

Phosphorus Balancing: *Purchasing Supplements*



You may be purchasing supplements for their protein or energy values, but did you know that they contain varying amounts of phosphorus (P)?

What you can do :

- **CHECK THE BOOK VALUE!** 

Get an idea of how much phosphorus (P) is coming onto the farm with your supplement.

- **ANALYZE YOUR FEED AND MATCH DIETARY P TO MILK PRODUCTION**

Talk with your nutritionist or use a qualified lab to determine your feed's dietary P level. The maximum dietary P level for high milk production (120 lbs/day) is 0.38 percent of the total diet.

Are you adding a supplement that you might not need? Are you including too much P in your animal's diet?

PROTEIN SUPPLEMENT/ BY-PRODUCT FEED	CRUDE PROTEIN	PHOSPHORUS
Blood meal	95.5%	0.30%
Soybean meal (expellers)	49.9%	0.70%
Brewer's grain (dried)	29.2%	0.67%
Cottonseed	23.5%	0.60%
Corn distiller's grain	29.7%	0.83%
Corn gluten feed	23.8%	1.00%
Wheat midds	18.5%	1.02%
Wheat bran	17.3%	1.18%
Porcine meat and bone meal	54.2%	4.73%

*low P per
unit of
protein*

*high P per
unit of
protein*

Source: National Research Council (2001)

UWEX,CALS, USDA-ARS Dairy Forage Research Center, USDA-CSREES Initiative for Future Agriculture and Food Systems, WDATCP. For more cards contact the Nutrient and Pest Management Program at (608) 265-2660.