FEED COMPONENTS

Science, **Research**, Service

EXCENTIALS RUMENPASS CHOLINE

Background Choline as a feed additive for transition dairy cows has been well researched over the past 2 decades. Postfresh cows respond to supplemental choline with increased milk production (Deuchler et al., 1998) and transition cow research suggests that liver fatty acid metabolism and cow performance are responsive to increasing the supply of choline (Piepenbrink and Overton, 2003). Feed Components introduces Excentials ***RumenPass Choline***, which is is a fat encapsulated product containing 25% choline chloride. In situ (Tech Point 16:1) and in vivo (Tech Point 16:2) studies show that RumenPass Choline delivers metabolizable choline to the dairy cow.

Economics RumenPass Choline, like other sources of rumen protected choline, can deliver a milk response of 6 lbs ECM/h/d (Grummer, 2013). The return from feeding RumenPass Choline throughout the transition period from the gain in milk production alone is 2:1. This doesn't include the economic benefit from the reduction in liver fat content when supplementing transition cows choline and the accompanied improved health. Fresh cow health trumps all and investing in the transition cow always pays-off, regardless of economic environment. Along with a well balanced AA ration, (Tech Point Prefresh AA) RumenPass Choline should be included in all transition dairy cow rations.

Feeding Rate ***Feed RumenPass Choline at 2 ounces per head per day***

Feeding Period ***Feed RumenPass Choline throughout the Transition period***

Duechler, K. N., L. S. Piperova, and R. A. Erdman. 1998. Milk choline secretion as an indirect indicator of postruminal choline supply. J. Dairy Sci. 81:238-242.

Grummer, R. R., 2013. Choline: A limiting nutrient for transition dairy cows. Pages 27-34 in Proc. Florida Rum. Nutr. Conf. Dept. of Animal Science, University of Florida, Gainsville, FL.

Piepenbrink, M. S. and T. R. Overton. 2003. Liver metabolism and production of cows fed increasing amounts of rumen-protected choline during the periparturient period.. J Dairy Sci. 86:1722-1733.

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