

# Crystal Creek® Beef Supplements For Increased Profitability

By Brian Hoffelt, B.S.

While working for Crystal Creek® as a Livestock Nutritionist, I also run a herd of beef cattle where Crystal Creek® Beef Mineral products are used extensively. It is very exciting that Crystal Creek® has products that fit with my program and that I get to see the results that can be achieved with a well developed nutrition program. Crystal Creek® products fit every stage of production, and the results that my herd has achieved with the Crystal Creek® Beef Nutrition Program speak for themselves.

Since I changed from the competitor product to Crystal Creek® 37% Beef Pellets we have observed the following:

1. Increased Weaning Weights
2. Decreased Incidence of Respiratory and Other Health Issues Upon Weaning
3. Increased Profitability Due to The Increased Weaning Weights and Better Animal Health

## Increased Weaning Weights

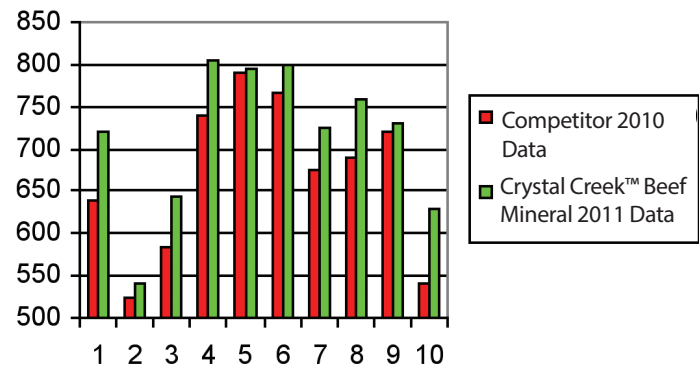
On any beef operation we are paid by the pound. Whether I am selling feeder cattle in the fall or breeding stock, where efficient and consistent weaning weights impact marketability, high weaning weights are important.

We have seen many improvements in my herd since the application of Crystal Creek® into our program:

1. Narrowed Calving Window: Leads to a more uniform group of calves in the fall.
2. Better Growth and Development: Healthier calves are more efficient and cost less to raise.
3. Increased Weaning Weights: Calves raised on Crystal Creek® have shown better weaning weights out of the same cows.

The results shown on the chart clearly speak for themselves. When comparing calf weaning weights out of the same cows to the previous year's data, we have averaged an increase in weaning weight of 48 lbs. per calf. This is a huge increase in profitability.

## 205 Day Adjusted Weaning Weights



\*Data shown for mature cows only that had the same sex calf in 2010 and 2011.

\*Calves fed Crystal Creek® 37% Beef Pellets/Cows fed free choice Crystal Creek® Beef Mineral

## Decreased Incidence of Respiratory Issues Upon Weaning

Many producers (including myself) have seen an increase in respiratory type problems when weaning calves in past years. When a calf is weaned, stress hormones are released into the animal and the immune system is challenged. Counterproductive and low grade materials fed to these already immune compromised animals can push calves into a situation where respiratory problems become clinical. Crystal Creek® mineral contains only the highest quality ingredients which help to improve immune function while staying away from counterproductive ingredients which may further compromise the immune system.

Health observations in my herd since the introduction of Crystal Creek® Beef Mineral include:

1. Lower incidence of respiratory issues before and after weaning.
2. Decreased cost to treat animals that do show respiratory problems.
3. Faster recovery in animals that need to be treated for respiratory problems.

In past years, it was a fight to get cattle through weaning and onto feed because of respiratory issues. Since we have switched to Crystal Creek® the incidence of respiratory issues has been greatly diminished. Healthier calves that do not need to be treated cut down on cost. Lower cost of production increases my profitability.

Crystal Creek® Beef Cattle Nutrition has increased my farm's profitability. Through increased animal health and development we have seen exceptional performance. This performance leads to more money in my pocket. Call today to see how Crystal Creek® can increase your farm's profitability!



