

# MF Standard Beef

## Application

Animal:

**Beef**

Livestock Category:

**Bulls, Yearling Heifers, Sale Stock**

Feeding Rate:

**0.5% - 1.0% of body weight**

Feeding Method:

**Troughs – Hand Feeding**

Product Form:

**Blend of rolled grains, vitamins, minerals & flavourings.**



## Why use MF Standard Beef?

- Safely grow out yearling bulls ready for work and sale.
- Prepare bulls for breeding seasons, recover bulls post breeding season.
- Contains organic zinc for hoof care, improved reproductive performance and immune function.
- A good all round product suitable to be fed to cattle of all classes at different rates depending on the need.
- Includes the rumen buffer Acid Buf to aid in the prevention of grain poisoning

## Product Specifications DM Basis

<b>Crude Protein</b>	<b>15.4 % <i>min</i></b>
<b>Metabolisable Energy</b>	<b>12.5 MJ/kg <i>min</i></b>
<b>Calcium</b>	<b>0.6 % <i>min</i></b>
<b>Phosphorus</b>	<b>0.3 % <i>min</i></b>

### Contains the following added vitamins & minerals:

Calcium, phosphorus, magnesium, sodium, chlorine, iron, zinc, copper, manganese, selenium, cobalt, iodine, Vitamins A, B<sub>7</sub>, D & E.

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

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

### Contains the following Rumen Modifiers:

Sodium Monensin – Rumensin (33ppm)

**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**

## **BULL NUTRITION**

### **Yearling Bulls**

During the post-weaning period both under and over-nutrition can have negative impacts. Under-nutrition results in delayed puberty, and over-nutrition can reduce semen production and quality. Limited data is available in the area of bull nutrition. Diets should be balanced to meet the nutrient requirements for the desired animal performance and body condition score should be monitored to ensure that the bulls are not being under or over-nourished. Typically, many of these diets to develop beef bulls appear to contain from 40 to 60% concentrate. For breeds that are known to reach puberty later, a common practice is to place the bulls on a slightly higher plane of nutrition (60 to 70% concentrate). The theory is to hasten the onset of puberty; however, with breeds that reach puberty early, additional energy is not beneficial and may cause over-conditioned animals.

### **Conditioning prior to the breeding season**

It takes 60 days from start to ready to go for the production of viable sperm in bulls. Thus getting bulls ready for a breeding season requires getting the right nutrition into them for at least two months before you need them to work. If you are planning to buy in a bull, they will benefit from an additional month adjustment period before they are put in with the breeder herd. Preparing your bulls for the breeding season starts with ensuring they in good breeding condition; usually a body condition score of 3 on the 5 point system is ideal with a  $\pm 0.5$  tolerance. Being under or over conditioned will have negative impact on bull fertility. If bull condition needs to be adjusted, gradual modifications when changing diets to be more or less concentrated are essential to reduce the possibility of metabolic disorders and/or impaired breeding performance. The general method of changing a diet is to gradually change the forage to concentrate ratio over several weeks until the bulls are where they need to be. Checking bull physical soundness is also highly recommended, issues with reproductive equipment are better noticed sooner than later and a lame bull is likely to service fewer cows than a bull with good joints and feet.

### **Breeding season nutrition**

There is limited opportunity to manage bull nutrition during the breeding season; the bulls are basically on the same plane of nutrition as the cows. However, you should assess the body condition score of bulls during the breeding season as well as observe the bulls' ability to service the cows. Bulls often lose from 50 to 100 kilos during the breeding season. A bull that gets extremely thin during the breeding season may want to be replaced because his ability to service the cows will probably be reduced.

### **Post-breeding season**

Nutritional management post-breeding is influenced both by the age of bulls and by the amount of weight loss bulls experience during the course of the breeding season. Once the breeding season is over, producers usually turn bulls out to a separate pasture to regain lost weight and prepare them for the next breeding season. Mature bulls in fairly good condition after the breeding season can be managed on pasture or an all-roughage diet without supplements during the winter. Hay quality should be 8 to 10% crude protein and be fed at 2% of body weight. Rations should be modified based on available feed ingredients and to manage the bulls to maintain moderate body condition.