

Maize and Beet are often grown/purchased by dairy farmers as a means of diversifying and spreading the risk of forage production. Silage quality can quite often be compromised by bad weather, leading to reduced DM & DMD values. Fortunately, the high starch and dry matter content of maize and high energy value of beet provide the perfect complement to wet and/or low DMD grass silage.

Maize & Beet have a low crude protein value however, and must be balanced with a high crude protein ration.

The table below provides a quick guide for the desired protein level in a balancer ration used at different feeding rates for different grass/maize ratios in the diet.

MAIZE BALANCER PROTEIN REQUIREMENTS			
Concentrate Feeding Level	Maize:Grass Ratio 1:2	Maize:Grass Ratio 1:1	Maize:Grass Ratio 2:1
4 kilos	23%	29%	36%
6 kilos	20%	24%	28%
8 kilos	18%	21%	24%

Our **Acorn Maize/Beet Balancer** mineral package contains boosted levels of calcium and phosphorous and a full complement of trace elements and vitamins to mitigate any shortfalls associated with a high maize / beet diet.

MAIZE/BEET BALANCER RANGE

- Maize Balancer 25%
- Maize Balancer HS 25%
- Maize Balancer NM 25%
- Maize Balancer 28%
- Maize Balancer HS 28%
- Maize Balancer NM 28%

NM - denotes No Minerals

HS - denotes High Starch



The inclusion of a rumen buffer is recommended when feeding high levels of Maize/Beet

SMOOTH START CALF PELLET

- High Soya Bean inclusion to give a 19% crude protein feed.
- Typically fed from one week of age up to 8-10 weeks.
- Highly palatable 5mm calf pellet eliminates sorting, maximises early intake and deters birds.



Calves need to drink 5 litres of water in addition to their milk feed for each 1 kilo of dry feed they consume.



THE DAIRY PURE RANGE

Our 'Dairy Pure' choice of cubed feeds is exactly as the name suggests, made purely and exclusively from the top end of ruminant feed ingredients.

A cube of this quality with absolutely no fillers and high inclusions of barley, maize and soyabean is seldom found on the Irish market. The inclusion of Acidbuf and an Elite Fertility Mineral Premix containing protected copper and zinc help to address issues of Sub-Acute Rumen Acidosis, lameness and infertility.

DAIRY PURE 16

- A uniquely formulated nut designed to boost milk output without displacing grass from the diet.
- Protein content is matched towards a grass and/or silage based diet.



DAIRY PURE 18

- An extremely high energy nut for cows consuming predominately grass silage.
- Often fed to freshly calved cows in spring before grazing becomes possible.

DAIRY PURE 21

- Most commonly requested by our specialist winter milk customers.
- This nut complements situations where grass silage quality is poor or to balance low levels of forage maize in the diet.
- A combination of high energy and protein equips high genetic merit cows to reach peak yield under a housed feeding regime.

A number of our top selling feeds are listed/discussed in this leaflet, however please speak directly with **YOUR** local Drummonds Technical Sales Advisor for advice on the coarse ration and/or nut, within our comprehensive range, which best meets the needs of your dairy cows, replacement heifers and younger stock. Where/if required we can manufacture a customised coarse ration to meet the specific requirements of your animals.





PERFORMANCE DAIRY FEEDS

Drummonds Feed Mill close to Navan is situated in a strong dairy farming area. Whether **YOU** operate a low cost, grass-based, spring-calving herd or a relatively higher cost and higher output autumn & spring calving, TMR-based milk production system, we cater for your supplementary feed requirements.

