

Here at C&C Cattle Company we take pride in the cattle we enjoy raising and work hard to sustain a quality product for our clients. Our cattle are healthy and happy at all times and you will never find a cow on our ranch that will tell you that they are not happy with living here! We are constantly trying to better our herd, not only through genetics but with Herd Health as well. We have a strict vaccination program that we follow yearly to insure that our cattle have the very best care at all times. The cattle are measured and vaccinated twice a year and that data is put into a very honest and trustworthy program where we are 100% honest and trustworthy with everything we do on the ranch. In the summer we purchase hay to last us for the winter months as the cattle do not have access to grazing in the winter months because of the bone chilling temperatures and annual snowfall being about 300 inches. The C&C cattle are housed inside in the winter months and have free choice of water, hay, and most importantly free choice of minerals! Our cattle have access to a few different mineral types that they need to stay healthy throughout the whole year.



In Western New York where we live and raise cattle, the soil is very low in Selenium. Selenium is very important when raising cattle as it helps cattle grow and helps them fight off early calf-hood diseases like Scours and other lethal bacterial infections. Most farmers and ranchers

give some sort of Selenium vaccination when calves are first born to help prevent and fight off any bacteria that could have entered the body when the calf was first born. They also offer the dams of the newborn calves free choice of Selenium so that they can turn it into rich milk for the calves. These are two main ways of getting it into your newborn calves. Selenium is very important when raising registered breeding stock like us here at C&C Cattle Company. This mineral is very important for fertility and the regulation of a healthy cycle in breeding heifers and cows. Cattle with free choice Selenium will be more fertile than other breeding herds in our area that do not have access to it. Selenium blocks are \$14.00 per block at Tractor Supply. It won't rob the bank to go out and buy a couple of these blocks and place them in every pasture with cattle in it. You will see a difference in your breeding stock in no time!



This is a trace mineral block. Like the Selenium block it too can be purchased at Tractor Supply or any other local farm store for around \$10.00 per block. It can also be purchased in bag form which works just as well! Some of the most important minerals for raising beef cattle are copper, chromium, cobalt, iodine, iron, manganese, nickel, molybdenum, selenium, and zinc. These mineral blocks have all of these important minerals packed inside of them. Cattle should have free choice at all times of the year of these mineral blocks and should never be without any of the select minerals listed above. Many times smaller cattle operation owners will call us and ask why they can't get their cattle bred or why they are losing many calves each year. Well, my first

question to them is, "Do your cattle have access to minerals at all times?" Many of them will tell me that they do not have minerals out with their cattle because the grain that they feed them has all of the minerals that the cattle need. This is one of the main reasons why I do these newsletters and send them to all of our clients and close cattle friends.



Salt is probably the most important mineral for cattle and other livestock alike. Cattle love salt and salt to them is like sugar to us. Many people believe it is unhealthy to give cattle and other livestock salt because they think it dries them out. But this is not the case at all. Salt, just like people, makes livestock thirsty and makes their mouths tart. Having free range cattle on pasture they aren't really getting a lot of salt from the grass as they would from the grains they eat in the winter months. That is for our case anyways. Many people will turn their cattle out on pasture and wonder why they don't gain weight or why they are shooting liquid manure out their back sides. Well that is where the salt comes into play. Cattle get fat on salt because of the amounts of water they are drinking, water fills cattle up and they retain the water in their bodies making them gain weight and look better. Also, when cattle are turned out on rich, fresh green grass in the spring, they tend to have a squirting problem from behind them. That is common. How to help is to give them salt. Salt will harden cattle's manure up so it doesn't look like a bomb went off behind them. Your cattle will thank you for fixing this embarrassing problem!

We want to thank you for taking the time to read our Newsletter on Minerals in cattle and hope that these few tips that have helped us will help you to improve the health of your herd. We take risks like buying minerals to keep our cattle as healthy as possible with no problems in the herd anywhere. Our main focus is to raise the very best cattle genetically and happily, and we go extra lengths to make sure we do just that! If you have any questions please feel free to contact us at any time. We would be glad to help you to improve and achieve your goals.

God bless,

Colton R. Courtney (General Manager/Owner of C&C Cattle Company)

**C&C Cattle Company**

P.O. Box 423

Sherman, New York 14781

(716) 720-2940

[nytexaslonghorns.com](http://nytexaslonghorns.com)