



Ecovite Drimol, a versatile feed additive

Ecovite Drimol is a livestock feed additive manufactured from condensed molasses solubles (CMS), a by-product of the alcohol industry. In this case, alcohol is produced from molasses syrup, a by-product of the manufacture of cane sugar. The molasses syrup is diluted in water, yeast is added, and the sugar in the molasses syrup fermented into alcohol.

Alcohol is distilled from this product with the by-product, a thin syrup, consisting of the remains of the molasses, water, and yeast. This syrup is then condensed (water is evaporated) to form CMS, which contains approximately 30 to 50% solids.

Processing and sustainability

CMS in syrup form is widely used in the animal feed industry, mainly as a partial replacement for molasses. However, dry forms of CMS have been available in the animal feed industry for years. These products are produced by spray drying

CMS on a specific lime carrier to obtain a fine molasses by-product based powder.

The specific spray dry technique and carrier used result in a product with unique chemical and physical properties. Among others, the well-known Rumevite range of concentrates was based on this product.

Royal Eswatini Sugar in Eswatini has been producing large quantities of CMS in their alcohol plant for several years – this CMS is mainly destined for the liquid fertiliser market. The possibility of diversifying and spray drying CMS for use in the animal feed industry was investigated. The outcome of this investigation and subsequent developments is a facility in Eswatini for the spray drying of CMS and related products for the animal feed industry.

The facility is unique as it utilises wood chips from sawmills as an energy source to spray dry the CMS. Wood chips are a cleaner, more environmentally friendly energy source than the more commonly used coal. Ecovite Drimol is therefore an environmentally friendly, sustainable product.

Application in animal feed

Ecovite Drimol is a nutrient-rich product with a moderate level of energy; it is also a source of protein, minerals, trace minerals,

and B vitamins for animals. It does not take up any dead space in feeds but contributes to the full nutrient profile of the feed.

Ecovite Drimol is a natural product that does not contain any non-protein nitrogen (NPN), growth stimulants, or medication. The product is therefore suitable and safe for use by all farm animals, as well as horses and game.

Due to its unique chemical and physical properties, Ecovite Drimol has multiple applications in the animal feed industry. It has a unique molasses taste and smell, and is a suitable replacer for any other molasses products in animal feeds and lick supplements. The advantage of the product over molasses syrup and meal is that it is a dry, free-flowing powder, and therefore easy to add and mix into any feed mixture.

Ecovite Drimol is ideal for improving the palatability and acceptability of animal feeds. It allows animal feed manufacturers to include less palatable raw materials at higher levels in feeds, without it having a negative impact on animals' voluntary intake of feed. An inclusion level of as low as 2,5% imparts a characteristic molasses smell and taste to feed.

Ecovite Drimol is an excellent binder for feed pellets due to its chemical and physical properties. Certain raw materials for animal feed such as some roughages and grain by-products can make feed pellets brittle. Various binders on the market assist in the effective binding of pellets. Ecovite Drimol is not only effective as a feed pellet binder, but also imparts a molasses taste and smell to these pellets. In contrast to other pellet binders that normally have no or little nutritional value, Ecovite Drimol contributes to the total nutritional value of the feed.

Building a protective layer

A unique property of Ecovite Drimol is its ability to form a water-resistant coating



over mixtures that contain enough of the product. This property is particularly beneficial in the case of lick supplements, as it protects the lick from rain and wind. Preventing moisture from seeping into the supplement is particularly beneficial during the rainy season.

The most common supplement given to livestock during the rainy season is so-called mineral or phosphate supplements; however, the provision of extra energy, protein and NPN in supplements on green veld is on the rise to boost production and reproduction. In these cases, Ecovite Drimol is ideal for protecting energy sources and especially NPN from rain damage.

The advantage of this is that the possibility of urea poisoning is significantly reduced, as Ecovite Drimol helps to prevent the urea from dissolving in rainwater which the animals then drink.

It is common to supplement protein and NPN, and therefore sufficient energy, in the dry season. Here, Ecovite Drimol plays an integral role in protecting lick supplements against wind losses and

possible rain damage. The energy in Ecovite Drimol is ideal in NPN containing supplements, as it provides quickly available energy to the rumen microbes, boosting the efficient utilisation of NPN in microbial protein synthesis.

Successful binder and hardener

Ecovite Drimol becomes tough and hardens upon contact with low levels of moisture. It can therefore be successfully used as a binder and hardener when manufacturing lick blocks. Dissolved in water it produces a molasses-type liquid that is ideal for treating especially low-quality roughage.

Not only can bales of roughage be treated, but it can even be sprayed on poor quality veld to improve the palatability and utilisation thereof. The liquid can be enriched with NPN and even sulphur to further promote the utilisation of low-quality roughage.

Ecovite Drimol can also improve silage when sprayed on late-cut silage. It is a source of sugars that accelerate the ensiling process. It is dissolved in water and sprayed over the layers of silage as

it is driven into the silage bunker and compacted.

A versatile product

Ecovite Drimol is one of the most versatile and unique livestock feed additives available on the market and has a wide range of applications. Because of the latter, as well as the fact that each method of application depends on the type of feed or supplement being fed, the raw materials it contains, the form in which it is fed, as well as the animals and the environment, it is crucial for each producer or feed manufacturer to obtain tailored recommendations for using the product.

The product is distributed in South Africa by Feedtek, which is fully trained in its application. Ecovite Drimol reg no V34430, Act 36/1947. To contact your nearest Feedtek livestock specialist, visit www.feedtek.co.za or contact Feedtek at info@feedtek.co.za or 086 111 5362.



THE ULTIMATE POWDERED MOLASSES BYPRODUCT FOR ANIMAL FEEDS



Palatable | Water resistant | Ideal pellet & feed block binder | Contains minerals & nutrients | No NPN sources | 25 kg bags

Proudly distributed by:



Your nearest Feedtek agent:

www.feedtek.co.za

Contact: 086 111 5362

Email: info@feedtek.co.za



Email: info@ecovite.co.za
www.ecovite.co.za