

Go ahead, pick the sick one...



and while you're at it, the one that's efficient and the one that's ready for market.



GrowSafe Systems

Engineers Computer and Animal Scientists
“Big Data” Acquisition Analytics Platform

Applications for the Livestock Production Chain

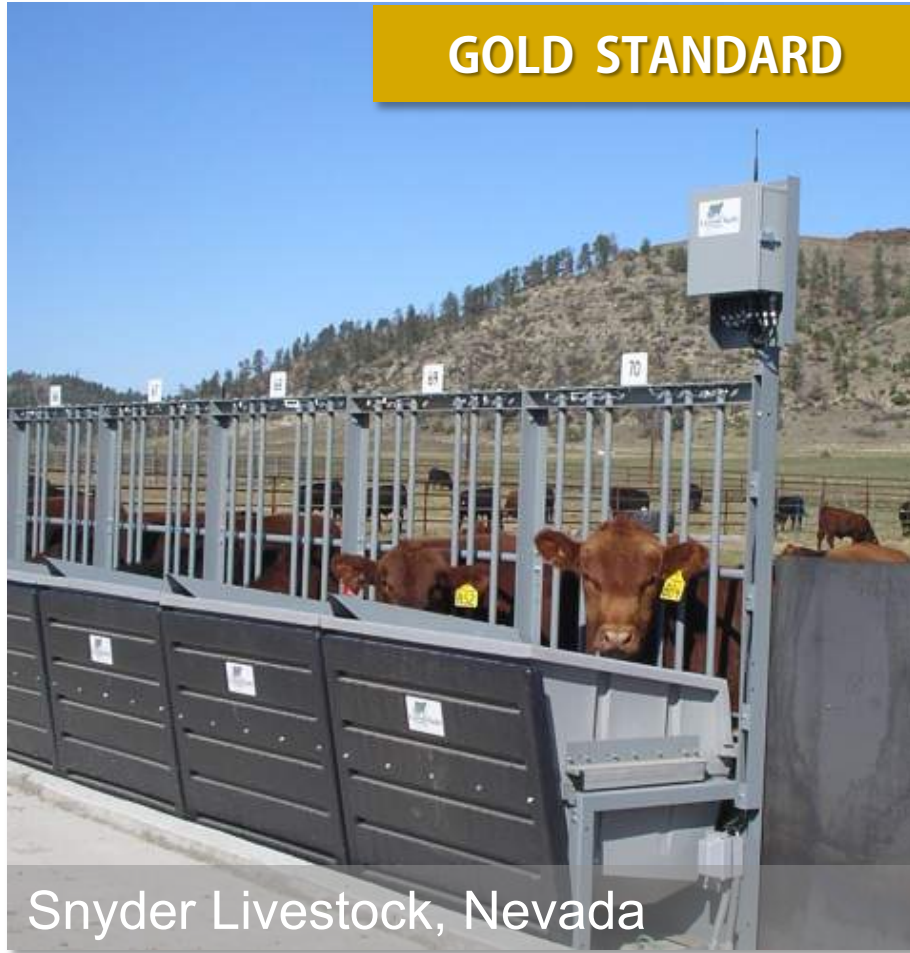
- **Seedstock, Research** – In market
- **Feedlot** – Trialed and scaling
- **Cow Calf, Dairy, Sheep** – POC



Measure Monitor Predict Mitigate Optimize

1st Application Seedstock

GOLD STANDARD



- Tagged with RFID tag
- Trough weight each sec.
- Software analyses and AUDITS data
- Automatically reports
 - individual feed intake and behavior each animal every day

