

MasterHand Milling RanchReady Finishing Program

With the creation of protein supplement pellets, it is easier to incorporate feeds to make a high-quality finishing diet. The RanchReady program combines the benefits of distillers grain cubes and rolled corn to create a streamlined protocol to finish cattle more effectively beginning at weaning. This program is designed to simplify the process and add value for each producer all along the supply chain. Research has shown feeding DDG cubes during grazing programs cattle for efficiency by satisfying nutritional needs, optimizing forage digestion, and conditioning the rumen. This allows cattle to transition more easily and be more efficient in the feedyard.

Ranch Ready Finishing Program

1. WEAN & GROW

1.1. Preconditioning | 45-60 Days

- High energy, low starch diet
- Low intake with big impact
- Reduce risk of acidosis
- Roughage can be in any form:
 - Pasture
 - Round Bale
 - Hay in Bunk

1.2. Growing Phase | 60-90 Days

- This phase can happen in a variety of ways, either in confinement or on grass.
- If feeding in confinement allow about 2-2.5% of body weight of roughage intake
- Recommend growing cattle for 60-90 days at 2-5 lbs per hd per day of MHM cubes or pellets to allow for optimum muscle and frame development.

2. ADAPTATION WEEK | 7 Days

- Once cattle have been weaned and preconditioned, they are ready to begin the finishing phase. When starting the finishing phase, the calf will weigh approximately 750 lbs.
- For the first week, while the calves adjust to their new pen, continue to provide 5 lbs/day of MHM distillers cubes/pellets along with free choice long-stem hay.

3. STEP UP PHASE | 28 Days

- After the adaptation period, start calves on the Step Up ration by replacing the 5 lbs/day of MHM distillers pellets with 5 lbs/day of the Step Up ration. Continue to feed long-stem hay free choice.
- Increase feed by 2 lbs every other day until they reach 19 lbs/hd/day.
- Calves will be held at 19 lbs/hd/day of the Step Up ration for 14 days along with free choice hay.
- Feed to 850 lbs if planning to retain, 950 lbs. if planning to sell.
- Goal is to push gains and condition the rumen by introducing low levels of starch.

4. FINISHING PHASE | 160 Days

- Calves are projected to gain 3.5 lbs/day during the entire feeding period, so they should weigh around 800 lbs at this time.
- After the 14 days of Step Up, calves will be moved to the Finishing diet.
- For the first 2 days, the Step Up and Finishing ration will be fed 50/50 (10 lbs Step Up and 10 lbs Finishing). Then switch to 100% Finishing ration (20 lbs./day).
- Once on full Finishing feed, calves will be bumped up 2 lbs every 28 days until they reach their finishing weight.
- Steers should finish at 1350 to 1450 pounds and heifers should finish at 1250 to 1350 pounds with 0.6 inches of backfat and Choice Quality Grade.
- Goal of this phase is to start putting internal and external fat on the animal.

Management Tips

- Calves will be fed their concentrate ration once a day.
 - Because calves are being limit-fed, they should lick their feed bunks and fill up on the hay provided.
 - If bunks are not licked clean by the next day's feeding, return to the previous day's feed amount.
- During the entire finishing period, calves should be given access to clean drinking water, shade and free choice long stem hay in their pen.

****See ration formulas and detailed feeding schedule on page 3.***

	Transition (As Fed)	Finish (As Fed)
Masterhand Milling Pellets	35.3%	27.8%
Rolled Corn	62.6%	70.2%
Complete Mineral Package*	2.0%	2.0%

* This mineral package should contain Rumensin, Bovatec, or another suitable ionophore.

	Transition (As Fed)	Finish (As Fed)
Fescue Hay	15.0%	10.0%
Masterhand Milling Pellets	30.0%	25.0%
Rolled Corn	53.2%	63.2%
Complete Mineral Package*	1.8%	1.8%

* This mineral package should contain Rumensin, Bovatec, or another suitable ionophore.

Day	Feed	Amount to feed	Projected Calf Bodyweight
1 - 7	MHM DDG pellets	5 lb/day	750
8 - 9	MHM Transition Diet	5 lb/day	
10 - 11	MHM Transition Diet	7 lb/day	
12 - 13	MHM Transition Diet	9 lb/day	
14 - 15	MHM Transition Diet	11 lb/day	
16 - 17	MHM Transition Diet	13 lb/day	
18 - 19	MHM Transition Diet	15 lbs/day	
20 - 21	MHM Transition Diet	17 lbs/day	800
22 - 35	MHM Transition Diet	19 lbs/day	
36 - 37	Transition/Finisher	10 lbs Transition/day 10 lbs Finisher/day	850
38 - 66	MHM Finisher Diet	20 lbs/day	950
67 - 95	MHM Finisher Diet	22 lbs/day	1050
96 - 123	MHM Finisher Diet	24 lbs/day	1150
124 - 152	MHM Finisher Diet	26 lbs/day	1250
153 - 170	MHM Finisher Diet	28 lbs/day	1350*
171 - 198	MHM Finisher Diet	30 lbs/day	1450**