

# Forages

## SOLUTIONS

### Getting the MOST out of Forages

In many parts of the country, forage is in tight supply this winter. Years like this can cause us to focus on getting the most out of the roughages that are available, especially if feed has to be purchased. But actually, good hay and grazing management can have such an impact on feed costs, we ought to be paying attention every feeding season.

### Optimize Grazing

It is almost always more economical to allow cattle to 'harvest' their own feed, than to take on the expense and waste that come with making and feeding hay. QLF is a perfect fit for grazing both pasture/range and crop residues.

#### *Targeted Supplementation*

With forage-based diets, the primary role of the supplementation program is to make sure the rumen microbes have all the nutrients they need. The cattle, then, can benefit from the increased yield of nutrients as more feed is broken down, and it is broken down more thoroughly.

QLF pasture supplements are designed to fill this role, delivering Timed-Release® protein, molasses sugars, and key vitamins and minerals. Remember, grain-based feeds can work against fiber digestion, failing to deliver the same net benefit as QLF.

#### *Distribution Management*

Lick tank placement can help direct animal distribution so that every area of the pasture is grazed.

### Optimize Use of Harvested Forages

Every step from harvesting to feeding hay can impact the amount and quality of feed that will be available for use by your animals. QLF can't help with storage and transportation losses, but once the bales are ready to be used, liquid supplements are an effective tool to help enhance utilization and reduce waste.

#### *Bale Treating*

Directly treating baled forages with QLF encourages consumption and reduces waste, especially with lower quality roughages. The liquid is applied to the flat face of the bale at 7-10% by weight, and allowed to soak between wraps before being fed or stored. Bale pouring simplifies the feeding program, delivering both roughage and supplement in a single step.





## The Bale Treat Advantage

- ◆ Single-step delivery of forage and supplement.
- ◆ Significant increase in protein, energy, vitamins and minerals in each bale.
- ◆ Improved palatability.
- ◆ Reduced waste.
- ◆ Easier and safer than ammoniation.
- ◆ Managed supplement intake level.

## Bale Processing

Producers with access to a bale processor or grinder, or the opportunity to utilize a professional bale processing service, can also see a reduction in hay wastage. Cattle are more apt to eat extremely low-quality forages if they have been ground or chopped, with the stalks or stems uniformly mixed with the more palatable plant parts. These benefits are further extended when a liquid supplement is included. QLF can be added to bales before processing, at the grinder, or sprayed on the hay as it is leaving the bale processor. Again, the producer enjoys the benefits of one-trip hay and supplement delivery, and significant reductions in wasted hay.

