

Crystal Creek® Beef Cattle Nutrition Trial: The Results Are In!

By Brian Hoffelt, B.S.

At Crystal Creek®, we pride ourselves on providing high quality products that support optimum animal performance. In 2012, we put Crystal Creek® No-Phos Mineral to the test.

After looking at the advantages of the Crystal Creek® Beef Cattle Nutrition Program, a beef producer in Northwest Wisconsin decided to implement Crystal Creek® No-Phos Beef Mineral into his Holstein steer feedlot diet.

As a profit minded beef producer with excellent records on weight gain, days on feed and average daily gain, this producer decided to track and compare the performance of the Crystal Creek® Beef Mineral on his cattle.

All feeding procedures and rations were equal. Cattle were raised on free choice ground ear corn mixed with mineral and free choice grass hay. In 2011 this producer fed a Brand X Mineral and in 2012 he fed Crystal Creek® No-Phos Beef Mineral. The data is summarized in Figure 1.

Comparison of Holstein Feedlot Steers Fed Crystal Creek® No-Phos Beef Mineral vs. Brand X

Figure 1

Brand X: 2011 Averages For 47 Head				
Start Wt.	End Wt.	Wt. Gain	Days on Feed	ADG
678.81	1490.32	811.51	239.72	3.43
Crystal Creek® No-Phos Beef Mineral: 2012 Averages For 57 Head				
Start Wt.	End Wt.	Wt. Gain	Days on Feed	ADG
682.25	1498.23	807.21	216.05	3.74
Benefits of Feeding Crystal Creek® No-Phos Beef Mineral				

Fewer Days On Feed
23.67 Decreased Days
10.39% Advantage

Higher Average Daily Gain
0.31 lb/Hd/Day ADG Improvement
8.65% Advantage



Increased Average Daily Gain Leads To Decreased Days On Feed

With feed input costs of \$6/bushel of corn and hay at \$150/ton, the feed cost per head per day equates to \$2.53. See Figure 2.

Ration Cost Comparison/Head/Day

Figure 2

	Brand X (2011)	Crystal Creek® No-Phos Beef Mineral (2012)
Dry Ground Ear Corn	\$2.14	\$2.14
Grass Hay	\$0.23	\$0.23
Brand X Mineral (5 oz/hd/d)	\$0.16	
Crystal Creek® No-Phos (4 oz/hd/d)		\$0.16
Total Ration Cost	\$2.53	\$2.53

Improved Profitability With Crystal Creek® No-Phos Beef Mineral

Figure 3

	Brand X (2011)	Crystal Creek® No-Phos Beef Mineral (2012)
Days on Feed	239.72	216.05
Cost/Hd/Day	\$2.53	\$2.53
Total Feed Cost/Hd	\$606.50	\$546.61
Added Profit/Hd		+\$59.89
Added Profit, 57 Hd		+\$3,413.73

With an improved average daily gain of 8.65%, there was an efficiency advantage of 23.67 less days on feed with the Crystal Creek® Program. This equates to a feed savings of \$59.89 per head. For the 57 head marketed in 2012, this totals \$3,413.73 in increased profit over 2011. See Figure 3.

When this beef producer showed me the results, he was smiling from ear to ear. He did not spend any additional money on mineral and achieved \$3,413.45 in additional profit. This is comparable to marketing two additional finished steers at 1,484 lbs with current market prices of \$1.15 without any input or feed costs. "It is truly a no-

brainer to feed Crystal Creek® Beef Mineral," this producer told me.

As a nutritionist and beef producer myself, it is exciting to see the progress and gain that animals achieve when they are fed a product that is formulated for maximum function. The data collected clearly shows the economic advantages of feeding a well formulated, bio-available mineral to your cattle. If you are feeding cattle and looking for an improvement in your profitability, make sure you are feeding Crystal Creek® Beef Mineral. Your animals will show that you made the right choice. Call Crystal Creek® today!

JUNE SPECIALS!

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\$5 Discount / Gallon
 Order 2 or 3 Gallons
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