

State of Grass Fed Industry

Allen Williams, Ph.D.
Grass Fed Insights, LLC

Grass Fed Sector



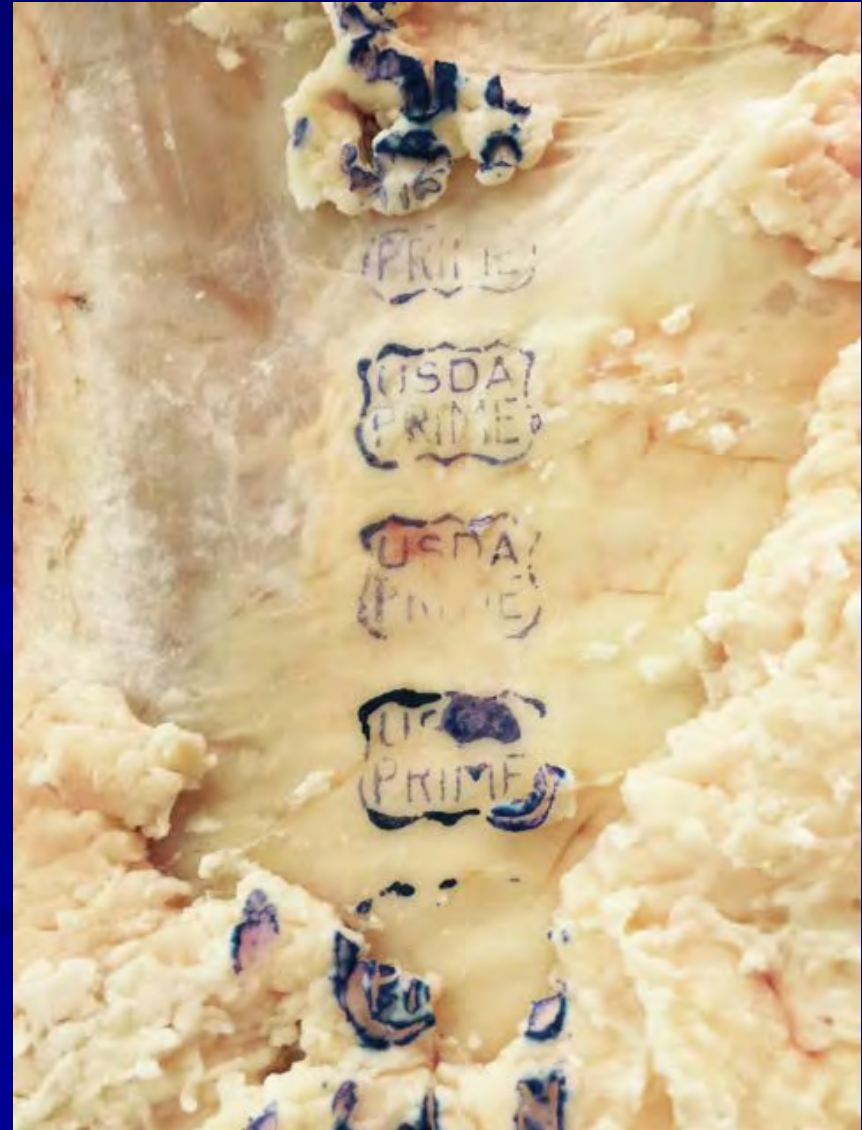
Meat & Poultry Company







Grass Fed Potential







USDA Prime Grass Finished Beef



Carcass Data

Harvest Date	No. Head	USDA Prime (%)	USDA Choice	USDA Select
Feb 6, 2017	62	18	76	4
March 6, 2017	68	8	79	13
April 7, 2017	48	15	74	11
May 19, 2017	42	9	87	4

Domestic Grass Feed Beef



Googling “Grassfed Beef”, Grass Fed Beef”, and “Grass Fed” produces more than 500,000 hits.

Websites like Eatwild.com have more than 16,500 visitors/day. More than 9 million total.

There are more than 1400 producers listed on Eatwild.com



Value of Grass Fed Beef Market

■ 1998

- 100+ serious grass fed beef producers
- \$4-\$5 million retail value – Domestic
- Industry in infancy

■ 2016:

- Approximately **\$4.0 billion+** sold in U.S.
 - \$560+ million domestic
 - \$3.4 billion+ imported
- More than 4000 producers involved.
- Growing @ **21-25%** rate annually.

■ Has reached **7.8%** Market share.

Domestic Grass Fed Production

■ July 2015 – July 2016

- Total of approximately **232,000** head harvested.
 - Branded and Direct Market
- **189,000** harvested by branded programs (**81.5% of total**)
- **Top 15** grass fed branded programs harvested **129,000** head (55% of total; 68% of branded)
- **43,000** head direct marketed (18.5% of total)
- **100.9 million lbs** Domestic GF Beef produced

2015 - Present Developments

- JBS purchased Grass Run Farms - 2015
 - Australian Organic Grass Fed program - 2017
- Grassfed hamburger offered in all Carl's JR. and Hardee's restaurants
- Outback Restaurants now offer 100% Grassfed hamburger.
- ABP Food Group-Sysco – Multi-million \$\$ contract.
 - ABP research in 2014 estimated grassfed beef was **5% share of market**.
 - Their market research estimated **28-30 million consumers** want high quality grass fed beef
 - If they consumed **5 lbs per person annually**, that would require between **321,839 and 344,827 head annually**.
 - Paul Finnerty, CEO ABP Food Group, stated, "*We recognize the huge potential of grass fed beef in the U.S. and that is precisely the market we want to be in*".

