

## VITAMIN INJECTION FOR COWS

This is a series of trials designed to compare the mortality, birth weight and adjusted weaning weight of calves from cows which have been given an injection of vitamins and calves from cows receiving no injectable vitamins.

Fifty-five cows were injected with 2cc of Rovac vitamin solution on February 24. This vitamin solution is made up of 500,000 IU of vitamin A, 75,000 IU of vitamin D, and 50,000 IU of vitamin E per cc. The remaining cows were not treated.

The ration for all cows in this trial was 22 pounds of crested wheatgrass hay per day to January 1. After January 1 they were fed 22  $\frac{21}{2}$  pounds corn silage and 12 pounds of hay per head per day. Two months before calving they were also given 2 pounds ground barley and 10,000 units of vitamin A in the feed per head per day. This ration was continued until the cows were turned out on pasture the first week in May.

Treatment	No. Cows	Average Cow Wts.		Lbs. Gain	No. Calves	Birth Wt.	Adjusted Weaning Wt.	Gain
		Feb. 24	Oct. 2					
2cc Rovac Injectable Vitamins	55	1024.8	1095.4	70.6	52	72.8	400.9	328.1
No Injectable Vitamins	60	1029.8	1105.8	76.0	57	73.9	402.5	328.6

**Table 25. Two Year Average Vitamin Injection Trial With Cows.**

Treatment	No. Cows	Average Cow Wts.		Lbs. Gain	No. Calves	Birth Wt.	Adjusted Weaning Wt.	Gain
		Feb. 24	Oct. 2					
Rovac Injectable Vitamins	106	1052	1096	44	97	73	400	327
No Injectable Vitamins	109	1056	1103	47	101	72	397	325

There was no significant difference either in birth weight, weaning weight or mortality in this year's trial. The two year appears to be the same. Apparently the ration fed adequately met the requirements for both the cow and her calf. With less than adequate rations, vitamin injections may prove more beneficial.

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