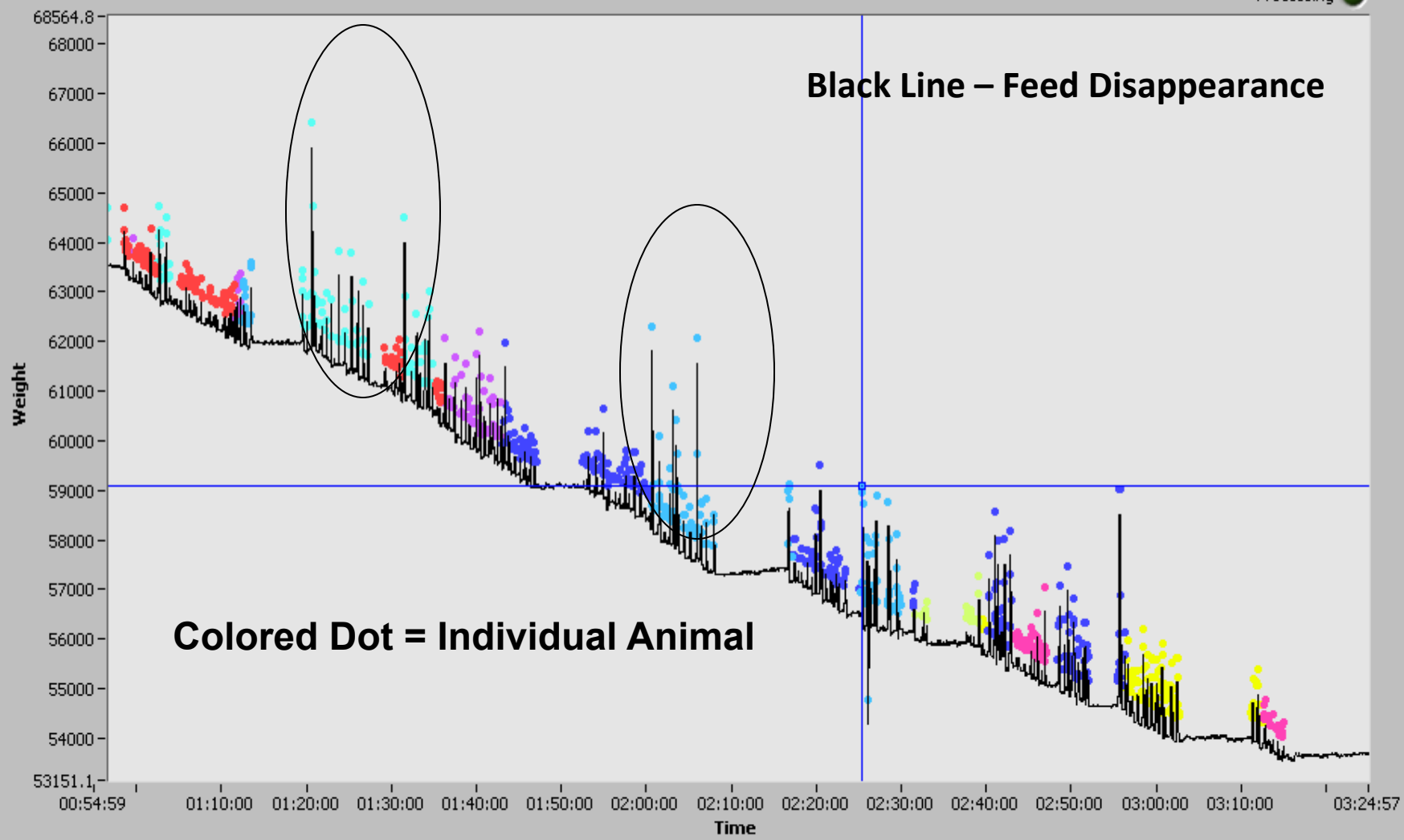
Always Connected to GrowSafe

Directory C:\Growsafe Data\active\trough weight

File Scale 020 << Prev. Other Next >>

Date 6/25/2008

Processing



Colored Dot = Individual Animal

