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White sorghum grain (Funk's G766W) and elevator-run red sorghum grain compared for fattening cattle

Abstract

An new white variety of sorghum grain (Funk's G766W) has been reported to be higher in digestible dry matter and protein than elevator-run, red sorghum grain. A 120-day field trial was conducted on the George and Vernon Miller farm near Great Bend to compare the two sorghum grain types under feed-lot conditions.

Keywords

Cattlemen's Day, 1970; Report of progress (Kansas State University. Agricultural Experiment Station); 536; Beef; White sorghum grain; Red sorghum; Feedlot performance

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White Sorghum Grain (Funk's G766W)
and Elevator-Run Red Sorghum
Grain Compared For Fattening Cattle

C.L. Drake, V.P. Carlson¹, P.H. Wilson² and D.M. Allen

A new white variety of sorghum grain (Funk's G766W) has been reported to be higher in digestible dry matter and protein than elevator-run, red sorghum grain. A 120-day field trial was conducted on the George and Vernon Miller farm near Great Bend to compare the two sorghum grain types under feed-lot conditions.

Procedure:

One hundred Angus and Black-whiteface steers and six Angus heifers were randomly allotted by weight to two pens, and fed dry rolled grain from self-feeders.³ Cottonseed hulls and sun-cured ground alfalfa were used to provide bulk and were removed gradually in 14 days. Ruff-tabs were then fed to provide the only source of roughage the remainder of the trial.

Results:

Feed-lot performance is reported in table 24. The only difference was in feed efficiency. Steers receiving white sorghum grain required .79 lb. less feed per pound of gain. Feedlot gain was over 3 lbs. per head daily on both rations. No differences in carcass data were noted.

Table 24. Feed-lot performance of fattening cattle receiving indicated sorghum grain

	White sorghum grain (Funk's G766W)	Elevator-run red sorghum grain
Av. weight, lbs., 11-24-69	648	650
Av. weight, lbs., 3-24-70	1020	1019
Total gain, lbs.	372	369
Av. daily gain, lbs.	3.10	3.07
Feed consumed per animal, lbs.	2528	2800
Lbs. feed per lb. gain	6.80	7.59
Feed cost per cwt. gain ^a , \$	\$17.27	19.28

^aFeed Cost of \$2.54 per cwt.

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³Rations prepared and delivered by Great Bend Co-op.