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PROJECT FACT SHEET

Project Title: Amino Acid Requirements of Growing Milk-Fed Calves

Project Lead: College of Agriculture and Human Sciences, Tarleton State University

Principle Funding Provided by: Tarleton State University's Faculty Research Grant Program

Project Partner(s): Texas Agricultural Experiment Station

Project Description: Overfeeding amino acids raises both economic and environmental concerns about surface water pollution. The proper dietary balance of amino acids is essential to maximize growth rate and efficiency of animal growth while minimizing nitrogen excretion. The objective of this project is to more precisely define the amino acid requirements so that the dietary amino acid pattern will more closely resemble that required by the animal.

Project Benefits: By allowing more precise dietary formulation, results from this project will allow maximum growth rates and efficiency to be obtained by beef producers without the necessity of overfeeding amino acids. This will lead to more environmentally friendly beef production in the future.

Project Schedule: Sample collection began in February, 2004. Experiments will continue for approximately 12 months to complete the project.

Project Status: This project has been divided into three tasks. At the present time, task one is underway.