Black Line – Feed Disappearance



Bckgnd Color

Weight filter
ON
OFF

Time
Weight



982000105501475 02:25:25 59090

Exit

Directory C:\Growsafe Data\active\trough weight

File Scale 022

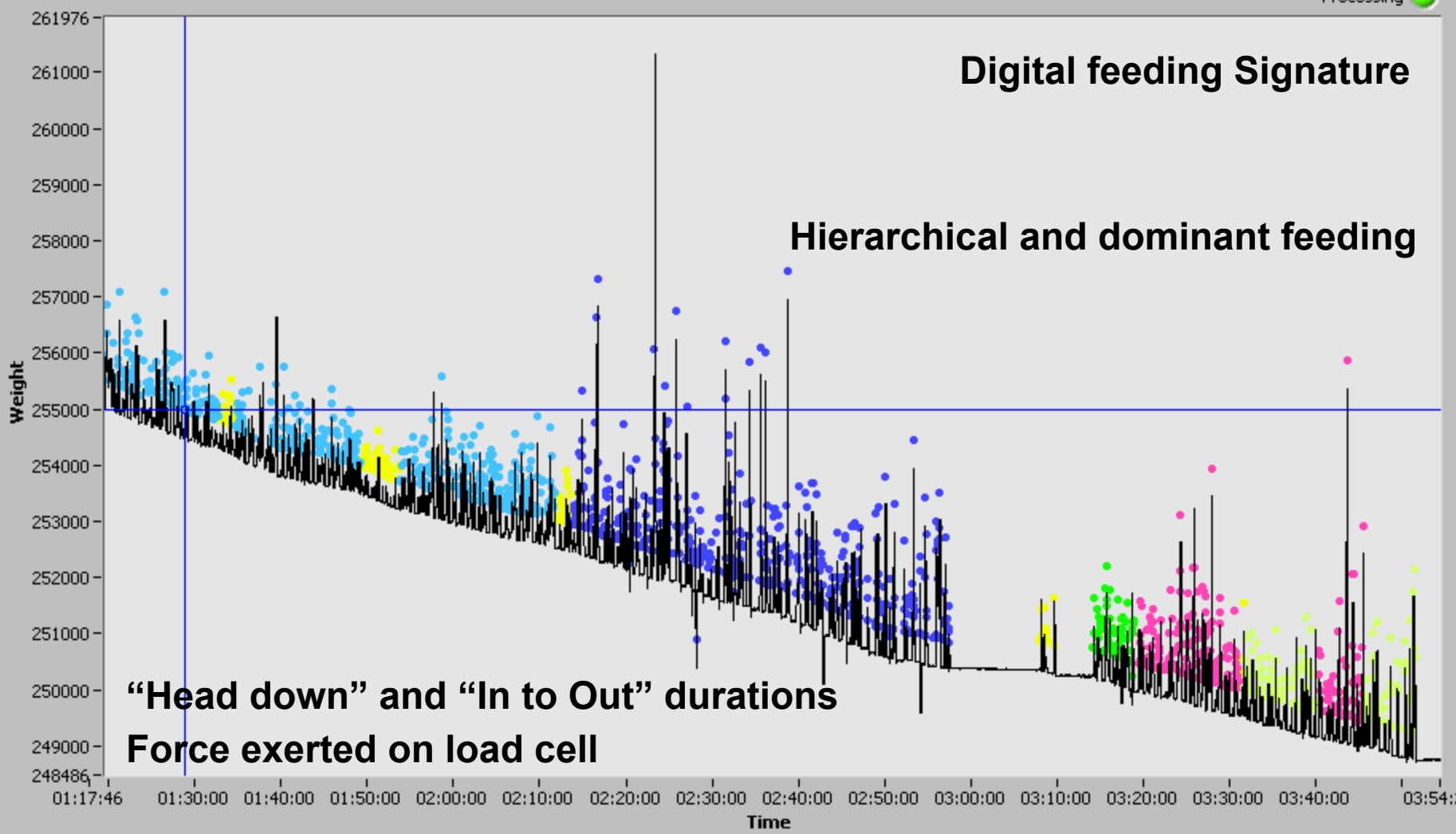
<< Prev.

