

### RESEARCH SUMMARY

# Milk Replacer Feeding Rates Study

Understanding how feeding rates impact calf performance is crucial for farmers aiming to optimize growth. This trial evaluates the effects of feeding Mapleview Sure Start + Deccox®-M at 1000g per day compared to 750g per day. These findings provide valuable insights for farmers looking to enhance calf performance by identifying the benefits to increased milk feeding.

#### METHODOLOGY

A trial was completed at the Mapleview Agri Future Performance Research Centre. Two groups of 40 calves were fed two peak milk replacer rates, 750g/day and 1000g/day.

|                     |             | <u>DAYS 0-13</u>           | DAY 14-34 | DAY 35-56 |
|---------------------|-------------|----------------------------|-----------|-----------|
| DAILY MILK REPLACER | 750G Group  | <b>50G Group</b> 500g 750g | 375g      |           |
| FEEDING RATE        | 1000g Group | 500g                       | 1000g     | 500g      |

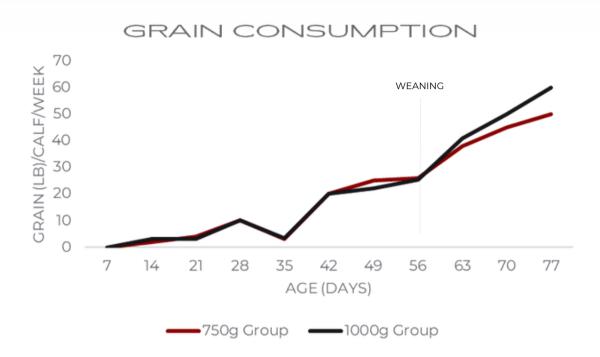


|                         | 750G GROUP | 1000G GROUP |
|-------------------------|------------|-------------|
| Arrival Weight (lb)     | 105.00     | 105.00      |
| Departure Weight (lb)   | 257.00     | 277.00      |
| Average Daily Gain (lb) | 1.79       | 2.02        |

 750G GROUP
 1000G GROUP

 Milk Replacer Consumption (kg)
 23.68
 29.56

 Grain Consumption (lb)
 225.00
 239.00



## TRIAL CONCLUSION

Feeding Mapleview Sure Start + Deccox®-M at 1000g per day, compared to 750g per day, resulted in superior calf performance. Calves fed the higher rate demonstrated faster growth, improved health, and reduced reliance on antibiotic treatments. These findings highlight the benefits of optimizing milk replacer feeding rates to support healthier, more productive calves.

## **KEY TAKEAWAYS**

**Improved Growth Performance:** Calves fed 1000g/day gained 13% more weight, with a 14lb gain advantage at weaning and a 20 lb gain advantage by 83 days.

**Health Benefits:** Faster gaining calves are more likely to remain healthy and require less antibiotic treatment. The 1000g/day group showed a 17% reduction in antibiotic use, with lower incidence of scours and respiratory issues.

Increased Grain Intake: Calves fed 1000g/day consumed 14 kg more grain over the trial.