## **CREEP FEEDING:** The path to performance

## **Calories count**

As a calf's potential for growth increases, so does its need for additional calories.New technologies and increased genetic selection have given us the opportunity to drastically improve weaning weight when the energy is available to support it.

Creep feed can significantly increase the weaning weight of calves. Milk and grass production decline just as the calves' intake and energy requirements elevate. Creep feed fills the energy gap, maintaining calf gains throughout the grazing season.

Hubbard calf creep feeds are carefully formulated to support maximum gain potential and genetic expression in young calves.

## Does forage matter?

As calves grow, their intakes continue to increase. While their mother's milk continues to provide many nutrients, calves also need to meet their required dry matter intake levels by supplementing with the available forage. However, this need coincides with a time when forages are maturing and quality is declining. Unfortunately, this often happens at the same moment that forage quality begins to decline and no longer provides enough energy to support the path to elevated performance!

## Nutritionally formulated to help calves reach their genetic potential.

Contact your local Hubbard dealer to find out which creep feed is the best option for you.

HubbardFeeds.com Products and Answers that WORK<sup>®</sup>

### Hubbard creep feeds help:

- Increase weaning weight
- Deliver medications
- Acclimate calves to feed
- Reduce digestive upset



# **CREEP FEED** Management

## Does creep feeding actually pay?

Creep Feeding Worksheet		
Α	Pounds of creep feed per calf	Typical 200–400
В	Price per pound of creep feed	
С	A times B = Creep feed cost per calf	
D	Feed conversion factor for creep feed (pounds of creep per pound of gain)	4–8 to 1
E	A divided by D = Pounds of gain per calf	
F	Calf market price per pound	
G	E times F = Added value per calf from creep feed	
н	G minus C = Net value per calf from creep feed	
I	Number of calves	
J	H times I = Total profit	

## **Big Easy Feed Finance Program**

- 0% financing on as little as \$2,000 of purchases
- Applies to Hubbard-branded feeds, including creep feed and CRYSTALYX<sup>®</sup>
- Easy annual sign-up
- Shipping can take place at any time within the contract period

### Calf creep feeding management

To optimize a calf creep feeding program, it is important to utilize proper management techniques.

#### **Feeder placement**

Calf creep feeders should be placed near loafing areas. Some ideal locations include shaded areas and places near water, salt or CRYSTALYX<sup>®</sup> Brand Supplement Blocks, which will lure cows toward the creep feeders and give calves more feeding time.

#### **Feeder settings**

Gate openings should be periodically adjusted to allow calves easy access to the feeder. The feed slide should be adjusted to encourage the calves to clean the bunk and minimize excessive buildup of feed in the trough.

#### **Bunk space**

Allow approximately 4 to 5 inches of bunk space per calf for self-fed calves and 8 to 12 inches for hand-fed calves.

#### Acclimation

To properly acclimate calves to a good creep feeding program, start with one or two fresh 50-pound bags of creep and feed daily to ensure freshness. Remove fines and stale or wet feed every day, without exception.

#### **Bunk management**

Bunk management is hunger management. Calf creep feeders should be clean, and fresh feed should always be available. To avoid overeating, supply a constant amount of creep feed.