

5 Ways to Avoid Loss From Bloat

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WE ARE AGAIN approaching the season when bloat in cattle becomes prevalent. Unfortunately, there is no reliable way of preventing bloat when cattle are feeding on succulent pasture.

While bloat is more common in some seasons than in others there are times and conditions when it is more likely to occur. These may be listed as follows:

1. When cattle are first turned on to succulent pasture.
2. When pastures contain a high percentage of clover or alfalfa.
3. During periods favoring very rapid growth.
4. When the grass is wet.

Following are listed some of the means recommended to avoid losses.

1. Give the cows a good fill of hay before turning them out.
2. Do not turn cattle on to wet grass for the first time.
3. Get the cattle accustomed to the grass by turning them on for short intervals at first.
4. Watch cattle closely at first and during periods of greatest growth.
5. Provide yourself with a trocar for tapping bad cases and coal oil (kerosene) and a drenching bottle for treating the milder cases. A dose for a mature cow is 1 small tea cup of coal oil mixed with 1 pint of whole milk or raw linseed oil.

Hughes Heads Targhee Group

CURTIS HUGHES of Stanford was elected chairman of a committee to organize a national Targhee sheep registry association. The election was held at a meeting of Targhee breeders held at the United States sheep experiment station at Dubois, Ida., where the breed was developed.

Also on the committee are three other Montana breeders: Henry Hibbard, Helena; Henry Yoppe, Livingston, and Dr. H. C. Gardiner, Anaconda. Other members are Steve Thompson, Heppner, Ore.; Leo Pfister, Node, Wyo.

Targhees are polled, open faced and carry a thick covering of natural fleshing. They have been selected for a practical range sheep and ewes of the breed have shown exception-

Livestock Sales Dates

STEVENSVILLE: Porch's Three-Mile Hereford dispersion, Sept. 22.

GREAT FALLS: North Montana Hereford association annual fall sale Oct. 11.

GRASS RANGE: N Bar ranch annual commercial and purebred Angus sale at the ranch, Oct. 13.

MALTA: North Eastern Montana annual fall Hereford sale, Oct. 15.

LEWISTOWN: Montana Aberdeen-Angus association annual feeder calf sale, Oct. 15.

LEWISTOWN: North Rocky Mountain Aberdeen-Angus association annual fall registered Angus sale, Oct. 16.

TWIN BRIDGES: A. C. Bayers annual Hereford sale, Oct. 22.

HAYRE: Bear Paw Hereford Assn sale, Oct. 24.

FULLMAN, WASH.: Linsey Staley annual Hereford sale, Oct. 26.

ENNIS: Jumping Horse Stock ranch-Orr Herefords combination production Hereford sale, at Jumping Horse ranch, Oct. 27.

KALISPELL: Northwestern Montana annual Hereford sale, Oct. 27.

MILES CITY: Tri-State Hereford Futurity, Nov. 5.

BUTTE: Western Montana Hereford association annual fall sale, Nov. 9.

LEWISTOWN: Central Montana Hereford association annual fall sale, Nov. 10.

CASPER, WYO.: Wyoming Hereford association annual sale, Nov. 19.

MISSOULA: "Top Cut" Hereford annual consignment sale, Feb. 4, 1953.

al mothering ability and high lamb production. They produce a high yield of half-blood wool that has a versatile market demand.

The breed has been under development since 1926 and individual breeders have been getting sheep from the U. S. station since 1935. There are now 24 breeders in Montana, Wyoming, Idaho, Utah, Colorado, Oregon, California and Pennsylvania.

Steers Contracted At 35 Cents

PRICES RANGING from 32 cents for heifers to 35 cents for steers are reported by the First National bank in contracts made since the announcement of the "rollback" on cattle prices. Contracts include:

Two Dot area, 300 yearling steers at 32 cents, 160 Hereford yearling steers at 32 cents, 35 Hereford short 2-year-old steers at 32 cents, 40 Hereford yearling heifers at 30 cents, 50 mixed Hereford calves at 33 cents for heifers and 35 cents for steers; Roy area, 125 mixed Hereford calves at 33 cents for heifers and 35 cents for steers; Armels area, 300 mixed Hereford calves at 33 cents for heifers and 35 cents for steers; Lewistown area, 200 mixed Hereford calves at 33 cents for heifers and 35 cents for steers.

