

CASTA® LIQUID QUICK REFERENCE GUIDE



Casta® Liquid significantly improves blood calcium levels and minimizes clinical and subclinical hypocalcemia without the hassles of a negative DCAD program.

BEST PRACTICES FOR FEEDING CASTA® LIQUID

- Know your Dry Matter Intake!
- Feed Casta® Liquid for 14 – 21 days pre-calving
- TMR Process Control Checkpoints
 - Properly processed, consistent particle size
 - Correct moisture to achieve uniform intakes
 - Follow recommended ingredient sequencing & mixing times
 - Batch size: ≥ 25% of mixer capacity

INCORPORATING CASTA® LIQUID INTO THE RATION

Follow these ration balancing guidelines:

Ingredient Guidelines

Ingredient	DMI	
	(lb)	(kg)
Corn Silage	11 – 15	5.0 – 6.8
Haylage*	3 – 6	1.4 – 2.7
Straw/Grass Hay*	3 – 6	1.4 – 2.7
Soybean Meal/Canola Meal	2 – 4	0.90 – 1.8
Rumen Undegraded Protein/Amino Acid Source	0.25 – 1.0	0.1 – 0.5
Minerals/Vitamins/Additives	0.5 – 1.0	0.2 – 0.5
Casta® Liquid (Refer to feeding rate chart on back)	1.65 – 2.0	0.75 – 0.9
Total Dry Matter Intake	26 – 30	11.8 – 13.6
* Small grain silage can be used to replace part of haylage and/or straw/grass hay	3 – 6	1.4 – 2.7

CASTA® LIQUID OFFERS THESE MANAGEMENT BENEFITS:

- No urine pH testing
- No need for low-potassium forages, which are costly and require processing
- Only use calcium boluses for high-risk cows
- Minimizes fresh cow touches

These labor and management benefits add up to significant time and money.

MANAGEMENT ESSENTIALS for Transition Success

- ✓ Provide 30 inches or 76 centimeters of bunk space per cow
- ✓ Maximize cow comfort
- ✓ Maintain < 100% stocking density
- ✓ Minimize pen moves
- ✓ Feed a high fiber, properly processed and palatable TMR
- ✓ Comply with fresh cow protocols

Nutrient Guidelines

42 – 48% Dry Matter	≥ 0.55% Calcium
> 1200 grams Metabolizable Protein	0.28 – 0.39% Phosphorus
16 – 20% Starch	≥ 0.40% Magnesium
36 – 42% aNDFom	0.22 – 0.28% Sulfur
Potassium/DCAD: Minimal Importance	
Can feed haylage/small grain forages	
Standard recommendations for all other minerals/vitamins	

Visit protekta.com to learn more.



CASTA® LIQUID FEEDING RATE RECOMMENDATIONS*

Dietary Phosphorus	Prefresh Dry Matter Intake (lb)					
	22 lb	24 lb	26 lb	28 lb	30 lb	32 lb
0.28 – 0.31%	2	2.2	2.4	2.6	2.8	3
0.32 – 0.35%	2.2	2.4	2.8	3	3.2	3.4
0.36 – 0.39%	2.6	2.8	3.2	3.4	3.6	3.8

*Casta® Liquid feeding rate listed is on a pound per day, as-fed basis (61% DM Product)

Dietary Phosphorus	Prefresh Dry Matter Intake (kg)					
	10 kg	11 kg	12 kg	13 kg	14 kg	15 kg
0.28 – 0.31%	0.95	1.05	1.15	1.25	1.35	1.45
0.32 – 0.35%	1.10	1.20	1.30	1.40	1.50	1.60
0.36 – 0.39%	1.20	1.35	1.45	1.55	1.70	1.80

*Casta® Liquid feeding rate listed on a kilogram per day daily, as-fed basis (61% DM Product)

IMPORTANT CONSIDERATIONS WHEN SWITCHING TO THE CASTA® LIQUID PROGRAM

- Any type of supplemental feeding change(s) need to be introduced slowly
- Minimize forage changes during the switchover period
- Monitor fresh cows closely during the switchover period and provide timely supportive therapy

RECOMMENDED SWITCHOVER STRATEGIES:

OPTION 1: Split Pre-Fresh Pen

- Less than 10 days** from projected calving: Continue DCAD program until calved
- More than 10 days** from projected calving: Switch to Casta® Liquid program

OPTION 2: Direct Switch

- Stop DCAD program and immediately start Casta® Liquid program
- Prerequisites:** Confirm dietary phosphorus levels and dry matter intake (DMI) before switching
- Required:** Run wet chemistry mineral analysis on all forages

OPTION 3: Gradual Switch

- Days 1 – 3:** Stop DCAD program and feed Casta® Liquid at half the recommended rate
- Day 4 onward:** Increase to full Casta® Liquid rate

NEXT STEPS: Work closely with your nutritionist, farm team, and Protekta representative to determine the best switchover strategy for your operation.

Important Notice: These recommendations are provided for informational purposes only and are not a substitute for professional veterinary or nutritional advice. Product transitions during the critical pre-fresh period involve inherent risks that may affect animal health and performance. Protekta makes no warranties or guarantees regarding the outcomes of implementing these strategies. Results may vary based on individual farm conditions, management practices, and animal factors. Users assume full responsibility for any decisions made based on this information. Always consult with qualified professionals before making changes to feeding programs, and monitor animals closely during any switchover period.