



Beef Briefs

**The Latest Information
on Beef Cattle Nutrition**



Get the Most out of your Herd

By: Jack McCoubrey

If there was ever a time to look after your cattle, it is now!!

Never have we been paid more for all classes of our stock. Record prices, never ever experienced before! 600 lb. calves are at or near \$2000, feedlots that are finishing heavier cattle are \$3000-\$3500, retired cows are bringing 3-4 times what they brought a few years ago. I talked with one producer this past Saturday, his cow brought \$3000, she was big and obviously a whole lot of meat. Our retired bulls, if they weigh 2500 lbs, are worth a whole lot of money, \$4000+. Just a few weeks ago, I was bidding on one of my bulls that I had sold to a producer that was dispersing, I went to up to \$4000, the bull sold for more and went for burger. We have all read the market reports, many of us have cashed the cheques, never has it been as it is now, and I am sure, we all are amazed!

When we look back to the same date in 2011, finished rail price was \$1.85 and today it is almost double at \$3.33. Feeder cattle on the CME



were at \$1.24 and today at \$2.19, again near double! Corn on the CME today was \$3.55, 4 years ago to the day it was \$7.47, beans then were \$13.76, today they are \$9.22. The Canadian dollar was \$1.03 in 2011 and now it is at \$0.80. As we review these market reports, another thing

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Inside this Issue:

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KENPAL'S KING OF CREEP

**A HIGHLY-PALATABLE CREEP
FEED FOR CALVES**



- **Developed to promote feed intake in calves**
- **Helps increase weaning weights**
- **Helps achieve and maintain a healthy hair coat**
- **See results with top sale prices for calves**

**GETS CALVES OFF TO
THE RIGHT START**

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**MINERAL
MATTERS!**

KENPAL BEEF NURSE COW

DEVELOPED SPECIFICALLY FOR COWS THAT ARE NURSING

- **CONTAINS A HIGH FORTIFICATION OF TRACE MINERALS AND VITAMINS, INCLUDING VITAMIN E AND SELENIUM.**
- **COWS LIKE THE TASTE, AND WILL READILY EAT IT FREE CHOICE.**
- **ECONOMICAL TO USE.**

It pays to use top nutrition!

**CONTACT KENPAL OR
YOUR LOCAL KENPAL SALES REPRESENTATIVE TODAY**



to consider is there are far less cattle making it to market today then in 2011, less cow/calf producers, less pasture, less cows, less calves. Now, it brings us right to where we are at, hardly enough feeder cattle to go around. Not enough finished cattle for this new demanding market, not enough burger for the burger lovers, NOT ENOUGH BEEF!!

So, with sale prices up and feed costs down, we need to look after our cattle, as never before. We need to be right in all our management decisions. Now, every calf counts more than ever before. Every 1st service conception counts now, more than ever before. Every cow/heifer bred, needs to have a live calf, more than ever before. Those calves need to grow and gain, and offer opportunity to you or your buyers, as never before. In the end, we need to be better at what we do, to achieve better than ever results and I am confident WE WILL!

To get these results we need to prioritize! Good nutrition, and positive genetic selection for economical impact traits are key areas to improve. Sound herd management practices: a well planned herd health program, a commitment to excellence, and to getting a marketable

calf out of every cow. Now that is doing a whole lot of things right!

Mineral management is certainly a single tool that can enhance production and influence the economic result. Mineral is still the same price as it was 4 years ago. Two bags per year per cow are all it takes. This \$65-\$70 expense per year, to influence fertility, immunity and performance, is a pretty small piece of the equation with returns for our beef as high as they are.

Adding organic selenium 3 weeks before calving and throughout the breeding season has shown positive results on calf vigour. I am convinced that it enhances conception. I have used it now for years throughout the breeding season and won't run without it.

YieldSTART R® is another addition at breeding time that I have been using for several years. This past calving season started December 19th and when we got to January 25th, we had 43 cows calved out of 45. YieldSTART R® is an organic trace mineral pack specifically designed to help enhance 1st service conception rates. Research data clearly shows this positive result. I won't run without it at my place.

