

“ **SCIENTISTS  
SAY**

Choline is  
a Required  
Nutrient for  
Optimizing  
**Milk Production**

“ *Even in very high-producing cows, we saw a  
response of 5 lbs/cow/day after supplementation.*  
-Dr. Heather White, *Tri-State Dairy Nutrition Conference, 2023*



# ReaShure®

## Precision Release Choline

In dairy cattle, choline is recognized by scientists as a required nutrient for a successful lactation, which must first begin with a healthy transition period. Central to a healthy transition period is the ability of the liver to make enough glucose to support milk production. When nutrition and metabolism cannot keep up with the demands of milk production, cows fail to reach their genetic potential.

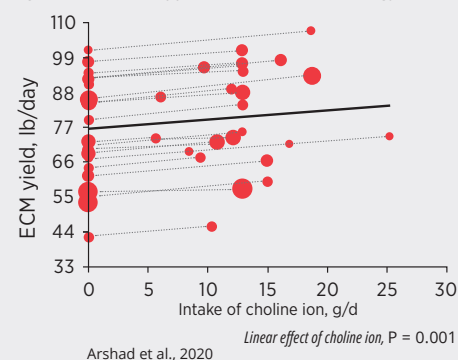
Over the past 25 years, research has shown an average of approximately 5 lbs/cow/day increase in milk production when diets are supplemented with ReaShure® Precision Release Choline during late gestation and early lactation.

Three recent peer-reviewed studies demonstrated a milk response ranging from 4.6 lbs/cow/day to 7.9 lbs/cow/day when cows were supplemented with rumen protected choline. The milk production responses were seen in very high producing cows, regardless of health status or body condition score.

### MILK PRODUCTION

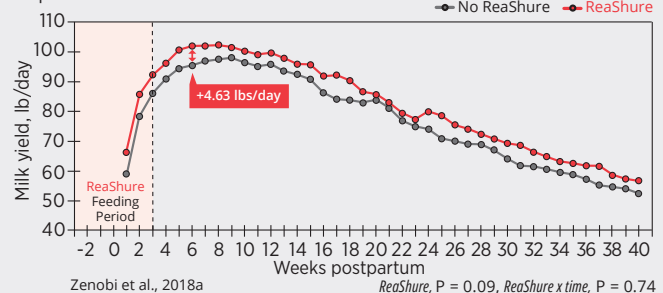
- Meta-analysis consisting of 21 studies, over 1,300 cows
- Average ECM response 4.80 lbs (2.18 kg) per day for cows fed choline (  $P = 0.001$  )
- ECM responses consistently positive across all studies for choline-fed cows
- ECM responses consistently positive across all milk production levels for cows fed choline

Figure 1 Effect of supplemental choline on energy corrected milk yield



- ReaShure fed 21 days prepartum through 21 days postpartum
- 4.63 lbs (2.1 kg) more milk/cow/day for entire lactation for ReaShure-fed cows (ReaShure,  $P = 0.09$ ; ReaShure x time,  $P = 0.74$ )
- 1,400 lbs (635 kg) more milk/cow/year for ReaShure-fed cows

Figure 2 Effect of feeding ReaShure during the transition period on milk production over the full lactation



- ReaShure fed 21 days prepartum through 21 days postpartum
- 6.83 lbs (3.1 kg) more ECM/cow/day during first 21 DIM for ReaShure-fed cows (ReaShure,  $P = 0.06$ ; ReaShure x Time,  $P = 0.92$ )
- 5.29 lbs (2.4 kg) more ECM/cow/day from three weeks through 12 weeks of lactation for ReaShure-fed cows
- 1,600 lbs (725 kg) more ECM/cow/year extrapolated over a 305-day lactation for ReaShure-fed cows

Figure 3 Effect of feeding ReaShure during the transition period on energy corrected milk over the first 15 weeks of lactation

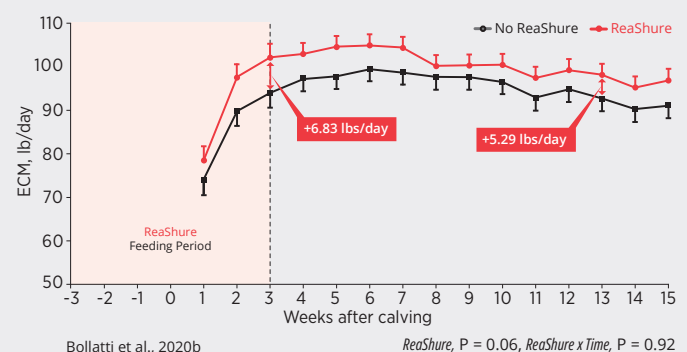
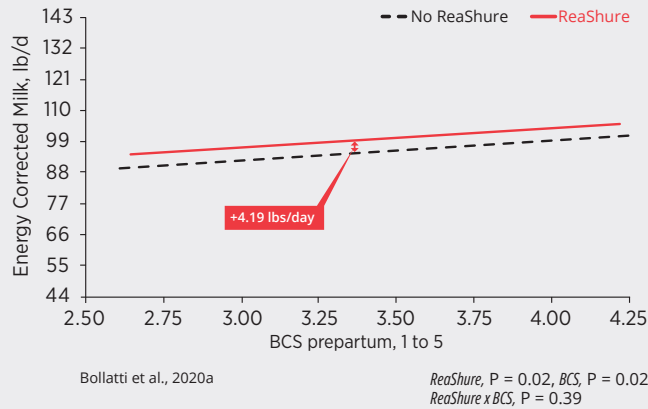
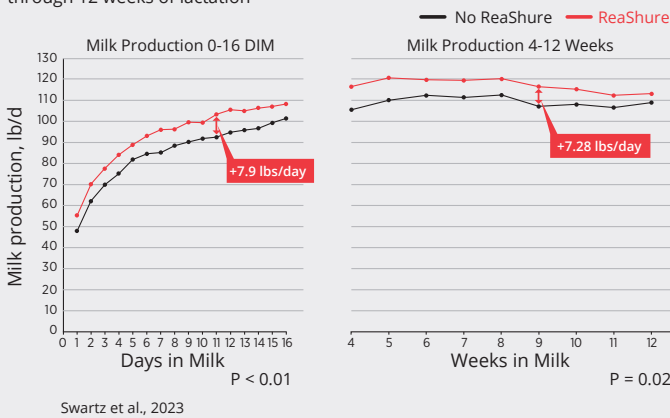


