



Milk Replacer Research Improved Infiniti Milk Replacer Formulation

Calves were purchased and randomly assigned to *Akey White Gold* MR (standard or control treatment), an improved *Akey Infiniti* MR formulation, or one of three other commercial 20% all milk protein, 20% fat MR. All calves had access to a constant supply of fresh water and calf starter. Calves were fed their respective milk replacers twice daily. All milk replacers contained Deccox[®] (22.7 mg/lb). The calves averaged 92 lb at the beginning of the trial and were weaned at 6 weeks of age.

Performance and economic data (0 - 6 weeks) are tabulated below for *Akey White Gold* and *Infiniti* MR. Daily gains were similar and starter intake was 7% greater with the improved *Infiniti* MR formulation. Calves fed the improved *Infiniti* MR formulation had 17% fewer medical treatments compared to calves fed *White Gold* MR. The cost of gains calculated with and without medical treatments were slightly less for calves fed *Infiniti* MR compared to calves fed *White Gold* MR. The value of gain between the two groups of calves were similar. This change in the *Infiniti* MR formula represents an 8% improvement in daily gains over the original *Infiniti* MR formulation and yields similar performance to *White Gold*, at a lower price per bag. The improved formula is similar to the technology incorporated into *Akey White Gold* MR in April 2000, with improvements in fatty acid nutrition.

Milk Replacer	Daily Gain, lb	Total Gain, lb	Total Starter Intake, lb	Feed Efficiency, MR+starter/Gain	Medicine Treatments per Week	Fecal Score, 1=Normal 5=Severe
<i>White Gold</i>	1.05	44.1	44.9	1.97	1.03	1.42
<u>Improved</u> <i>Infiniti</i>	1.03	43.3	48.3	2.10	.86	1.41

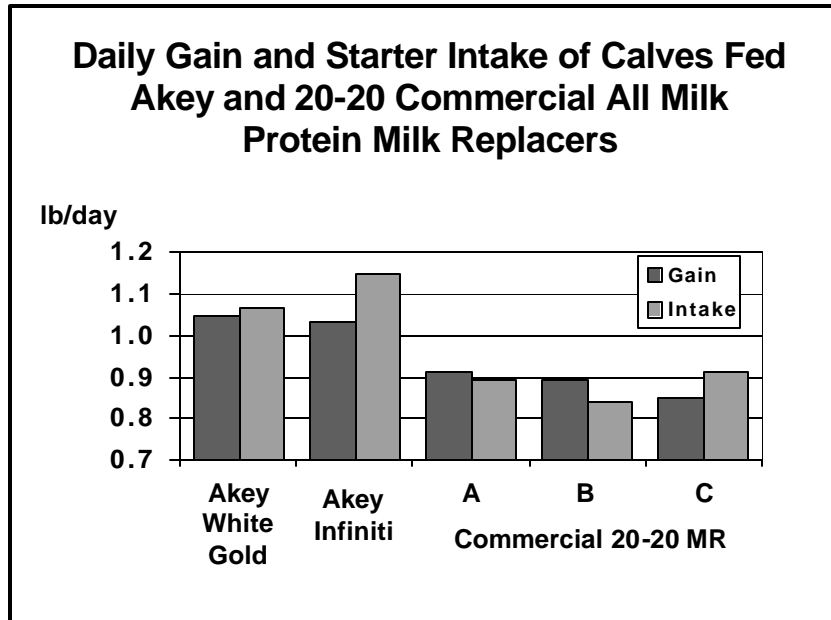
Milk Replacer	Value of Gain, \$/head	Value of Gain over Starter&Medicine, \$/head	Feed Costs/lb gain, \$/lb
<i>White Gold</i>	\$66.15	\$47.18	\$.817
<u>Improved</u> <i>Infiniti</i>	\$64.95	\$47.39	\$.806

Assumed costs: \$.15/lb for the starter, \$.70/lb for the MR, \$2/medicine treatment, and \$1.50/lb of calf gain.

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Compared to the three commercial MR, calves fed *Akey Infiniti* MR had:

- 1) 13 to 21% faster daily gains,
- 2) 26 to 37% greater starter intakes,
- 3) fewer medical treatments (.86 vs 1.18, 1.30, or 1.04 trts/week),
- 4) 14 to 20% lower feed costs per lb of gain, and
- 5) \$8 to 13 greater value per head (see figure and table below).



Economic evaluation of all milk replacers compared

Milk Replacer	Value of Gain, \$/head	Value of Gain over Starter & Medicine, \$/head	Feed Costs/lb gain, \$/lb
<i>Akey White Gold</i>	\$66.15	\$47.18	\$.817
<i>Akey Infiniti</i>	\$64.95	\$47.39	\$.806
Commercial MR A	\$57.33	\$39.12	\$.919
Commercial MR B	\$56.07	\$34.86	\$.937
Commercial MR C	\$53.55	\$34.04	\$.974

Assumed costs: \$.15/lb for the starter, \$.70/lb for the MR, \$2/medicine treatment, and \$1.50/lb of calf gain.

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