



Calf blend

General feeding calves

Calf rearing is an important job as the young calf is the future of the herd. Well reared, healthy calves will produce high yielding, healthy adult dairy cattle and fast growing beef animals. Calf blend is highly palatable and is formulated to maximize intake of top quality ingredients, optimizing performance at this most critical time. Our approach to feeding calves is to encourage the development of a strong immune system which promotes health at a time in the animal's life when it is most vulnerable. We aim to promote effective rumen development so that calves can go on to maximize their genetic potential. The ultimate starter diet designed to produce exceptional cattle.

Feeding rates & guides

Calf blend is suitable for feeding ad-lib from around 6-8 weeks of age. Calf blend promotes early rumen development leading to high growth rates and earlier weaning of a healthy calf.

Key components and reasons for inclusion

Only high quality ingredients are included, such as micronized flakes, hi-pro soya, sugarbeet and rolled barley. Poorer quality ingredients such as oat feed, sunflower etc are not included; as calves are not able to utilize these materials as efficiently.

Calf blend contains specific levels of vitamin A and D and is also fortified with vitamin E which is particularly important for the immune system of the calf. Selenium is also needed for optimal functioning of the immune system and our calf blend contains good levels of selenium.

Both crude protein (16%) and metabolizable energy (13.2 MJ/kg DM) are high, providing the calf with the best opportunity for successful lifetime production.

Disclaimer

Rations should be carefully balanced in terms of nutrient content. They should contain sufficient forage to develop rumen function. Animals must have constant access to clean water. Suggested feeding rates are produced as a guide only and many other factors may have an overriding effect on animal response; no performance guarantee can be given. Ingredients are generally as in the table, but are subject to change.





Ingredients

Typical Ingredients	Metabolizable Energy	Crude protein	Benefits / Reason for use
Sugarbeet	12.5	11.0	Can stimulate intakes of less palatable feeds. Assists in maintaining an optimum rumen pH, kind to the developing rumen.
Primestock pencils	13.0	16.0	Good quality pencil which is readily digested.
Barley	13.2	12.3	High in energy. High in starch of which 10% is digested after the rumen.
Protein pellet (HiPro soya, distillers & rapeseed meal)	14.0	37.0	Hipro soya is high in protein, particularly bypass sources, with a good amino acid profile. 95% of the nitrogen is true protein, making it ideal for all livestock. Hipro soya is also high in energy and is extremely palatable. Intakes of other feeds can be stimulated. Distillers are a good source of both energy and protein. They can stimulate rumen activity, encourages fibre digestion and feed efficiency. Rapeseed meal is an excellent source of rumen protein. Allows the animal to maximize live weight gain. Provides the building blocks to drive lean tissue gain.
Wheatfeed	11.7	18.0	Good source of starch for calf growth. Starch, fibre and protein provide the building blocks for liveweight gain.
Barley distillers	12.2	24	High in energy and rumen by-pass protein, including good levels of digestible fibre.
Mixed flakes (maize & peas)	12.2	12.5	Readily digested form of energy for young calves.
Molasses	11.3	20.0	High in sugar making it very palatable.
Vitamins & minerals			Well balanced mineral supplement.
Element	Reason for inclusion		
Vitamin A	Essential for eye function and beneficial to reproduction / fertility in cattle.		
Vitamin D ₃	Essential for bone formation and hence growth, involved with calcium and phosphorous absorption.		
Vitamin E	Antioxidant working closely with Selenium in preventing formation of peroxides. Peroxides damage cells. Essential for fertility and for pregnant animals to pass onto young calves.		
Selenium	An antioxidant plays a vital role in immunity. Benefits reproduction and growth. Protects muscles from degeneration. Helps to prevent retained placentas.		
Magnesium	Essential for growth, repair of body tissue, bone development and milk yield. Needed for enzymes, muscle and nerve function.		
Phosphorous	One of the most important elements being involved with energy production, bone and teeth formation, milk production, appetite and reproduction.		

