



The Rumen Friendly Approach

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At Harbro we look at all areas that can positively influence the heifer calf in early life as getting her off to a good start is critical to her life-time productivity. Early nutrition is a crucial factor and we have developed a range of rumen friendly rations all designed to promote early growth and development and permanently switch on key performance genes to maximise future production potential.

One such key product that we have recently added to our Buttercup Calf range is Rumitech. This unique natural additive enhances rumen function by promoting the development of a powerful population of beneficial bacteria in both the rumen and intestines. By feeding Rumitech to young calves from the very beginning of life, we can effectively train and establish the ideal microbial bug population in both her rumen and hindgut, which are both key for a strong, healthy, fast growing calf.

Recent pre-weaning calf feeding trials with Rumitech have shown:

- 16% increase in daily liveweight gain
- 8% increase in feed conversion efficiency (kg LWG/kg DMI)
- Earlier weaning
- Lower incidence of calf scour

As the rumen continues to mature in the growing calf, Rumitech continues to improve performance and feed efficiency by targeting a specific group of rumen microbes to reduce methane emission, which is a valuable loss of energy that can otherwise be used for growth.

Assured by the Carbon Trust, when fed correctly within a predominantly forage based diet, Rumitech has been shown to reduce dairy and beef rumen (enteric) methane emissions by around 6% per animal per day and dairy enteric methane emissions by around 18% per litre of milk.

Extensive national and international dairy trials have also been carried out which all show significant increases in milk, protein, fat and feed efficiency along with significant decreases in methane emissions. A trial carried out by Aberystwyth University with 150 cows fed a maize/grass ration that included Rumitech showed the following results:

	Control	Rumitech	Diff (%)
Milk (kg/head/day)	28.3	31.2	+10.2%
Milk fat (kg/head/day)	1.32	1.44	+9.0%
Milk protein (g/head/day)	0.96	1.05	+9.4%
Methane	17.2	13.8	-19.7%

Rumitech is easy to include in the diet for calves and heifers at all stages of life and right through lactation. Our team of dairy and calf specialists will be able to advise on the most suitable and effective ways to introduce it into the ration.



Watch our video on YouTube and at AgriScot and find out how you can make less gas and more profit with Rumitech.

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