

# MF 1kg Close-Up Lead Balancer

## Application

Animal:

**Dairy**

Livestock Category:

**Pre-Calving Cows (-21 to 0 days)**

Feeding Rate:

**1kg/day (to be mixed with 3 parts cereal grains)**

Feeding Method:

**Hand Feeding - Troughs**

Product Form:

**CONCENTRATE: Blend of Proteins, Anionic Salts, Minerals & Vitamins**



## Why use MF 1kg Close-Up Lead Balancer?

- Successfully reduce the incidence of milk fever & other calving related metabolic diseases.
- Improve subsequent lactation yield through improved transition from a dry cow to a lactating cow, minimizing body weight loss and preparing the rumen for a higher energy diet post calving.
- Includes performance organic trace minerals for improving animal health and production postpartum.
- The savings made in the cost of veterinary and medicinal bills and the increase in milk production will certainly outweigh the small cost per cow and heifer per three week transition period.

## Product Specifications DM Basis

<b>Crude Protein</b>	<b>24.5 % min</b>
<b>Metabolisable Energy</b>	<b>5.5 MJ/kg min</b>
<b>Calcium</b>	<b>3.5 % min</b>
<b>Phosphorus</b>	<b>0.8 % min</b>
<b>Magnesium</b>	<b>3.2 % min</b>
<b>DCAD (Short DCAD equation)</b>	<b>-2,850 mEq/Kg</b>

### Contains the following added vitamins & minerals:

Calcium, phosphorus, magnesium, sodium, chlorine, iron, zinc, copper, chromium, manganese, selenium, cobalt, iodine, vitamins A, D & E.

### Made from a selection of the following ingredients & their byproducts:

Lupins, canola meal, peas, soybean meal, wheat, barley, triticale, oats, maize, sunflower seeds, molasses, vegetable oil, lucerne chaff, oaten chaff, soychlor, acid buf, salt, bentonite, limestone, di-calcium phosphate, magnesium oxide, chlorides, sulphates

### Contains the following Rumen Modifiers:

Sodium Monensin - Rumensin (250ppm)

**DO NOT feed this blend to dogs, horses or other equids as it may be fatal.**

**This product contains 0.0% Urea MAX**

**This product does not contain Restricted Animal Material**

## THE IMPORTANCE OF TRANSITION FEEDING (LEAD FEED)

For adult dairy cattle, the first four weeks following calving is where there can be significant losses. This is when the highest costs due to disease occur and is also the peak period for involuntary culls and deaths. There are 5 main challenges that have been identified that need to be overcome in order to establish a successful lactation. These challenges are: reduced dry matter intake (DMI); rumen adaptation; high calcium demands; fat mobilisation; demands of the foetus and udder for nutrients.

### What are the main aims of Lead Feeding?

- To meet nutritional demands for maintenance, foetal growth, onset of milk production and cow body condition in a stage where DMI is suppressed.
- To reduce rumen disruption by allowing rumen microbes and papillae to adapt to high levels of concentrate feeding.
- To minimise macro mineral deficiencies, particularly calcium (hypocalcaemia - see figure 1) & magnesium (hypomagnesaemia), and their related health challenges.
- To aid in the prevention of metabolic diseases such as, ketosis, milk fever, LDAs (left-displaced abomasum), calving paralysis, udder oedema and retained membranes.
- To improve fertility through better feeding.

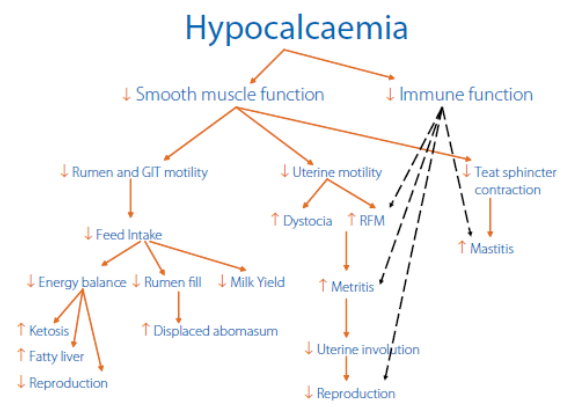


Figure 1 - The Gateway Disease (Transition Cow Management Book)

### What production and health benefits do we get by giving our dry cows a balanced transition diet?

- Fewer incidences of those common post-calving metabolic diseases mentioned above which results in happier, healthier, more productive cows.
- Higher DMI pre-calving reduces the potential for suppressed immune function and will allow the cow to achieve greater DMI post-calving which means more productive lactations.
- More blood glucose and blood calcium means less downer cows and fewer cows with calving difficulties.
- Fewer issues with future reproduction when there is less calving difficulties and retained membranes.
- Reduced involuntary culling and deaths within the herd.
- Higher milk production due to the sparing of protein reserves in the dry period, which can then be put to good use when the cow comes into lactation.

### Do heifers benefit from being fed a transition diet?

- Heifers do benefit in the same way as mature cows from being fed correctly before calving. They do not typically get milk fever but can have other issues at this time.
- The problems they face during that first calving period can be markedly reduced by being fed the same transition ration as the rest of the herd.
- Problems such as calving paralysis and udder oedema can be minimised as well as grain poisoning/acidosis being reduced markedly by getting the heifers accustomed to being with the herd and being fed the same ration before calving.

**The savings made in the cost of veterinary and medicinal bills and the increase in milk production will certainly outweigh the small cost per cow and heifer per three week transition period.**