

Animate[®]

Anionic Mineral Supplement

Effect of ANIMATE on Intake and Urine pH of Non-Lactating Dairy Cows

USDA-ARS
Ames, Iowa

MATERIALS AND METHODS

Four cows from field barns were brought to barn 125 for the duration of the experiment. These cows were fed straight corn silage (28 lbs per cow per day) for one week and then fed 1 lb per cow per day of ANIMATE, top-dressed over corn silage for four days. Intake and urine pH were monitored throughout the study.

RESULTS

Feed intake was not affected by the addition of ANIMATE to the ration. Urine pH was significantly reduced after one day of ANIMATE supplementation to the ration.

Urine pH of Non-Lactating Dairy Cows Fed ANIMATE (Initiated Feeding ANIMATE on Day 3)

Cow	Day 1 pH	Day 2 pH	Day 3 pH	Day 4 pH	Day 5 pH	Day 6 pH
1	7.87	8.01	8.11	5.23	5.48	5.66
2	8.12	8.23	8.17	5.75	5.55	5.84
3	8.15	8.27	8.13	5.73	5.75	6.14
4	8.10	8.33	8.17	5.83	5.58	5.70

CONCLUSIONS

This trial indicates that optimum consumption levels can be sustained with ANIMATE supplementation to the ration. Furthermore, depending on the acid-base properties of the ration, ANIMATE may be able to lower urine pH to 6.5 — an effective level to reduce the incidence of hypocalcemia — at supplementation levels below 1 lb per head per day.