

Formulation Guidelines for Close-up Dry Cow Rations using Negative DCAD Balancing



DCAD: -10 to - 15 mEq/100 g DM [(Na + K) – (Cl + S)]

Adjust dietary DCAD until urine pH values range from 5.5 to 6.0.

Test urine pH 6 to 9 hours postfeeding. Feed a minimum of 21 days prior to calving at a rate between 1.2 to 1.5 lbs (0.55 to 0.70 kg) per head daily. Feed continuously up to calving.

Calcium: \geq 180 g

Feed a minimum of 180 g of calcium and not less than 1.42% DM calcium.

Other Mineral Nutrients	% Dry Matter	Grams/day ¹
Phosphorus	0.21 – 0.42	26 – 53
Magnesium	0.45 – 0.50	57 – 64
Potassium	1.00 – 1.30	127 – 165
Sodium	0.10 – 0.20	13 – 26
Chloride	0.80 – 1.00	102 – 127
Sulfur	0.40 – 0.47	51 – 60

¹ Grams per day based on a dry matter intake of 28.0 lbs (12.7 kg)

The above guidelines are recommendations only and not requirements.

Recommended Animate® feeding rate: 1.2 to 1.5 lbs (0.55 to 0.70 kg) per head daily

