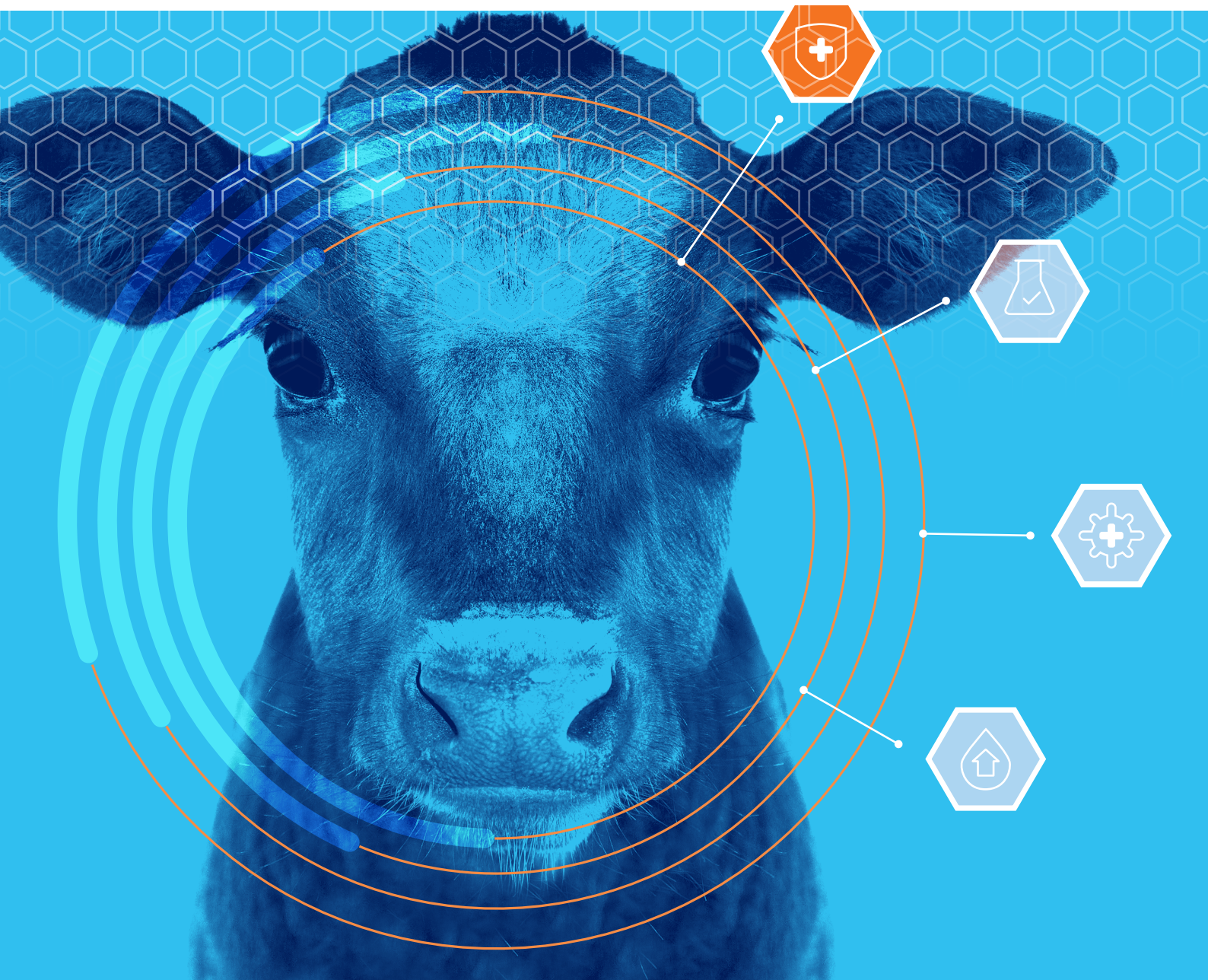




Blue Pacific
MINERALS

CLEVER *by* NATURE



OptiGuard[™]
LOOSELICKS 

PRODUCT OVERVIEW

**Premium nutrition
for calves to rising
2 year olds**



THE SMART TRANSITION MINERAL AND PROBIOTIC SUPPLEMENT FOR GROWING REPLACEMENT HEIFERS

Weaning to Mating

The transition from weaning to pasture is one of the most metabolically challenging periods for a replacement heifer.

