

EXPERIMENT STATION

OF THE

KANSAS STATE AGRICULTURAL COLLEGE,

MANHATTAN.

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FARM DEPARTMENT.

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STEER-FEEDING EXPERIMENTS.—SERIES VI.

The experiments hereinafter detailed were planned with a view to ascertain the comparative value of corn and red and white Kaffircorn for steer-feeding. For this purpose 15 steers were procured and divided into three lots of five steers each, each lot being fed exclusively on one of the above-named grains, together with suitable fodder for roughness.

The steers had been raised within a few miles of Manhattan, though on two different farms. They were purchased in two lots; Nos. 1 to 6, inclusive, were purchased September 23, and Nos. 7 to 15, inclusive, were purchased October 5. They were selected with a view to secure uniformity in age, weight, and quality. In age they were about 2 years 9 months old at the time they were purchased, though a few were somewhat younger. They were three years old during the latter part of the winter and early spring of 1897. All but five had been dehorned. These five, Nos. 1, 3, 4, 5, and 14, were dehorned October 10, and soon recovered. Three of the steers were grade Herefords, namely Nos. 8, 13, and 15; all the rest mere grade Shorthorns.

PRELIMINARY FEEDING.

From their arrival on the farm until October 15, they were pastured in a tame-grass meadow with abundant feed, without grain, but on that date the grain feeding began. The feed consisted of a mixture of equal parts of corn, red Kaffir-corn, and white Kaffir-corn, ground fine. At first, they were fed only four pounds per head daily, but this quantity was gradually increased until they reached 16 pounds per day per head. They remained on pasture in the daytime until October 20, from which date they were kept in the yard, in order to accustom them to the quarters they were to occupy before the experiment should begin. By carefully studying their individual characteristics and adjusting the feed to their appetite, we soon arrived at the basis for their division into lots. Along with the grain they had access to what corn-stover they would eat.

BEGINNING OF THE EXPERIMENT.

On November 3 the experiment began by feeding each lot on its particular ration. They were weighed three days in succession, and the average of these weights taken as the weight at the beginning of the experiment. Care was taken to divide the lots as evenly as possible, both as regards weight and feeding quality of the steers. One of the grade Herefords was put in each lot, and each lot was placed in a separate yard with an open shed for shelter, the yards being separated from each other only by a wire fence. The weights of the steers at beginning of experiment are shown in table I herewith:

Table I.

11	No. of steer.	Nov.	Nov.	Nov. 4.	Average.	II.	No. of steer.		Nov. 3.	Nov. 4.	Average.
Lor	3 7 8 9 11	1038 896 954 1095 1200	1027 889. 960 1036 1193	1020 920 953 1114 1195	1028 902 956 1098 1196	Lor	1 2 4 12 13	988 1035 996 1028 1073	926 1021 998 1010 1065	1003 1032 995 1005 1073	996 1029 996 1014 1070
Total Average					5180 1036	Total Average					5105 1021

III.	No. of steer.	Nov. 2.	Nov.	Nov. 4.	Average.
Lor 1	5 6 10 14 15	1033 1003 1052 1050 990	1025 1013 1032 1030 997	1025 1018 1048 1026 1030	1028 1011 1044 1035 1006
Total					5124 1025

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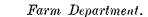
FEED AND FEEDING.

Lot I was fed on corn-meal, lot II on red Kaffir-corn meal, and lot III on white Kaffir-corn meal, and all were fed equal quantities of these grains. This is a deviation from previous experiments, in that we have heretofore fed each lot all it would eat, instead of limiting it to a particular quantity, but in this instance it was thought that the experiment would afford a better comparison of the feeding value of the three grains if each lot were fed the same quantity, the lots being as nearly equal in all particulars as it was possible to make them. this plan, any variation in gain may be fairly attributed to the variation in the quality of the feed. When steers are fed on different feeds, and it is found that one lot eats more than another, it is always a question how far the variation in gains may be due to the different amount of feed consumed; but by feeding them the same quantity there is only one other factor that can have a disturbing influence, namely, individuality, and if the individuality is so adjusted in the division that the lots are nearly equal in this respect, any marked variation in gains must be due to the quality of the feed. All lots were started on November 3 with 80 pounds grain daily for each, or 16 pounds per head. It was given them in two feeds, half in the morning and the other half in the evening. They were watched carefully and occasionally the amount was increased a pound or two per day, but it was always found necessary to go back again to about 80 pounds.

For roughness, each lot was fed 100 pounds Kaffir-corn fodder daily. The fodder was grown on the Station farm, and was of good quality. The heads had been cut off when the seed was ripe, and the fodder was well cured. It was of a bright green color, with the aroma of hay, and the steers appeared to relish it. The plan was to feed them enough so that they should have all they would eat in addition to their grain. Of the 100 pounds fed to each lot daily, from one-fifth to one-third usually remained uneaten. This waste was weighed back and deducted from the amount fed, so that the weights given in the tables which follow are the amounts actually consumed. The waste consisted almost wholly of the butt ends of the stalks, and, as they were full of juice, they were heavy, and represented but a small portion of the bulk of the fodder fed.

GRINDING THE GRAIN.

All the grain was ground as fine as it was practicable with our mill, the Duplex No. 3. To give a better idea of the fineness, a portion of each kind was run through several sieves. The following figures show the size of the meshes in these sieves, the per cent. of the total



bulk which was left on each sieve, and the per cent. which passed through. It will be seen that in each case about three-fourths of the meal was fine enough to pass through a sieve the meshes of which were one-twentieth of an inch, while the amount which passed through the sieve with meshes one-thirty-second of an inch varied from 30 to 45 per cent. for the several kinds, the corn-meal having the larger per cent. of very fine material.

