

## Feeding Availa®Plus to Feedlot Cattle Mitigates Digital Dermatitis Prevalence and Severity



### Study Objectives

Evaluate efficacy of feeding Availa®Plus to feedlot cattle on digital dermatitis (DD) control and prevention. Determine the impact of DD on feedlot cattle performance, carcass yield and quality, and economics.



### Animals

1077 mix breed steers (501 kg); 57 and 95 d (635 to 658 kg) on feed at enrollment; housed in covered barns.

### Treatments

**Control:** Inorganic sources of Zn, Mn, Cu, Co, and I

**Availa-Plus:** Zn, Mn, and Cu from amino acid complexes, Co from cobalt glucoheptonate, and potassium iodide



### Study Duration

**Phase 1:** All cattle fed Control diet and evaluated to establish DD prevalence; 60 d

**Phase 2:** Cattle fed assigned treatment diets and DD prevalence measured through harvest



### Location

Commercial feedlot, North-Central, USA

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IS-B-004  
BF-621; 627



### Results Summary

#### Feeding Availa-Plus to feedlot cattle:

- ✓ Decreased prevalence, risk, severity, and chronicity of digital dermatitis lesions

#### Active DD lesions negatively impacted steer:

- ✓ Growth performance, final live weight, and hot carcass weight

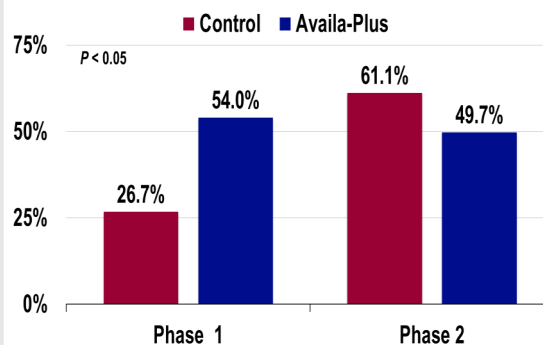
Feeding Availa-Plus is an effective digital dermatitis intervention and control tool for feedlot cattle.

#### Digital Dermatitis Classifications:

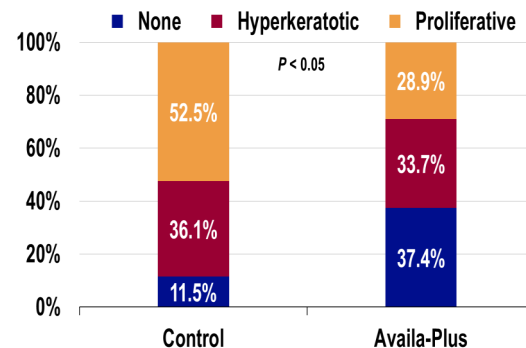


- M0 = No lesion
- M2 = Active lesion > 20 mm
- M4 = Chronic non-active lesion
- M4K = Proliferative
- M4H = Hyperkeratotic

#### Availa-Plus Lowered DD Lesion Prevalence



#### Availa-Plus Decreased DD Chronicity



#### Digital Dermatitis Economics

- ✓ Feeding Availa-Plus reduced DD lesions by 11.5%
- ✓ Steers with DD lesions had a 10 kg average decrease in live weight and 5.5 kg average decrease in HCW
- ✓ Average economic loss from DD is \$40.00 per affected animal

### DOWNLOAD ABSTRACT/FULL REPORT

Kulow, M., P. Merkatoris, K. S. Anklam, J. Rieman, C. Larson, M. Branine, and D. Dopfer. 2017. Evaluation of the prevalence of digital dermatitis and the effects on performance in beef feedlot cattle under organic trace mineral supplementation. *J. Anim. Sci.* 95:3435-3444.