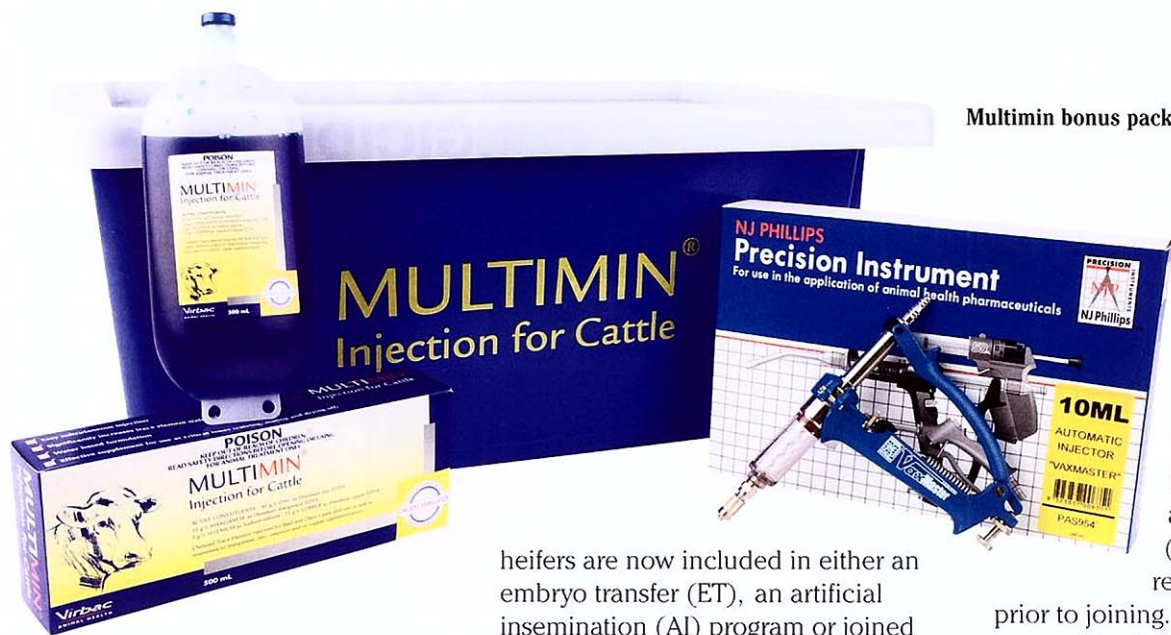


Dairy



Multimin bonus packs.

"It is very difficult to optimise trace element functions in cattle when only oral supplementation strategies (feeds, concentrates, supplements etc.) are utilised.

"There can be a huge variation between animals in supplement intake, and supplement intake during the growing season could decrease due to the dilution effect during periods of rapid pasture growth.

"Essential trace elements are also often antagonised (rendered unavailable for absorption) by high levels of calcium, iron, sulphur, molybdenum, fibre etc., in drinking water or feeds/pastures, resulting in sub-optimal to deficient levels of essential trace elements at calving and breeding when needed most.

"An injectable multi-mineral supplement (Multimin) administered strategically to the dam four weeks before calving, four weeks before joining and in the first two to six months of the calves' life will provide essential minerals that can assist in achieving these objectives.

"Heifer calves, being the future productive units of the dairy herd, often demand high inputs to ensure the maximum output. Many dairy

heifers are now included in either an embryo transfer (ET), an artificial insemination (AI) program or joined at a young age.

"Not only does the ET and AI process require careful adherence to protocol but heifers and cows in the successful joining program have to be managed properly and be on a complete nutritional program. A critical part of a complete nutritional program is the mineral component. Physiologically minerals are involved in growth, immune response and reproduction.

"Most importantly, the reproductive system of the dairy heifer or cow requires the synchronised release of a variety of compounds, most importantly reproductive hormones such as FSH, LH and GnRH for fertilisation to occur. The synthesis of these hormones depends on a complex series of events, many of which specifically involve minerals such as those contained in Multimin."

Recent Australasian (ABS South Australia 2006 and Franklin Veterinary Services New Zealand 2005) confirmed US trials (Mitchell 2003) and extensive commercial experience, that topping up cows with Multimin injection for cattle strategically four weeks before calving and four weeks before joining/AI improves conception rates in cattle, according to Ms Christie.

The ABS supervised trial took place in South Australia in early 2007.

Dairy cows received a 6.5mL (1mL per 100kg body weight) injection of Multimin four weeks prior to artificial insemination (AI) to measure the

response of topping up prior to joining. The cows were then scanned to determine the three week in calf rate.

"The Multimin treated group returned a result of 38% in calf, while the non-treated group returned the result of 31% in calf from the first cycle of AI. This is a significant increase of 7% more cows in calf in the first cycle," said Ms Christie.

"Multimin is an injectable multi-mineral supplement containing zinc, manganese, selenium, and copper, the four most essential minerals for growth, reproductive efficiency and immune response. It is formulated to be tissue friendly, highly aqueous and easy to use."

Ms Christie advised that calves can be treated safely with Multimin from one day of age and every three months thereafter until the critical growth stage is over. Heifers and cows are treated with a two or three dose program, at/prior to dry off, one month prior to calving and again one month prior to joining.

Multimin bonus packs (containing 12 x 500mL Multimin or 12 x 500mL Multimin & 6 X 500MI Hy-B12) neatly packed in a sturdy plastic storage tub with lid and a bonus 10mL NJ Phillips metal injector (valued at \$99) are available while stocks last. ■