	Corn-	meal.		Kaffir- meal.	White Kaffir- corn meal.		
Size of Meshes.	left	Per cent. passed through.	left	passed	left	passed	
5-64ths of an inch	10.25	96.96 89.75 75.90 45.16	1.22 5.68 23.32 63.50	98.88 94.32 76.68 36.50	1.85 9.50 25.86 69.39	98.15 91.50 74.14 30.61	

LOT FED ON CORN-MEAL.

Lot I was fed on corn-meal exclusively from November 3 until April 27; with Kaffir corn-fodder, a little corn-fodder for three weeks, and, at the close of the experiment, some alfalfa hay, for roughness. The experiment covers 175 days. In that time the five steers gained 1,632 pounds, an average gain of 326 pounds per head, which is equal to a daily average gain of 1.86 pounds per head. Table II shows the weekly weight and gain of each steer in the experiment, from beginning to end. The table shows the same fluctuation in the gain from week to week which is characteristic of all live-stock experiments of this nature.

Table III shows, in like manner, the gain of the lot from week to week, but it is of more interest in that it also shows the feed eaten and the cost of that feed, which, taken together with the gains made, indicates the cost of the gain. I would call special attention to the last four columns in the table, which bring out this feature. The cost per pound of gain, it will be noticed, increases steadily with much regularity from the beginning of the experiment until the close. Thus, the average cost per pound of gain during the first week is 1.54 cents; the average cost at the end of the eighth week is 2.54 cents; while at the end of the sixteenth week it is 3.66 cents per pound of gain, and 3.73 cents at the close of the experiment. The increase in the cost is due to the decrease in gain for the feed consumed. column headed "Average daily gain per head from November 3" shows that the steers made the best gains in the early portion of the experiment and as they ripened up the gain gradually diminished. With corn-meal worth 30 cents per hundred weight and the fodder

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Table II. LOT I. WEEKLY ACCOUNT OF WEIGHT AND GAIN IN POUNDS.

	Ste	eor	Ste	er •	Ste	eer	Ste	eer).	Ste	er 1.	To	tal.	Aver	age.
DATE, 1896-'97.	Weight	Gain	Weight	Gain	Weight	Gain	Weight	Gain	Weight	Gain	Woight	Gain	Weight	Gain
November 3 4 10 4 17 December 1 4 15 5 22 January 5 12 29 12 29 12 29 12 29 12 20 19 4 19 26 February 2 5 16 23 March 2 6 30 April 6 23 April 6 23 4 23 April 6 24 7 7 Totals Average daily gain	1028 1041 1076 1120 1120 11165 1158 1145 1147 1153 1127 1153 1127 1207 1217 1217 1224 1237 1245 1251 1287 1276 1276	13 34 24 24 49 48 31 49 82 61 27 10 00 7 13 14 4 65 127 11 00 14 26 1 15 50	962 938 9692 979 979 989 988 1060 1030 1055 1051 1075 1114 1127 1155 1155 1150 1201 1225 1253	36 24 17 20 112 20 18 6 13 6 15 7 3 32 -10 214 22 3 351 2.00	956 1600 1004 1026 1050 1074 1103 1132 1151 1147 1175 1195 1208 1207 1208 1207 1255 1265 1265 127 1290 1290 1290 1303 1302 1303	144 44 22 24 24 22 29 22 25 20 13 7 7 7 1 48 0 0 10 9 4 19 1 2 2 364 2 08	1098 1092 1172 1163 1161 1211 1204 1224 1226 1225 1286 1257 1277 1273 1344 1348 1348 1349 1353 1364 1383		1196 1250 1280 1285 1313 1308 1328 1390 1375 1400 1395 1421 1405 1421 1465 1421 1465 1510 1528 1510 1528 1545 1545 1566	54 30 15 18 18 -5 20 11 -16 -2 19 8 -5 10 16 7 14 23 23 52 11 17 21 370 2.11	5180 5321 5143 5568 5645 5637 5906 5978 5906 6107 6153 6202 6419 6489 6553 6634 6634 6634 6634 6634	141 122 125 77 78 120 149 72 78 56 50 51 27 50 1632 9, 32	1036 1061 1083 1113 1129 1127 1151 1181 1189 1200 1221 1230 1241 1250 1272 1298 1298 1299 1317 1322 1346 1362	28 24 25 166 -22 24 30 11 21 16 11 21 11 4 5 22 18 8 1 10 5 14 16 326

Total gain of lot, 1,632 pounds. Average daily gain, 9.32 pounds. Average daily gain per head, 1.86 pounds.

12.5 cents per hundred weight, the average cost of feed per head of this lot was \$12.18. They ate 9.97 pounds corn-meal and 5.69 pounds fooder for each pound of gain, which, at the cost of feed given, made the gain cost 3.73 cents per pound. The total cost of the corn, including the grinding, was \$48.81, or about 17 cents per bushel. The lot sold for \$4.50 per hundred weight, which, at the weight they had on the market, 6,670 pounds, brought \$300.15. After deducting all expenses, namely, first cost of the steers, the preliminary feeding, the cost of shipping, commission, etc., and the cost of fodder eaten, there is left \$96.38 to pay for the 290 bushels of corn, which brings about 33.2 cents per bushel.

The chief interest of the experiment is, of course, centered in the comparison of results between the several lots; and to bring out the comparative value of these feeds, the following tables should be closely studied.

