



Calf weaner pellets

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. Our calf weaner pellets are highly palatable and are formulated to maximize early intake of top quality ingredients, optimizing calf 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 formulate to promote effective rumen development so that calves can go on to maximize their genetic potential.

Kick starting the rumen is critical for the calf and there are five requirements for effective ruminal development: -

- Establishment of bacteria in the rumen
- Liquid in the rumen
- Muscular action
- Absorptive ability
- Substrate for bacteria

Feeding rates & guides

Calf weaner pellets are suitable for feeding ad-lib from a few days after birth. Farmers will be able to exploit the calves' ability to grow at about 1kg/day in the first 6 weeks of life, making it proportionately the most efficient growth in the animal's life.

Key components and reasons for inclusion

We have included lots of extras to help with rumen development; all you have to do is offer water for the calves to drink. We have included salt to promote saliva production which helps buffer acid in the rumen. We have slightly increased the starch level in our calf weaner to supply volatile fatty acids to help rumen development. Both pro- and pre-biotics encourage beneficial bacteria in the developing rumen, leading to an increase in intestinal development and stimulating feed intake up to 20%. To encourage intake, our calf weaner pellets contain a flavour which means calves go mad for them.

In addition, we have used etheric oils to encourage feed intake and stimulate health. If that's not enough, our weaner pellets have a vitamin E eq of 100 mg to give a real boost to immunity and help the calf fight pneumonia.

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
Wheatfeed	11.7	18.0	Good source of starch for calf growth. Starch, fibre and protein provide the building blocks for liveweight gain.
Malt residuals	11.6	24.5	A good source of fibre, whilst maintaining reasonable levels of energy and protein.
Wheat	13.8	13.0	High in energy, stimulating efficient growth.
EU distillers	13.8	34.0	Intakes of other less palatable feeds can be stimulated. Good sources of energy and protein.
Hipro (high protein) soya	13.6	55.0	High levels of DUP. Allows the calf to meet protein demand and maximize growth rate. Provides the building blocks to drive lean tissue gain.
Palm kernal	12.5	17.0	Good supply of non-starch digestible fibre energy. Allows energy intakes to be maximized without increasing the risk of acidosis associated with cereal feeding.
Molasses	11.3	20.0	High in sugar making it very palatable.
Sugarbeet	12.5	11.0	Can stimulate intakes of less palatable feeds. Assists in maintaining an optimum rumen pH, kind to the developing rumen.
Calcium carbonate			A major source of supplementary calcium
Salt			Salt is included to promote saliva production which helps buffer acid in the rumen.
Fat spray			A good source of energy
Vitamins & minerals			A source of vitamins and minerals
Oregan V			A flavour to encourage feed intake
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.		
Copper	Essential for bone formation, cardiac function, immunity, reproduction and fertility.		
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.		

