SUMMER NEWSLETTER 2026

Hunter Nutrition

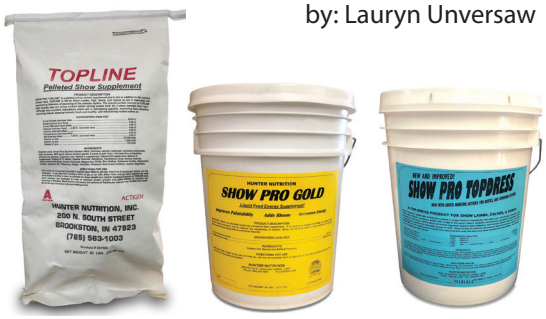
The Program That Performs

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

hunternutrition.com

SHOW FEED ADDITIVES

by: Lauryn Unversaw



Elevate Your Show String: Nutrition Solutions That Deliver Results When it comes to preparing competitive show animals, success is built on consistency, precision, and the right nutritional support. A well-rounded feeding program doesn't just maintain condition; it enhances muscle tone, promotes gut health, and ensures animals look their absolute best on show day. That's where a targeted supplement strategy can make all the difference.

Topline: Built for Muscle and Condition Topline is a pelleted supplement designed to support and maintain the structural integrity of your animal's topline. Whether you're working with lambs, calves, pigs, or goats, this product helps preserve muscle tone, especially when animals are being held at a specific weight for competition. By incorporating advanced ingredients like prebiotics, yeast cultures, enzymes, and rumen buffers, Topline supports digestion, improves feed efficiency, and encourages consistent intake. Its specialized protein sources, including bypass proteins, help maintain muscle even when feed is restricted. The result is a fresher, healthier animal that stays on feed and maintains bloom.

Fill Pellet: The Advantage of Natural Fullness Creating that ideal "full" appearance can be challenging, especially when limit feeding. Fill Pellet offers a smart solution by expanding in the digestive system to help animals retain water and maintain body volume. More than just a filler, this supplement goes beyond traditional beet pulp by including probiotics, enzymes, and added nutrients that support digestion and overall health. It's an economical and effective way to enhance appearance while still promoting performance and gut stability.

Show Pro Top-dress: Daily Support for Peak Performance Show Pro Top-dress is a versatile, mineral-based supplement formulated to keep animals performing at their best—especially during stressful periods or when feed intake is reduced. Packed with vitamins, minerals, probiotics, and prebiotics, it helps replace nutrients lost during feed restriction while supporting digestion, immune function, and structural development. Regular use contributes to improved hair coat, added bloom, and consistent muscle tone, all while helping animals stay healthy and on feed.

Show Pro Gold: Energy and Efficiency in Every Drop For an added boost, Show Pro Gold delivers a concentrated source of energy in a palatable, soy oil-based liquid. With high fat content and added vitamins, it enhances feed conversion, reduces dust, and improves overall feed appeal. This supplement is especially valuable when animals need extra energy without increasing bulk intake, helping maintain condition and performance in a manageable way.

A Complete Approach to Show Nutrition Each of these products plays a unique role, but together they form a comprehensive system for supporting show animals from the inside out. From muscle maintenance and digestive health to appearance and energy, this lineup is designed to help exhibitors stay competitive in any setting.

With the right nutritional tools in place, you're not just feeding your animals; you're setting the stage for success in the ring.

EFFECTS OF HEAT STRESS ON BEEF CATTLE GAINS

by: Kendyl Brown

Temperature (°F)

Relative Humidity (%)	80	82	84	86	88	90	92	94	96	98	100	102	104	106	108	110
40	80	81	83	85	88	91	94	97	101	105	109	114	119	124	130	136
45	80	82	84	87	89	93	96	100	104	109	114	119	124	130	137	
50	81	83	85	88	91	95	99	103	108	113	118	124	131	137		
55	81	84	86	89	93	97	101	106	112	117	124	130	137			
60	82	84	88	91	95	100	105	110	116	123	129	137				
65	82	85	89	93	98	103	108	114	121	128	136					
70	83	86	90	95	100	105	112	119	126	134						
75	84	88	92	97	103	109	116	124	132							
80	84	89	94	100	106	113	121	129								
85	85	90	96	102	110	117	126	135								
90	86	91	98	105	113	122	131									
95	86	93	100	108	117	127										
100	87	95	103	112	121	132										

