

# Intake of Lactation Rations

The following table presents NRC 1989 estimates of dry matter intakes for lactating cows:

4% FAT CORRECTED MILK <sup>a</sup>	LIVEWEIGHT (kg)				
	400	500	600	700	800
kg	DRY MATTER INTAKE (kg)				
10	10.8	12.0	13.2	14.0	15.2
15	12.8	14.0	15.6	16.1	17.6
20	14.4	16.0	17.4	18.2	19.2
25	16.0	17.5	19.2	20.3	21.6
30	17.6	19.5	21.0	22.4	23.2
35	20.0	21.0	22.2	23.8	24.8
40	22.0	23.0	24.0	25.2	26.4
45	-	25.0	25.8	26.6	28.0
50	-	27.0	28.2	28.7	29.6
55	-	-	30.0	30.8	32.0
60	-	-	32.4	33.6	34.4

<sup>a</sup>4% Fat Corrected Milk = Milk(kg) x [0.4 + 0.15 x Fat (%)]

Dry matter intakes of cows in early lactation may be up to 18% less than those predicted in the table above.

for more information:

[Every Extra Pound is Profit](#), Alberta Dairy Management

[How Much Do Cows Eat?](#), Alberta Dairy Management

[What Manure Can \(and can't\) Tell You](#), Alberta Dairy Management

Nutrient Requirements of Dairy Cattle, NRC 1989