



Premium coarse mix

General feeding calves

Young calves need a palatable starter coarse mix or pellet to encourage consumption as early as possible. Rumen development needs to commence early to support growth and minimize digestive upsets. Weaning generally takes place when calves reach a live weight of between 63kg and 80kg and are eating around 1kg of concentrates per day. This stage is normally reached at five weeks on the system for bought-in calves or seven to eight weeks for calves born on farm. The calf's intake of milk can be reduced gradually over a period of time so as to encourage it to consume more concentrates and not upset the fine balances of the gut. Calves need a high level of protein which is both digestible and contains a good amino acid profile. They need to be offered good quality ingredients that can be digested readily to maximize feed conversion efficiency.

Feeding rates & guides

A quality coarse mix to get your calves off to a flying start. Ingredients are chosen that are highly digestible so that calves make the best use of the food they eat. Protein sources are chosen to provide the correct amino acid profile for growth. Vitamins and minerals are included to sustain the immune system and support growth. Premium coarse mix should be offered in clean troughs, ad lib to calves from a few days after birth. They should also be provided with clean, fresh water and straw in racks.

Key components and reasons for inclusion

Only high quality ingredients are included in premium coarse mix, quality protein sources such as soya are included to provide a good amino acid profile matching the needs of the growing calf. Protein sources are chosen which are readily digestible for the calf, making sure they make the most efficient use of the food consumed.

Highly palatable mixed flakes and micronized ingredients are included to tempt even the timid feeder. Grass pellets are included which help to stimulate rumen development in terms of both volume and function. Calves will be tempted to eat our coarse mix from an early age due to its sweet smell and taste provided by molasses and a specific flavour.

Calves will benefit from the inclusion of NuStart, resulting in a clear decrease of digestive disorders and a stimulation of dry matter intake. NuStart improves growth and development and increases feed utilization and efficiency. The essential oils in NuStart help to stimulate appetite and kill disease causing bacteria, while the prebiotics act as a source of nutrients for healthy bacteria. Grape PP is an antioxidant that improves the calf's immune system.

Crude Protein level is 18% and metabolizable energy is high at 13.5 MJ/kg DM resulting in high growth rates in calves.

Disclaimer

Rations should be carefully balanced in terms of nutrient content. They should contain sufficient forage to maintain rumen function and be fortified with an appropriate vitamin and mineral supplement on farms where this is needed. 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
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.
Mixed flakes	12.2	12.5	Highly digestible and palatable feed for youngstock.
Micronized barley	12.0	10.5	Highly digestible energy source, particularly suited to young calves.
Supaflow Sugarbeet	12.5	11.0	Can stimulate palatability, increasing intake and growth rate. Provides the building blocks for lean tissue growth. Allows energy intakes to be increased without increasing the risk of acidosis associated with cereal feeding. Assists in maintaining an optimum rumen pH, kind to the rumen.
Grass pellets	10.2	17.0	Some of the protein is protected from breakdown in the rumen, so increasing DUP levels. Levels of rumen energy are also preserved during the drying process.
Molasses	11.3	5.4	High in sugar making it very palatable. Used to bind the blend or pencil together.
Nustart			Well balanced mineral supplement with gut enhancer.
Rape oil			Flavour added to promote palatability.
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.		

