

concentrate than corn. For this reason steers in Lot III on the self-fed molasses made their gains at a lower feed cost per 100 pounds of gain than did steers in the other three lots. They did not attain as high a degree of finish in the second or third trials as the steers on molasses and corn rations.

Marketing and Slaughter Records

Each of the three years the steers were weighed individually before leaving the Everglades Station and on arrival at the packing plant at Tampa, where they were slaughtered. Records were made of the weights of livers, hides and carcasses. Federal meat graders on duty at the plant graded the carcasses and in the first and second trials, chilled weights were taken 24 hours after slaughtering. These marketing and slaughtering records are summarized by lots for the three years in Table 6.

When these records are summarized by carcass grades, several interesting facts are revealed, as can be noted from Table 7. Thirty-nine steers which produced "A" or "Good" carcasses made an average daily gain of 1.95 pounds per day, lost 7.48 percent en route to market and yielded 61.16 percent of their market weight. Sixty-six "B" or "Commercial" grade steers

TABLE 6.—AVERAGE MARKETING AND SLAUGHTERING RECORDS BY LOTS.

	Lot I	Lot II	Lot III	Lot IV
Total number of steers	30	30	29	30
Average shipping weight, pounds..	812.5	790.0	771.2	807.0
Average market weight, pounds	738.5	725.7	702.0	739.0
Average shrinkage in transit, percent*	7.59	8.10	8.97	8.43
Average warm carcass weight, pounds	438.7	432.6	421.8	442.5
Average chilled carcass weight, pounds	431.5	425.6	415.0	435.3
Average shrinkage in chilling, percent	1.64	1.62	1.61	1.63
Average yield or dressing percentage**	59.2	59.4	59.8	59.7
"A" grade carcasses, † number	11	11	7	10
"B" grade carcasses, number	14	17	17	18
"C" grade carcasses, number	5	2	5	2
Average liver weight, pounds	11.3	11.1	11.3	11.9
Average hide weight, pounds	59.8	59.8	57.5	59.1

* Percent of shipping weight.

** Calculated on warm carcass and market weights.

† "A" grade is "Good", "B" grade is "Commercial", and "C" grade is "Utility".