BEEF CATTLE Beef cattle are bred and raised to withhold different roles within the system to help maintain the industry.

A cow will calve either a female (heifer) or male calf (bull calf). Gestation time is 285 days.

The heifer will be raised and prepared

to be bred.

A bull will breed naturally or give semen for artificial insemination.

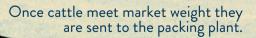
Heifers may enter the beef production cycle or be kept on the farm to breed.

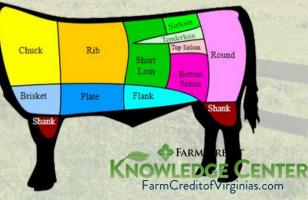
A bull calf may enter the beef production cycle as a steer (castrated) or be kept as a bull for future breeding purposes.

Cattle will continue to graze and may be fed supplemental feed to meet nutritional requirements as they grow and mature.

FINISHING

BACKGROUNDING OR STOCKER





be finished on grass or grain.

Cattle are finished in different ways. Some are sent to feedyards and some stay on the farm. Cattle may

TERMINOLOGY:

Bovine- The species to which cattle belong.

<u>Breed</u>- A group of cattle with similar external characteristics that are passed on from generation to generation.

Bull- A male bovine with testicles intact.

<u>Calves</u>- Young cattle of either sex, less than one year of age.

<u>Castrate</u>- The surgical removal of the testicles of a young male calf.

<u>Cattle</u>- Animal belonging to the bovine species.

<u>Cow</u>- Female cattle that have produced one or more calves.

<u>Dam</u>- The mother of a calf.

Heat- Also called estrus. The period of time when female cattle are receptive to breeding.

<u>Heifers</u>- Female cattle under 2 years of age, that have not calved.

<u>Sire</u>- The father of a calf.

<u>Steers</u>- Male cattle that are castrated before reaching sexual maturity.

<u>Wean</u>- To take a calf from its mother so it can no longer nurse. Calves are usually weaned at seven to nine months of age.

Yearling- Heifer steer or bull between one and two years old.

Source: https://cals.cornell.edu/nys-4-h-animal-science-programs/livestock/beef/beef-cattle-terms

ife Cycle