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		Cos per l of ga	fron Nov. cts.	
		Average daily gain	from Nov. 3, Ibs.	######################################
		Average daily gain	from Nov. 3, Ibs.	28828834458651556666666666666666666666666666666
		Gain of lot from	Nov. 3, Ibs.	######################################
ſŊ.		Lbs. rough-	for each lb. grain con-sumed from Nov. 3.	
F OF GAJ		Lbs.	oaten per lb. of gain from Nov. 3.	00446644666666666666666666666666666666
CORN-MEAL		lfa.	Cost 20 cts. per cwt.	0.00 0.00 0.00 0.00 0.00 0.00 0.00 0.0
LOT I. FEED EATE	INESS.	or. Alfålfa.	Woight, Ibs.	20 20 000 1720 20 000 120 120 120 120 120 120 120 12
	Rodginess.	Corn-stover.	Cost 12% cts. per cwt.	\$0.289 385 385 385 385 385 385 385 385 385 385
Table III.		Corn-s	Weight, lbs.	2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2
TE Key acc		ffir- tover.	Cost 12% ets. per cwt.	20 20 20 20 20 20 20 20 20 20 20 20 20 2
WEE		Kaffir- corn stover.	Weight, lbs.	255 255 255 255 255 255 255 255 255 255
		Lbs.	eaten per lb. of gain from Nov. 3.	6444755558888888888888888888888888888888
	GRAIN.	Corn-meal.	Cost 30 cts. per cwt.	\$1.000 1.0000 1
:		Corn-	Weight, lbs.	2000 2000 2000 2000 2000 2000 2000 200
		DATE.	1898-'97.	Nov. 13 Co. 1110 Co.

Grain eaten per pound of gain, 9.97 pounds. Total food eaten per pound of gain, 15.69 pounds. Roughness eaten, 9.281 pounds. Total gain, 175 days, 1,682 pounds.

Averaçe daily gain of lot, 9.32 pounds. Averaçe cost per pound of gain, 3.73 cents. Averaçe cost of feed per head, 3!2.13. Roughness eaten per pound of gain, 5.63 pounds.

THE LOT FED ON RED KAFFIR-CORN MEAL.

Lot II was fed on red Kaffir-corn meal under exactly the same conditions as described for the previous lot. The weights and gains of this lot are set forth in table IV. The lot made a total gain of 1,497 pounds, or an average of 299 pounds per head, which equals 1.71 pounds daily gain per head. This, it will be noticed, is somewhat less than the gain made by the lot fed on corn-meal.

Table IV. LOT II. WEEKLY ACCOUNT OF WEIGHT AND GAIN IN POUNDS.

WEEKLY ACCOUNT OF WEIGHT AND GAIN IN POUNDS.														
	Ste	er •	Ste	er	Ste	er •	Ste 12	er 2.	Ste 13	er 3.	Tot	al.	Avera	age.
DATE, 1890-'97.	Weight	Gain	Weight	Gain	Weight	Gain	Weight	Gain	Weight	Gain	Weight	Gain	Weight	Gain
Vovember 3 10 11 24 22 15 29 19 29 19 20 20 19 21 23 30 4 4 23 4 30 4 4 30 4 4 30 4 4 30 4 4 30 4 4 30 4 4 30 4 4 30 4 4 30 4 4 4 30 4	996 1021 1050 1050 1075 1106 1156 1156 1168 1168 1172 1200 1210 1210 1219 1230 1248 1270 1281 1291 1291 1281 1291 1281 1291 1281 1291 129	25 29 35 5 29 35 5 29 30 11 13 40 12 4 4 4 5 5 11 36 -18 22 11 2 2 5 23 -14 316	1029 1072 1103 1122 1121 1142 1121 1161 1198 1203 1203 1220 1235 1235 1235 1235 1243 1243 1255 1265 1305 1324 1343 1340	31 19 20 -21 40 37 5 -40 16 17 24 -9 3 5 5 20 17 19 19 19 19 19 31	996 1028 1043 1071 1055 1090 1114 1135 1117 1129 1117 1133 1149 1151 1170 1163 1195 1190 1192 1225 1235 1244	32 15 28 14 5 24 24 21 2-6 -12 1-9 3 16 2 19 7-7 25 7-7 25 20 10 9 9 248	1014 1041 1059 1069 1077 1102 1115 1142 1155 1146 1141 1165 11210 1210 1210 1210 1210 1217 1217 1257 1257 1273 1278 1399 1299	27 18 10 8 25 13 27 13 27 22 -7 24 25 20 -12 3 3 9 24 1 -20 26 5 31 -9 27 28 3	1070 1109 1124 1157 1154 1168 1210 1223 1260 1225 1258 1262 1293 1293 1293 1311 1310 1324 1352 1353 1373 1387 1407	39 15 33 14 42 13 37 -35 33 0 0 2 2 22 11 1 14 28 6 15 14 17 7 7 7 7 7 33 33 37 -21 13 37 -21 13 37 -21 13 37 -21 13 37 -21 13 37 -21 13 14 14 15 16 17 17 17 17 17 17 17 17 17 17 17 17 17	5105 5271 5379 5534 5536 5516 5716 5716 5716 5716 5716 5716 571	166 108 129 53 130 62 -119 114 43 116 67 -3 131 131 69 -3 45 52 2 1497	1021 1054 1076 1101 1107 1117 1143 1173 1175 1175 1183 1206 1221 1232 1231 1257 1271 1279 1279 1320 1320	333 222 255 6 100 266 288 122 244 188 22 8 32 155 33 144 11 266 14 9 155 7 7 19 0 0 299 299
gain		1.80		1.78		1.42	<u> </u>	1.63	1,	1.92	l	8.55	1	1.71

Total gain of lot, 1,497 pounds. Average daily gain, 8.55 pounds, Average daily gain per head, 1.71 pounds.

