



# COMMODITY NUTRIENT PROFILE

## WHOLE COTTONSEED



### DESCRIPTION

Whole Cottonseed is the unprocessed and unadulterated oilseed that has been separated from the cotton fiber. Whole Cottonseed is high in protein, fat, fiber and energy. This combination of nutrients in one feedstuff is unusual. Whole Cottonseed with the lint still attached is white and fuzzy in appearance. It sometimes is called "fuzzy seed" and has the analyses as shown to the right. Whole Cottonseed from which the lint has been removed is called delinted seed. This Cottonseed is black and smooth in appearance, and tends to be slightly higher in protein and fat than the fuzzy seed.

Whole Cottonseed is unique in that it represents the chemical composition of forage, grain and protein supplements. Whole Cottonseed can substitute, within limits, for any of these components. The fat in cottonseed while a benefit to ruminant animals can cause a reduction in fat test.

### USE AND APPLICATION

Whole Cottonseed nutritional characteristics allow dairymen the opportunity to increase energy density of a ration while maintaining adequate fiber intake. High-producing cows are short on energy and adequate fiber. The fiber in the Whole Cottonseed will typically increase milk fat test and may help improve rumen function.

Feeding additional fat from Whole Cottonseed will increase milk yield in energy deficient situations. The fat in Whole Cottonseed is protected from rumen degradation therefore, it does not interfere with fiber digestion like free oils and fats. When energy is provided as fat, less heat of fermentation occurs (lower heat increment) helping cows stay cooler. Therefore, Whole Cottonseed, with its high fat content, is even more valuable in the summer than during cooler weather.

The recommended level of Whole Cottonseed is 2kg/head/day max depending on the nutritional requirements of the cow. The greatest response is usually observed in high-producing cows during the first 100 days of lactation, in hot summer months and when the ration is low in fiber. Cottonseed is palatable and readily consumed by cattle. It is recommended that Whole Cottonseed be fed in grain mixes or in blended TMR rations. Variability of intake may result if top dressed.

### STORAGE AND HANDLING

Whole Cottonseed should be stored on a concrete pad or commodity shed and protected from rain and other forms of moisture. Whole Cottonseed by itself, does not flow well or work well in augers; however, it can be mixed with silage or grain in a conventional auger feeding system. Whole Cottonseed is best handled with a front-end loader. Care should be taken to minimize seed breakage during unloading. Whole Cottonseed will absorb

### TYPICAL ANALYSIS

	DMB	As Fed
Dry Matter	100.0%	92.0%
Crude Protein	21.0%	19.0%
Fat	20.0%	18.4%
Crude Fiber	24.0%	22.0%
ADF	34.0%	31.3%
NDF	44.0%	40.5%
Calcium	0.21%	0.19%
Phosphorus	0.64%	0.58%
Potassium	1.0%	0.92%
Magnesium	0.46%	0.42%
TDN (Rum)	96.0%	88.0%
NE <sub>L</sub>	2.23 Mcal/kg	2.05 Mcal/kg
NE <sub>m</sub>	2.41 Mcal/kg	2.21 Mcal/kg
NE <sub>g</sub>	1.69 Mcal/kg	1.55 Mcal/kg
DE (Rum)	4.23 Mcal/kg	3.89 Mcal/kg

\* Listed data are average values only and not considered as guarantees, expressed, or implied, nor as a condition of sale. For guaranteed specifications refer to feed label.

water if handled improperly; if not adequately dried, improperly; if not adequately dried, Cottonseed has the potential to mold. High moisture seed (greater than 14%) could be a potential source of aflatoxin contamination, as well as seed from plants exposed to drought conditions.



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