When calves are weaned and transitioned onto a full pasture diet, they are expected to fulfil all their nutritional requirements from pasture alone. Variable pasture quality, inadequate mineral intake, and underdeveloped rumen capacity often lead to post-weaning growth checks and long-term delays in achieving mating weight targets.

OptiGuard™ Looselicks is a premium, highly palatable, free-choice supplement formulated specifically to bridge this critical nutritional gap.

Offered in a loose-mix form, it allows calves and rising 2-year-olds to self-regulate their intake (typically consuming 10g to 50g per day) based on their specific metabolic and developmental demands.



DUAL-ACTION FORMULATION: PREMIUM MINERALS & PROVEN PROBIOTICS

1. RUMEN AND GUT SUPPORT VIA BOVACILLUS® PROBIOTIC

OptiGuard™ Looselicks incorporates Bovacillus®, a feed-stable probiotic consisting of viable spores of *Bacillus subtilis* and *Bacillus licheniformis*. Unlike other vegetative probiotic strains, these hardy bacterial endospores remain completely stable throughout feed processing, storage, and passage through the acidic conditions of the abomasum.

Upon reaching the rumen and lower gastrointestinal tract, Bovacillus® germinates to support:

- Enzymatic Digestion:** The strains secrete essential extracellular enzymes (such as amylase and cellulase) that directly enhance fiber and starch degradation in forage-based diets.
- Nutrient Extraction:** It improves neutral detergent fiber (NDF) and dry matter (DM) digestibility, enabling young stock to extract maximum energy from pasture. Improves the feed conversion rate, and in turn improves the NDF & DM matter digestability.
- Gut Health & Pathogen Control:** Bovacillus® modulates the gut microbiota, promoting beneficial populations while inhibiting potential opportunistic pathogens, establishing robust local mucosal immunity.

2. ADVANCED TRACE MINERAL BIOAVAILABILITY

- Availa® Organic Trace Minerals:** Organic forms of Zinc, Copper, Cobalt, and Manganese are highly bioavailable compared to traditional inorganic sources. These chelated complexes are protected from ruminal antagonists, ensuring maximum absorption to support structural bone growth, immune response, skin, and hoof integrity.
- Thyroid Regulation:** Formulated with organic iodine (EDDI) to optimise thyroid hormone synthesis, driving normal cellular metabolism and physiological growth.
- Skeletal Mineralisation:** High levels of Vitamin D3 work in synergy with Calcium to ensure correct skeletal mineralisation, supporting frame growth and structural soundness.
- Antioxidant Defence:** Fortified with Selenium and Vitamin E to mitigate oxidative stress associated with weaning, transport, vaccination, and environmental shifts.

NUTRITIONAL PROFILE <i>per 50g dose</i>	
Bovacillus® (Probiotic)	2g
Calcium	13g
Sodium	2.3g
Zinc (organic)	155mg
Manganese (organic)	85mg
Copper (organic)	53mg
Iodine	7mg
Cobalt (organic)	5mg
Selenium	3.2g
Vitamin A	10,000 IU
Vitamin D3	12,200 IU
Vitamin E	600 IU



DIRECTIONS FOR USE:

Place in weather-sheltered outdoor troughs.

Allow free-choice access for recently weaned calves, rising 1yr, and rising 2yr replacement heifers.

Daily consumption averages 10g to 50g per head depending on weight and pasture conditions. Improving growth rates & fertility.

PACK SIZE:

20kg bag. Available through vet channels.

