Nutrient Requirements of Beef Cows – Predicting Peak Milk in Beef Cows

	Peak Milk, lb/day				
Mature weight, lb	6	12	18	24	30
	Average expected 7 month male calf weight, lb				
880	398	444	477	---	---
950	416	460	493	---	---
1030	431	475	510	546	574
1100	449	491	526	561	590
1170	464	506	541	576	607
1250	477	521	557	590	623
1320	491	537	572	605	638
1400	504	550	587	620	656
1470	517	565	601	634	671

From: National Research Council. 1996. Nutrient Requirements of Beef Cattle. 7th Revised Edition (Update 2000). National Academy Press, Washington, DC.

Cold Stress Rule of Thumb for Beef Cows

Level of feeding	Temperature (degrees F)	Constant wind (MPH)*
Normal	25	5
Increase Energy or TDN:		
10 to 25%	10	5-10
	25	20-30
25 to 50%	0	10-20
	20	20-30
	-10	5
More than 50%	-20	20-30

*Cattle unprotected from wind
Older cattle may need greater adjustments; wet hair coat will add to cold stress

Source: Mader, UNL Extension Beef Specialist

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Table 8. Affect of Temperature on Energy Needs[a]

Effective Temp.	Increase % in Energy	Amount of Extra Hay Needed	or	Extra Grain Needed
50°F	0	0		0
30°F	0	0		0
10°F	20	3½–4 lbs/cow		2–2½ lbs/cow
-10°F	40	7–8 lbs/cow		4–5 lbs/cow

[a] Assumes a dry winter coat.