

Measuring economic gains from the use of trace minerals in livestock

Debenham Australia Pty Ltd is a company based in Southern Victoria specializing in soil, plant and animal nutrition. The company for the last 25 years has provided technical advice and products into the grazing and dairy industries to overcome trace mineral deficiencies. "As a company we have been consistently asked over that period, what are the economic gains to the producer when using our trace minerals on the pasture" said Ian Debenham from Debenham Australia. "We have always thought success in overcoming these deficiencies is recognising the correct nutrient levels and balances available to the animal in the pasture feed" he said. Four years of on farm demonstration work in Western Victoria and South Eastern

South Australia showed the impact that livestock trace mineral deficiencies have on farm profitability. The most surprising aspect was until the results were measured a full understanding of what had been achieved could not be fully appreciated. Visual appraisal of livestock for this purpose is a very poor measuring tool. Chronic deficiencies are rarely seen these days and the impact of trace mineral requirements are now often production driven. Results from this demonstration work undertaken from 2011-2015 are set out. The aim of all the demonstration work was to assess the economic gross margin when using Tech-Flo Foliar Nutrients to overcome trace mineral deficiencies.

Tech-Flo Demonstration Results 2011-2015.

SITE	Increased gain/day.	Length (days)	Animal Numbers	SR/ha	Extra Kgs/ha	Statistical Significance
SA Site.1	300g	107	74	1.74	55.8	p<0.001
SA Site.2	250g	150	50	2.76	103.5	p<0.001
SA Site.3	150g	70	149	3.0	30.00	NS
Vic Site.1	195g	105	38	3.3	67.56	p<0.006
Vic Site.2	224g	107	286	1.75	42.00	p<0.01

TECH-FLO Foliar Nutrient Products – advantages

- High analysis and directly applied to pasture.
- Compatible with most insecticides and selective herbicides.
- Application can be made at low volume by boomspray, aircraft or mister.
- Labour saving - requires no stock handling.
- Cost effective and has given consistent results in for 20 years.
- Sibling animals have access as grass becomes part of the diet.
- Treating mineral deficiencies at their source

 **DEBENHAM**
Australia Pty Ltd

ACN 100 242 636 ABN 14 100 242 636

For further information contact
Doug Redman on 0428 595 125
1800 424 630

www.debenham.com.au | office@debenham.com.au