

PLS BALANCED DIET VS. CONVENTIONAL DIET SIDE-BY-SIDE TRIAL

Beef/Dairy cross steers were purchased as a group of four loads that all arrived on the same day and from the same source. Upon arrival, they were split into two pens, each pen containing 185 head. Once split, one pen was assigned a diet formulated using conventional methods, while the other pen was fed a diet using PLS formulations that were balanced for amino acids and effective energy.

WHERE: NORTHWEST IOWA

WHEN: DEC 2024 - SEPT 2025

FACILITY:
BED PACK & SLAT BARN

CATTLE TYPE:
BEEF X DAIRY STEERS

	Conventionat	PL5
Starting Weight, lbs	627	616
Ending Weight, lbs	1505	1489
Total Weight Gain, lbs	878	873
Days On Feed	268	261
Avg Daily Gain, lbs	3.27	3.34
DM Feed to Gain, lbs	6.74	6.38
Feed Cost of Gain	\$0.78	\$0.75

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The PLS balanced diet delivered:

- Reduction of feed cost of gain by \$0.03/lb.
- Improvement in DM feed to gain by 0.26 lbs of DM per lb of gain.
- Advantage in yield percentage of 0.65% points.

THE REDUCTION IN FEED COST OF GAIN AND IMPROVEMENT IN DRY MATTER FEED TO GAIN LED TO A \$30 PER HEAD ADVANTAGE IN PRODUCTION COSTS WITHOUT SACRIFICING CARCASS WEIGHT OR QUALITY.