Likelihood of Heat Disorders with Prolonged Exposure and/or Strenuous Activity

Caution Extreme Caution Danger Extreme Danger

As summer arrives, rising temperatures and humidity create challenging conditions for beef cattle. Compared with other livestock species, cattle are especially sensitive to heat due to their size and limited ability to sweat. Black-hided cattle are even more vulnerable, as their darker coats absorb more solar radiation. Heat stress risk is commonly evaluated using the Temperature Humidity Index (THI), which combines air temperature and relative humidity to estimate heat load. When THI exceeds 72, cattle begin to experience heat stress. Mild stress occurs between THI 72-78, where performance may decline slightly and water intake should be monitored. THI 79-83 indicates moderate stress, often accompanied by reduced feed intake and panting, making shade and ample water essential. THI 84-89 represents significant stress, where handling should be minimized and active cooling becomes critical. At THI level above 90, cattle face an emergency situation in which death is possible and emergency protocols must be in place. Because heat stress suppresses appetite and reduces feed intake, it can severely limit weight gain and overall performance.

Several mitigation strategies can help reduce the impact of heat stress. Management practices such as installing misters or sprinklers can cool both the air and the animal directly, while shaded structures or shelters provide relief during peak heat hours. Water management is especially important, and adding electrolytes can encourage increased water consumption during stressful periods.

Nutritional adjustments also play a key role. Since the rumen generates heat during fermentation, providing proper nutrition becomes even more important when cattle are already eating less due to heat. High-quality forages digest more quickly and produce less internal heat, helping cattle stay cooler. Increased selenium intake is also beneficial, as selenium supports antioxidant capacity and can help reduce heat-related performance losses. In one study, cattle supplemented with selenium for 28 days gained an additional 12 pounds compared to unsupplemented cattle. Hunter Nutrition offers beef cattle feed formulated with elevated selenium levels to support cattle during periods of heat stress.

Heat stress is an unavoidable challenge during the summer months, but proactive management and thoughtful nutrition can significantly reduce its impact on cattle. By monitoring THI levels, providing adequate cooling and shade, ensuing proper hydrating, and supporting cattle with high-quality forages and nutrients like selenium, producers can help maintain gains and protect herd health throughout periods of extreme heat.

Resources:

Impact of Heat Stress in Cattle Systems: Responses of Production Metrics to Thermal Stress-Computers and Electrioncs in Agriculture

Managing Heat Stress in Cattle- Univeristy of Illinois

Temperature-Humidity Index (THI) Explained- Ranch Well

Heat Index- National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

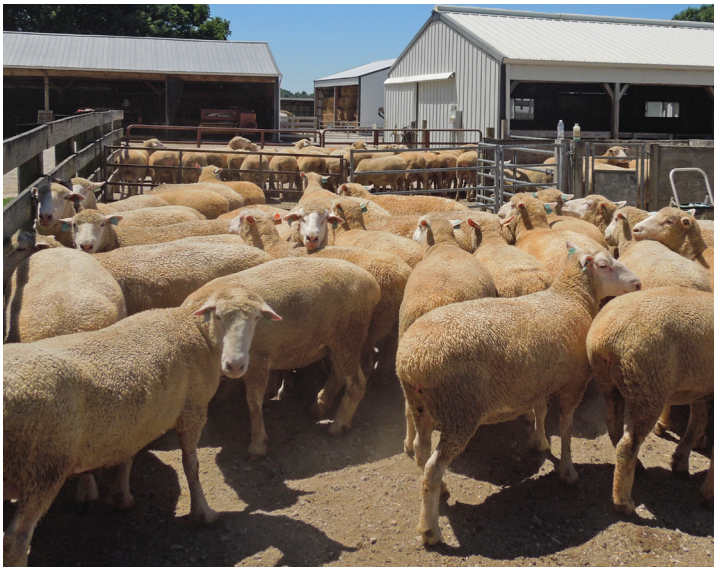
CONCEPTIO BREEDING PRODUCTS

Boost Breeding Performance with Conceptio! When it comes to breeding success, nutrition isn't optional, it's critical. Ewes require up to 56% more energy and 40% more protein during flushing and breeding, and falling short can mean fewer pregnancies and weaker lambs.

Conceptio Breeding Products are designed to give your flock the advantage. Built for advanced programs like AI and ET, these feeds deliver elevated levels of selenium, vitamin E, manganese, and zinc, along with probiotics, prebiotics, and toxin binders to support health, improve efficiency, and reduce stillborns and abortions.

Conceptio Complete Ewe Pellet... A convenient, all-in-one grain solution fed before and during breeding—balanced, fortified, and ready to perform.

Conceptio Ewe Supplement Pellet... A powerful 36% protein supplement ideal for on-farm mixing, delivering concentrated nutrition in just 0.25 lbs. per ewe per day.



Take the guesswork out of breeding nutrition! With Conceptio, you're not just feeding your flock, you're investing in higher conception rates, healthier pregnancies, and stronger lamb crops.

