Western cow-calf producers have a valuable reference manual in the second edition of “Cow-Calf Management Guide and Cattle Producer’s Library”. This manual includes a collection of fact sheets that are resources for any size cow-calf operation. The materials were prepared by a regional committee made up of beef specialists, economists, range scientists, animal nutritionists, county agents and veterinarians from the Cooperative Extension System and from cattle industry representatives from Arizona, California, Colorado, Hawaii, Idaho, Montana, New Mexico, Nevada, Oregon, Utah, Washington and Wyoming.

The fact sheets, which deal with specific subjects, are brief and easy-to-read. There is a Management Guide that ties the information to the biological cycles of the cow and to ranching activities that go on throughout the year. The management guide is written to remind the beef producer of the critical times where attention to details of management will pay big dividends. The material presented and the guides will suggest some things that can be done or adapted to specific operations that will be profitable.

To optimize the success of any operation, clearly defined long term and short term goals and objectives must be established. It is also important to have a realistic time frame for the accomplishment of the established goals. Utilization of these materials will assist producers in establishing and reaching their goals.

The materials come in a three-ring binder and are divided into sections. The sections included are: Introduction, Management Guide, Troubleshooting Guide, Biological Cycle, Nutrition, Reproduction, Range and Pasture, Animal Health, Management, Marketing, Finance, Genetics, Drought and Miscellaneous. The publication is available for $55.00 (plus postage*) which includes a subscription for annual updates through 1998. The materials are soon to be available on CD for those who wish to use the manual with their computer system. If you are interested in purchasing the Second Edition of the Cow-Calf Management Guide & Cattle Producer’s Library, contact the University of Idaho, Ag Publications Distribution, Idaho Street, Moscow, ID 83844-2240. Make checks payable to Ag Publications.

*Postage ($3.50 for ID, OR, WA: $4.00 for other western states, $4.50 for Midwestern states; $5.00 all other locations). Idaho residents add 5 percent sales tax, plus postage.