Other

Next >>

Date 6/25/2008

Processing



Bckgnd Color

Weight filter
ON
OFF

Time

Weight



982000105485947

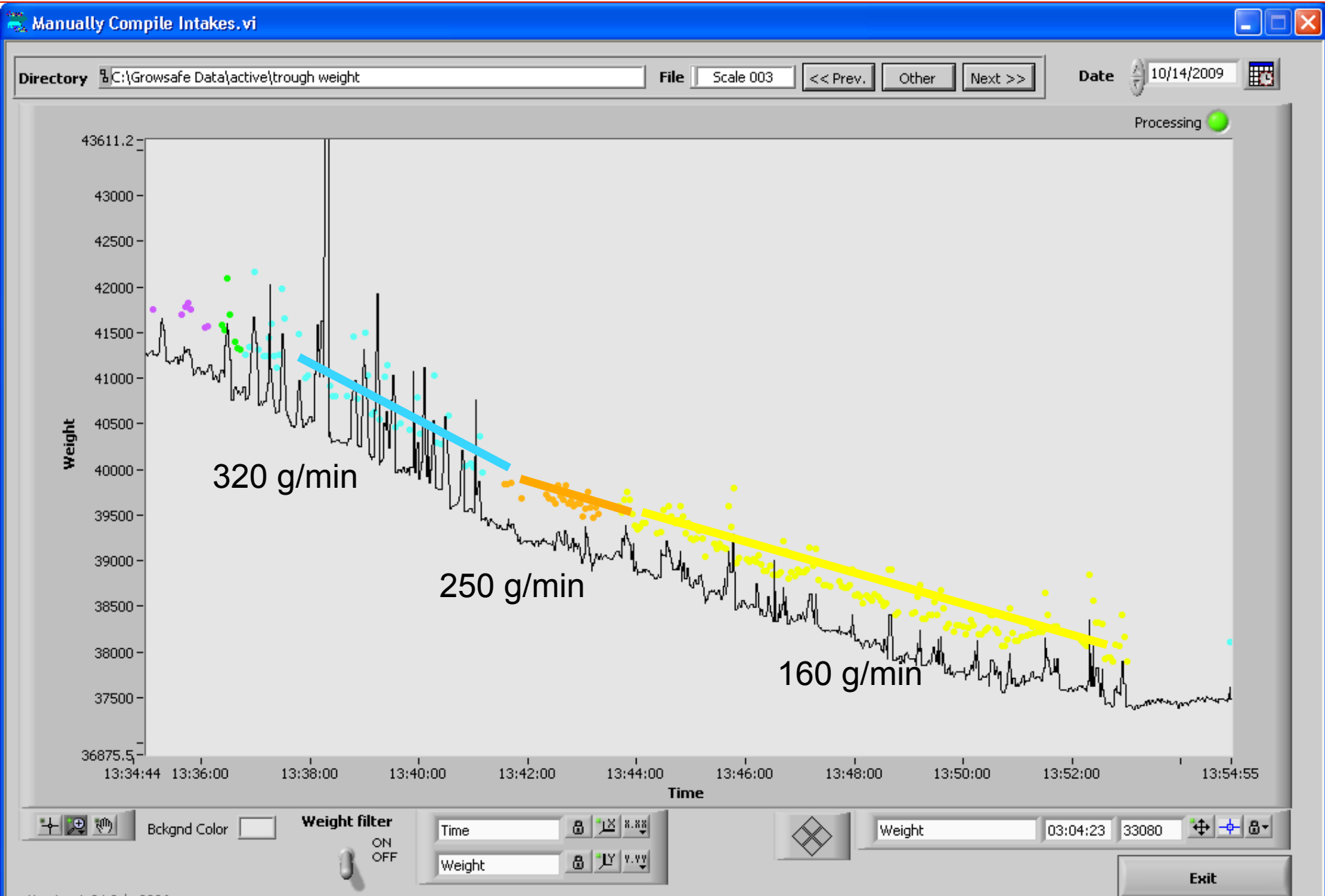
01:28:52

254980

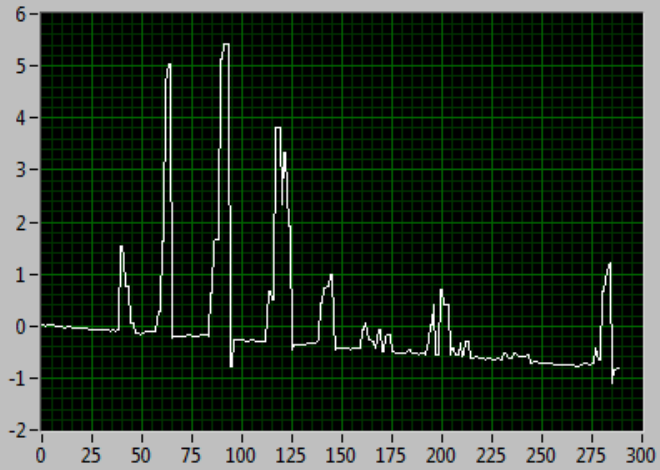


Exit

Feeding Rate Analyses

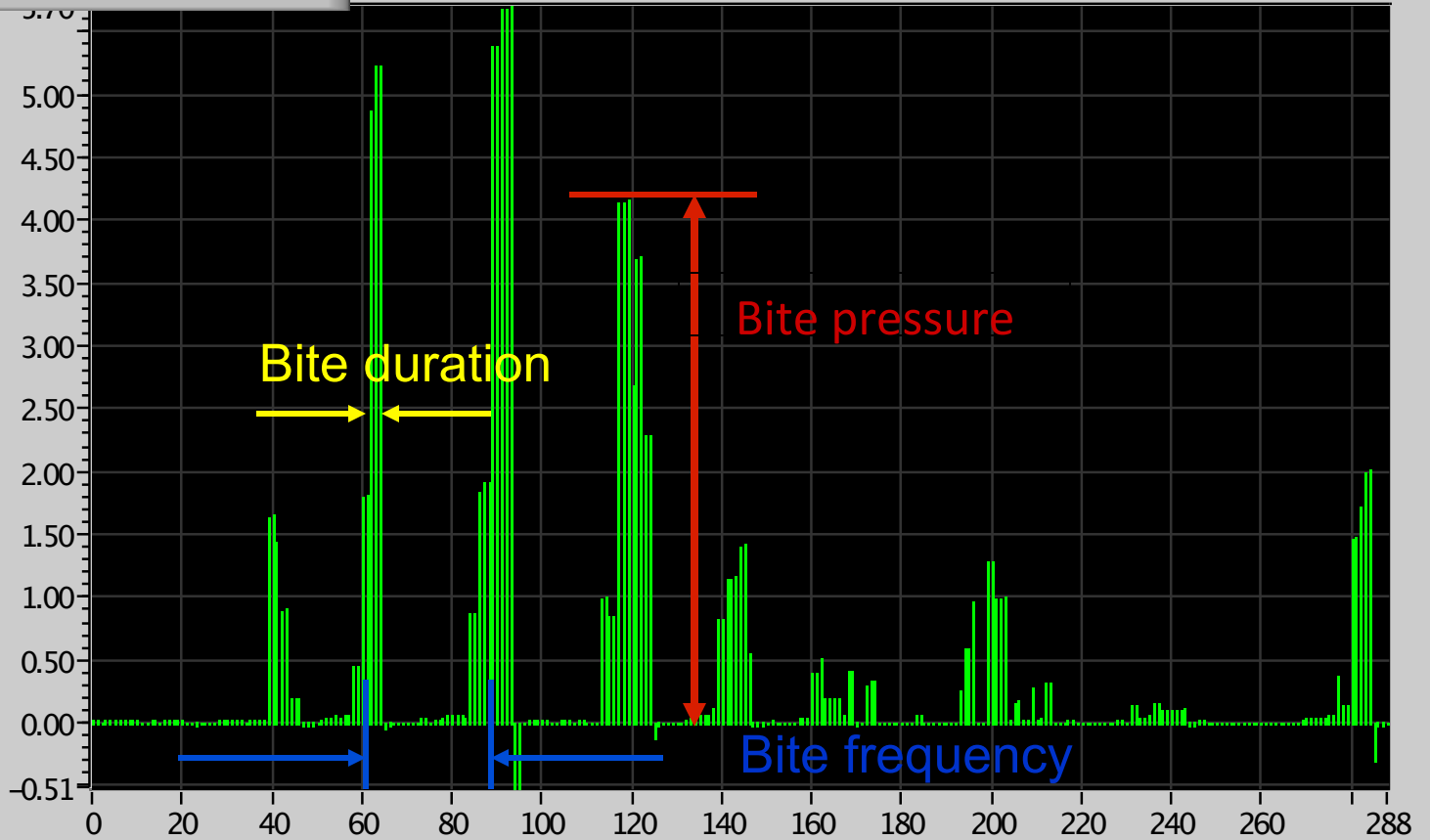


Raw Weight Data



Bite size Calculation

- Bite pressure – N
- Bite duration – sec.
- Bite frequency - Hz



2nd App - Feedlot - GrowSafe Beef

GrowSafe Beef[®]

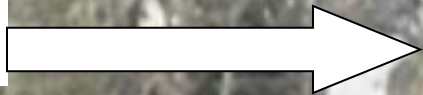


In Pen Measurement Unit
Data acquired when
animal drinks:

