

Forages form the basis of TMR (Total Mixed Rations), but for them to be utilised effectively, a supply of readily fermentable energy such as sugar is also required. Using molasses based liquid feeds in the TMR is the perfect solution.



11 Reasons to feed molasses based liquid feeds

- 1 Cows need sugars:** For optimum rumen function, cows require around 6-8% sugars in the diet. Most forage and concentrate diets **cannot** supply this without the addition of sugars. ED&F Man molasses blends provide sugars in the form of sucrose, proven to be the most beneficial to rumen function. Molasses is the lowest cost source of sugars available, around half the cost of sugars found in molassed sugar beet pulp.
Benefit: Low cost sugars to fill the sugar gap and maximise animal performance
- 2 You can't just feed starch:** If the cost of cereals fall, there is still only a certain amount that can go into the ration without increasing the risk of acidosis. The fermentation of cereals within the rumen leads to lactic acid production which is ten times more acidic than the other volatile fatty acids produced in the rumen. It is essential to balance the energy supply for both sugars and starch. Nutritionists recommend a starch:sugar ratio of 2:1 to 3:1. It is important to remember that incorrect feeding can also impact on the fertility and health of the herd, not just the headline performance.
Benefit: Better rumen function produces better overall production performance
- 3 Adding sugar improves fibre digestion:** ED&F Man molasses based liquid feeds are a source of readily fermentable sugars and they are the only molasses based liquid feeds to be proven through independent research to increase fibre digestion and improve rumen fermentation.
Benefit: Get the most from your forage, the lowest cost feed in the ration
- 4 Improved palatability boosts intakes:** ED&F Man molasses blends are highly palatable and have been shown to increase Dry Matter Intake (DMI). Encouraging animals to eat more is a key driver of animal production (either milk production or daily live weight gain).
Benefit: Increased production and efficiency
- 5 Reduce ration sorting:** Ration sorting can be a major issue in high yielding herds, especially when concentrates form a large percent of the ration, or when less palatable feeds are being fed. Trials have shown that cane molasses can reduce sorting. The molasses coats all the ingredients and makes it harder for animals to sort out the tastier elements of the ration and also mask bitter-tasting components like minerals. This stops sorting and ensures a consistent ration is consumed.
Benefit: Less health problems and more efficient production
- 6 Low substitution effect:** With high yielding cows, it is difficult to maximise Dry Matter Intake (DMI) when only using dry feed ingredients. Adding an ED&F Man molasses blend to the ration has been shown to increase DMI due to its unique liquid nature and low substitution effect leading to enhanced animal performance.
Benefit: Better animal production and better feed efficiency
- 7 Reducing overall feed costs:** Molasses based liquid feeds increase forage intake and digestibility resulting in optimum rumen function, leading to enhanced animal production from forage, reducing overall feed costs. This increases rumen efficiency.
Benefit: Save money on feed costs and improve profitability
- 8 Reduced waste:** It is vital that every kilo of feed grown or bought is consumed and utilised by the animal. It has been proven that mixing a molasses based liquid feed into a TMR not only increases intake, but reduces wastage. Key to maximising financial returns.
Benefit: Lower molasses based liquid feeds costs
- 9 Save time and hassle:** ED&F Man can supply storage tanks, in a range of sizes, that enable molasses based liquid feeds to be bought in bulk, and stored securely without taking up shed space. The liquid feed can then be simply and cleanly added into the top of the mixer wagon. Contact us to discuss storage options.
Benefit: A simple and convenient way to store molasses based liquid feeds
- 10 Dust free:** Using an ED&F Man molasses based liquid feed can significantly reduce dust in any feeding system. Molasses eliminates dustiness, which can cause health problems to both stock and stockman alike. It can also lead to reduced feed wastage and costs as the dust could contain the expensive mineral and vitamin premix that is added to the ration.
Benefit: Better animal health and improved performance
- 11 Product Flexibility:** ED&F Man offer a range of products that can be used flexibly to get the best from livestock depending on forage availability.



Fibre Digestion: Getting it right

Silage whether it be grass, maize or wholecrop is the lowest cost nutrient supply available to livestock farmers. Therefore, maximising fibre digestion of home-grown forages is vital for cost effective milk production or live weight gain. By improving fibre digestion this can lead to an increase in microbial protein synthesis and improved rumen health and balance.

The addition of sugar to the ration, whilst maintaining the overall starch and sugar level has been shown to increase fibre digestion (see table). Ideally, the starch to sugar ratio should be between 2:1 to 3:1 for optimal rumen function. This can only be achieved with the addition of sugars to the TMR. Molasses based liquid feeds are the best source of 6-Carbon sugars, and the best choice in terms of ease of use and overall cost effectiveness.

Depending on the base level of sugar in the ration, feeding a product such as Stockmol 20 or Molale can ensure the optimum sugar level, and starch to sugar ratio is achieved.

Sugar (%)	2.6	4.9	7.4
Starch (%)	31.4	29.1	27.5
Sugar + Starch (%)	34	34	34.9
Digestibility %			
Dry Matter	63.6	62.1	65.4
NDF	36.3	36.3	44.6
ADF	42.2	43.4	49.6

Broderick and Radloff 2004



Trial a storage tank - FOR FREE!

If you are thinking of using molasses for the first time, and you want to see if it works for you and your stock, then ED&F Man offer a tank trial scheme.

In ED&F Man's tank trial scheme, a fully-equipped storage tank is delivered on-farm for two months, you only pay for the product. During this time the beneficial effects of using ED&F Man's molasses products can be assessed. After the two month trial period, you can purchase the tank outright, or spread the payment using ED&F Man's interest free finance scheme. In the unlikely event of seeing no benefits, the tank can be returned at no cost, except that of the product purchased.

These high level tanks are convenient to use, and allow more cost-effective bulk purchases to be made.

Offer may be withdrawn at any time and is subject to terms and conditions.

**ED&F
MAN**
EST. 1783

**Liquid
Products**

Your local Commercial Manager:

Richard Dobson 07764 344716

Angela Sutherby 07957 642669

Danielle Goatley 07710 075824

Georgina Chapman 07485 192774
Nutritionist | Technical Support Manager

Freephone 0800 3898450

www.edfmanliquidproductsuk.com

[@EDFMan_Molasses](https://twitter.com/EDFMan_Molasses)



June 2021

