

RESEARCH SUMMARY

# Feeding Deccox®-M in Milk Replacer Study

To evaluate the impact of including Deccox®-M in milk replacer, a trial was conducted at the Mapleview Agri Future Performance Research Centre. Coccidiosis is a common and costly challenge in calf rearing, affecting health, growth, and overall productivity. By incorporating Deccox®-M into milk replacer, this trial aimed to determine its effects on both calf health and growth performance. This trial compared two 26-26-17 milk replacers, one which included Deccox®-M, one without, and evaluated weight gain, feed efficiency, and health implications.

## METHODOLOGY

A 49 day trial was completed at the Mapleview Agri Future Performance Research Centre. 240 calves, split into two groups of 120 were monitored in this trial. Deccox®-M was fed at the labeled dosage of 0.5 mg/kg of decoquinolate. Calves were weighed upon arrival, day 14 and at day 49 to determine the level of coccidiosis. Fecal samples were collected upon arrival, and at days 7, 14 and 21. The trial was completed upon weaning at day 49.

Note: Both groups received Bovatec in the calf starter.

### Treatment Groups:

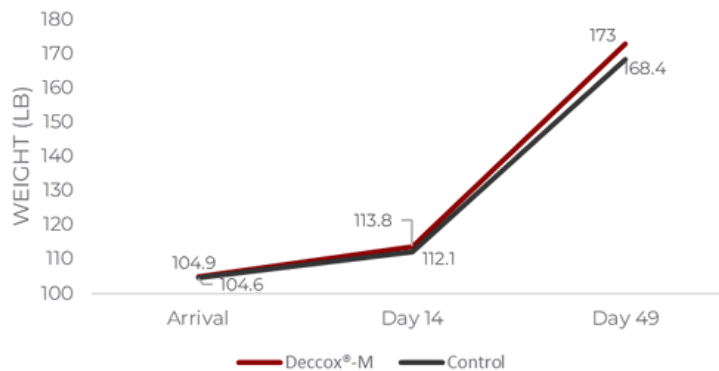
Milk Replacer + Deccox®-M (26-26-17)

Milk Replacer (26-26-17)

### DAILY MILK REPLACER FEEDING RATE

<u>DAY 0-20</u>	<u>DAY 21-27</u>	<u>DAY 28-41</u>	<u>DAY 42-48</u>	<u>DAY 49-56</u>
520g-4L	780g-6L	1040g-8L	520g-4L	390g-3L

### BODY WEIGHT



	<u>26-26-17 + DECCOX®-M</u>	<u>26-26-17</u>
Arrival Weight Day 0 (lb)	104.93	104.58
End Weight Day 49 (lb)	173.00	168.36
Average Daily Gain (lb)	1.39	1.30

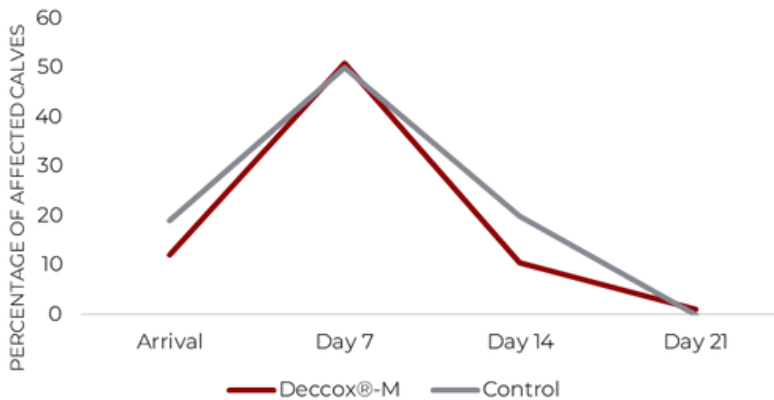
## FEED EFFICIENCY

	<u>26-26-17 + DECCOX®-M</u>	<u>26-26-17</u>
Milk Replacer Consumption (kg)	33.07	33.07
Grain Consumption (lb)	62.55	63.23
Feed Efficiency	1.99	2.19

Despite slightly lower grain consumption, calves on 26-26-17 + Deccox®-M **grew more efficiently**, suggesting the inclusion of Deccox®-M enhanced nutrient utilization and supported better feed conversion.

This efficiency aligns with **improved feed efficiency and reduced health challenges**, likely linked to the coccidiosis-controlling properties of Deccox®-M.

## CALVES DETECTED WITH CRYPTOSPORIDIUM PARVUM



## POTENTIAL EFFECT OF DECCOX®-M ON CRYPTOSPORIDIUM INFECTION IN CALVES

In our study, there was a 10% reduction in the level of *Cryptosporidium*-infected calves at day 14 when using Deccox®-M (Decoquinat). This suggests that Deccox®-M may help reduce the risk of *Cryptosporidium* infection by interfering with the parasite's early life cycle.

While the exact mechanism is not fully understood, this potential reduction in infection rates could contribute to better calf health outcomes. Further research and monitoring are needed to confirm the extent of its impact on oocyst shedding and overall disease management.

## TRIAL CONCLUSION

The results of this study showed that feeding Deccox®-M in the milk replacer pre-weaning increased average daily gain and improved feed efficiency, as well as reduced the number of calves with *Cryptosporidium Parvum*.

### KEY TAKEAWAYS

**Improved Growth Performance:** Calves fed milk replacer with Deccox®-M achieved an 8% higher average daily gain compared to those on the control milk replacer (1.39 lb/day vs. 1.30 lb/day).

**Enhanced Feed Efficiency:** The Deccox®-M formula improved feed efficiency, requiring 9% less feed per pound of gain.

**Lower Health Risks:** Including Deccox®-M in milk replacer may reduce the incidence of *Cryptosporidium Parvum*, supporting better overall calf health.

**Cost-Effectiveness:** Feeding Deccox®-M improved growth and feed efficiency, reducing the the cost per pound of gain, offsetting the Deccox®-M investment for controlling coccidiosis.

Deccox®-M is a registered trademark and the property of Zoetis or its licensors, used under license by Zoetis Canada Inc. All data provided was part of an internal study at the Mapleview Agri Future Performance Research Centre. This trial was funded in part by Mapleview Agri Ltd and Zoetis.