks are better - allow 30 inches of bunk space per cow. If protein supplement is purchased, cubes could also be fed on the sod.

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