

# UNIVERSITY RESEARCH TRIAL DATA & KEY FINDINGS



## TRIAL 9 - OKLAHOMA STATE UNIVERSITY ————— BESSIE, OK

The 2023 OSU took a different approach from previous years, examining the grazing and finishing potential of dairy-cross cattle compared to native beef cattle. Seventy-five head each of native beef calves and dairy cross cattle were comingled and grazed together, fed 1 lb. DDG cubes in the first part of the summer and 2.5 lbs. in the second part.

2023	EARLY SEASON (53 DAYS) - FED 1 LB/HD/DAY						
	LATE SEASON (91 DAYS) - FED 2.5 LBS/HD/DAY						
GRAZING DATA	IN WEIGHT	MID WEIGHT	END WEIGHT	ADG EARLY	ADG LATE	ADG TOTAL	COG
NATIVE	588	662	836	1.39	1.91	1.72	\$0.69
DAIRY CROSS	606	626	783	0.38	1.75	1.24	\$0.96

## KEY FINDINGS

### DAIRY GAINS ON GRASS

The dairy cross cattle performed poorly during the first half of the season. This could be explained by the fact that those cattle had been on feed in a backgrounding lot prior to turn out and took time to adjust to the pasture environment. These cattle may have benefited from a higher supplementation rate.

### GROWTH PATTERNS

The native cattle continued to show the same growth trend of an added 0.5 lb. in total average daily gain compared to the dairy cross cattle. They were also able to increase ADG in late summer when forage quality declined.

### AN OPTION FOR DAIRY

While the dairy cattle did not gain and perform well early, they did see significant compensatory gain in late summer and were not far behind the native cattle during that time period. Given the traditional practice of sending dairy cross calves straight to a growyard where COG is higher, supplemented grazing could still be a viable option for dairy producers.

**2023 FEEDLOT DATA COMING SOON!**