



NEWSLETTER NEWSLETTER

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Features

- 1.) Cow-Calf Mineral Nutrition
- 2.) Strategic Mineral Feeding
- 3.) Equine: EHV Update

Cow-Calf Mineral Nutrition

Calving season is coming to another end, branding time and initial herd-health processing should be completed by now in your herd, and cows and calves are being moved to pastures ... and so the cycle goes! This is not the time to “forget” about the importance of total nutrition for your herd, especially mineral supplementation, and more specifically the vital trace elements copper, selenium, manganese and zinc.



For over 20 years we have collected area data on both fresh forage (pastures) and stored hay crops that have consistently shown deficiencies in mineral content. Of the “macro-elements”, calcium, phosphorus, potassium and magnesium, the most common deficiencies are in phosphorus and magnesium. Phosphorus is critical for proper growth and reproduction, and magnesium deficiency is most commonly recognized as “grass tetany”.

The chart below illustrates the serious trace element deficiencies in copper and zinc that exist in area pasture grasses. We have known for years that this is also a selenium deficient area. These essential trace elements must be supplemented to prevent deficiency symptoms in your herd, such as:

- ❖ Reproductive failure
- ❖ Poor lactation
- ❖ Reduced disease resistance
- ❖ Reduced performance

It is important to realize that most mineral deficiencies will usually not be diagnosed until later in the production cycle. Mineral nutrition last fall and winter has an impact at spring calving; spring and early summer mineral nutrition has an impact on late summer and fall performance. *It is a delayed response and by the time it is diagnosed it is difficult to stop the serious economic impact that it can have in overall herd performance.*

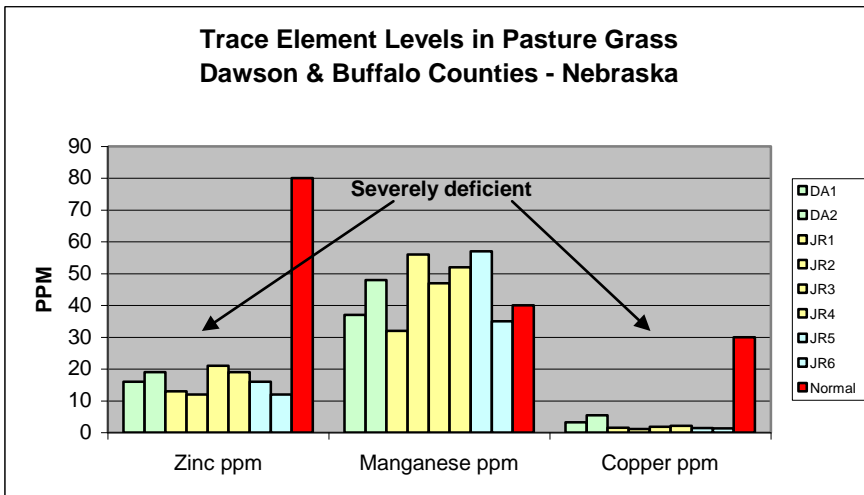
The Overton Veterinary Services custom mineral formulations are based upon our observations and laboratory diagnostics throughout the years. There are three basic blends that will provide excellent mineral nutrition to your herd throughout the year:

- OVS Calving Mineral**
- OVS Range Mineral**
- OVS Cornstalk Mineral**

These blends are also provided with a “DDS” formula that contains no added phosphorus for those feeding distiller grain by-products.

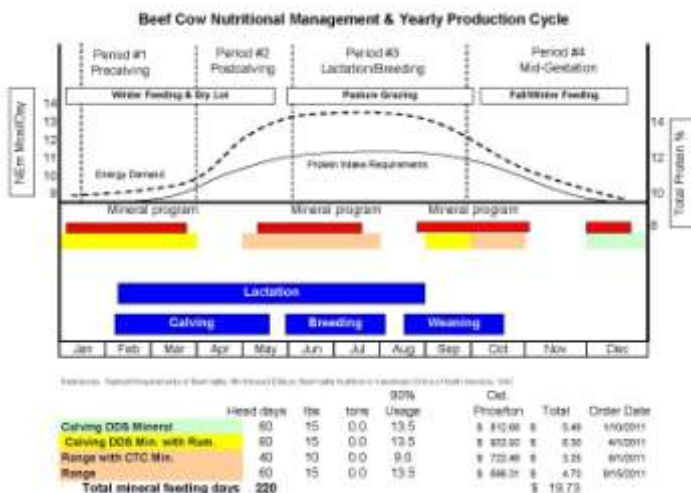
The **OVS Range Mineral with CTC** is recommended during the breeding season and during late summer as an aid in preventing subclinical disease in cow-calf herds. Contact us today for more information.

A copy of the OVS Range Mineral and OVS Range Mineral with CTC tag's are included with this newsletter. Stop in or call us at any time and we can review your total nutrition program in your cow-calf herd.



Strategic Mineral Feeding Programs

We all know that mineral supplementation 365 days a year in a cow-calf herd is not really practical nor is it totally cost effective. A good mineral program that can provide your herd optimum nutrition can be planned out for strategic times during the year, and customized to fit management scenarios as well as your budget. Costs will range from 6-8 cents/head/day for the non-medicated formula's and 12-18 cents/head/day for



medicated formulas (Deccox, Rumensin, Rabon, Chlortetracycline, etc.). Yearly cow-unit mineral costs should be budgeted to \$20 - \$25/year with mineral feeding at strategic times.

The above chart depicts a typical strategic mineral feeding program, for 220 days out of the year, and budgeted with OVS custom mineral products. It focuses on the need for proper supplementation precalving, prebreeding, and prior to weaning so calves maintain adequate mineral status during the summer into fall.

Contact us to get assistance in putting together a **Strategic Mineral Feeding Program** for your herd.



Prairie Gold™
...nutrition, health, productivity

Custom Cattle Mineral Products



*(in the OVS Calving Mineral Blends)

Equine Herpes Virus Update

From the Nebraska Department of Agriculture, Bureau of Animal Industry:

"Nebraska has not implemented any additional commerce or import requirements on horse movement at this time. This status could change, and it would be prudent for horse owners to check this website http://www.agr.state.ne.us/division/bai/equine_herpesvirus.htm prior to their date of travel to check for update."

"NDA encourages all horse producers to follow biosecurity measures on their operations, including: requiring individuals to wash their hands before and after contact with each horse; avoid contact with other horses; disinfect boots and change clothes that come into contact with horses other than your own; isolate horses returning from shows or events for 2-3 weeks."

There is an excellent brochure available from the USDA/APHIS on EHV-1. You can down-load a copy at:

http://www.aphis.usda.gov/vs/nahss/equine/ehv/equine_herpesvirus_brochure_2009.pdf

This is a serious disease for the horse industry. Please call us anytime 24/7 if your horse becomes unexpectedly ill for any reason.

The transmission of EHV-1 occurs after an exposure to an adult horse or foal with an active EHV-1 viral infection. This exposure generally occurs via respiratory shedding of the virus. The infected adult horse or foal may or may not be exhibiting clinical signs of disease.



EHV can lead to EHM, equine herpesvirus myeloencephalopathy (EHM), another name for the neurologic disease associated with equine herpesvirus (EHV) infections. Neurological signs appear as a result of damage to blood vessels in the brain and spinal cord associated with EHV infection.