Our feeds are built on locally grown, wholesome grains & pulses in combination with ONLY '**the premier league'** of feed ingredients. The locally grown feeds are GM-free, thereby strengthening the credentials, authenticity & provenance of Ireland's milk & dairy foods. Drummonds Coarse Dairy Rations contain absolutely NO fillers. Equally our top range of contract manufactured, performance Dairy

Nuts include NO fillers; while the least cost formulated nuts within our range may contain a low inclusion level of lower feed value ingredients in order to hit/meet a price point while delivering the desired level of animal performance. For further information on the ingredients we use & our formulation strategy please read our leaflet – '**Why Choose Drummonds Feeds ?**

COARSE DAIRY FEEDS

Drummonds rations are **SIMPLE** and **HIGHLY NUTRITIOUS**. Our technical sales team aim to work closely with our customers and as a result we are continually 'tweaking' and improving our feeds. We keep close to the research findings coming out of Irish and international research organisations including Teagasc Moorepark and Ballyhaise, as well as from UCD and Lyons Estate's high yielding dairy herd. We are in regular discussion with leading nutritionists and aim to be to the fore in providing nutritional solutions to the problems which arise over time on farms.

LACTATION FEEDS

Supplementing lactating dairy cows with concentrates is extremely cost effective in 3 key scenarios:

- Providing extra energy for meeting milk yield potential.
- Extending grass and silage reserves.
- Conditioning cows for fertility.



In practice all 3 scenarios may exist **together** on many farms.
Judicious meal feeding pays.

HI-ENERGY BREEDERS CHOICE 14

- Designed to complement protein rich lush grass.
- Maximises conception rates and minimises risk of embryo loss.

HI-ENERGY 16

- Targeted towards filling the energy gap at grass.
- Delivers yield boosts while maintaining cow condition.

HI-ENERGY 18

- Boasts high milk output from grass silage diets.
- Well matched to a diet consisting of largely grass silage and a small proportion of grazed grass when cows are first turned out.



LACTATION FEEDS

MILK MAX 20

- A popular choice among winter milk producers.
- Generous inclusion of top quality protein sources ensuring high milk output.



MILK ELITE 22

- High genetic merit cows excel on this ration.
- Complements maize silage diets.

DRY COW FEEDS

Dry Period

This is possibly the **most critical** period of a cow's milk production cycle. Achieving optimum body condition is all important. There are 2 major factors influencing the cow's body condition at this time:

1. The length of the dry period.
2. A cow's energy intake.

We have developed two rations to cater for these objectives:

COW CONDITIONER

- An energy dense ration that puts flesh on cows backs.
- Used to boost the diet when average quality silage is fed.

PRE CALVER PRIMER

- This ration is formulated to the highest specifications.
- Recommended feeding level of 2 kilos per head daily.

ACORN MINERALS

The mineral vitamin supplement included in our Pre-Calver Primer is updated each year in order to accurately counter the main deficiencies that are showing up in forages and livestock blood tests. With this reliable mineral supplementation comes high calf vigour, minimised retained placenta and ultimately quicker returns to cycling.



REPLACEMENT HEIFER FEEDS



The Teagasc roadmap for the sustainable intensification of the Irish dairy industry sets a research performance target of calving down 100% of heifers at 22-26 months of age and an average cow longevity of 5.5 lactations. Poor replacement heifer fertility and failure to last within the herd is often due to heifers being underweight at mating start date.

The benefits of feeding quality concentrates to calves from a young age are well known. Further supplementation of heifers during their first summer at grass and first winter provides the opportunity to lift daily weight gain in situations where target weights are in danger of not being met.



Wean Calves once they are consuming 1kilo meal/day

ULTRA CALF

- The palatability and texture of this crunch drives intake like no other.
- High energy concentration and digestibility minimises days to weaning.

CALF FOLLOW ON

- Used from 12 weeks onward to maintain ADG targets.
- Ideal feed supplement for calves on grass.

HEIFER DEVELOPER

- A specialist ration fed to heifers as they reach puberty.
- We recommend feeding good quality silage and 1.5-2 kilo/day of this ration to heifers during their first winter to achieve a desired weight gain of 0.5kg/day.

Bodyweight targets (kilo) for the main breeds of maiden heifers at different stages of the rearing process.

	Holstein Friesian	New Zealand	Jersey	Holstein Friesian X Jersey
6 month heifer	175	160	125	145
Maiden Heifer	330	315	240	295
Pre-calving	550	525	405	490