





Asparagopsis Science Update

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Inhibited Methanogen Pathway



Asparagopsis reduces enteric methane

- Red seaweed, low inclusion rates, large methane reduction
- Brominated compounds inhibit methanogen metabolism



Effective and safe in multiple trials



- Dry seaweed supplement in addition to high grain total mixed ration (TMR)
- Bromoform in seaweed 0.4 mg/g
- Up to 3% in diet

- Up to 80% methane reduction
- No difference in weight gain
- No residue detected in fat or muscle
- Feeding self-regulated at <~1.5% DMI







- Beef cattle feed trials
- Two studies, feeding up to 0.5% DMI
- Seaweed mixed into TMR
- Bromoform >6mg/g

- Up to 80-98% methane reduction
- Improved feed conversion
 - No change in feed intake, higher weight gain
 - Lower dry matter intake, no difference in weight gain
- No residue detected in meat, kidney, fat, feces
- Meat quality unaffected, objectively and subjectively



- Lactating Dairy Cow Feed Trial UC Davis
- Dry seaweed mixed into TMR
- Inclusion rates of 0.5% and 1% of DMI
- ~6 months feeding trial

- Up to 60% reduction in methane
- Improved feed conversion: lower dry matter intake, no difference in weight gain, productivity
- Bromoform found in milk in all treatments, including negative control
 - <500x lower than US EPA drinking water maximum

What not to do

Poorly designed and executed experiment leads to negative results



- Lactating Dairy Cow Feed Trial Wageningen
- Seaweed mixed into liquid form, with <u>base diet</u> withheld until seaweed eaten
- Inclusion rates ranged from 0.005%-<u>33%</u>

- Effectively starvation in some cases
- No negative controls



Best practices

High quality seaweed Low inclusion rates Palatable supplement

Best results

Strong methane reduction Improved productivity No safety/health issues

Cultivation Science Progress

- Optimizing tank-based production
- Identified triggers for spore release
- Developed methods for seeding lines
- Deployed NZ's largest seaweed farm
- Monitoring performance and impacts



Process Engineering Progress

Processed multiple tons of seaweed

Identified key controls over bromoform quality

Key next step

Grazing system feed trials Pulsed seaweed supplementation Efficacy, health, product quality and safety

Image: DairyNZ

Timelines and Impacts

Near term





By 2029, 15,000 MT pa from 800 ha

Enough for 25% of NZ's dairy herd

250 days/yr, twice daily

66% less methane per fed cow

Hits national goal of 15% methane reduction by 2030, without having to reduce the size of the herd

2021 New Zealand Agricultural Climate Change Conference

Meeting the challenges of climate change

