

β-Carotene Status and Fertility

A practical guide

Supplementation guidelines for ROVIMIX® β-Carotene 10%

β-Carotene status of cows	deficient	marginal	optimum
	mg β-Carotene/cow/day		
	500	300	–

If β-Carotene status is marginal or deficient, supplementary β-Carotene should be fed from 28 days before calving until pregnancy is confirmed.



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a DSM Product



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Check the β-Carotene status of your cows.
 Here is how.

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Evaluation of β -Carotene status by plasma colour

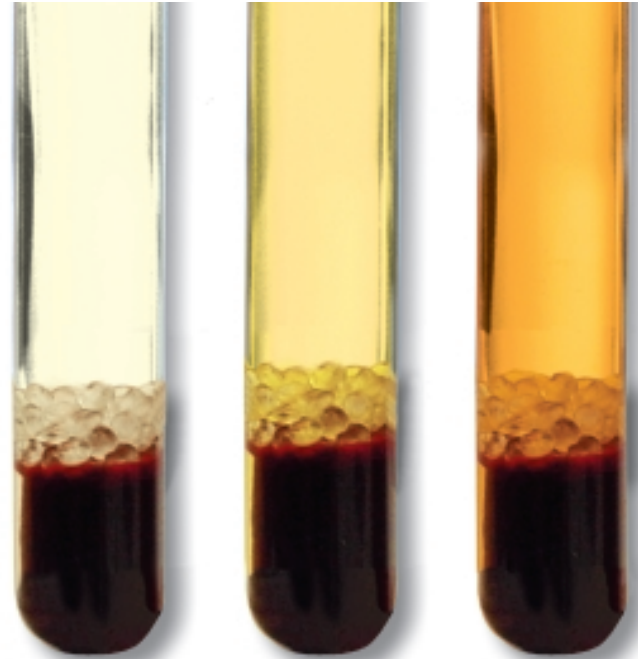
Collection of a blood sample by a veterinarian

A 10 ml blood sample is taken either from the v. jugularis (jugular vein), the v. subcutanea externa (milk vein) or the v. caudalis (tail vein). During the collection of the blood sample, haemolysis should be avoided. Haemolysis affects the colour of the plasma/serum causing it to turn red which might lead to false results.

Processing and assessment of the blood samples

After centrifugation of the blood samples the colour of the plasma/serum is assessed in the supernatant by means of the attached colour chart. If centrifugation is not possible on the farm, store the samples in a cold dark area and send them to a lab.

Quantitative β -Carotene assays using spectrophotometry or HPLC can be done to confirm results.



deficient

marginal

optimum

β -Carotene content

< 1.5 $\mu\text{g/ml}$

~ 2.5 $\mu\text{g/ml}$

> 3.5 $\mu\text{g/ml}$

A cow with a plasma colour that is too pale requires β -Carotene. Supplement with ROVIMIX® β -Carotene 10% according to the guidelines on page 4.