



# ESSENTIAL: pH CONTROL, INCREASED PRODUCTION AND MILK SOLIDS

## What is it?

Essential is a proprietary blend of cashew nut shell liquid and castor oil that increases ruminal fermentation, increasing the proportions of propionate and decreasing acetate, while at the same time it controls ruminal pH efficiently.

## Expected results

- Increased intake
- Increased production while maintaining butterfat
- Control of ruminal pH

## Mode of action

The three active compounds of Essential (cardol, cardanol, and ricinoleic acid) inhibit gram positive bacteria which are the producers of lactic acid. Lactic acid causes the drop in rumen pH that results in acidosis. At the same time, Essential supplementation increases the activity of the other bacteria which increases the rate of digestion. All of this results in an increase of intake, milk production and total milk solids.

## Interactions

None known.

## Dosage

5-15 g/cow/day, depending on the intake and other additives in the diet. Approximately, 1 g/5 lbs of dry matter intake.

## Advantages over other industry products

- It controls rumen pH as efficiently without decreasing butterfat
- Increased intake
- Non-antibiotic