first year, the molasses to corn ratio stayed the same feeding 3 lbs. of molasses with 1 lb. of a corn/barley mix. In 2009, the molasses to corn ratio changed on a seasonal basis. In April and May, 2 lbs. of molasses was fed with 3 lbs. of grain. The cows were fed 3 lbs. of molasses with 2 lbs. of grain in June. In July, the cows were fed 2.5 lbs. of molasses and 2 lbs. of grain. August through October, they were fed 2 lbs. of molasses with 2 lbs. of grain. This study concluded that animals fed molasses, along with pasture, resulted in loss of body condition, poor reproduction, decreased milk production, acidosis and foot health issues. Excessive sugar levels in the ration can cause extra unwanted production of butyric acid in the rumen resulting in poor rumen function, reduced feed efficiency, poor herd health and lost profit for the producer and can give results similar to a high starch ration. Higher starch levels would have helped to increase body condition and milk protein percentage as well as level out MUN levels. Excessively high starch levels in a ration can also cause loss in body condition, poor reproduction, acidosis and foot health issues when not balanced properly in the overall ration. I would recommend you

consult with a nutritionist to make sure sugar and starch levels are appropriate for your herd.

### Myth #3

#### **Kelp is an excellent source of minerals**

and can fully meet daily mineral needs for dairy cows.

**FACT:** Kelp does contain many minerals, trace minerals, vitamins and other compounds that are very essential to keep animals healthy. However, the amounts of these minerals and vitamins in kelp, with the exception of Iodine and Vitamin A (if the kelp is fresh), are generally low and do not fully provide the animals with their daily requirements of minerals and vitamins. When you look at the analysis of Kelp vs. Alfalfa vs. Crystal-Min 2:1 (see

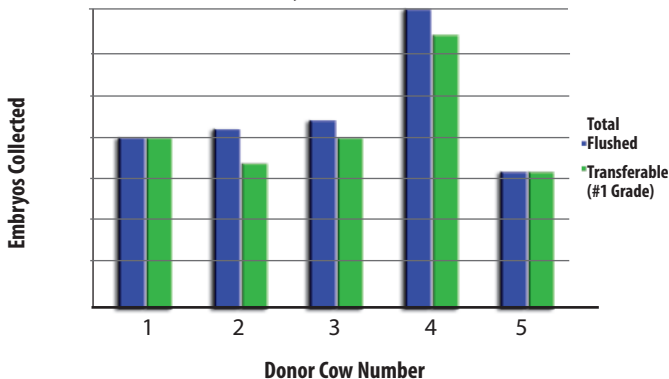
Ingredient Myths in the Dairy Industry  
(Continued on page 10)



# Crystal Creek® Beef Cattle Nutrition:

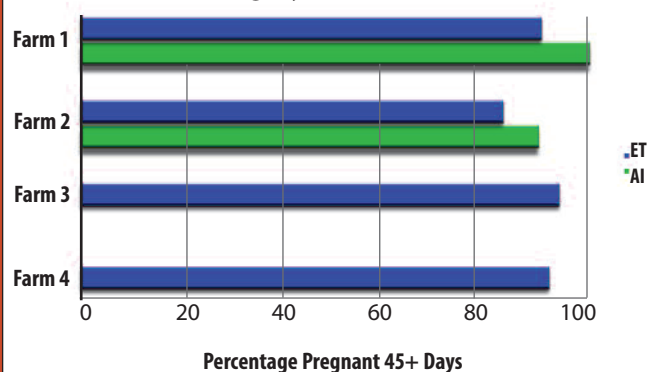
## Total and Transferable Embryos

(From Donor Cows On Crystal Creek® Beef Cattle Nutrition)



## AI and Embryo Transfer Results

(Cows Fed Utilizing Crystal Creek® Beef Cattle Nutrition)



# It Works!

## Crystal Creek® Beef Mineral Product Features:

- Formulas to fit all stages of production
- Formulated with only the highest quality ingredients with a focus on bio-availability and function
  - Cleaned Phosphorus Source
  - 99.9% Polysaccharide Complex Trace Minerals
  - 100% Selenium Yeast
  - High Vitamin Levels
  - Fortified With Functional Yeast, Aspergillus Oryzae And High Grade Yucca
- Reduces the need to feed ionophores and antibiotics

## - Three Products - One Complete Program

**Crystal Creek® Beef Mineral:** A complete free-choice mineral, trace mineral, vitamin and yeast supplement that fits high forage rations for all stages of production.

**Crystal Creek® 37% Beef Pellets:** A pelleted protein, mineral, trace mineral, vitamin and yeast supplement that fits moderate and high grain rations for calves, replacements and feedlot applications.

**Crystal Creek® No-Phos Beef Mineral:** A no phosphorus mineral, trace mineral and yeast supplement that fits moderate and high grain rations for calves, replacements and feedlot applications.

