

## We use Carbon 2M™, and This Is What We've Found

Our family is proud to be a part of the RISKAN HOPE FARM legacy: producers of quality purebred and commercial cattle.

Our lives are very busy, not only with ranch work and other employment, but also with our children; daughter Jady, son Blake, and daughter Jordyn.

We initiated our herd of purebred red and black Simmentals in 2010, and studied their genetics to understand how sire and cow family bloodlines phenotypically display a lengthy, deep ribbed body with maximum muscle definition that are sure to add pounds to your calves. Calving ease is also a priority to us, with the goal of raising bulls that will work in your cow herd as well as your heifer pen.



To produce great bulls to suit other cattlemen's needs, their feed is an important part of development for sound performance animals. I do this by working closely with my feed rep to develop rations for my bulls, so I am confident that they will benefit my customers.



In 2014, I met the folks from Titan and learned about their Carbon 2M activated charcoal product. I learned that charcoal had been used in animal feeds for years in Europe. This intrigued me, so after further investigation I decided to try Carbon 2M for myself.

I thought back to when I was a young cattleman, and recalled a charcoal bolus that was used years ago to treat cattle when they were sick. The fact that Carbon 2M is an all-natural product really appealed to me. I like to try innovative products that I think can potentially enhance my cattle's health and well-being, so I approached Titan along with my feed rep, and decided to try it in the ration for my bulls.

I added Carbon 2M at an inclusion rate of 1% in my regular bull ration, and I was anxious to see what difference it would make. Even though the pellet colour was darker, there was no problem with palatability, and the bulls went onto the feed nicely. I also noticed right away that there was less smell in the bull's feces. (You might not think a person would notice, but believe me- you do!) That would suggest a reduction of ammonia. Not long after feeding the ration with Carbon 2M, I also noticed that the bulls were looking better, their coats shinier and they seemed healthier overall. It seemed like they generally performed better than they had the year before, and when I semen-tested my bulls, they tested well. To me these were all impressive results.

The 2014 results were good enough for me to want to try it again in 2015., so the following year I tried Carbon 2M in my Calf Creep and my Bull Ration for the season. This time I saw even better results. Not only did I see the same benefits as the year

For more information on our cattle or feed program, please contact us. We would love to hear from you.

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before, but this year I saw practically no coccidiosis in my calves. One calf showed symptoms but bounced back immediately after feeding it some pure charcoal. I have had people tell me that they have had charcoal prescribed to them for intestinal infections, and I know they use charcoal in the hospitals to treat people that have ingested toxic substances and in the vet clinics when animals get into poison. So, it only makes sense to me that the charcoal has a health benefit to it. Whether it meant removing impurities and toxins from their systems, I'm not entirely sure, but it's certainly promising.



To date, all I have seen is benefit from using Carbon 2M. 2020 feed season is upon us and I will keep using it!

*- Vern Luther*