

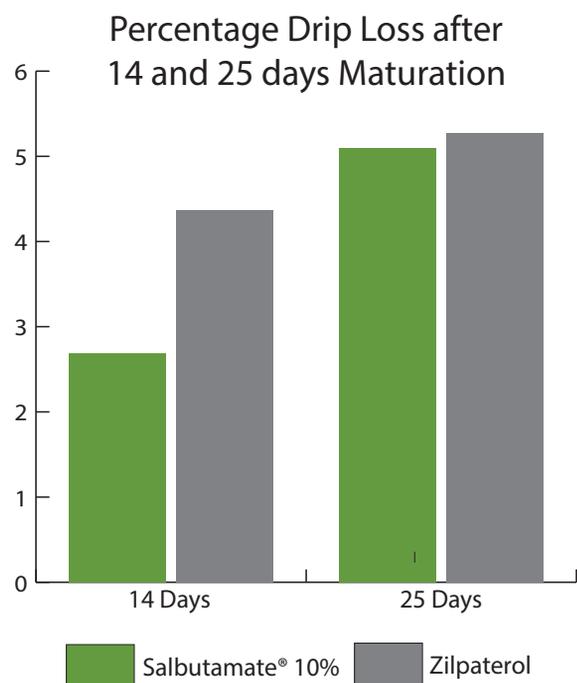
Beef Research: Drip Loss

INTRODUCTION

Drip loss naturally occurs in meat after slaughter. The amount of drip loss occurring can differ due to a multitude of factors. The cut of meat involved, the size of the cut involved (primal vs small portions of meat), temperature of meat storage, pH decline after slaughter, electric stimulation etc. are all factors that can greatly affect the amount of drip loss. It has also been documented that the Beta-agonist growth promoter fed in the finisher phase to feedlot cattle can have an effect on drip loss.

TRIAL INFORMATION

In this trial the *M. longissimus lumborum* (Sirloin) were sampled following a trial of Salbutamate[®] 10% fed to cattle for the last 40 days and Zilpaterol fed for the last 30 days. Meat was not electrically stimulated during the slaughtering process. The primal cuts from both sides of the carcass were collected, vacuum sealed and stored at 4°C for either 14 or 25 days.



RESULTS

The difference between the two 14 day treatments were statistically significant ($p=0.05$) with Zilpaterol at $4.37 \pm 0.07\%$ and Salbutamate[®] 10% at $2.68 \pm 0.007\%$.

At 25 days the difference between the 2 treatments were more comparable (5.27 for Zilpaterol and 5.09 for Salbutamate[®] 10%) indicating that the meat had reached its maximum drip loss. The rate of drip loss is therefore slower in Salbutamate[®] 10% treated meat than that of Zilpaterol up to the point where maximum drip loss had occurred.

* References available on request.

FOR MORE INFORMATION
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