Table V gives the details concerning the gain and cost of the gain of lot II, as well as the amount eaten of the several feed stuffs. last column shows, as in table III, the cost of a pound of gain from week to week throughout the experiment. Here we again observe the gradual increase in cost as the feeding progresses. In the adjoining column is seen the decrease in gain from week to week. The gradation is slightly more irregular than in the case of lot I, i. e., they seem to be subject to a little more fluctuation in gains. It will be seen that this lot gained 1,497 pounds, while lot I gained 1,632

pounds. Here is a difference of 135 pounds in favor of the lot fed on corn-meal, and this in spite of the fact that the two lots ate the same amount of grain and that lot II ate 1,000 pounds more roughness than lot I.

The cost of the Kaffir-corn was the same as that of the corn, 30 cents per hundred weight. Since they gained 135 pounds less than lot I, while the cost of the feed was somewhat less for lot I, it follows that the cost per pound of gain was greater for lot II than for lot I, but the difference is not large, namely 42 cents per 100 pounds. This lot ate 10.86 pounds grain and 6.88 pounds fodder for each pound of gain. This is .89 of a pound of grain and 1.19 pounds fodder for each pound of gain more than was eaten by the lot on corn-meal. This lot weighed 6,490 pounds at the Kansas City stock-yards and sold for \$4.50 per hundred weight, thus bringing a total of \$292.05. Deducting from this the first cost of steers, cost of fodder, cost of freight, commission, etc., which amounts to a total of \$198.26, we have a balance of \$93.79 to pay for the Kaffir-corn meal eaten, which, as in the former case, was 290 bushels, which allows 32.3 cents per bushel. There is thus less than 1 cent per bushel difference in the price that the steers paid for the corn and red Kaffir-corn they consumed. This on the whole, is a very excellent showing for the red Kaffir-corn, and fully demonstrates its value as a forage crop.

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WEEKLY ACCOUNT OF FEED EATEN AND COST OF GAIN. Table V. LOT II. RED KAFFIR-CORN MEAL.

	Cost Per lb. of gain	from Nov. 3, et×.		
	Ave. daily gain per	from Nov. 3, 1bs.		
	Ave. daily	lot from Nov. 3, Ibs.	24552224525255252552555555555555555555	-
	Gain of lot	Nov. 3, Ibs.	256 256 256 256 256 256 256 256 256 256	
	Lbs. rough- ness	for each lb. grain con-		
	Lbs. rough-	eaten per lb. of gain from Nov. 3.		
	Alfalfa.	Cost 20 cts. per cwt.	074 075 070 080 070 080 070 080	\$1.230
Roughness.	77.	Weight, lbs.	20 20 30.040 210 200 420 012 200 420 012 420 012 420 013	615
Rora	tover.	Cost 12% ets. por ewt.		\$1.060
	Corn stover.	Weight, Ibs.	1399 \$0.216 310 \$30.2 330 \$126	848
	Kaffir- corn stover.	Cost 12% cts. per cwt.	201 101 101 101 101 101 101 101 101 101	\$11.046
	Kaf corn s	Weight, lbs.	25557 255 25222222225	8,837
	Lbs.	caten per 1b. of gain from Nov. 3.	20100000000000000000000000000000000000	
GRAIN.	fir-corn	Cost 30 cts. per cwt.	25.50.000000000000000000000000000000000	\$48.813
	Red Kaffir-corn meal.	Weight, 1bs.	•	16,271
	DATE	18:6-97.	Nov. 3. 12. 12. 12. 12. 12. 12. 13. 13. 13. 13. 13. 13. 13. 13. 13. 13	Totals,

Grain eaten, 16,271 pounds. Total food eaten, 26,571 pounds. Average gain por head, 229.4 pounds. Average daily gain por head, 1.71 pounds. Total cost of feed, 582,149.

Average daily gain of lot, 8.55 pounds. Average ocst per pound of fain, 4.15 cents. Average cost of feed per head, 812.43. Roughness eaten per pound of gain, 6.88 pounds. Grain oaten per pound of gain, 10.86 pounds. Total food eaten per pound of gain, 11.74 pounds. Roughness eaten, 10,300 pounds. Total gain, 175 days, 1,497 pounds.

LOT FED ON WHITE KAFFIR-CORN.

Lot III was fed on the grain of the black-hulled white Kaffir-corn. This variety is very generally called white Kaffir-corn in the press and among farmers, but it should be explained that the plants differ from another variety, also called white Kaffir-corn, in that the hulls on one are black and on the other white. (See Farmers' Bulletin No. 37, U. S. Department of Agriculture, and also bulletin 56 of the Kansas Experiment Station.) The grain of the black-hulled white is white or vellowish white in color, and many of the kernels have a tiny brown speck at the apex. The plant resembles in habit the red Kaffir-corn, except that it does not grow quite so tall, and that the head is shorter and somewhat broader and more open than the red variety. The variety having white hulls, also known as white Kaffircorn, differs from the black-hulled white Kaffir-corn used in this experiment in that the plant is somewhat feebler, the heads do not shoot clear of the sheath of the upper leaf, and the grain is somewhat more mealy. It also yields less, but the grain is probably of a some-

Table VI. LOT III.
WEEKLY ACCOUNT OF WEIGHT AND GAIN IN POUNDS.