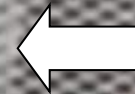
- Non-invasive
- RFID and data from multiple environmental and biometric sensors
- Automatic continuous
- Wireless

Always Connected to GrowSafe

Load
Cell

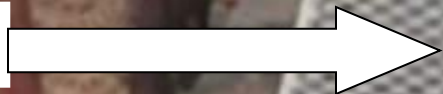


RFID Antenna



- Measures partial body weight
- Conversion partial to live weight and HCW highly accurate
- Accurate measurement daily gain

Front
Legs



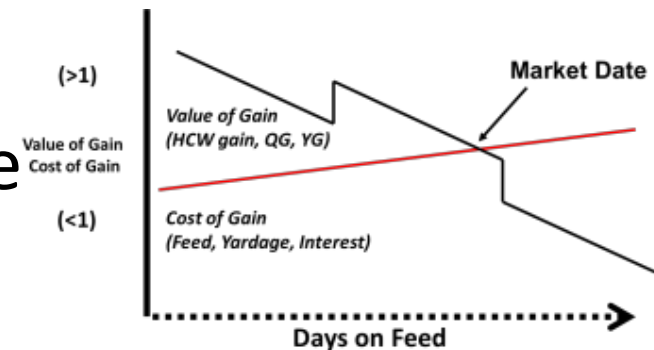
Water Intake and Behaviour



- Individual animal water intake measured by individual 'sinks'

Software 'Learning' Algorithms

- Integrates ration/treatment/harvest data
- Reports daily weight and growth statistics
- Accurately forecasts future feed intake and weight
- Digitally profiles animal health
 - ID sick 4d+ adv clinical symptoms
 - 24 hrs adv body temp change
- Determines optimum market time
 - When $COG=VOG$



More Data – More We Learn

Targets Health Outliers

System Triggers:



Marking



Medicating

Up to 4 Water Soluble Products

Unprecedented ability in real-time to:

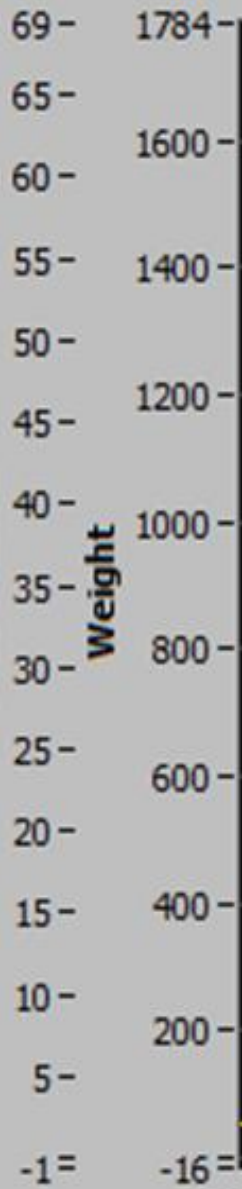
- Continuously and automatically track animals
- Identify disease before symptom expression
- Measure & predict future gain & market value
- Treat individuals without human intervention

Turnkey Technology Solution – \$12 per animal
80% Profit Improvements to Feedyard

