

Choosing the right source of rumen protected methionine can save you \$0.25 or more cents per cow, per day



The recent and rapid increase in feed ingredient prices makes us all question our options for more cost effectively formulating dairy rations. The caveat is how can we do this and still maintain all the proven benefits of diets balanced for amino acids, i.e., not only maximizing milk production and components but also furthering transition cow health and reproductive performance.

A key ingredient to achieving best-cost amino acid balanced diets is rumen protected methionine. Typically, an optimized AA balanced ration will pull in 10 grams of metabolizable methionine from a protected methionine source.

The table below lists the five most popular rumen-protected methionine sources in the U.S. with a best estimate of their current cost per 10g of metabolizable methionine.

Table 1. Rumen-protected methionine cost per 10g metabolizable MET*

Product Name	Feeding Rate	Cost of feeding 10 g of Metabolizable Methionine
Smartamine® M	1 to 1	27 cents
MetaSmart® Liquid	1.6 to 1	27 cents
AminoShure-XM	3.2 to 1	45 cents
Mepron	3.2 to 1	63 cents
Novimet	6.0 to 1	79 cents
Timet	5.7 to 1	69 cents

* Relative feeding rates in relation to Smartamine M based off published results from the University of New Hampshire.

The divergence in potential costs is more than might be expected: from \$0.25 to more than \$1.00 per cow per day depending on the source of rumen protected methionine. This makes the choice of product used a primary consideration when seeking to deliver the best- cost amino acid balanced ration.

If you want to discuss further why Smartamine M is at least 50% more cost effective than the next best source of rumen protected methionine, please contact your local Adisseo representative.



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