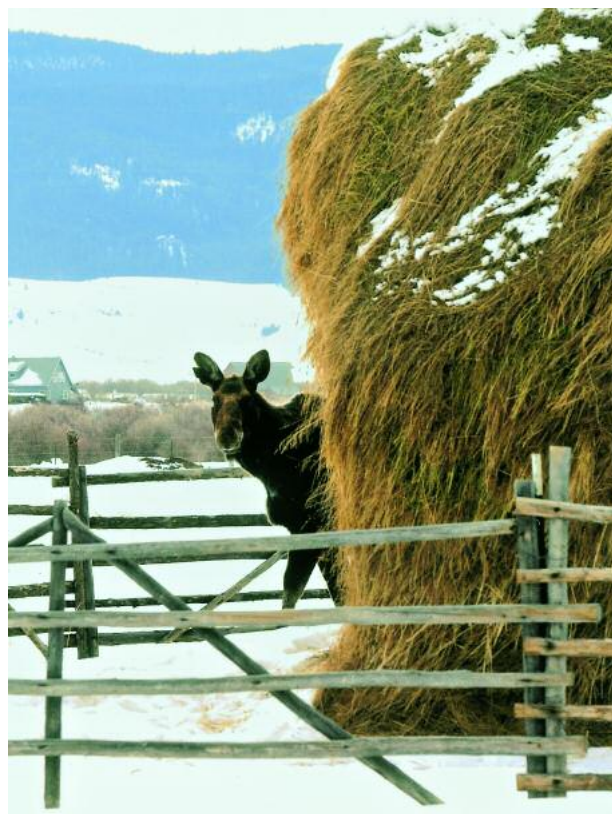


If a horse has to go all day, especially in winter, he needs a little extra grub. This hungry equine wandered over to the feed bunk before his bridle and saddle could be taken off. Southwest Montana.

O U T O N T H E R A N G E

WORDS & PHOTOS BY CYNTHIA BALDAUF.



You hear a lot of grumbling from ranchers about hay thieves, but when winter gets tough, a blind eye is turned. Wisdom, Mont.



On a bleak winter day, there is nothing harder to drive than a single calf through icy water. It takes two cowboys on horseback and four dogs to do the job. Beaverhead County, Mont.

Chilled to the bone . It's so cold your lips won't work, but you keep pressing forward one frozen step at a time. Knowing you are the link between life and death for the stock is the only thing that keeps you going on those endless gray days and even longer black nights.

When you've gone way past "cowboy up," you finally let yourself pray for just one perfect winter day...sunny, no wind and warm at 10 below. ■