CLINICAL & TRIAL EVIDENCE: BOVACILLUS® IN COWS & CALVES

Integrating Bovacillus® into cattle diets is supported by extensive, peer-reviewed global trials evaluating its impact on digestion, production, stress, and systemic health.

1. REDUCED INFLAMMATION AND 28% GROWTH IMPROVEMENT IN HIGH-STRESS GRAZING CALVES

Trial Protocol: A 2-year replicated study evaluated 240 high-risk Angus-influenced steers post-weaning over a 90-day grazing period on stockpiled native grass. The treatment group received 2g/day of Bovacillus®.

KEY FINDINGS:

- **Reduced Inflammatory Response:** Bovacillus®-supplemented steers showed significantly lower plasma haptoglobin concentrations on Days 14 and 28 ($P \leq 0.02$) compared to control steers, indicating a reduced systemic inflammatory response to post-weaning stress.
- **Decreased Attrition & Mortality:** While 5.04% of control steers died or had to be removed due to health complications, 0% of the Bovacillus®-supplemented steers died or were removed ($P = 0.01$).
- **Higher Pasture Productivity:** Due to improved survival and health, the Bovacillus® pastures achieved a 28% increase in total liveweight gain compared to controls (643 kg vs. 496 kg per pasture; $P = 0.02$), resulting in a 33:1 return on investment.

Source: Cooke et al. / Journal of Animal Science. <https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/39051136/>

2. ENHANCED DIGESTIBILITY AND NUTRIENT EXTRACTION ON FORAGE DIETS

Trial Protocol: A metabolic study evaluated the effect of Bovacillus® on Bos indicus steers consuming medium-quality forage and high-concentrate feedlot diets.

KEY FINDINGS:

- On the forage diet, Bovacillus® supplementation significantly increased organic matter digestibility by 7.8% and NDF (fiber) digestibility by 8.4% ($P < 0.05$).
- This confirms that the probiotic significantly improves the animal's capacity to extract nutrients and energy from high-fiber, pasture-based feed.

Source: ResearchGate / University of Queensland Thesis. <https://pmc.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/articles/PMC12151233/>

3. INCREASED PERFORMANCE AND METABOLIC RESPONSES IN LACTATING DAIRY COWS

Trial Protocol: Multiple studies evaluated the production responses of lactating dairy cows supplemented with Bacillus subtilis and Bacillus licheniformis.

KEY FINDINGS:

- Cows supplemented with the probiotic achieved greater milk yield, lactose yield, total solids yield, and milk production efficiency.
- Supplemented cows also exhibited higher circulating concentrations of Insulin-like Growth Factor-I (IGF-I), a key hormone regulating metabolism, tissue development, and overall reproductive efficiency.

Source: ScienceDirect / Journal of Dairy Science. <https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S2666910223001199>

COMPARATIVE ADVANTAGE: **WHY RECOMMEND OPTIGUARD™?**

FEATURE	TRADITIONAL LOOSELICKS	OPTIGUARD™ LOOSELICKS
Nutritional Profile	Basic salt and mineral mixes	Complete, high-spec transition nutrition
Mineral Bioavailability	Variable inorganic minerals	Premium Availa® organic trace minerals
Digestive Support	None	Active Bovacillus® probiotic for rumen development
Palatability	Standard	Highly palatable; encourages consistent, self-regulated intake
Target Outcomes	Simple maintenance	Maximises frame growth, immunity, and forage digestion

WHY ARE
PROBIOTICS
USEFUL?

Probiotics support gut function and microbial balance at every stage of production. Helping to maintain a stable and diverse microbiome, contributing to overall herd performance, consistency, and long-term system sustainability.



Illustration of intestinal villi



HOW TO RECOMMEND OPTIGUARD™ LOOSELICKS IN PRACTICE

OptiGuard™ Looselicks
is ideal for pasture-based
New Zealand grazing systems.