Steer Steer Steer 10. Steer 14. Steer Total. Average	WEERLI ACCOUNT OF WEIGHT AND GAIN IN FOUNDS.														
November 3. 1028 1011 1044 1035 1006 5124 1025 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 10						Ste	er).	Ste 14	er 1.	Ste 1	er 5.	Tot	al.	Avera	ige.
10	Date, 1896-'97.	Weight	Gain	Weight	Gain	Weight	Gain	Weight	Gain	Weight	Gain	Weight	Gain	Weight	Gain
	## 17 17 17 17 17 17 17 17	1055 1083 1121 1149 1138 1179 1175 1191 1191 1191 1206 1206 1202 1195 1228 1262 1255 1278 1285 1285	27 28 38 28 -11 41 41 -16 -16 -19 24 -17 -3 33 34 -10 3 3 3 3 2 4 1 2 4 1 2 4 1 2 4 1 2 4 1 2 4 1 2 4 1 2 4 1 2 4 1 2 4 1 2 4 1 2 4 4 4 4	1040 1072 11098 1102 1128 1148 1160 1158 1163 1176 1190 1206 1221 1224 1212 1224 1212 1245 1282 1295 1302 1302 1302	32 26 4 26 20 12 20 -22 5 13 14 16 15 28 35 5 2 13 14 -7 27 27 27 320	1078 1100 1130 1155 1167 1220 1231 1220 1213 1225 1240 1271 1270 1271 1275 1304 1323 1328 1340 1357 1357 1357	22 30 25 5 7 7 53 14 13 12 15 16 15 12 19 10 7 7 25 23 336	1078 1070 1130 1140 1150 1161 1184 1211 1182 1215 1217 1240 1271 1258 1258 1258 1258 1258 1265 1300 1317 1324 1330 1324 1338	-8 60 10 10 11 237 -29 33 2 2 24 -1 31 -3 15 35 17 -10 17 -6 14 17 310	1060 1093 1141 1134 1151 1171 1180 1207 1191 1203 1207 1203 1212 1222 1227 1227 1218 1255 1270 1318 1296 1300 1316 1313	33 48 -7 -17 20 9 27 -16 17 -14 12 7 5 1 27 15 15 48 -22 48 -3 21 5 16 33 33 33	5311 5418 5620 5620 5727 5529 6022 6022 6022 6055 6175 6200 6475 6500 6514 6533 6514 6514	107 202 60 47 99 93 107 -165 09 32 33 62 92 49 147 123 -24 147 123 -25 49 98 156 38 156 156 156 156 156 156 156 156 156 156	1062 1083 1124 1136 1145 1165 1184 1205 1184 1295 1204 1204 1211 1223 1242 1230 1242 1230 1245 1300 1303 1316 1323 1316	41 12 9 20 19 21 14 6 7 12 19 -7 -5 10 29 25 -7 10 14 -1 -1 -1 -1 -1 -1 -1 -1 -1 -1

Total gain of lot, 1,563 pounds. Average daily gain, 8.93 pounds. Average daily gain per head, 1.78 pounds.



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what higher feeding value than the grain of the black-hulled white. I make this explanation to avoid confounding the two, as I believe them to differ somewhat in value. Table VI shows the details of weights and gains of the several steers in lot III from week to week. The five steers in this lot made a total gain of 1,563 pounds, or 312 pounds per head, during the 175 days they were under experiment. The average daily gain per head was 1.78 pounds.

In table VII the details are given concerning the feed eaten, cost of feed, the gain made, and the average cost per pound of gain. As in tables III and V for the other two lots, the last column shows the cost per pound of gain, and in like manner indicates that there is a gradual increase in the cost as the feeding progresses. The increase in cost, and the counterpart thereof, the decrease in gain, is somewhat more regular in this lot than was the case with lot II. The lot gained 1,563 pounds and the gain cost 4.01 cents per pound. The cost of feed was \$62.80 and the amount of grain eaten was the same, but this lot ate 528 pounds more fodder than lot II. They were not fed any more than lot II, but they ate it up cleaner. They ate 10.41 pounds grain and 6.92 pounds roughness for each pound of gain made. This lot weighed 6,520 pounds in Kansas City, which, at \$4.50 per hundred weight, amounted to \$293.40. The cost of the steers, cost of roughness and of shipping amounted to \$202.57. This leaves a balance of \$90.83 to pay for 290 bushels of Kaffir-corn. This allows 31.3 cents per bushel, which is a cent less than lot II paid for the red Kaffir-corn, and 1.9 cents less than lot I paid for their corn.

Table VII. LOT III. WHITE KAFIR-CORN MEAL. WEEKLY ACCOUNT OF FEED EATEN AND COST OF GAIN.

