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Effects of Compudose® and Ralgro® Implants
and Tramisol® Injectable Wormer on the
Performance of Grazing Yearling Steers¹

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and Gene Harris⁴

Summary

Compudose and Ralgro improved ($P < .05$) average daily gain 15% over non-implanted controls. No difference was observed between the two implants. Tramisol injectable wormer increased ($P < .05$) average daily gain 8% over non-wormed cattle.

Experimental Procedure

Trial 1. Seventy-four native straightbred and crossbred yearling steers averaging 713 lbs were randomly allotted by breed to the following treatments: 1) control (no implant), 2) Ralgro implants, or 3) Compudose implants. All steers were individually weighed at the beginning (June 2) and end of the 124 day trial. The cattle grazed the same native grass pasture on the Wiley McFarland Ranch, Cimarron, KS.

Trial 2. Thirty-eight 452 lb yearling Angus steers from Utah were randomly allotted to Ralgro or Compudose implant groups, with half of each group receiving Tramisol injectable wormer at the recommended dose. Individual weights were taken at the beginning (June 7), and 85 and 190 days later. The steers grazed the same native range at the Larry Meyers Ranch, Meade, KS.

Data from both trials were analyzed by Least Square Analysis of Covariance to remove the effects of differences in initial weight.

Results

In trial 1, implanting with either Ralgro or Compudose improved ($P < .05$) weight gain an average of 15% over controls (Table 31.1), with the difference between implants approaching significance ($P = .08$).

¹Appreciation is extended to Wiley McFarland, Cimarron, KS and Larry Meyers, Meade, KS for supplying cattle and facilities, Elanco Products Co. and International Minerals and Chemical Corp. for supplying implants and American Cyanamid Co. for supplying Tramisol.

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In trial 2, daily weight gains of Compudose and Ralgro implanted steers were similar throughout the trial (Table 31.2). Two of 18 Compudose implants were lost. Tramisol injectable wormer increased ($P<.05$) daily gain 8% (Table 31.3), resulting in 19 lbs more gain during the grazing season. Sixty-five percent (12 lbs) of this benefit occurred during the first 85 days.

Table 31.1. Response of Yearling Steers Grazing Native Range to Ralgro and Compudose Implants -- Trial 1

Treatment	No. steers	Initial weight lbs	Least Squares Means, lbs		
			Final weight	Total gain	Daily gain
Control	24	719	901 ^a	188 ^a	1.51 ^a
Ralgro	26	709	920 ^b	207 ^b	1.67 ^b
Compudose	24	711	938 ^b	225 ^b	1.81 ^b

^{a,b} Means with different superscripts differ ($P<.05$).

Table 31.2. Response of Yearling Steers Grazing Native Range to Ralgro and Compudose Implants -- Trial 2

Treatment	No. steers	Initial weight lbs	Least Squares Means, lbs		
			Initial 85 Day ADG	Final 105 Day ADG	Total 190 Day ADG
Compudose	18	459	1.71	0.92	1.27
Ralgro	20	444	1.75	0.84	1.25

Table 31.3. Response of Yearling Steers Grazing Native Range to Tramisol Injectable Wormer -- Trial 2

Treatment	steers	Initial weight lbs	Least Squares Means, lbs		
			Initial 85 Day ADG ^a	Final 105 Day ADG	Total 190 Day ADG ^b
Control	19	443	1.66	0.85	1.21
Tramisol	19	460	1.80	0.91	1.31

^a Means within this column differ, $P = .06$.

^b Means within this column differ ($P<.05$).