

Feeding Availa®4 Improves Productivity of Grazing Braford Cows

Study Objective

Investigate effects of supplementing Braford cows with Availa®4 or inorganic trace minerals offered free-choice or control-fed on performance and mineral status over three production cycles.

Animals

160 Braford cows (BW = 488 kg); randomized to 1 of 8 groups; groups remained intact all 3 yr.

Treatments

Inorganic: 80, 109, 28, and 1 ppm Zn, Mn, Cu and Co from diet and inorganic sources (yr 1); 64, 100, 16, and 0.5 ppm Zn, Mn, Cu and Co from diet and inorganic sources (yr 2 and 3)

Availa-4: Iso levels of Zn, Mn, and Cu from diet and amino acid complexes and Co from cobalt glucoheptonate (yr 1); Iso mineral levels from inorganic sources and diet plus 12, 28, and 6 ppm Zn, Mn, and Cu from amino acid complexes and 1 ppm Co from cobalt glucoheptonate

Study Duration

3 production years

Location

University of Florida, Ona, FL, USA

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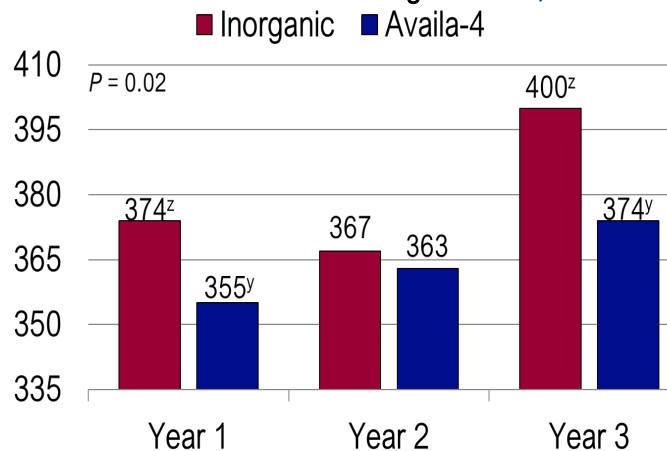


Results Summary

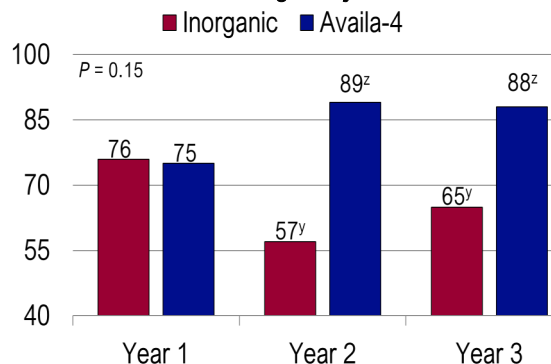
- Mineral feeding method did not impact cow productivity
- Feeding Availa-4 to Braford cows:
 - ✓ Increased pregnancy rates in younger cows
 - ✓ Shortened the calving interval

Feeding Availa®4 as part of a mineral supplement strategy improves reproductive performance and the likelihood of calving once within each calendar year

Availa-4 Shortened the Calving Interval, d



Availa-4 Increased Pregnancy Rates, %



Feeding Availa®4 to the cow herd has a positive annual ROI ranging from 2:1 to 3:1

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Arthington, J. D. and C. K. Swenson. 2004. Effects Of Trace Mineral Source And Feeding Method On The Productivity Of Grazing Braford Cows. Prof. Anim. Sci. 20:155-161.