

BEEF CATTLE

COW/CALF, FEEDERS & REPLACEMENT HEIFERS

Considerations for Growing steer calves and replacements

- ❖ Calves are growing and need more protein in their diet along with energy. (example 500 lb. calf needs 12 to 13% protein in ration and 67 to 72 % TDN in the ration)
- ❖ Barley and green feed rations will be short of protein and lesser feeds like straw when used will make the ration more deficient in protein. (Note calves may grow but slower, if the ration is short of protein and if energy is adequate the gain will be fatter)
- ❖ Not to have steer calves and heifers for sale grow at more optimum rates before being marketed only puts money in the hands of the buyer who finishes them. (Calves which were slowly grown will have compensatory (catch up) gain when placed on good feed. This gain is efficient and makes money for the buyer. Fatter not lean grown calves are discounted when bought.
- ❖ Replacement heifer calves can be grown slower (1.75 LBS/DAY) but still need that protein. (Remember they are your future herd).

The following are typical rations for calves showing the value of Milligan BIO-MEAL.

The rations are based on average analysis using NRC nutrient requirements to develop diets and predict gain adjusted for environment. Feeds used were:

Oats (2.50/ bu) \$160/MT, Barley (3.75/bu.) \$172/Mt, Milligan BIO-MEAL \$305/MT., Straw \$25/MT., Oat hay \$75/MT., Barley Silage

\$25/MT. as fed, Brome grass hay (late cut) \$60/MT. and Mineral – Vit mix 2:1 (24% calcium 12% phosphorus) \$200/MT.

500 lb Calves

Comparison #1 Ration of (amount/head/day)

7.5 lbs. of Oat hay + 8.0 lbs. Oat grain + 3 to 4 ounces mineral vit:

Costs \$0.94/day and gain is 1.09lbs /day (ration is short 8 g. protein/head/day)

If add 1.1 lbs./ head /day of Milligan BIO-MEAL you get:

Cost is \$1.17 / day and gain is 1.88 lbs/day (reason is all energy given can be used for growth, not fat)

Net gain = 0.79lbs/day gain X value of gain (\$1.90) minus \$0.23 = **\$1.27/head/day**

Comparison #2 Ration of (amount/head/day)

7 lbs of barley silage Dry Matter + 7.5 lbs barley grain + 3 to 4 ounces Min-Vit.

Cost is \$0.91 /head/day and gain is 1.39 lbs/day and protein nitrogen is short 13 g/head/day

If add 0.75 lbs of Milligan BIO-MEAL, you get:

Cost is \$1.07/head/day and gain is 1.79 Lbs/day (if all energy is used for lean growth it is more efficient.)

Net gain = 0.4 lbs. /head/day X \$1.90 minus \$0.16 = **\$0.60 /head/day**

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Comparison #3 Ration of (amount/head/day)

8 lbs of grass hay (poor) + 8 lbs of oat grain + 3 to 4 ounces of Min-Vit.

Cost is \$0.90 /head/day and gain is 1.10 lbs/day (protein nitrogen is 13 g. short)

If add 1.5 lbs. /head/day of Milligan BIO-MEAL, you get:

Cost is \$1.15 /head/day and gain is 1.59 lbs/head/day

Net gain = 0.49 lbs./head/day X \$1.90 minus \$.25 = **\$0.68/head/day**

700 lbs. calves

Comparison # 4 Ration of: (amount/head/day)

9.75 lbs. of Oat Hay +10 lbs. Oat Grain +3 to 4 ounces of Min-Vit mix.

Cost is \$1.22 and gain is 1.35 lbs./day.

If add 1 lb of Milligan BIO-MEAL /head/day you get:

Cost is \$1.39 /head/day and gain is 1.70 lbs./head/day

Net gain = 0.35lbs /head/day X 1.90 minus \$0.17 = **\$0.495 head/day**

Comparison #5 Ration of (amount/head/day).

23 lbs/head /day of silage as fed (8lbs DM) + 10 lbs./head /day of barley grain + 2lbs /day of straw + 3 to 4 ounces /head of Min-Vit.

Cost is \$1.17 /head/day and gain is 1.43 lbs./head/day. (diet is short 16 G. protein nitrogen /head/ day.

Add 1lb Milligan BIO-MEAL/head /day

Cost is \$1.34 /head/day and Gain is 1.82 lbs/head /day

Net gain = 0.39 lbs/head/day X \$1.90 minus **\$0.17 = \$0.57.**

(Consider: multiply by # of head and get your Total Advantage) Also note that with calves, forage quality makes a big difference in how they respond and must be compensated for!!

These are sample diets and can be used as guidelines, but for more accuracy please contact Milligan or your nutritionist.

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