Explore Beef Webquest

www.explorebeef.org

Name: Date: Hour:

1. Click from grass to grain and watch the video. What are four plant by products that are commonly fed to beef cattle.

2. Describe what beef cattle eat in the feedlot?

3. Click on Stewardship review. Answer the following. Today, less than percent of the U.S. population farms for a ; yet, people want to know and about where their . In fact, nearly percent of people say they're interested in knowing more about how is raised and the people who raise it.

4. Locate the Cattleman's Stewardship review fact sheet. Answer the following questions:

The U.S. produces percent of the world’s beef with percent of the world’s cattle. There are as many farmers and ranchers today feeding a population that has more

than (6.8 billion people). beef starts with quality animal care on the farms. It is estimated that farmer- and rancher-funded Beef Quality Assurance (BQA) programs influence the handling and management of more than percent of the feed yard cattle raised in the U.S. today. The 2005 National Beef Tenderness Survey found an 18 percent overall improvement in tenderness

since 1999. Protecting against pathogens. Cattlemen have invested since 1993 in beef-safety efforts and the entire beef industry as a whole invests million annually to beef safety efforts. Due in part to these efforts and others, there has been a reduction in illnesses, including reducing E. coli O157:H7 incidence to help meet the “Healthy People 2010” goal of no more than one case per 100,000 people.

Does raising beef today require more or less feed, land, water, and fossil-fuel energy than in 1977?

Livestock grazing is use or an estimated million acres of permanent , and . Much of the land grazed is not suitable for growing other food products. By raising cattle, farmers and ranchers more than the land area that can be used to raise food for a .

5. Read over the Beef Life Cycle. Answer the following:

What is cow calf production?

What is weaning and how old are calves when they are weaned?

At what age are most calves sold at livestock auction markets?

Describe backgrounders and stockers.

How long are cattle at a feed yard?

Can cattle be finished on pasture grass?

How many countries does the U.S. export beef to?

How many essential nutrients can be found in beef?

The remaining questions can be answered from the Facts About Beef website: http://factsaboutbeef.com/

**Safety:**

1. The beef industry spends more than million on and implementation of beef safety interventions.

2. Explain how ground beef is made to provide the proper percentage fat to lean ratios.

3. At what temperature should ground beef be cooked at?

**Environment:**

1. What percentage of more food will be needed by 2050?

2. What does sustainability men to the beef industry? Explain.

3. List two major improvements in sustainability in the beef industry.

**Animal Care:**

1. Explain three ways beef producers care for their animals in the winter. What are the main items discussed on the website?