Figure 4 Energy corrected milk yield response to ReaShure irrespective of prepartum body condition score



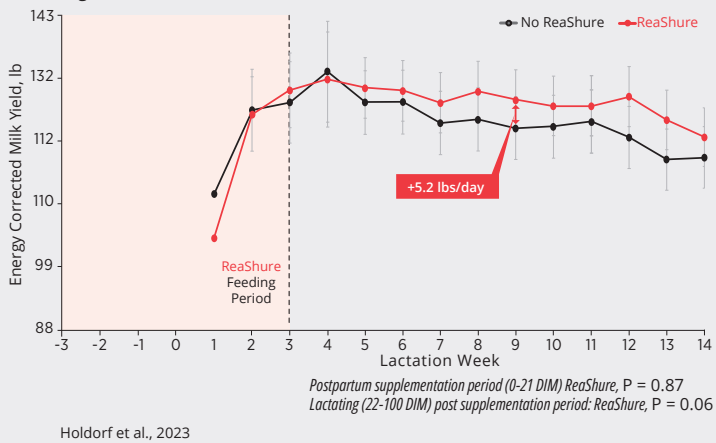
- ReaShure fed 21 days prepartum through 21 days postpartum
- 192 cows in study
- Positive response to ReaShure was similar irrespective of prepartum BCS (ReaShure, P = 0.02; BCS, P = 0.02; ReaShure x BCS, P = 0.39)
- Average treatment ECM = 96.34 lbs/d, average ReaShure ECM = 100.53 lbs/d, with an increase of 4.19 lbs/d

Figure 5 Effect of feeding ReaShure during the transition period on milk yield through 12 weeks of lactation



- ReaShure fed 21 days prepartum through 21 days postpartum
- Healthy, high producing cows (120 lbs peak) responded positively to ReaShure
- 7.90 lbs (3.6 kg) more milk/cow/day during first 16 DIM for cows fed ReaShure (P < 0.01)
- 7.28 lbs (3.3 kg) more milk/cow/day from 22 to 84 DIM for cows fed ReaShure (P = 0.02)
- 2,200 lbs (997 kg) more milk/cow/year extrapolated over a 305-day lactation for cows fed ReaShure

Figure 6 Effect of feeding ReaShure during transition on energy corrected milk yield through 14 weeks of lactation



- ReaShure fed 21 days prepartum through 21 days postpartum
- Healthy, high producing cows (132 lbs peak) responded positively to ReaShure
- 5.2 lbs (2.4 kg) more ECM/cow/day from 22 to 100 DIM for cows fed ReaShure (ReaShure, P = 0.06)
- 1,555 lbs (997 kg) more ECM/cow/year extrapolated over a 305-day lactation for cows fed ReaShure

The preponderance of data generated over the past two decades demonstrates that choline is recognized as a required nutrient to help essentially every cow meet and express her innate genetic potential. The response to ReaShure supplementation during the transition period has been remarkably consistent at approximately a 5 lbs (2.3 kg)/cow/day increase in ECM across all trials, and virtually all cows irrespective of health status, body condition score or milk production level. A short-term investment during the transition period can result in long-term returns through higher peaks and greater milk yields over the entire lactation.\*

Download the complete research summary featuring five studies by snapping the QR code at right.



# “SCIENTISTS SAY

## Choline is a Required Nutrient for Essentially Every Cow

Zenobi et al., 2018a  
Zenobi et al., 2018b  
Arshad et al., 2020  
Bollatti et al., 2020a  
Bollatti et al., 2020b  
Potts et al., 2020  
Swartz et al., 2022  
Holdorf et al., 2023  
Swartz et al., 2023  
Poindexter et al., 2023

### Milk Production

Zenobi et al., 2018a  
Arshad et al., 2020  
Bollatti et al., 2020a  
Holdorf et al., 2023  
Swartz et al., 2023

### Healthy Transition

Lima et al., 2012  
Zenobi et al., 2018b  
Arshad et al., 2020  
Arshad et al., 2022  
Poindexter et al., 2023

### Calf Health & Growth

Zenobi et al., 2018a  
Zenobi et al., 2022  
Holdorf et al., 2023

### Improved Colostrum Quantity

Zenobi et al. 2018a  
Bollatti et al. 2020b  
Swartz et al. 2022  
Holdorf et al. 2023



**ReaShure®**  
Precision Release Choline

This new science changes everything we thought we knew about choline's impact on the cow and her calf. ReaShure® *Precision Release Choline* is the original and most researched rumen protected choline source, so you can be sure you're getting the benefits you expect. Trust ReaShure and Balchem to impact her for generations. [Visit Balchem.com/ScientistsSay](https://www.balchem.com/ScientistsSay) to learn more.



5 Paragon Drive, Montvale, NJ 07645 USA  
Phone 845.326.5608 | [Website Balchem.com](https://www.balchem.com)

\*Benefits and Economics Technical Report © 2021.

All trademarks are property of Balchem Corporation © 2023 Balchem Corporation. All rights reserved. 2304-001 | 2023.18.07 Q250