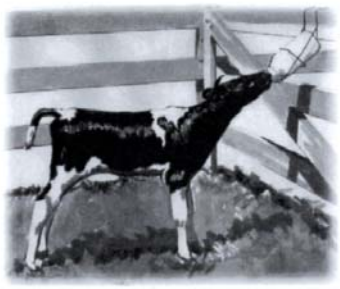
FrontLine®
TECHNICAL INFORMATION FOR TODAY'S FEED PROFESSIONAL



Mildly Acidified Milk Replacer for Calves

The "free choice" feeding of acidified milk replacers to dairy herd replacements has been practiced in some dairies over the past few years. Performance has been often variable due to product quality, calf health, feeding and management practices.

Several studies were conducted evaluating acidified milk replacers with regard to methods of feeding, ingredient formulations and fat levels of these products. Results from these studies show very clearly that dairy herd replacements perform as well with the "controlled" feeding of acidified milk replacers as with "free choice" feeding. Controlled feeding is more economical and eliminates the large number of precautions needed to be taken when offered free-choice.

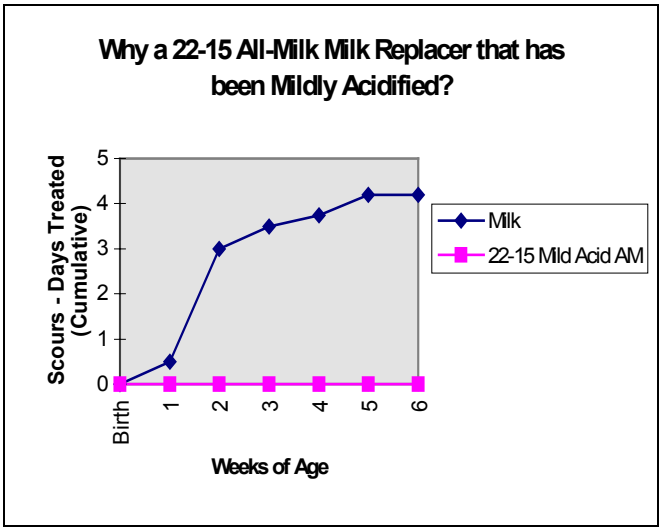
What is the Impact of Acidification?

The important role of pH in digestion is frequently overlooked. Milk replacers and/or whole milk need to be at the right pH level to allow the very important digestive enzymes in the abomasum and lower intestine to do their job.

Beneficial bacteria subsequently colonize the digestive tract of the calf. As a result, the incidence of scours caused by harmful bacteria is reduced.

Why a 22-15 All Milk Milk Replacer that has been mildly acidified?

- Results from various studies evaluating different fat levels have shown that weight gain is as good with 15% fat as with 20% in all milk products (in controlled environments).
- There was a reduction in the incidence of scouring when a mildly acidified milk replacer was compared to whole milk. (Figure 1) It has been shown scientifically that the acid conditions obtained with a mildly acidified milk replacer help to inhibit the growth of harmful microorganisms such as *E. Coli* while encouraging growth of lactobacillus microorganisms.
- Better overall health, i.e. less pneumonia, as a result of fewer secondary infections which often follow scouring.
- If health problems arise, calves respond much quicker to fewer treatments.
- Mildly acidifying an all-milk milk replacer gives performance equal to whole milk, results in less scouring, and is more economical.



(Figure 1)

Milk Products Inc.
The Milk Replacer Source™