**Foraging Strategies**

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 Herbivore Carnivore

-Plants -Animals

-Stationary -Mobile

-Abundant -Rare

-Lo energy & time -Hi energy & time

-Hi success -Lo success

-10,000 bites/day -Few prey/day

-Hi Intake -Lo intake

 -Lo & variable in protein -Hi & uniform in protein & energy

 & energy

-High fiber in cell wall -No fiber or cell wall

-Much chewing -Little chewing

-Complex digestive tract -Simple digestive tract

-Energy & protein from -Energy & protein from catabolism

 microbial fermentation

* **Diet Preferences**
	+ How animals meet nutrient needs

Example 1 - Grassy Pasture

* Similarity between **pasture** and **cattle** diet = 94%
* Similarity between **pasture** and **sheep** diet = 83%

Example 2 – Shrubby Pasture

* Similarity between **pasture** and **cattle** diet = 69%
* Similarity between **pasture** and **goat** diet = 80%
* **Multi Species Grazing**
	+ Multi-species grazing is when more than one kind of livestock (i.e. sheep, goats, cattle, or horses) graze a unit of land.
	+ The grazing can occur at the same time or at different times and still be considered multispecies grazing.
	+ Multi-species grazing is the norm for naturally regulated ecosystems grazed by a variety of herbivores.
* **Advantages of multi-species livestock grazing over single-species grazing include?**
	+ Increased carrying capacity.
	+ Improved botanical composition of pastures
	+ Suppression of undesirable plants
	+ Increased individual animal performance of one or more species in the mix.
	+ Improved animal health --parasite problems are often reduced.
* **Advantages of multi-species livestock grazing over single-species grazing include?**
	+ Reduced predation of sheep or goats grazing among or bonded to cattle.
	+ Greater net return for the ranch.
	+ Improved cash flow -- marketing different products at different times of the year.
	+ Reduced financial risk --increased enterprise diversity.
* **Major challenges to multi-species grazing:**
	+ Increased fencing requirements – if sheep and goats are added to cattle or horse pastures.
	+ Lack of knowledge of animal husbandry for a variety of species.
	+ Increased complexity because of enterprise diversity.
	+ Potential disease transmission from sheep to cattle.
	 (Sheep are the unaffected carrier and cattle are affected.)