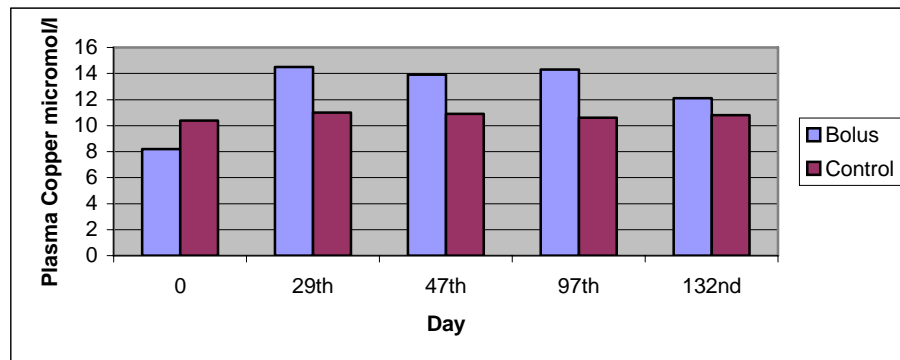


SmAllTrace for Calves (Trace element bolus for calves)

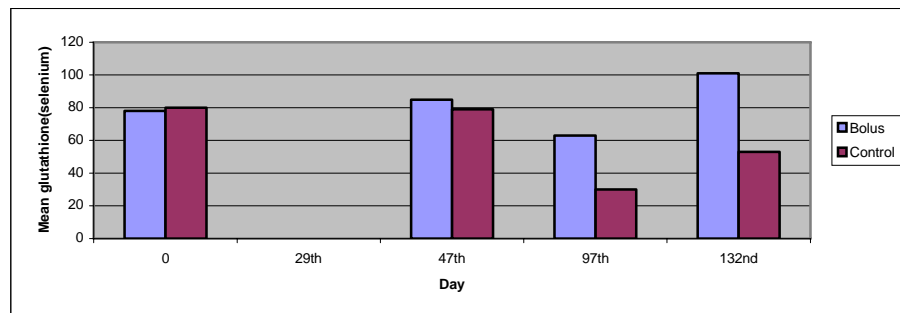
THE EFFECT OF A TRACE ELEMENT AND VITAMIN BOLUS ON BLOOD NUTRIENT LEVELS IN CALVES

Trial Location	Glasgow University Vet School.
Livestock	Suckler calves at grass.
Objectives	To determine whether the use of a bolus can lift the copper and selenium status of calves.
Method	16 suckler calves were split into 2 groups of 8 and paired on the basis of sex, age and LW. One group of calves was given 2 boluses while the others were left as controls. Blood samples were taken on day 1,29,47,97 and 143 to determine copper and GSHPx levels.

Mean plasma copper concentrations



Mean glutathione (selenium) activity



Results Both copper and selenium levels increased with time in the bolused animals. (Selenium level could not be detected on day 29).

Conclusion Supplementation of young stock with a bolus can significantly lift their blood selenium and copper status.