

What You Need To Know Before Buying Hereford Cattle?

Hereford beef cattle are enduring creatures that can convert grasslands into high-quality beef. Whether you are making the choice to own cattle to stock your own freezer or to start a new herd of cattle to sustain your own property for the next few decades, Hereford beef is one of the lowest maintenance options for cattle farming that you can get.

No matter what your objective is, your cattle rely on you for survival, and if you are in it as a profitable venture, then you really need to understand the breed, and how to look after them.

Select Healthy Hereford Cattle

When searching for [Hereford cattle for sale](#), you will be best to go through registered breeders or find auctions close to your property to make ease of access and transport a priority. When raising beef cattle, you want to select healthy animals and make the transition to your property as smooth as possible.

Here are some tips to remember when buying [Hereford Cattle](#):

Your Property

Prepare your property before bringing home your cattle. They will need grazing areas with a good fence, some form of shelter against weather, and clean eating and loafing areas. It's essential to create a low maintenance area for your cattle, and eliminate any items that may cause injury to your stock. Herefords are well suited to grass based diets and as grass is the cheapest form of food, it will guarantee better financial returns. Beef produced from grass has a longer shelf life and a better colour, is high in omega-3 and has a distinguishing flavour.

Purchase Healthy Animals

If you are serious about cattle farming, you will have a veterinarian on hand that you can help with the choosing of your herd. Your cattle should be alert; their eyes should be bright, clear, and free of discharge. They should not show any signs of irregular breathing and they shouldn't show any signs of coughing. The animal's carcass should have solid structure, be full and rounded, not shrunk or hollowed out. All Herefords should be tested for trich and other diseases before purchasing. Cattle with mucus coming from the nose or that have swollen legs or joints should be avoided because these are warning signs of illness or infection, which can be passed to other cattle.

Prepare Your Transport

The inside of your transport for your Herefords should be cleaned and sanitised, free from dirt or other matter from previous transporting of stock. Diseases can easily be spread through transport trailers, so it's better to be sanitised and safe than sorry.

Being transported is a stressful event for cattle, so be calm and take your time through the transporting stage.

Quarantine for 30 Days

When the new animals arrive at your property, it is essential to keep them separate from any of your existing herd for around 30 days, to ensure any unknown diseases or infections are not spread to your already settled stock.

The quarantine process reduces the spread of disease through direct contact, air, feed, water, and traffic. Hereford cattle may need to be isolated between 30 and 120 days depending on the diseases that are common in your location. Your vet will assist with recommendations.

Yard your new arrivals in a secure holding lot and make sure any injuries are tended to immediately. The smaller the size of your holding lot, the less chance there is that your new cattle will get stressed, which decreases the opportunity to escape. Stock the yard with quality feed and plenty of clean water.

Feeding and Watering Your Herefords

Grass fed beef is a great way to add full value at the end of line retail sector for beef Herefords but there are some times where you will need to switch foods to grain or other sources, so if you know that a change is needed, it is safest for your herd to gradually add in changes rather than all at once. Like most other animals, cows have sensitive stomachs, so a sudden switch in feed can harm the helpful bacteria in the digestive tract and cause an unsafe change in their digestive pH levels.

Grains feeding your cattle can include corn, oats, wheat, and barley, which are good sources of energy for your cattle. Soybean and cottonseed meal supply energy and protein. You can also add vitamins and minerals to your cattle's diet to increase their productivity. Always ensure your cattle have access to a clean, fresh and plentiful source of water.