Current Developments

- Cargill now integrally involved and importing grass fed beef from Australia.
- Bill Helming and RaboBank Projections
 - Grassfed beef will be **30%+** of total domestic beef market share within **5-8 years**
 - Beef production will segment into:
Commodity, All Natural, Organic, Grass Fed (Lean & High Quality), Non-GMO Grain Fed
- **Interest growing in Canada and Mexico**

Market Research Focus Groups – 2006 Study



- Retailers & Restaurants
- Wholesale & Distribution
- Medical, Health
- Consumer Cross Segment

Identified Consumer Targets



- Young/Middle Aged Families (25-42 yrs old most likely to purchase)

- Baby Boomers

- Concerned Consumers

- Wellness & Fitness



Market Research Results - 2006



- High Acceptance Rate
- Potential to capture 20-22% of beef market share
- \$15-\$17 Billion in Sales Potential
- Capture Non-Beef Eaters

Grass Fed Dairy Growing

- Organic Valley
- Dreaming Cow Dairy
- Maple Hill Creamery
- Kalona
- Snowville Creamery
- Organic Pastures
- Traders Point Creamery
- Siggi's
- Kalona SuperNatural
- Trickling Springs Creamery
- Natural by Nature

Seven Sons

Per Acre Net – Direct Costs

Grass Fed Beef	\$663
Pastured Pigs	\$701
Free Range Eggs	<u>\$3721</u>
	\$5085
Land/Labor Costs	\$ 881
Net per Acre	\$4204

Largest Challenges

- Feedlot Style “Grass Fed” Beef – TMR
- Imported Grass Fed and lack of COOL.
- Lack of strong Pastured Protein Trade Association.
- Certification that consumer trusts.
- No national brand awareness
 - Confused consumers
 - Label deception

Nutritional Benefits

- Assume avg person eats 4 oz grass fed beef 3 times/week – 156 times a year.
- Grain fed beef contains 1.68 more grams myristic and 2.31g more palmitic acid, but 0.34g less stearic acid.
 - In a year, you would consume 262 fewer g of myristic, 360g fewer palmitic, and 53g more stearic acid.

Nutritional Benefits

- Grass fed beef contains **4.48g** more Omega-3 per serving than grain fed beef.
 - Over a year this equals **700g** more Omega-3.
- Omega-3:Omega-6 ratio in grass fed beef is **1:1.2 to 1:33**. Grain fed ranges from **1:20 – 1:55**.
- AMA and AHA recommend overall diet of **1:4**.
- Participants in **2011 BJN*** study had higher circulating levels of **O-3** and lower **O-6** after just **4 weeks** of grass fed beef consumption.

Nutritional Benefits

- Grass fed beef provides **800g** more Omega-7 in a year's time.
 - O-7 plays vital role in lowering LDL and tryglycerides.
- Grass Fed Beef provides **585g** more CLA.
- **6-10** times more vitamins and antioxidants:
 - Vit. A, Vit. E, Catalase, Glutathione, Superoxide Dismutase (SOD).

Can We Finish Grass Fed Beef at Scale?

- Grain fed sector produces between 27-29 million head annually.
- Three main ways to expand grass fed production:
 - Idle grassland acres
 - Conversion of a percentage of row crop acres.
 - Intermountain Region – Irrigated meadows

Idle Grassland Acres

- Approximately 15-20 million idle acres in U.S. with average potential forage DM production of 3 tons/ac
- Takes about 6080 lbs of DM to finish an animal properly during the finishing phase.
- Potential to finish 10 million head alone on idle acres.

Converted Row Crop Land

- 15% of corn crop used to finish cattle in the feedlot.
- Other 85% goes for ethanol production and to feed poultry, hogs, catfish, dairy, etc.
- 2016 corn acres was 94.1 million acres.
- Convert 15% to forage for grass finishing
- Equals 14 million acres.

Do the Math

- For every 30 bushels of corn produced, that same acre will produce 1 ton of forage DM.
- National corn yield is 170 bu/ac.
- Forage DM on those same acres would equal 5.7 tons of forage annually.
- That's enough to finish 1.88 steers/acre.
- Can finish 26 million steers annually on the converted corn acres.

Intermountain Region

- About 12 million acres of irrigated grassland in the intermountain region.
- Average production is 5 tons of forage DM/ac.
- Take 30% of those acres for grass finishing – 3.6 million acres.
- Can finish 1.67 head/ac or 6 million head annually.

Grand Total

- Idle Grasslands = 10 million head
- Converted Row Crop = 26 million head
- Intermountain = 6 million head
- Total = **42 million Head annually!!**