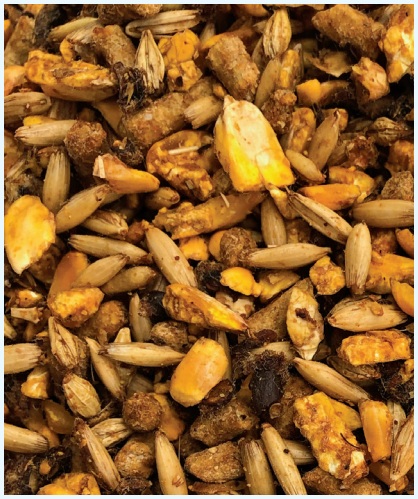
CONCEPTIO CUSTOMER TESTIMONIALS

"We've been using Hunter Nutrition's Conception Pellets for the past three years, and the results speak for themselves. Since incorporating them into our program, we've seen a noticeable improvement in our ewes' fertility and overall body composition going into breeding season. The pellets have become a key part of our success, and we won't go into a breeding cycle without them." Bo Slick

"I have been using the Hunter Nutrition Conceptio Ewe Pellet in my feed ration for the past 2 breeding seasons. I have had great success with utilizing this product and AI success rates have been between 75-85%. Having a smaller flock, cost is always major factor but this product is much more affordable than similar products from other sources. The Conceptio pellet itself is very high quality and very palatable. I would highly recommend to other breeders!" Chris Downing

THE IMPORTANCE OF SHOW FEEDS FOR SHEEP, GOATS, AND CATTLE

by: Kendyl Brown



High-quality show feed plays a crucial role in helping sheep, goats, and cattle reach their full potential, both in daily development and in the show ring. The goal is to ensure that they grow more evenly, maintain better muscle shape, and stay healthier under stress. This is achieved by providing highly digestible ingredients, balanced vitamins and minerals, and the right blend of protein sources. Consistent intake, improved rumen function, and dependable palatability all contribute to steady gain and a fresher, fuller appearance on show day. Properly fortified feeds support immunity, coat condition, and overall bloom. This reduces the need for last minute fixes or excessive supplements. Species-specific formulations ensure that sheep, goats, and cattle each receive the precise nutrient rations they need, rather than a generic one size fits all approach. For families and breeders who want predictable performance and animals that stand out in the ring, a well-designed show feed program is one of the most important investments they can make. That's why so many producers turn to Hunter Nutrition. Its show feeds are crafted with precision, backed by decades of nutritional expertise, and trusted by those who expect their animals to look their best every single time they walk into a ring.

HUNTER NUTRITION INC.

200 N. South Street
P.O. Box 412
Brookston, IN 47923

Phone: (765) 563-1003
Fax: (765) 563-1005
www.hunternutrition.com

THE IMPORTANCE OF MANAGING PASTURES

by: Jeff Hunter

Sheep, goats, and cattle are ruminants, and forage should make up most of an adult animals diet. In Indiana, well-managed pastures can provide 8-9 months of grazing, and with larger acreage and stockpiling, some operations can graze nearly year round. Pasture is often the most economical feed available, far cheaper than a dry-lot hay ration, and good management can double or even triple forage yield compared to the traditional 'one big field' approach. Without productive grass, profitability in ruminant livestock is limited.

A common issue is that pasture isn't treated like a crop. Many produced react to pasture conditions instead of planning for consistent forage growth. Grasses naturally slowdown in summer and legumes are difficult to maintain without intensive grazing, fencing, and periodic renovation.

INTENSIVE GRAZING BASICS

Intensive grazing keeps plants young and nutritious by rotating animals through multiple paddocks. Graze when foraging is 4-6" tall, remove animals after about three days, and allow full regrowth before returning. This maintains high protein and energy levels and greatly increases total yield.

KEY PRINCIPLES:

- Keep forage in a vegetative, growing state
- Size paddocks so animals finish them in about three days
- Avoid grazing longer than 5-7 days to prevent animals from eating regrowth
- Enter at 4-6"; graze down to 1-2"
- Rotate quickly during fast; slow rotations during drought or winter.
- Pure alfalfa requires caution due to bloat; graze lightly and move animals before they get hungry

OUR SYSTEM

We use 20 acres divided into 13 paddocks, grazed from early April through November. Ewes gain well on pasture alone, and excess spring growth is harvested as hay, yielding 1.5-2 tons per acre. Clipping is done after grazing when matures plants or weeds remain, helping maintain vegetative growth. Fall grazing relies on stockpiled summer forage, allowing 7-30 days of grazing per paddock depending on height. Once pasture goes dormant in November, sheep are moved to sacrifice areas or barns to protect grass until spring.