

REDUCE CATTLE HEAT STRESS



with REDMOND

Signs of Heat Stress

Cows sweat a lot less than humans and have a more difficult time naturally regulating their temperature. When you factor in dark coats, the physical stress of being outdoors, breeding, calving, lactating, etc...it's no wonder your herd needs extra help. Prevention and early intervention are keys to your herd's health and survival. Watch closely for the following symptoms:

- Labored, open mouth panting
- Slobbering
- Lethargy/lack of coordination

Consequences of Heat Stress

Heat stress can be hard on your animals and your production levels. Not all heat stress problems are noticeable while it is currently hot, some health concerns come later, such as:

- Lower body condition scores
- Decreased milk production and milk fat levels
- Weaker immune systems
- Rumen acidosis
- Poor meat quality
- Poor reproduction health and lower conception rates

How to Reduce Heat Stress

Watch Your Forecasts

Use a trusted weather source, and keep an eye on your upcoming temperature/humidity index:

25 - 65° F: Ideal temperatures

80°+ F: Reduced feed intake, physical stress, offer cooling measures

90° + F: Dramatically lower production, offer cooling measures

100° F, 20% humidity: Take serious cooling measures

100° F, 50% humidity: Danger zone, take serious cooling measures

100° F, 80% humidity: Lethal zone

Replenish Minerals

Your animals' mineral levels deplete more quickly during hot summer months. As their respiration and perspiration rates increase, they will especially need extra electrolytes. If you typically use blocks, consider switching to loose minerals and adding more mineral stations to increase their intake.



Rest during peak heat/evening

Cattle's internal temperature will peak a couple hours after the environment does. Avoid handling, processing, or transporting your herd during the afternoon and evening hours to reduce their stress. Cooler morning hours will be the best time to complete these active tasks.



Shade

Providing shade is extremely important, especially for cattle with dark coats. Give your animals access to pastures with trees, or open buildings so they can take respite during the peak hours. Move mineral and water stations to the shade to increase intake.



Ventilation

Open buildings to create a cross breeze, and use fans to move air to eliminate hot/stagnant pockets. You can also move animals to outside pastures or pens with adequate shade.



Water

Increase watering stations near lounging areas. Be sure to keep water troughs clean and filled. Spray water on mounds or pens where your cattle lie down to give them a cool resting place in the evenings. Because of their coats, lightly spraying your cattle themselves can actually do more harm than good. Light mists can create an insulating layer on their coats and prevent heat from dissipating. If you spray down your herd, use water droplets big enough to penetrate and soak into their hide.



Protect Rumen Health

Animals naturally decrease their feed intake when it is hot, and this can cause a buildup of acid in their rumen. Offering rumen buffers to your herd will stabilize their ruminal pH, and help them absorb the nutrients they desperately need during the summer.

Heat Stress Management with Redmond Minerals



Conditioner- for all classes of livestock

Volcanic bentonite and minerals that buffers just as efficiently as sodium bicarb, improves feed efficiency and fiber digestion, controls ammonia levels, and binds to feed toxins.





Premium Sea Minerals


Our delicious mineral supplements replenish lost electrolytes, provide a balanced profile of over 60 trace minerals, and naturally encourage water intake.

We offer delicious mineral for beef operations, dairy operations, and all classes of livestock. Give Redmond a try this upcoming season and let us share our tasty and nourishing supplements to help you and your herd beat the heat this summer!

Contact Us Today

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