GROWTH PROMOTANT (REVALOR®) INCREASED LIVESTOCK GAINS WHILE MAINTAINING DESIRABLE CARCASE TRAITS IN FEEDLOT FINISHED STEERS

W.D. HOFFMAN and H. HEARNshaw

The significantly higher liveweight gains in treated steers resulted in heavier final liveweight and carcase weights after 69 days on the feedlot ration. The treated steers also had greater eye muscle areas, consistent with their increased carcase weights. There were no significant differences between treated and untreated groups in the mean fat depth (either at the P8 or rib measurement sites), marbling score, meat colour, muscle texture and firmness, fat colour or pH.

We would expect the higher growth rates of HGP treated steers to result in less subcutaneous fat deposition giving leaner carcases when slaughtered at similar ages. However these results showed that treatment with HGP Revalor® resulted in significantly higher growth rates but no reduction in the level of subcutaneous fat deposition. HGP Revalor® treated steers were heavier at slaughter but still met the same market specifications for fat depth, giving higher gross dollar returns.