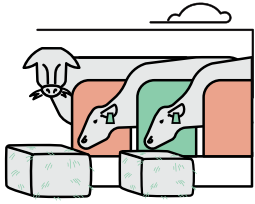


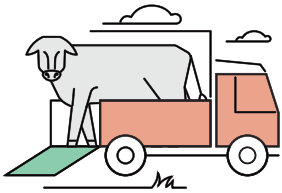
# CARCASS QUALITY RESEARCH FINDINGS

Higher-quality beef carcasses command premium prices and help meet growing consumer demand for tender, flavorful cuts. In 2022, 69.2% of carcasses graded Choice and 7.5% graded Prime, according to that year's The National Beef Quality Audit.



## AVOID RESTRICTING INTAKE DURING EARLY FEEDING to Maintain Cattle Performance and Carcass Quality

- Restricting feed intake during the first 48 days lowered feed costs but resulted in decreased body weight, hot carcass weight (HCWT), and worsened feed conversion.
- Cattle fed on this restricted diet for 119 days underperformed throughout the finishing period.



## OPTIMIZE MARKET TIMING AND IMPLANT STRATEGIES to Boost Cattle Performance

- Increasing implant potency can enhance live animal growth without compromising carcass quality.
- Holding cattle to the longest market date resulted in optimal economic returns, regardless of quality grade premiums.
- Maximize feedlot efficiency and profitability by utilizing higher-potency implant programs and extending feeding periods, as these strategies increase performance without negatively impacting carcass quality or economic returns.



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