A well designed herd health program is a must. You and your Veterinarian need to discuss, in detail, a complete 365 day program. More and more, I see evidence of calf losses to 'Blackleg', seldom a problem in the past. The vaccine needs to be part of your vaccination program and should be discussed with your Vet. If you're doing a vaccine for scours for the first time, listen to your Vet and follow the directions on the label. Make sure to boost the vaccine with a second shot within the prescribed period. Your 1st calf heifers must be boosted. Speaking from experience, I forgot to boost my 1st calvers this past calving season, and I had some problems with those particular calves. A whole Herd Health program is a definite must.

With calf prices as they are, enhanced growth and development is rewarding. Enhance that performance with King of Creep. My calculations for cost per pound totals \$0.83/lb, while 650 lb. calves are selling for a good \$3/lb. Creep feeding can surely add profit to your total calf revenue. King of Creep has proven to be the elite creep feed of the industry, enhancing rumen development, boosting market weights, while improving hair coats and reinforcing bone and muscle development.

So strike while the iron is hot! While cattle prices are high make sure you are getting the most out of your cows. Try supplementing the diet with organic selenium or yieldSTART R to boost breeding and cow health. Take good care of your cow herd and they will take care of you!

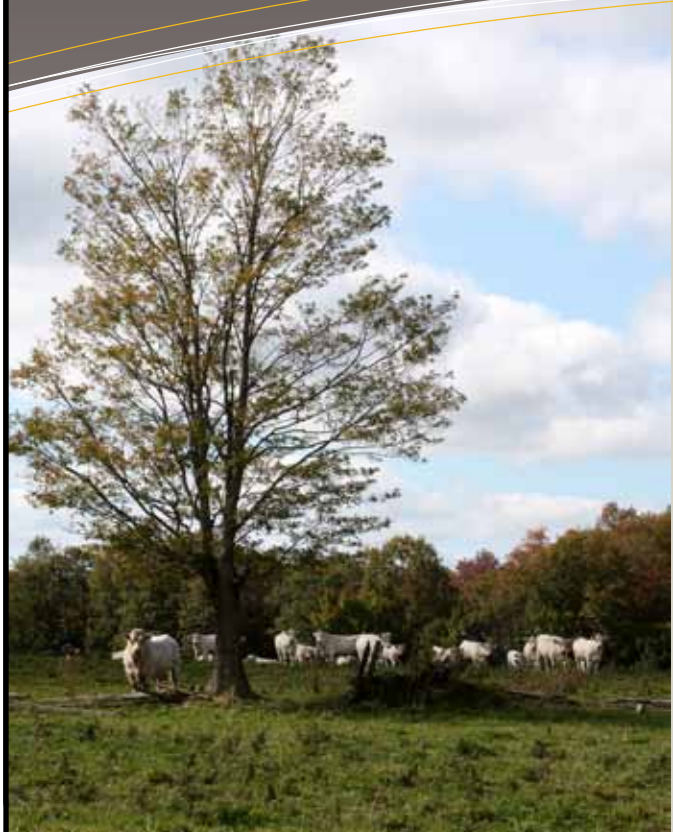


MINERAL MATTERS!

GET YOUR CALVES OFF TO THE RIGHT START WITH KENPAL'S BEEF NURSE COW

Chester Patton of Patton Charolais says "We feed a bag a day of Kenpal Beef Nurse Cow mineral and we have done that for the past couple years. We have had the best and healthiest calving season ever. A good mineral program is a must"!

Chester Patton
Patton Charolais
Shelburne, ON



WE TAKE BIOSECURITY SERIOUSLY

At Kenpal we take all the precautions into consideration when it comes to biosecurity. For the benefit of our customers, we make sure our equipment is as clean as possible.

- We wash our trucks everyday in our onsite washbay, which was built in 2001.
- Drivers wear clean disposable boots whenever appropriate.



COME SEE US AT

**CANADA'S OUTDOOR FARM SHOW
WOODSTOCK, ONTARIO
SEPTEMBER 15, 16 & 17, 2015
BOOTH SM-838**



WE APPRECIATE YOUR BUSINESS

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