

# QLF Dry Cow Optimiser 25



Dry Cow Optimiser 25 is a fully mineralised liquid supplement specifically for dry cows. This product has been used extensively by QLF in the USA and the vitamins and minerals have been specified in collaboration with several UK mineral specialists.

## Key Characteristics of QLF Dry Cow Optimizer 25

### Molasses

Molasses provides very palatable 6 carbon sugars which help to promote dry matter intakes. A 1kg DMI increase pre-calving, results in 0.86kg DMI post calving. Molasses also helps to promote regeneration of rumen papillae.

### Glycerine

Glycerine is a glucose precursor and as such is very palatable and high in energy.

### Full Dry Cow Mineral and Vitamin pack

The specially designed vitamin and mineral pack includes chelated (protected) Zinc and Copper and high levels of Vitamin E and Selenium for the cow's immunity system at calving. Magnesium is included to reduce the risk of Milk Fever by helping the ability of the cow to regulate Calcium blood concentrations. Magnesium Chloride also helps the anion : cation balance.



## QLF Dry Cow Optimizer 25 The Liquid Advantages

### Effective

- Increase ration palatability and intake - The cow actually eats the required kg's of straw.
- Improves fibre digestibility - Makes better use of the straw which the cow has eaten.
- Decreases ration separation and sorting.

Dry Cow Optimiser 25 also distributes nutrients and additives (minerals) uniformly. This is important where feed additives are fed at very low levels, are required on a daily basis in specific quantities and are a significant part of the daily ration cost. Including these additives within a liquid feed ensures uniform dispersion as shown in the graph below which compares crude protein in a TMR mix analysed at points along a feed trough.

Analysis of crude protein down the trough  
Standard vs. Liquid Supplement



### Economical

- Reduces feed wastage
- Reduces feed costs
- Reduces labour

### Flexible / Convenient

- Can be a part of, or a complete dry cow programme
- Easy to feed from lick-tanks, as part of a complete diet (TMR) mix or by pouring on.
- Convenient to store - supplied in a 1000 litre IBC or in bulk
- Fully mineralised - no need for special dry cow mineral
- Makes management of dry cow & close up rations easier and simpler



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## **Feeding Recommendations**

Feed 1kg to 2 kg of Dry Cow Optimizer 25 depending on forage and days from calving.

### **Typical diet 8 to 3 weeks pre-calving**

Restricted grass silage or grazing  
4 to 5 kg of straw  
1kg of QLF Dry Cow Optimizer 25  
Fresh clean water

### **Typical diet from 3 weeks pre calving**

22 – 27 kg of grass silage  
3 – 5 kg of chopped straw  
1.5 – 2 kg of QLF Dry Cow Optimizer 25  
Fresh clean water

## **The Benefits of good dry cow management**

Correct feed management of the cow through late lactation, the early dry period and transition into the first weeks of lactation is critical to performance and will affect the following:

**Milk yield** – effective dry cow management can increase milk yields by 500 to 1000 litres / cow.

**Milk quality** – higher milk protein and fat content can be achieved.

**Fertility** – reproductive performance is improved by good dry cow management.

**Herd health** – 80% of health problems in the dairy herd are related to inadequate management in the dry period – not forgetting the effect on the newborn calf.

**Newborn calf** – dry cow management has effect on calving age of heifer replacement and its subsequent performance.

**Lifetime dairy production** – longevity in the herd is enhanced through improved fertility and health.

**Stress** – achieving target performance reduces stress on the cow - and dairyman.

**Profitability** – getting it right maximises returns.

**For further information, please contact your local merchant or QLF**

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