

Owen & Leonie Stables
Huntly
April 2010

I had read and heard a little about molasses from a friend so gave it a go. I was so rapt with it after the first months rise in production that I found it hard to stop using it.

We have used Rumol300 since November 2007 and it is introduced at caving time to help break-in the heifers. It adds high energy into the herd's diet, especially in very hot conditions. We also find it conserves grass as less is eaten at any stage, allowing more saved pasture. Production is normally up when Rumol300 is being used.

The herd is very contented when they are fed molasses at any time of the year. It seems to help with mating and also helps to keep the condition on the cows.

Cow health is the big benefit for us and rebuilding the cow's condition score after calving ready for mating. Molasses gives cows a good start to the season's production with the herd continually producing over 400kgs of milk solids per cow since we have been using the product. The cows flow easier through the shed which makes milking quicker.

Lickballs give me the ability to offer other blends including magnesium and other trace elements to the mix. Rumol300 is mainly used throughout the year and I think that the Rumensin content improves the cow's digestion efficiency which is shown by a lot firmer dung and less mess around the shed.

Most years Rumol300 is fed all of the season in preference to other feeds, and our production since feeding Rumol300 has gone from 350kgs milk solids/per cow to 450kgs plus.