All contracts call for fall delivery and weights at from 2 to 4 percent shrink.

Noxious Plant Eradication Discussed at Range Meet

By F. A. BRANSON

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THE ERADICATION or control of poisonous and other noxious range plants was a major topic discussed at the spring meeting of the American Society of Range Management, Northern International Mountain section at Missoula. In addition to noxious plant control, there were discussions of big game management and a field trip to view sagebrush eradication and grass reseeding.

Following the business meeting, conducted by Tom Lommasson, papers on noxious weed control were presented. O. J. Murray, rancher of Thompson Falls, discussed the introduction of beetles to control goatweed (also called St. Johnswort and Klamath weed) in northwestern Montana. The beetles, brought by air from California, graze and destroy only the goatweed.

Alex Johnson of Lethbridge, Canada, presented the general weed control picture for southeastern Alberta and southwestern Saskatchewan. He suggested that one of the most practical control measures is conservative stocking to prevent introduction or increase of noxious weeds.

Larkspur, Halogeton

E. E. Redman, supervisor of the Beaverhead National forest, presented information on management to prevent cattle losses on areas infested with tall larkspur. In areas grazed after the larkspur has reached a certain stage of maturity there are few or no losses of cattle.

Ray G. Johnson, Montana extension range specialist, presented material on the distribution, ecology and control of Halogeton. At present this poisonous plant in Montana is limited to an area in southeastern Carbon county. Johnson pointed out that measures are now in effect to prevent the spread of Halogeton in our state. Larry O. Osburnson, soil conservation service, was chairman of this panel and C. R. Hunt, Montana department of entomology, moderator.

The afternoon panel, under the chairmanship of W. R. Hanson of Alberta, Canada, discussed material

on livestock management and grazing habits of antelope and deer.

Don Hunter, rancher from Greenough, told of his buying, fattening and selling operation. He disagrees with range managers who propose that salt be placed at points on the range away from water to obtain better distribution of livestock. He presented evidence indicating that cattle receiving an abundant supply of salt would store sufficient water to allow them to travel greater distances from water to obtain forage.

John Swartz of Moiese, presented a paper on management and grazing habits of pronghorn antelope. Lowell Adams of Missoula outlined results of research on the whitetail deer range in Lincoln county. Results of the research showed that the large deer herd of this range destroys seedlings of the valuable western yellow pine. Lowell was also toastmaster at the banquet at which H. J. Hargrave of the agricultural experiment station, Lethbridge, Canada, spoke on "Range Resources of the Far North and the Reindeer Herd at Aklavik."

Field Trip

First stop on a field trip was at the U. S. Forest Experiment station grass nursery on Stanley Antrim's ranch near Florence. The performance of the many grasses was explained by Rould Peterson.

At the Ed O'Hare ranch the group looked at the excellent stands of beardless wheatgrass, big bluegrass, and rough fescue with some alfalfa; other portions of O'Hare's range were seeded to intermediate wheatgrass and to crested wheatgrass. Two factors that contributed to the good seeding results were thorough preparation of the seedbed and the use of fertilizer to give the seedlings a boost.

An added attraction on the O'Hare ranch was a demonstration of sagebrush removal by the use of a heavy duty one-way plow. Another method was demonstrated on Clarence Hagen's ranch. Here the roto beater did quite a clean looking job of chewing up sagebrush.



A roto beater chewing up sagebrush on Clarence Hagen's ranch, Ravalli county. The operation of this machine was demonstrated during the field trip for members of the American Society of Range Management. (Branson photos)



Destruction of sagebrush is the first step in preparing the land for reseeding of grasses. The tractor and heavy duty one-way plow shown above were used by Ed O'Hare, Ravalli county, in obtaining excellent grass stands.