

Transition Feeding

Providing a balanced diet for cows over the transition period is essential to spring success on the farm. An effective transition feeding plan helps to avoid metabolic disease, increase spring milk production and improve reproductive performance.

WHAT DOES THE TERM TRANSITION MEAN?

Transition covers the period right at the end of gestation. This is the period where a cow transitions from being a dry cow on low feed levels, giving birth, lactation, and higher feeding levels.

WHY IS EFFECTIVE TRANSITIONING SO IMPORTANT?

Correctly transitioning a dairy cow will ensure both a better functioning rumen and higher levels of available energy in early lactation. Levels of calcium are more effectively maintained and mobilised within the body. These factors combine to reduce the incidence of almost every animal disease experienced in early lactation, right through to better levels of conception later in the spring.

CUSTOMIZER - TRANSITION PREMIX

Customizer is the ideal tool when it comes to building anionic salt (negative DCAD) transition blends. These blends ensure the causes of metabolic disease are treated before they occur and that cows calve and then launch into lactation without these energy sapping problems. Customizer now incorporates a feed library that calculates the mineral requirement as well as DCAD ensuring optimum anionic corrective formulations can be developed in all feeding situations.

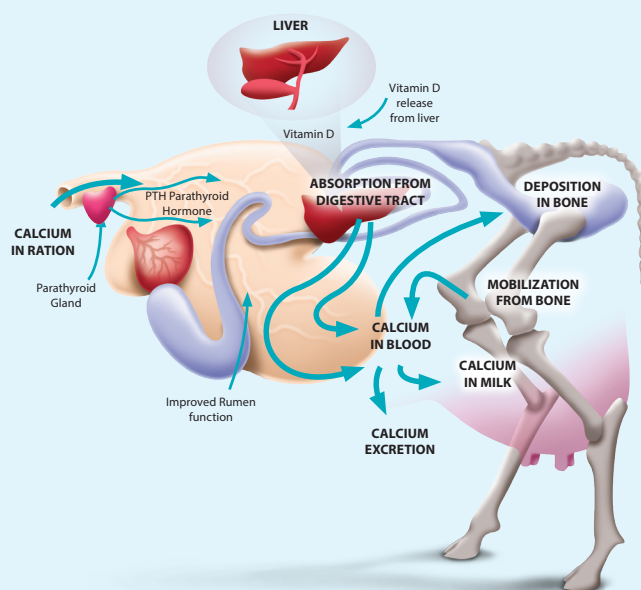


Precision Farming

Transition Premix

STEPS TO EFFECTIVE TRANSITIONING

1. Increase feed, along with gradually increased energy in the diet.
Result: Rumen function is gradually increased during this period.
2. Add calcium, magnesium, phosphorous, chloride and sulphur, along with key trace elements to the diet in the correct ratios.
Result: Optimum levels of these minerals ensure good levels are maintained at this critical time where requirements are increasing.
3. Add mineral salts in negative DCAD form only.
Result: The parathyroid gland is stimulated to produce hormones that allow for better absorption and mobilisation of calcium, at the same time releasing more vitamin D from the liver. Increased rumen function can also lead to a better flow of energy from the rumen. A contrast to the energy slump experienced by most dairy cows in early lactation.



Well transitioned cows are critical to Springer milking success.

Lactation Feeding

Early lactation puts a cow's body under intense pressure. Significant hormonal and digestive system changes are involved in producing milk. These changes increase her need for key nutrients such as calcium, phosphorous, and magnesium, in order to help meet the demands of producing milk for the newborn and rapidly growing calf.

EARLY LACTATION DIET

During early lactation it is important that a cow receives a high amount of feed to meet her increased appetite. Ideally this provides the correct levels and quality of protein, sugar, fibre, essential vitamins and minerals. In reality, due to lack of sunlight in the spring, as well as the use of plant cultivars that are bred to grow quickly and produce bulk feed rather than nutrition, most feed provides poor quality protein, lack of fibre, and low mineral levels.

It is essential that a lactating cow receives the correct balance of minerals, and possibly additional high quality fibre, in order to balance her diet during this critical period.

THE RIGHT MINERAL SUPPORT

While a good transition blend concentrates primarily on getting a high level of acidity into the diet along with good levels of Magnesium, Calcium, and other minerals, in low DCAD forms. Once the cow begins to lactate, the focus must change to supplying a strongly positive DCAD diet. A diet high in DCAD has been shown to assist good rumen function and will therefore drive production.

CUSTOMIZER - LACTATION PREMIX

The Customizer system provides the tools to target the ideal positive DCAD for lactating dairy cows, while also calculating the magnesium, calcium, sodium and phosphorous required during the lactation period. Trace minerals can be added to the requirement, along with such options as monensin, rumen buffers and toxin binders.



FULLY CUSTOMISED SOLUTIONS

Agvance can blend different mineral forms to cater to a farm's different feeding systems. For instance, mixer wagons used in a feed pad situation may require minerals in a powder form that will combine with the silages used. While minerals fed in meal using an automated shed feeding system should be in a granulated form that will guarantee free flow and zero dust in the shed.



Silo



Mixer wagon



Feedout wagon

NEW CUSTOM MINERAL DISPENSER BIN



Agvance now offer a custom Mineral Dispenser Bin to give you even more control of your mineral dosing. The Dispenser Bin attaches to the primary feed auger. It can hold a 1 tonne bulk bag of minerals.

This custom unit is designed to deliver precise quantities of minerals directly into the feed, at the farm. Easily adjust mineral rates to match changing feed rates as required.



CUSTOMIZER

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Lactation Premix



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