



As we move through winter and towards spring, it is likely that better quality forage will start to run low, therefore there will be an increased reliance on lower quality forage options, such as later cut or big bale silage. On paper, this forage may be of less value than forage analysis, which has been used as the basis of the winter ration with both ME and D-value likely to be lower.

Ways to overcome these shortfalls:

■ **Cane molasses blends:** It is well proven that the addition of a cane molasses blends to a TMR can increase fibre digestion and improve overall rumen fermentation, key to getting the most from forage.



■ **Vista Pre-T:** A proven pre-treatment shown to improve fibre digestion, enabling livestock get more from their forage.



Putting these two highly effective ingredients together maximises the potential benefit

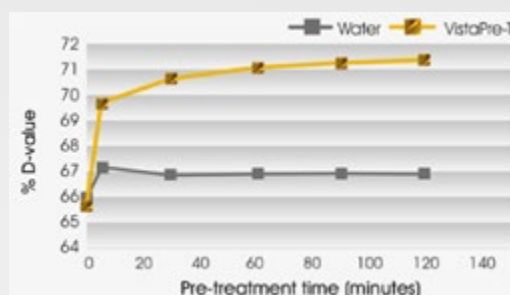
Using a molasses blend + Vista Pre-T can deliver significant benefits in terms of livestock performance as well as the ease of management.

1. **Synergy:** Feeding a molasses blend increases the rumen microbial population and activity. Vista Pre-T improves microbial access to the fibre. Combining both maximises their effectiveness and allows livestock to get the most from the forage in the diet.
2. **Ease of mixing:** Molasses is simple and easy to mix, removing the need to add small quantities of an ingredient such as Vista Pre-T.
3. **Accuracy:** The specific nutrients are added at the molasses terminal in a purpose built, calibrated blend tank, in a quality controlled environment, ensuring the correct addition specific to the customers' needs. Molasses blends are incorporated into the ration in significant amounts (kg/hd) increasing the accuracy of dosing.
4. **Simplicity:** Removing the need to add multiple ingredients.
5. **Convenience:** As the customer is already adding a molasses blend, there is no extra job to do and less chance of things being forgotten.
6. **Purchasing:** Including the extra ingredients in a molasses blend, removes the need to order multiple products.
7. **Waste:** As a molasses liquid feed is stored in a sealed tank, there is no loss of product due to wind or water damage. Many of the added ingredients are very expensive and small losses can be costly.

The Science: Getting more from your forage Vista Pre-T



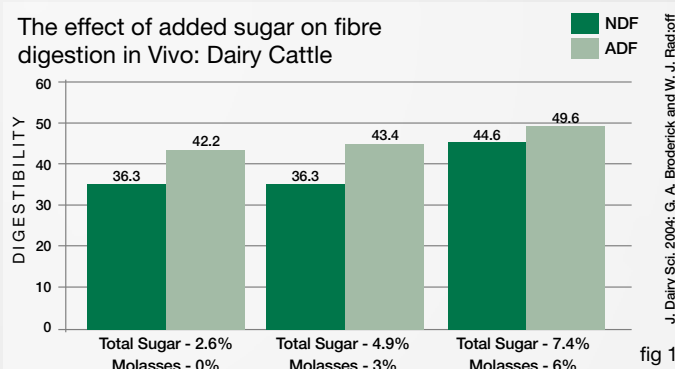
ED&F Man, in partnership with AB Vista, now offer **Vista Pre-T** as an addition to any of our bulk molasses blends. With forage utilisation key to cost-effective performance this season, it's not just about making good quality silage. Equally as Important is being able to maximise energy from forage.



Molasses Blends

Cane molasses blends have been shown to increase dry matter intakes and stimulate fibre digestion. 6-Carbon sugars are highly fermentable and stimulate the rumen microbial population. The increased rumen activity leads to increased fibre digestion and improved microbial protein synthesis. Increased fibre digestion allows livestock farmers to get the most from home grown forage. Essential for cost effective production.

The effect of added sugar on fibre digestion in Vivo: Dairy Cattle



J. Dairy Sci. 2004; G. A. Broderick and W. J. Radloff

fig 1

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