Recommend this product to
farmers experiencing:

1. POST-WEANING GROWTH CHECKS

Calves not meeting ADG or
losing condition after being
transitioned off calf meal.

2. UNEVEN MOB PERFORMANCE

Mobs showing high variability
in size, frame development,
or health.

3. FAILURE TO MEET MATING TARGETS

Heifers not achieving target
weights, compromised timely
first mating or reduced
lifetime productivity.



REFERENCES

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Supplementing a Bacillus-based probiotic to high-risk stocker cattle. Shea J Mackey 1, Reinaldo F Cooke 1, Autumn T Pickett 1, Bruno I Cappellozza 2, Kelsey M Harvey 3, Brandi B Karisch 4. PMID: 39051136 PMID: PMC11315889 DOI: 10.1093/jas/skz209. <https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/39051136/>

Effects of supplementing a Bacillus-based direct-fed microbial on performance, nutrient digestibility, rumen fermentation characteristics, and metabolic responses of lactating dairy cows. Bruno I. Cappellozza 1, Dannylo O. Sousa 2, Christine Alveblad 3, Oscar Queiroz 1, Jens N. Joergensen 1, Bengt-Ove Rustas 3. 1. Chr. Hansen Animal and Plant Health & Nutrition, Commercial Development, Hørsholm 2970, Denmark 2 Department of Animal Environment and Health, Swedish University of Agricultural Sciences, Skara 532-23, Sweden 3 Department of Animal Nutrition and Management, Swedish University of Agricultural Sciences, Uppsala 750-07, Sweden. Version of Record 1 March 2024. <https://doi.org/10.3168/jdsc.2023-0439>. <https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S2666910223001199>

The effect of a Bacillus-based probiotic on feed intake and digestibility of a forage and a feedlot diet in Bos indicus steers. Karen E. Eyre, Liyi Pan, Karen Harper, Luis F. Prada e Silva. The University of Queensland, Gatton, Queensland 4343, Australia. Version of Record 22 May 2025. <https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S2451943X25000390>





Blue Pacific
MINERALS

CLEVER *by* NATURE

MADE
in **NZ**

OptiGuard™

LOOSELICKS

INGREDIENTS PER 50g:

Optimate™ ACVM
Registration Number
A011800

Bovacillus (Probiotic)
2.3g Sodium
13g Calcium

In organic form in Availia 4:
5mg Cobalt
53mg Copper
85mg Manganese
155mg Zinc

7mg Iodine
3.2mg Selenium

10,000IU Vitamin A
12,200IU Vitamin D
600IU Vitamin E

Premium Looselicks nutrition for calves to rising 2 year olds

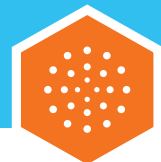
BOVACILLUS™ PROBIOTIC
WITH VITAMINS &
TRACE ELEMENTS



POST WEANING
CALVES



OPTIMAL
HEALTH



SELF REGULATE
INTAKE

USAGE:

10g to 50g per day depending on stage of growth.
Do not exceed recommended feeding rate. Fed in troughs
on a free choice. Self regulated intake allows calves to
consume what they need.

Shelf life: 12 months from Manufacture Date



V1_02/26 PACK0431

HEALTH & SAFETY INFORMATION: WARNING

Read label and SDS before use. Causes serious eye irritation. May cause an allergic skin reaction. Harmful to aquatic life with long lasting effects. Wash hands thoroughly after handling. Avoid release to the environment. Wear protective gloves / eye protection. Wash contaminated clothing before reuse. If in eyes: rinse cautiously with water for several minutes. Remove contact lenses. If present and easy to do. Continue rinsing. If eye irritation persists: get medical advice / attention. If on skin: wash with plenty of soap and water. If skin irritation occurs: get medical advice / attention. Dispose / dispose of contents / container in accordance with local / regional / national / international regulation. For animal nutrition only. Not for the treatment of disease.



20kg

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