

## FOCUS ON FEED RATIONS WHAT IS IT AND WHY IS IT IMPORTANT FOR ANIMALS?

Volume 28 | Middle/High  
School: High School

Time: Approx. 2 days



**Course:** Animal Science  
**Unit:** Nutrition

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### AFNR Standards:

#### AS.03.01.01.b.

Differentiate between nutritional needs of animals in different growth stages and production systems (e.g., maintenance, gestation, natural, organic, etc.).

#### AS.03.01.02.b.

Correlate a species' nutritional needs to feedstuffs that could meet those needs.

#### AS.03.02.01.a.

Compare and contrast common types of feedstuffs and the roles they play in the diets of animals.

#### AS.03.02.01.b.

Determine the relative nutritional value of feedstuffs by evaluating their general quality and condition.

### Common Core Math Standards:

#### CCSS.MATH.PRACTICE.MP4

Model with mathematics.

#### CCSS.MATH.PRACTICE.MP6

Attend to precision.

### Materials List:

- NASCO enzyme analyzer (SB50722)
- Calculator (TB26739)
- Assorted cereal and candy products
- Pen/Pencil
- Paper

### Objective:

Student will be able to balance rations using the Pearson Square, SWBAT compare, and contrast nutritional requirements for livestock animals.

## Activities:

- Balance a ration using the Pearson Square
- Make the feed package
- Collect the feed
- Place your feed in the package
- Answer the follow-up questions

**Step 1:** Balance the ration on the worksheet using the Pearson Square. Can be done as a warm up or independently.

**Step 2:** Get a blank piece of paper and make “feed package.” The package should include: name, ingredients, feeding directions, percent protein, cautions.

**Step 3:** Once you have your information, go to the “feed shop” and collect feeds. Complete parts a.–i. on worksheet.

**Step 4:** Close eyes, reach in, take a handful, and eat part of ration.

**Step 5:** Answer closing questions on worksheet.

Assessment: Student will hand in feed package and worksheet with balanced ration and questions answered.

## Optional Instructions using the Enzyme Analyzer:

**Step 1:** Obtain a physical feed sample (or a few different kinds) from local farm or analytical lab.

**Step 2:** Using the Enzyme Analyzer Kit, students will expose three nutrients (carbohydrates, proteins, and lipids) from the feed sample(s) that were brought in/collected.

**Step 3:** Compare feed samples to nutrients in which no enzymes are added.

**Step 4:** Use the chemical tests to determine if the enzymes were/would be effective in digesting the compounds.



## SEL POWER-UP REFLECTION

Suggested questions for an SEL-focused discussion after the project.

- How may working with a team of nutritionists influence how we make a ration?
- What parts of this exercise did we enjoy?
- What parts were difficult?

## GROUP REFLECTION:

1. How could this activity be more real-life?
2. Are the same feedstuffs always used?
3. How may the feedstuffs used differ between species of livestock?

## SELF-REFLECTION:

1. What part of this activity do I need more practice with?
2. Did I become frustrated and how could I have handled it better?
3. Is this a career I could see myself pursuing?

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# AFNR handout

## EDIBLE FEED RATIONS LAB

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Name: \_\_\_\_\_

1. Balance a ration using the Pearson Square.
  - a. Feed cheap
    1. You are looking for 16% protein
    2. Mix a 1,000 lb. batch
    3. Your feed options include:

Feed	Crude	Cost
Corn	9%	.32
Barley	12%	.11
Soy Bean Meal	44%	1.02
Cotton Seed Meal	41%	.98
Granular Molasses	5%	.31
Wheat Grain	12%	.57

Feed list:

- Corn – Corn puffs
- Barley – Shredded Coconut
- Soy Bean Meal – Rice Krispies
- Cotton Seed Meal – Marshmallows
- Granular Molasses – M&Ms
- Wheat Grain – Frosted Flakes

Show Pearson Square work here:

Lbs. of feed #1: \_\_\_\_\_

Lbs. of feed #2: \_\_\_\_\_

Price per lb. of feed: \_\_\_\_\_

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2. Get a blank piece of paper and make your feed “package.”
  - a. Name your feed.
  - b. Include on your packaging:
    1. Ingredients
    2. Feeding directions
    3. % protein
    4. Cautions
  - c. Use color.
  - d. Fold and staple.
  
3. Once you have your information, go to the “shop” and collect your feeds.
  - a. Take your pounds of each feed – divide by 100
  - b. Put that number here:
    1. Feed One: \_\_\_\_\_(grams)
    2. Feed Two: \_\_\_\_\_(grams)
  - c. Get a cup.
  - d. Place it on the scale and zero it out.
  - e. Using the number from Feed One (3.b.1. above) add “feed” to your cup until you reach the right weight.
  - f. Pour that feed into your Feed Package.
  - g. Repeat steps e and f for Feed Two.
  - h. Shake your bag.
  
4. Close your eyes, reach in, take a handful, and eat part of your ration. Answer the following questions.

What is palatability? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Describe how your feed tastes: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Does your feed taste good? \_\_\_\_\_

What two feeds did you use?

1. \_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_

What could you do to improve the feed taste? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Why is palatability important when feeding animals?

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_