	Cost per lb. of gain from	Nov. 3, cts.			nds,
	Av. daily gain per head		**************************************		Average daily gain of lot, 8.63 pounds. Average cost per pound of gain, 4.01 cents. Average cost of feed per head, 812.76. Roughness eaten per pound of gain, 6.92 pounds.
	Av. daily gain of lot	Nov. 3, Ibs.	**************************************		t, 8.93 pou of gain, 4. head, 312 und of gai
	Gain of lot from	Tos.	28	, :: 	gain of lo ser pound of feed per sen per po
	Lbs. rough- ness eaten	lb. grain con- sumed from Nov. 3.		:	Average daily gain of lot, 8.63 pounds. Average cost per pound of gain, 4.01 cents. Average cost of feed per head, 812.50. Roughness eaten per pound of gain, 6.92 p
		per lb. of gain from Nov. 3.			
	lfa.	Cost 20 cts. per cwt.	010 08 010 08	\$1.230	nds. B pounds.
NESS,	Alfalfa.	Woight, Ibs.	1199 SO 249 1314 SSO 249 1314 SSO 240 1314 SSO 2 1315 SSO 440 1314 SSO 240 1314 SSO 240 1315 SSO 440 1310 SSO 440 1310 SSO 4400 1310 SSO 4400	615	1, 10,41 por f gain, 17 ; ds, nds,
Roughness	tover.	Cost 12% ets. per cwt.	199 80.249 314 382 314 403	\$1.046	nd of gain r pound o 3,828 poun 7, 1,563 pou
	Corn-stover.	Weight, lbs.	677 678 678 678 678 678 678 678 678 678	837	en per pou l'eaten pe s'eaten, ll 1, 175 days
 - -	corn er.	Cost 12% cts. per cwt.	8 8 8 8 8 8 8 8 8 8 8 8 8 8 8 8 8 8 8	\$11.720	Grain eaten per pound of gain, 10.41 pounds. Total food eaten per pound of gain, 17 33 pounds. Roughness eaten, 10,825 pounds. Total gain, 175 days, 1,563 pounds.
	Kaffir-corn stover.	Woight, lbs.	8835818263553535 8835818263553535 88358835535	9,376	
	Lbs. grain	per lb. of gain from Nov. 3.	999466666444688866886686666666666666666		nds. 3 pounds. 1, 1.73 pou
GRAIN.	Kaffir- neal.	Cost 30 cts. per cwt.	25.000000000000000000000000000000000000	818.813	1 pounds. 27,099 pou bead, 312. n per beac
	White Kaffir- corn meal.	Woight, Ibs.	: : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : :	16,271	Grain caten, 16,271 pounds. Totul food caten, 27,099 pounds. Average gain per head, 312.6 pounds. Average daily gain per bead, 1.73 pounds. Total ovet of food, 552,509.
	DATE, 1896-'97.		Nov	Totals	Grain e Total fe Average Average

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KAFFIR-CORN COMPARES WELL WITH CORN.

The fact that these lots show so little difference in their gains and the value received for the grain fed is a gratifying proof of the value of Kaffir-corn. The feeding value of corn has long been known, but this is the first experiment in which Kaffir-corn has been tested so thoroughly and for so long a period under normal conditions. The steers were fair representatives of the grade cattle raised in the central West. They were neither high-bred cattle nor common scrubs. The conditions of the experiment were those that prevail with the average farmer and feeder. They were fed in open lots, where they could seek the shelter of a small shed when desired, but they were not pampered or petted in any way. The results obtained in this case can be obtained by any feeder in the state without providing better quarters or giving more attention to their feed and care than can be and is furnished by the average farmer anywhere.

That both the varieties of Kaffir-corn most popular in the West should have given results which compare so nearly with those of corn under these conditions is a matter of no little interest because of its economic significance. The past half dozen years have developed the fact that Kaffir-corn can be successfully grown in seasons and in places; too dry for corn; that it will grow on poorer soil than corn and that under equally favorable conditions it will outyield corn both in forage and grain has also been proved. When we now can add to this excellent record the further fact that Kaffir-corn is nearly equal to corn as a beef producer, the future of beef production in the West seems to me to be assured. Except in unusually disastrous seasons, when everything fails, it is reasonably safe to count on a good crop of Kaffir-corn. A shortage in the corn crop need not seriously check the procession of fat steers from the pastures and farms of Kansas to the centers of distribution, from whence they go to feed the hungry the world over, and the Kansas farmer and stock-raiser who will give his attention to steers and Kaffir-corn need not dread the hot winds of July, as he is wont to do, because they need no longer rob him of a year's profit, or, at most, do more than slightly diminish his income.

I confess that the results are far more gratifying than I had dared to hope. While I had expected that steers could be fattened on Kaffircorn, I had not ventured to hope that it would be so nearly equal to corn as the present experiment proves it to be; for while it is true that corn gave slightly the best returns, it should be borne in mind that. the coarse fodder consisted almost wholly of Kaffir-corn on which the grain had matured before the fodder was cut, with the exception of two weeks in which they were fed corn-stover only. During the last three weeks some alfalfa hay of rather inferior quality was added

to all the lots alike, but the Kaffir-corn fodder was only partly withdrawn. The two lots fed Kaffir-corn were thus fattened almost wholly on this plant, while the lot fed on corn-meal had a variety, in that their diet was drawn from two classes of plants, both corn and Kaffircorn. It is possible that this fact may have had something to do with the slightly better gains of this lot.

It should further be noticed that the mill on which the grain was ground did not do equally good work with both classes of grain. It seemed to be better adapted to the corn than to the Kaffir-corn; at any rate a larger per cent. of the corn-meal went through the finest sieve than was the case with the Kaffir-corn. (See the figures on this subject under the heading of "Grinding the Grain.") And the fact that the corn-meal was somewhat finer apparently made it more available in the processes of digestion. Under the heading of "Amount Digested," it will be seen that a larger percentage of the Kaffir-corn went through the steers undigested than of the corn. This is doubtless due in part to the difference in fineness, and is of itself sufficient reason for the somewhat better gains of the corn-fed steers.

Future experiments which shall approach the subject from different standpoints will doubtless reveal further qualities in this grain of which we are not now aware, and determine upon the best manner of feeding. But the case as it stands proves conclusively that beeves can be fattened on Kaffir-corn, and, taken together with the large yields and drought-resisting qualities of this grain, it ought to be coordinate with corn in the economy of the farm.

