

# Feeding Beef Cattle ALFA TEC Products

## Facts about Alfalfa Products

- alfalfa pellets are made from fresh cut forage
- alfalfa cubes are made from baled hay
- easily balances our out low protein feeds
- good balance of energy & protein
  - o canola meal 1.7 kg TDN for each kg of protein vs. dehy alfalfa pellets 3.3 kg TDN for each kg of protein
- pelleting reduces the speed of protein digestion, thus the utilization of protein is increased
- higher sulfur content has been attributed to increase feed intake & weight gain in cattle and calves especially
- excellent source of Ca
- more efficient gains = increased energy efficiency

## Using Alfalfa Pellets or Cattle in Your Rations

### *Grazing*

- use in conjunction with mature grass or stubble
- pellets or cubes can supplement the protein, energy, vitamins and minerals needed
- feeding alfalfa products in general increases utilization of low protein forages

### *Overwintering*

- alfalfa products supply energy and protein which are often deficient in grass based forages
- both cubes and pellets can be fed in feed troughs or in snow
- increased feed intake with alfalfa products give animals better fat cover over winter for additional cold weather insulation

### *Growing & Finishing Cattle*

- alfalfa products can be used to easily control feed intake to keep animals growing at their optimal rate
- calves do very well on alfalfa products as they provide protein and Ca for healthy growth
- typically finishing feeds are low in protein, alfalfa products can be used to supplement these types of diets
- increasing the protein can decrease the chance of rumen compaction
- alfalfa products can help balance the Ca:P ratio which is a problem associated with high grain diets

### *Show Cattle & Bulls*

- can control intake and keep animals in show condition
- alfalfa products are a great source of many minerals & vitamins as well as protein that will put that 'show gloss' onto your animals

## Advantages of feeding pellets

- can be handled just like grain

- easy to feed
- no waste
- concentrated nutrition
- guaranteed quality

Advantages to feeding cubes

- no waste
- easy to feed
- guaranteed quality
- readily available
- consistent nutritional quality
- can be auger handled (over 10 inch auger required)

Sample Diets (based on a 1200 lb cow in 6<sup>th</sup> month of gestation)

*Diet 1*

22 lbs of hay  
4 lbs pellets  
free choice minerals & water

*Diet 2*

12 lbs grass hay  
10 lbs alfalfa cubes  
free choice mineral & water

*Diet 3*

6 lbs barley  
20 lbs alfalfa cubes  
free choice mineral & water

*Diet 4*

8 lbs barley  
15 lbs grass hay  
6 lbs alfalfa cubes  
free choice mineral & water

For more info or custom diets, please contact:

Legal Alfalfa makers of **ALFA TEC** Products  
1-877-253-2832

### BASIC COW RATION RECOMMENDATIONS

Cow Size	Mid Pregnancy	Late Pregnancy	Lactating
1000 lbs	3 lbs Dehy pellets 8 lbs hay 8 lbs straw	3 lbs Dehy pellets 10 lbs hay 10 lbs straw	4 lbs Dehy pellets 10 lbs hay 10 lbs straw
1250 lbs	3 lbs Dehy pellets 10 lbs hay 10 lbs straw	3 lbs Dehy pellets 12 lbs hay 12 lbs straw	5 lbs Dehy pellets 14 lbs hay 14 lbs straw
1500 lbs	3 lbs Dehy pellets 12 lbs hay 12 lbs straw	3 lbs Dehy pellets 14 lbs hay 14 lbs straw	6 lbs Dehy pellets 16 lbs hay 16 lbs straw

### Free Choice Trace Mineral Salt Phosphorous and Sulfur Supplements

- Ration Hay to encourage pellet and straw intake.
- Hay and Straw should be adjusted for wastage. Wastage can vary from a range of 5-25%.
- Lactating Requirements are based on 10 lbs milk production for smaller cows to 20 lbs milk production for larger cows.
- Feed Requirements Increase by 20% for cold weather maintenance.
- For Suncure Alfalfa Pellets, increase Dehy Pellet ration by 20%



# BASIC CALF RATION RECOMMENDATIONS

Size	HEIFERS (11b ADG)	STEERS/BULLS (11b ADG)
450 lbs	4 lbs Dehy pellets 5 lbs straw 5 lbs barley	4 lbs Dehy pellets 6 lbs straw 4 lbs barley
600 lbs	4 lbs Dehy pellets 8 lbs straw 6 lbs barley	4 lbs Dehy pellets 9 lbs straw 5 lbs barley
750 lbs	4 lbs Dehy pellets 10 lbs straw 7 lbs barley	4 lbs Dehy pellets 11 lbs straw 6 lbs barley

## Free Choice Trace Mineral Salt Phosphorous and Sulfur Supplements

- Straw should be adjusted for wastage. Wastage can vary from a range of 5-25%.
- Feed Requirements Increase by 20% for cold weather maintenance.
- For Suncure Alfalfa Pellets, increase Dehy Pellet ration by 20%

**BASIC BULL RATION RECOMMENDATIONS**

RATION	0 lb ADG	11b ADG
NO HAY	8 lbs Dehy pellets free choice straw	8 lbs Dehy pellets 7 lbs barley free choice straw
HAY	4 lbs Dehy pellets 8 lbs hay free choice straw	5 lbs Dehy pellets 15 lbs hay free choice straw

Free Choice Trace Mineral Salt  
Phosphorous and Sulfur Supplements

- Hay should be adjusted for wastage. Wastage can vary from a range of 5-25%.
- Feed Requirements Increase by 20% for cold weather maintenance.
- Ration Hay to encourage pellet and straw consumption.
- For Suncure Alfalfa Pellets, increase Dehy Pellet ration by 20%