

TECH TALK

# BOVACILLUS™: Your Most Versatile Dairy Probiotic Option

Article Provided By:

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BOVACILLUS™ is a science-based, research-proven combination of heat stable probiotic strains for dairy cattle through all life stages. The resilience of BOVACILLUS™ allows this new technology to be used in a broad array of feeding applications – making it your most versatile probiotic option on the dairy farm.

For producers who want the best conditions for their cattle, and isolated from nature, BOVACILLUS™ is a combination of *Bacillus licheniformis* and *Bacillus subtilis*. These strains were chosen for their capacity to directly influence nutrient digestibility and decrease the burden of pathogens.

Proper health, nutrition and management are vital components of a successful dairy operation. Calves, heifers and lactating cows experience many stressors such as weaning, transportation, social changes, variation in diets and physiological changes during lactation and transition. These stressors can contribute to an increase in disease and poor feed utilization. Preventing adverse health events and maximizing feed and forage digestibility are key factors to achieving a profitable and sustainable operation.

Effective probiotics are about supporting normal. The World Health Organization defines probiotics as ‘live microorganisms which when administered in adequate amounts confer a health benefit on the host’. By conferring a health benefit, probiotics support normal functions of an animal via the digestive tract by interacting with feedstuffs, other microorganisms and the host directly. Interestingly, when we consider the multitude of stressors and potential insults to the host via the variety of feedstuffs consumed daily, we never know what will present, when it will present or to what degree.

Thus, the most ideal feeding strategy for probiotics is ‘every animal...every day’. Cows like consistency and consistent feeding of an effective probiotic should not be any different.

*Bacillus* organisms are noted for two key attributes when applied in animal agriculture: pathogen mitigation and enzyme production. In laboratory and on-farm settings, the specific strains of *Bacilli* in BOVACILLUS™ have inhibited the proliferation and growth of pathogens, especially *Clostridium perfringens*, that lead to a variety of diseases and possibly death.

Likewise, the strains in BOVACILLUS™ have demonstrated repeatedly their ability to produce enzymes, as a survival mechanism, that ultimately benefit the host animals by breaking complex feedstuffs into their simpler component parts. These enzymes can facilitate increased digestibility of fat, fiber and starch resulting in improved feed efficiency and greater yield of energy-corrected milk.

The resilience and versatility of BOVACILLUS™ allow this blend to remain viable in a variety of feed forms and matrices. It can be used in pelleted feed, premixes, blocks, cubes, mash feed, mineral mix, liquid supplements, milk replacers, pasteurized milk and complete feed. Furthermore, BOVACILLUS™ is OMRI Listed®. The OMRI seal assures the suitability of BOVACILLUS™ for certified organic production, handling and processing.

Thanks to its diversified and synergistic modes of action, BOVACILLUS™ is a non-GMO sustainable solution that aids in the health and performance of dairy cattle

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Bovacillus™

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