PER CENT. OF FEED PASSING THROUGH THE ALIMENTARY CANAL UNDIGESTED.

An effort was made to ascertain how much of the feed passed through the steers undigested. To this end the manure was carefully gathered from each lot for 33 days at the beginning of the experiment. The manure which had been collected during each 24 hours was washed by the following method: It was put into a barrel which was supported by the middle so as to be readily given a rocking motion. A stream of water was directed into the mass with constant agitation. This caused the manure particles to rise to the top and float away with the water, while the undigested meal settled to the bottom. Only an insignificant portion of the finest of the meal could be lost by this treatment. The grain which was thus collected was weighed after being drained, then thoroughly dried by artificial heat in the boiler-room, and finally weighed again. The following figures give the weights of grain eaten by the steers during the 33 days, the wet



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weight of the grain washed from the manure, the dry weight of the washings, and the amount of undigested grain expressed in per cent.:

Number of Lot.	Grain eaten, lbs.	Wet weight of grain washed from manure.	Dry weight of grain washed from manure.	Per cent. of grain undigested.	
I. Corn-meal	3,008	392 732 865	162.77 340.36 425.09	5.46 11.27 14.13	

These figures show, in the first place, that the steers digested the corn-meal better than they did either of the Kaffir-corns. In this connection it is interesting to note what has been stated under the heading, "Grinding the Grain," namely, that the mill ground the corn finer than the Kaffir-corn. Thus, while 45 per cent. of the corn-meal passed through the finest sieve, only 36.5 per cent. and 30.5 per cent. passed through that sieve of the red and white Kaffir-corn, respectively. While the difference in fineness is not so marked as the differences in the amounts that were not digested, the figures nevertheless suggest that these facts stand in the possible relation of cause and effect. The figures further show that there is a large amount of grain expelled in the manure even when the feed is ground to more than the usual fineness, and if not utilized by having hogs to follow, this waste will represent a money loss, which may make the difference between a profit and a loss on the transaction.

THE VALUE OF DROPPINGS FOR HOG FEED.

To make a practical test of the value of the droppings for hog feed, seven shoats were placed behind each lot of steers December 15, and a record kept of their gain and the amount of feed eaten by them in addition to what they got from the droppings. The aim was to keep the hogs growing normally and at the same time feed them as little grain as possible, so that they should always be urged by a good appetite to pick up the droppings clean. All the hogs were thoroughbred Poland-Chinas of the same breeding and of very nearly the same age. When put in after the steers the several lots averaged the following weights per head: Lot I, 166 pounds; lot II, 168 pounds, and lot III, 169 pounds. These hogs were weighed individually each week throughout the experiment. The following brief table shows in condensed form the number of pounds grain fed to each lot, the number of pounds of feed that was available in the manure, estimated on the basis of the amount washed out, the number of pounds of



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pork made by each lot, and the number of pounds feed estimated to have been consumed for each pound of gain:

Ітем.	Lot I.	Lot II.	Lot III
Pounds grain eaten Pounds feed available in manure Gain of each lot Pounds feed available per pound of gain	705 635	2,520 1,475 693 5.72	2,489 1,842 725 5.96

It will be seen at a glance that while the hogs following the three lots of steers were fed practically the same amount of grain, the gains vary with the amount of feed that they found in the manure. Former experiments have proven that Kaffir-corn did not produce as good gains in hogs as corn did. It is therefore to be expected that lots II and III, which were fed red and white Kaffir-corn respectively, like the steers they followed, would require more feed to make a pound of gain than the corn-fed hogs. This, it mill be seen, is the case. Lot II, which found 11.27 per cent. of the grain fed to the steers in the manure, gained 63 pounds more than lot I, which found only 5.46 per cent.; and lot III, which found 14.13 per cent. of the feed fed to the steers in the manure, gained 27 pounds more than lot II. These figures appear to the writer to prove that the undigested grain voided by steers can be practically all utilized in the production of pork.

A comparison of the amount of feed available for the hogs for each pound of gain made is likewise interesting. It is, of course, not to be expected that the hogs should gather up all the feed contained in the manure but the figures show that the waste has at best been but small. If we suppose that lot I had found no feed in the droppings and still made the same gain, it would have required 3.96 pounds corn-meal for each pound of gain. Under the conditions of the experiment, it is scarcely possible they could have made a pound of gain from that amount of feed; but they found, in addition, feed in the manure which equaled 1.11 pounds for each pound of gain made. This makes a total of 5.07 pounds of grain for each pound of gain, which, under the conditions, is a reasonably good gain for that. amount of feed. In like manner, the amount of red and white Kaffircorn fed to lots II and III amounted to 3.61 and 3.42 pounds of grain for each pound of gain, respectively, amounts which are wholly inadequate to produce that amount of growth; but lot II found 2.11 pounds feed in the manure for each pound of gain, and lot III 2.54 pounds feed for each pound of gain, which made totals of 5.72 and 5.96 pounds feed, respectively, for each pound of gain, which, under the circumstances, is a reasonable gain on that amount of feed.

To state the matter briefly, the experiment proves that hogs can utilize kaffir-corn feed in the manure and bring out the value in pork in about the same ratio of values that exists between corn and Kaffir-corn.

MEAN DAILY TEMPERATURE IN YARD DURING EXPERIMENT.

The winter was, on the whole, very favorable to outdoor feeding. There were only few storms, and these not severe, and the temperature at no time fell very low. Table VIII shows the mean daily temperature in the yard during the whole experiment.

