

Beef Cattle Vocabulary

Beef:

Beef is the culinary name for meat from cattle. Beef is a source of protein and nutrients.

Bull:

A male bovine animal

Calf:

The young of the domestic cow

Cow:

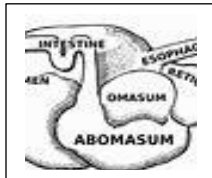
A fully grown female animal of a domesticated breed of cow, used as a source of milk or beef.

Cow-Calf operation:

A cow-calf operation is a method of raising beef cattle in which a permanent herd of cows is kept by a farmer or rancher to produce calves for later sale.

Cud:

Is partly digested food returned from the first stomach of ruminants to the mouth for further chewing.



Ruminants are herbivorous mammals that can acquire nutrients from plant-based food by fermenting it in a specialized stomach prior to digestion, principally through microbial actions. Food is returned from a ruminant's stomach to the mouth to be chewed for the second time.

Gestation:

The gestation period is the time during which an embryo is developing and being born. (9 months for a cow.)

Harvesting:

Inspecting and selecting the cattle that will be sent to market to provide meat for people to eat.

Stocker program:

Calves that have been weaned (no longer drink milk) and begin eating grass and feed supplements to gain weight.

Veterinarian:

A person qualified to treat animals and care for those that might be diseased or injured.

(Continue on for pictures of different breeds of cattle.)

Breeds of Beef Cattle



Angus



Hereford



Charolais



Red Angus



Brangus



Limousin