

Custom Protein Blends; All Wrapped in Great Tasting Molasses

Molasses based liquid feeds provide an excellent source of sugar and dry matter, helping deliver increased micro-ingredients into the TMR

One thing that has not changed on a dairy over these many years is how to best feed your cows. With changing commodities and costs, dairymen are constantly evaluating their feed programs to get the most out of the available feeds for the money. Dry matter, fiber, sugars and proteins just to name a few. The balancing act is how much of each commodity is needed to give the cow optimum levels for both milk and her maintenance.

Protein is one of the critical aspects of the cow's diet to help maintain maximum milk production and proper nutrition. Urea is a major source of protein used in today's dairy diets. It can be fed dry, in the mineral pack, and added to the TMR so as the wagon is filled, it mixes well with the entire ration.

The other way is for the urea to be added to a molasses based liquid feed. Molasses is an excellent source of sugar and dry matter for the cow. It also makes the feed more palatable, and helps reduce sorting. Molasses has also shown to be an excellent vehicle for delivering micro-ingredients in the TMR.

At Penny Newman, we source our molasses direct from sugar producers all over the world. We take molasses samples from each producer and a lab analysis is performed on each sample before we ever purchase the cane. After purchasing, the cane is shipped to our private doc in Stockton Calif., where it is off loaded into our storage tanks. From the Port of Stockton the sugars are transported to our Fresno facility where we use it in molasses blends

By working with Nutritionists and dairymen, we are able to formulate custom protein blends to fit the diets based on the commodities that each individual dairyman is feeding at any given time. We can adjust the protein levels as well as the dry matter according to the needs of each dairy. One dairyman might need a 25 protein-60 dry matter while another might require a much higher level, up to 50-55 protein with a dry matter to match. Some customers use the protein blends to stretch out a whole cotton seed contract, while getting moisture and sugars as well from the molasses. Once we are given the specifications for the blend required for the dairyman, we are able to formulate a custom mix to fit the producer's current situation.

Before starting the blending process, we melt our urea into a liquid form thus insuring the urea is mixed completely throughout the blend, which assures better utilization of the urea. After melting, the required amount of urea needed to make the specific blend is added to the mixing tank along with the required amount of molasses. At this time we can add other micro-ingredients to the blend upon request from the dairyman or nutritionist.

Once the mixing is completed, the batch is loaded onto a truck to be hauled to the dairy. At each dairy, storage tanks have been installed to receive these loads from the truck. Each tank is



The benefit of a liquid protein blend is the way in which the feeder is able to vary the amount of protein/molasses blend for each load of feed depending on the commodities being utilized in the ration. The liquid protein/molasses is thoroughly blended evenly throughout the TMR making it more attractive to the dairy cow.

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connected to a pump and motor unit that is used to apply the molasses blend to the TMR by way of 2" pipe lines and hoses that end in a spray bar suspended over the feed wagon. The feeder is then able to apply the required amount of protein molasses blend for each load while the feed is being mixed. This allows for the molasses protein blend to be spread evenly throughout the TMR.

By feeding the protein in this fashion, dairymen are able to utilize the protein in a form that is attractive to the dairy cow. It is more palatable when blended with molasses. The molasses helps reduce sorting and gives the dairy cow clean quick energy.

Molasses blends have been labeled a fantastic tool by many dairymen. It is a tool that can be customized almost load by load as needed. A dairyman can change the blend as needed according to what he has in his barn. It is one of the few feeds with which this level of flexibility can be accomplished.

By consulting with your nutritionist, you can find out how molasses simple blends and protein blends can be utilized in your feed program. Your nutritionist can explain the benefits to a feed program and how best to fit molasses and protein blends into a ration. Please give us a call with any questions or formula requests. We are here to help.

At Penny Newman, we are constantly looking for new ways to improve our quality of feeds and usefulness to the dairymen today and tomorrow.



Blending molasses to make high protein and micro ingredient rich feeds helps insure rations are providing maximum bang for each feed commodity used, with the added advantage of increased palatability and reduced sorting.