

## Yearling supplement trial

A mob of yearling cattle supplemented with barley through 3IN1FEEDERS grew at a far higher rate than another mob that only had access to pasture.

# Yearling supplement lifts weight gain



### Trial outline

<b>Duration:</b>	<b>100 days</b>
<b>Quantity:</b>	<b>50 yearlings in each group</b>
<b>Control mob starting weight average:</b>	<b>484lb</b>
<b>Barley mob starting weight average:</b>	<b>557lb</b>
<b>Pasture type:</b>	<b>Dry perennial pasture</b>
<b>Feeding amount:</b>	<b>2-3lb/day</b>
<b>Feed type:</b>	<b>Barley</b>
<b>Feeding equipment:</b>	<b>1x 3IN1FEEDER 3800</b>

### Results:

Growth rates achieved after 40 days:

- The control mob gained an average of 64lb/head or 1.60lb/day.
- The Barley mob gained an average of 110lb/head or 2.75lb/day. Barley consumption during this period averaged 2.64lb/head/day.

The trial was altered due to an unseasonable dry period where the heavier yearlings were sold. The groups were then altered to increase the weight of the lighter yearlings.

Growth rates achieved over the following 53 days:

- The control mob gained 119lb/head or 2.25lb/head/day.
- The Barley mob gained an average of 156lb/head or 2.95lb/day. Barley consumption during this period averaged 2.42lb/head/day.

Combined growth rates:

- The control group weight gain averaged 1.96lb/head/day.
- The Barley group weight gain averaged 2.86lb/head/day. Barley consumption averaged 2.51lb/head/day.

The average time to grow the yearlings from 517lb to target weight of 880lb reduced from an average of 185 days to only 127 days.



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### Comments from the trial operator

In November we had half an inch of rain when our average is about five inches. Considering the season, or lack of, the weights are down on what we would expect, but to still be able to achieve a weight gain of over a kilo a day. In the conditions, that was pretty remarkable.

The cattle with the barley definitely spend more time

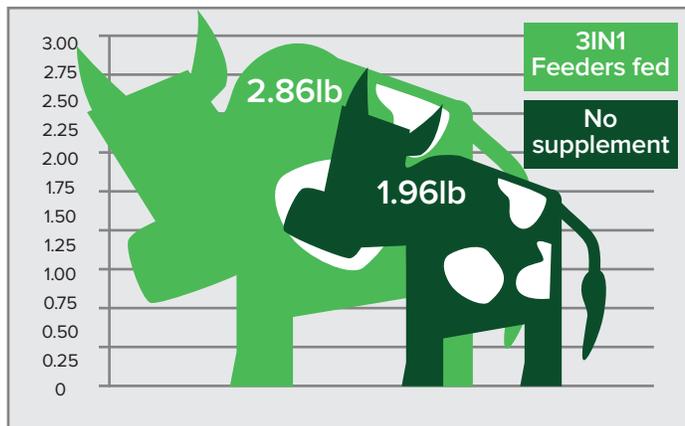
at rest compared to those on straight pasture.

For several years, I have been looking for a way to supplement feed without it being a daily chore or causing acidosis. The 3IN1FEEDERS controlled feeding system solved these issues and allowed the stock to balance their own diet.

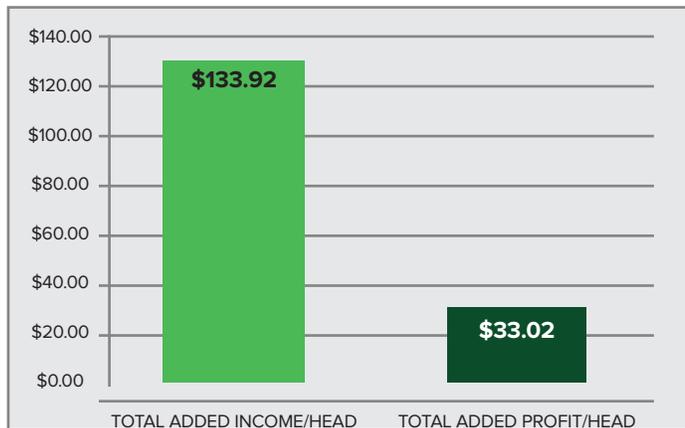
### Added income versus added expenses per head

Trial period (days)	93
Barley used/head (lb)	233.2
Barley cost/lb	\$0.09
Total feed cost/head	\$20.99
Depreciation cost*	\$7.94
Feeding cost**	\$4.09
<b>TOTAL ADDED EXPENSE/head</b>	<b>\$33.02</b>
Avg. added liveweight gain/day (lb)	0.90
Total added liveweight/head (lb)	83.7
Value of liveweight (lb)	\$1.60
<b>TOTAL ADDED INCOME/head</b>	<b>\$133.92</b>
<b>TOTAL ADDED PROFIT/head</b>	<b>\$100.90</b>

### Daily weight gain (lb/day) combined growth rates



### Added income versus expenses per head



\* This assumes the depreciation rate is 15%, the investment of one feeder is \$2,330, the feeder is only used in the function each year and 44 yearlings fed from the feeder.

\*\* This is calculated by multiplying filling the feeders three, by one hour each fill, labour is \$60/hour and 44 yearlings fed from the feeder.

### About the trial operators

Mark Porter owns a property in the Armidale region of NSW, Australia.

He runs 500 Charolais and Angus cross cows, with 300 calving in October and 200 in April. He also runs 1500 Merino sheep.