Cattle are smart grazers

Canadian researchers compared the nutrient value of randomly selected grass clippings with the grass the cattle themselves selected. Invariably, the cattle selected grass that was higher in protein and mineral content. Judging by their results, the researchers cautioned that a standard analysis of pasture grasses is likely to underestimate the actual amount of nutrients that cattle glean from the pasture. (J. D. Poppet al, "Nutrient selection by cattle from grass and grass/legume pastures."

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