

## Feed Terms

**Average Daily gain:** The amount of weight an animal gains per day.

### Expected Average Daily gain for Calves

Animal Size	600 pound	700 pound	800 pound	900 pound	1000 pound
Expected Average Daily Gain in pounds					
<b>Low</b>	< 1.5	< 1.75	< 2.0	< 2.25	< 2.50
<b>Medium</b>	1.5 – 2.25	1.75 – 2.5	2.0 – 2.75	2.25 - 3	2.5 – 3.25
<b>High</b>	> 2.25	> 2.5	> 2.75	> 3.0	> 3.25

**Feed Conversion Efficiency** - the pounds (kg) of feed required to produce one unit of product, such as one pound or kilogram of body weight gain.

A calculated 6.5:1 Feed conversion efficiency indicates that 6.5 pounds of ration is required to produce one pound of gain.

Growing steers have a typical feed conversion efficiency of: 8:1 to 9:1.

Finishing steers have a typical feed conversion efficiency of: 6:1 to 7:1.

**Feed cost per pound of gain:** There are three components to calculating feed cost per pound of gain

1. Price or cost of feed used in the ration
2. Amount of each feed provided on a daily basis
3. Rate of gain for the animal in question

Example: The ration provided to an 800 - pound steer gaining 2.75 pounds per day consists of:

Feed	Amount fed	Cost per pound	Cost per day
Alfalfa grass hay	8 pounds	\$0.03	\$0.24
Barley grain	13 pounds	\$0.04	\$0.53
32% Supplement	1 pound	\$0.15	\$0.15

Total ration cost per day = \$0.92

Average daily gain = 2.75 pounds

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Feed cost per pound of gain} &= \frac{\text{Total ration cost per day}}{\text{Average daily gain}} = \frac{\$0.92}{2.75 \text{ pounds}} \\ &= \$ 0.334 \text{ per pound} \end{aligned}$$