

# Adams Advanced Nutrition, Inc.

Doug Adams, PAS  
PromiseLand Feed & Seed  
9187 Myersville Road  
Myersville, Maryland 21773  
301-293-8444 or 301-964-6154  
E-mail: [advadams@erols.com](mailto:advadams@erols.com)  
WEB: [www.rennut.com](http://www.rennut.com)

## *HEAT STRESS... beware!*

Cool spring weather quickly gives way to summer heat and humidity, which cows do not handle well. Are you prepared for the eventuality of heat and humidity this summer, along with the possibility of heat stress and its impact on herd health, productivity and profitability? Typically, the biggest limitation to milk production during hot weather is adequate feed intake. A decline in intake as temperatures rise means that the density of all nutrients in the diet must increase if milk yield is to be maintained (provided these changes can be made and still maintain proper rumen health and function). Management during hot weather should be aimed at whatever measures are necessary to encourage feed intake because it is difficult to provide sufficient nutrients if feed intake is severely depressed. There are several things to consider with the care of dairy cows during hot weather. These include:

- Delivering a ration similar to the one that is formulated
- Providing adequate feed at all times
- Providing adequate bunk space for cows
- Creating a desirable feed bunk environment
- Cleaning of the feed bunk frequently
- Ensuring access to unlimited fresh, clean water
- Analyzing ingredients and rations to ensure accurate ration formulation and balance
- Feeding high quality ingredients
- Minimizing drastic ration changes, which may force cows to go off feed
- Using a total mixed ration (TMR) to ensure consistent intake of balanced diet with little sorting of ingredients

Intensive management can reduce the impact of hot weather on milk yield and profitability. Prepare for hot weather before it arrives, and remember that dairy cows suffer from heat stress at lower temperatures than humans. Because the weather is comfortable for you does not mean that it is not sapping production from your dairy cows. Prepare for hot weather:

- protect cows from direct sunlight ~ provide shade
- provide additional cooling with fans and sprinklers
- feed a balanced ration designed to avoid heat stress
- provide high quality forage
- add fat to the diet for supplement energy
- feed smaller meals several times daily, which will help to promote intake
- feed during the cooler periods of the day

By using good management techniques, high yields from lactating dairy cows can be maintained during hot weather.

(edited from an article by Joe West, University of Georgia Extension)



## *Beyond planting comes harvest...*

You're ready to plant – or have already had a chance to do this – and it's time to think about preserving forages for the coming fall and winter months. Regardless of which class of product you choose (acid or inoculant), it is important to ensure you use a quality, research-tested product such as those from KEMIN and BIOTAL. There has recently been an upsurge in the availability of cheap preservatives on the market. These are often marketed using such phrases as, "why pay more..." and "get the same results at a lower cost." Before you purchase what appears to

be a lower-cost alternative product, check out what you are actually buying! Many low-cost acid preservatives use "spent" (or used) byproducts in their manufacturing process. Analysis of these low-cost products often shows elevated levels of dangerous metals and related substances, which can be harmful to humans and animals during application or ingestion. Buy-cheap is not always buy-wise, and can inevitably cost much more in the end. We all need to be alert to possible concerns, analytical details, and application requirements and precautions no matter what we purchase.

Renaissance offers high quality, research-tested preservatives and inoculants that are safe and effective, and can impact forages from ensiling through feed-out. Consider these products: Kemin's **FRESHCUT**<sup>®</sup> (hay); **Silage SAVOR**<sup>®</sup> **Plus** (all silage); **TopSavor**<sup>®</sup> (seal silage after compaction); **KemLac**<sup>®</sup> (inoculant); and Biotol's **BUCHNERI**<sup>®</sup> **500** (inoculant); and **PLUS II** (inoculant). Get all the facts and plan to preserve all of your forages this coming season. This will make a difference now... and when you feed it to livestock. It is an investment in your feeding program that can save time and money in the end.

## *Importance of developing the future herd...*

Nutrition and management critically influence the health and growth of your future lactating herd: calves and replacement heifers! On many farms, raising replacements represents 15-20% of the cost of producing milk. The goal is encourage heifers to grow and develop to their full lactation potential at a desired age and at minimal expense. In order to achieve optimum results, consider implementing a quality nutrition and management program for calves and heifers ~ in fact your entire herd! This can make a positive difference in both productivity and profitability. A calf and replacement heifer program is an investment. Start growing your future today! I'll be happy to review your entire program and work with you toward greater success.

*Interested in discussing topics in this newsletter, or want to do a better job feeding and managing your cows? Call me! My goal is to help you. That's Renaissance's commitment to you!*

**Solutions for Success ~ Renaissance!**

**VOLUME 3 – Number 5 – May 2004**

**RENAISSANCE... the TEAM for results**

*A thought...*

**THANK YOU!**

I'd like to take this opportunity to say **THANK YOU** for your business. While I try to say it often ~ it is never enough. As you read this, please know that I appreciate your business and the opportunity to serve you. My desire is to continue helping you reach your goals in any way that I can. Thank you for your business and the opportunity to be a member of your team!

*Doug*



### WHAT'S IT LIKE AROUND THE FARM?

There has been a lot of research in recent years focusing on cow comfort, and its impact on productivity and profitability. Cow comfort is a key to reaching milk production goals ~ along with good nutrition and genetics. When quality nutrition and good genetics are combined with ideal cow comfort, cows will produce more milk and generally live longer, healthier lives. Consider this picture: cows resting in a soft

meadow on a cool summer day; a stream flows nearby, through a grove of trees; a gentle breeze stirs the air – the cows seem to have it all and the scene is idyllic. This paints a picture of quality feed and water, good ventilation, fresh air, a soft and clean place to rest, and sound footing. The essence of ideal cow comfort includes each of these components. Are your cows enjoying the “comforts of home” on your farm? Add comfort to the equation and see how they perform! (Edited from an article by Gooch & Stone)

### A POINT TO PONDER...

April showers give way to the flowers, sights and sounds of spring! All around us things are changing as seasons move gently from one to the next. Soon we'll be talking about high summer temperatures, thunderstorms, hay making and corn chopping. It's all part and parcel of our life in agriculture. In the midst of very hectic schedules, take time to enjoy family and friends. This will also help day-to-day chores go easier and help you to be more refreshed. Make the most of spring... it is with us for only a short time!



### Adams Advanced Nutrition, Inc.

Volume 3 – Number 5 – May 2004

9187 Myersville Road

Myersville, Maryland 21773

[www.rennut.com](http://www.rennut.com)



*Prepared for heat & humidity?  
Rations and programs with a difference...  
Renaissance.*

**CHECK IT OUT.**