



Advantage Feeders



WEANER SUPPLEMENT LIFTS WEIGHT GAIN



A mob of weaner cattle supplemented with barley through Advantage Feeders **grew at a far higher rate than another mob that only had access to pasture.**

**PROFIT INCREASED
\$47/HEAD
IN 58 DAYS**

RESULTS

Growth rates achieved after 40 days:

- The control mob gained an average of 29kg/head or 0.725kg/-day.
- The Barley mob gained an average of 50kg/head or 1.25kg/-day. Barley consumption during this period averaged 1.2kg/-head/day.

The trial was altered due to an unseasonable dry period where the heavier weaners were sold. The groups were then altered to increase the weight of the lighter weaners.

Growth rates achieved over the following 53 days:

- The control mob gained 54kg/head or 1.02kg/head/day.
- The Barley mob gained an average of 71kg/head or 1.34kg/day. Barley consumption during this period averaged 1.1kg/head/-day.

Combined growth rates:

- The control group weight gain averaged 0.89kg/head/day.
- The Barley group weight gain averaged 1.30kg/head/day. Barley consumption averaged 1.14kg/head/day.

The average time to grow the weaners from 235kg to target weight of 400kg reduced from an average of 185 days to only 127 days.

TRIAL OUTLINE

- Duration:** 100 days
- Quantity:** 50 weaners in each group
- Control mob starting weight average:** 220kg
- Barley mob starting weight average:** 253kg
- Pasture type:** Dry perennial pasture
- Feeding amount:** 1.0-1.5kg/day
- Feed type:** Barley
- Feeding equipment:** 1x Advantage Feeder NGF3800

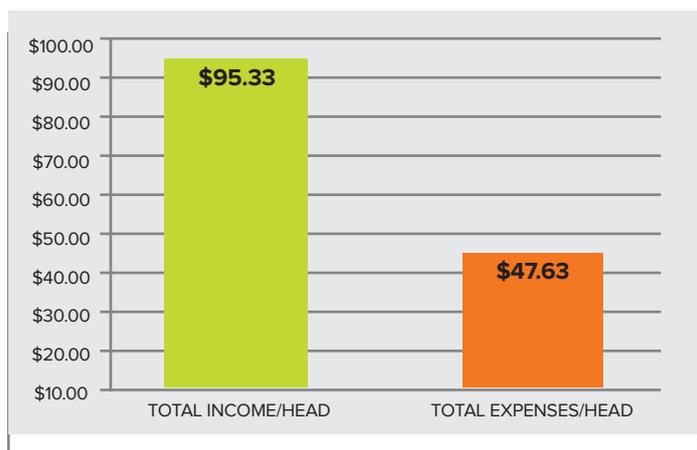


FULL RESULTS

Daily weight gain (kg)



Added income versus added expenses per head



ABOUT THE TRIAL OPERATOR

Mark Porter owns a property in the Armidale region of NSW.

He runs 500 Charolais and Angus cross cows, with 300 calving in October and 200 in April. He also runs 1500 Merino.

Added income versus added expenses per head

Trial period (days)	93
Barley used/head (kg)	106
Barley cost/tonne (\$/kg)	\$340.00
Total feed cost/head	\$36.04
Depreciation cost*	\$7.50
Feeding cost**	\$4.09
TOTAL ADDED EXPENSE/head*	\$47.63
Avg. added liveweight gain/day (kg)	0.41
Total added liveweight/head (kg)	38.1
Value of liveweight (\$/kg)	\$2.50
TOTAL ADDED INCOME/head	\$95.33
TOTAL ADDED PROFIT/head	\$47.69

* This assumes the depreciation rate is 15%, the investment of one feeder is \$2,200, the feeder is only used in the function each year and 44 weaners fed from the feeder.

** This is calculated by multiplying filling the feeders three, by one hour each fill, labour is \$60/hour and 44 weaners fed from the feeder.

COMMENTS FROM THE TRIAL OPERATOR:

In November we had 13 mm of rain when our average is about 125mm. Considering the season, or lack of, the weights are down on what we would expect, but to still be able to achieve a weight gain of over a kilo a day. In the current conditions, that is pretty remarkable.

The cattle with the barley definitely spend more time at rest compared to those on straight pasture.

For several years, I have been looking for a way to supplement feed without it being a daily chore or causing acidosis. The Advantage Feeders controlled feeding system solved these issues and allowed the stock to balance their own diet.