

# Feedlot Performance Comparison

## Limousin x Jersey Cross Steers versus 100% Jersey Steers

Feeding and carcass trial compared Jersey steers with Limousin X Jersey (“Beef Builders”). All steers were under same feeding and management birth through finishing, except Zilmax\* was fed to two groups 30 days pre-harvest. Four groups were compared:

1. Beef Builders (LM x JE), No Zilmax
2. Straight Jersey, No Zilmax
3. Beef Builders (LM x JE), Zilmax\*
4. Straight Jersey, Zilmax

### Study Overview:

Steers fed at University of Minnesota (Rosemont); feed intake monitored with a Calen Gates feeding system for accurate feed efficacy data. Some steers were separated 30 days pre-harvest and fed Zilmax. Research led by Dr. Alfredo DiCostanzo, Professor of Beef Cattle Nutrition and Management. All steers were harvested 5/17/2013 at Tyson Foods, Dakota City, NE. Strip Loins and Clods were collected for shelf life, taste panel and tenderness studies (results pending).

### Summary of Feeding and Carcass Data:

Beef Builders (LM x JE) steers had considerably higher Feed to Gain (FTG), Average Daily Gain (ADG), a heavier hot carcass weight and a larger Ribeye. Zilmax-fed steers performed better in the feedlot with slightly higher ADG and FTG; however there were more Select quality grades in Zilmax-fed versus non-Zilmax groups. Zilmax cattle brought a more muscular carcass (larger REA & Lower YG) to the plant versus non- Zilmax cattle.

	LM x JE Steers No Zilmax	Jersey Steers No Zilmax	LM x JE Steers Zilmax*	Jersey Steers Zilmax
# Head	14	8	14	10
Start Wt (lbs)	1180	945	1124	1032
Avg Daily Gain (ADG)	2.73	1.21	3.24	1.53
Feed to Gain (FTG)	8.50	14.88	7.64	13.78
Harvest Wt (lbs)	1443	1056	1422	1167
Adj 63% Harvest Wt	1481	1081	1461	1199
Hot Carcass Weight (HCW)	909	680	896	736
Adj 63% ADG	3.28	1.49	3.66	1.82
Adj 63% FTG	7.18	12.1	6.77	11.47
<b>Quality Grades</b>				
% Prime	8%	0%	0%	10%
% Choice	92%	88%	64%	70%
% Select	0%	13%	36%	20%
Yield Grade (YG)	3.12	2.456	2.09	2.302
Rib Eye Area (REA)	13.87	11.37	15.74	12.36
Marbling	600	494	470	497
Back Fat (BF)	0.498	0.263	0.356	0.231

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