Table VIII.MEAN DAILY TEMPERATURE IN YARD.

DATE, 1896.	Mean tempera- ture in yard	DATE, 1896-'97.	Mean tempera- ture in yard	DATE, 1897.	Mean tempera- ture in yard	DATE, 1897.	Mean tempera- ture in yard	Date, 1897.	Mean temperature in yard
Nov. 4 5 6 8 10 11 12 13 15 16 17 18 20 22 23 24 25 29 20	994 333	Dec. 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 20 22 23 224 225 227 228 227 228 23 31 Jan. 1 2 31 15 6 6 6 6 8 9 10 11 12	**************************************	Jan. 13	KANAN KANA KANAN NA KANAN KANA KANAN	Feb. 17 18. 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 3 4 5 4 5 4 5 10 11 12 11 12 11 12 11 12 11 12 11 12 11 12 11 12 11 12 11 12 11 12 11 12 11 12.	41% 42% 42% 42% 42% 42% 42% 42% 42% 42% 42	Mar. 24 25 26 28 29 30 31 April 1 2 4 5 6 7 13 14 15 16 17 17 18 19 21 22 23 24 24 25 26 27	48% 48% 54% 51% 66 52 53 55 55 55 55 55 55 55 55 55

FINANCIAL DATA.

The statements concerning each lot given herewith show the details of expenditure as well as the proceeds from the sale of the steers. It will be seen that each lot made a profit, lot I of \$47.60; lot II, of \$44.98; and lot III, of \$42.02.



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Lot I-Dr. To preliminary feeding: Pasture \$1.16 403.33 pounds corn-meal @ at 30 cents per cwt 1.21 403.33 pounds red Kaffir-corn meal @ 30 cents per cwt 1.21 403.33 pounds white Kaffir-corn meal @ 30 cents per cwt 1.21 550.00 pounds corn-stover @ 12½ cents per cwt 69 750.00 pounds prairie hay @ 15 cents per cwt 1.12 6.60 To feed during experiment: 16,271 pounds corn-meal @ 30 cents per cwt. \$48.81 7,864 pounds Kaffir-corn stover @ 12½ cents per cwt. 9.83 818 pounds corn-stover @ 12½ cents per cwt. 1.02 615 pounds alfalfa @ 20 cents per cwt. 1.23 60.89 To preparation for shipping: \$0.30 101 pounds corn-meal @ 30 cents per cwt. \$0.30 19 pounds oats @ 78 cents per cwt. .15 58 pounds Kaffir-corn stover @ 12½ cents per cwt. .07 20 pounds alfalfa @ 20 cents per cwt. .04 42 pounds orchard-grass @ 15 cents per cwt. .06 .6211.40 To freight and expense of sale..... Total..... By 5 steers, 6,670 pounds @ \$4.50 per cwt...... Balance..... Lot II-Dr. To preliminary feeding: To feed during experiment: 16,271 pounds red Kaffir-corn meal @ 30 cents per cwt. \$48.81 8,837 pounds Kaffir-corn stover @ 12½ cents per cwt. 11.05 848 pounds corn-stover @ 12½ cents per cwt. 1.06 615 pounds alfalfa @ 20 cents per cwt. 1.23 62.15To freight and expense of sale..... 11.18 Total..... Cr.

Lot III-Dr.

,	
To 5 steers, first cost, 4,830 pounds @ \$3.52 per cwt	\$170.01
To preliminary feeding:	
Pasture	
408.67 pounds red Kaffir-corn meal @ 30 cents per cwt. 1.23	
408.67 pounds white Kaffir-corn meal @ 30 cents per cwt 1.23	
550.00 pounds corn-stover @ 12½ cents per cwt	
716.00 pounds prairie hay @ 15 cents per cwt 1.07	
	6.61
To feed during experiment:	
16,271 pounds white Kaffir-corn meal @ 30 cents per cwt\$48.81 9,376 pounds Kaffir-corn stover @ 12½ cents per cwt 11.72	
837 pounds corn-stover @ 12½ cents per cwt 1.05	
615 pounds alfalfa @ 20 cents per cwt. 1.23	
010 poundo unante (6) 20 conto per on or	62.81
To preparation for shipping:	
118 pounds corn-meal @ 30 cents per cwt	
25 pounds oats @ 78 cents per cwt	
65 pounds Kaffir-corn stover @ 12½ cents per cwt	
20 pounds alfalfa @ 20 cents per cwt	
	.73
To freight and expense of sale	11.22
Total	\$251.38
Cr.	
By 5 steers, 6,520 pounds @ \$4.50 per cwt	293.40
Balance	\$42.02

The hogs were not all sold, and it is therefore not possible to credit them with the value produced. Hence no statement is made as regards the profit-and-loss account of the hogs; but on the basis of the gains made by them, the price realized for those sold (\$3.70 per cwt.) and the shrinkage in transit, the account would stand as follows: Lot I made a profit of \$7.10; lot II, 10.12; and lot III, \$11.21. These amounts, added to the profit of the steers, in lot I would be \$54.70; lot II, \$55.10; and lot III, \$53.23, which practically places the Kaffir-corn on the same basis as the corn in regard to feeding value.

RESULTS.

The results of this experiment are of too great practical value to the farmer and breeder of Kansas and adjoining states to be briefly stated. To prepare a summary which should set forth the results fully and clearly, it would be necessary to repeat the greater portion of what has been stated in the foregoing pages, in which the matter has been condensed as much as possible. The reader who is interested in the subject is therefore urged to study this bulletin and note the facts as herein presented, showing the value of Kaffir-corn as compared with corn.