Grey Bar = 1 day Feed Intake
Blue Dot = 1 day Water Intake
Red line = Growth

**DIED IN PEN:
NOT IDENTIFIED BY COWBOY**

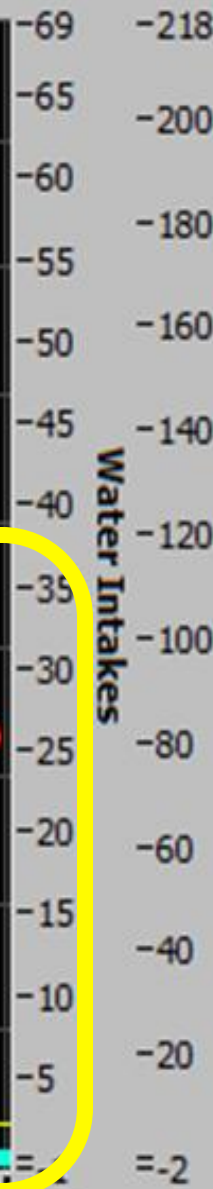
Feed Intakes



Weight

Water Intakes

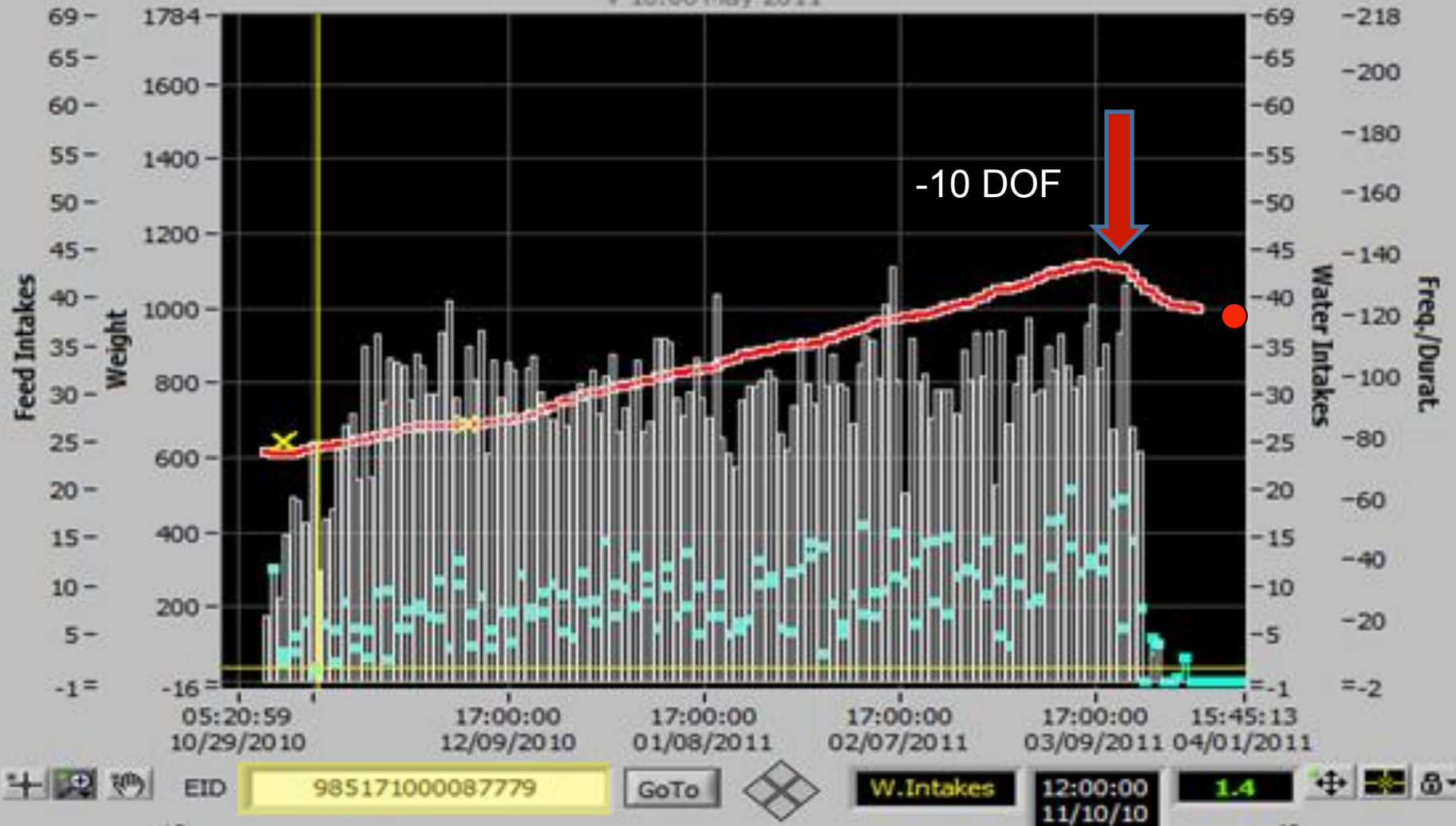
Freq./Durat.



00:28:53 10/30/2010 17:00:00 12/09/2010 17:00:00 01/08/2011 01:09:02 02/08/2011

Navigation and status bar containing icons for zoom, pan, and other controls. It includes an EID field with the value 985171000087627, a GoTo button, a W.Intakes label, a time field showing 12:00:00 on 11/10/10, and a numerical display showing 2.2.

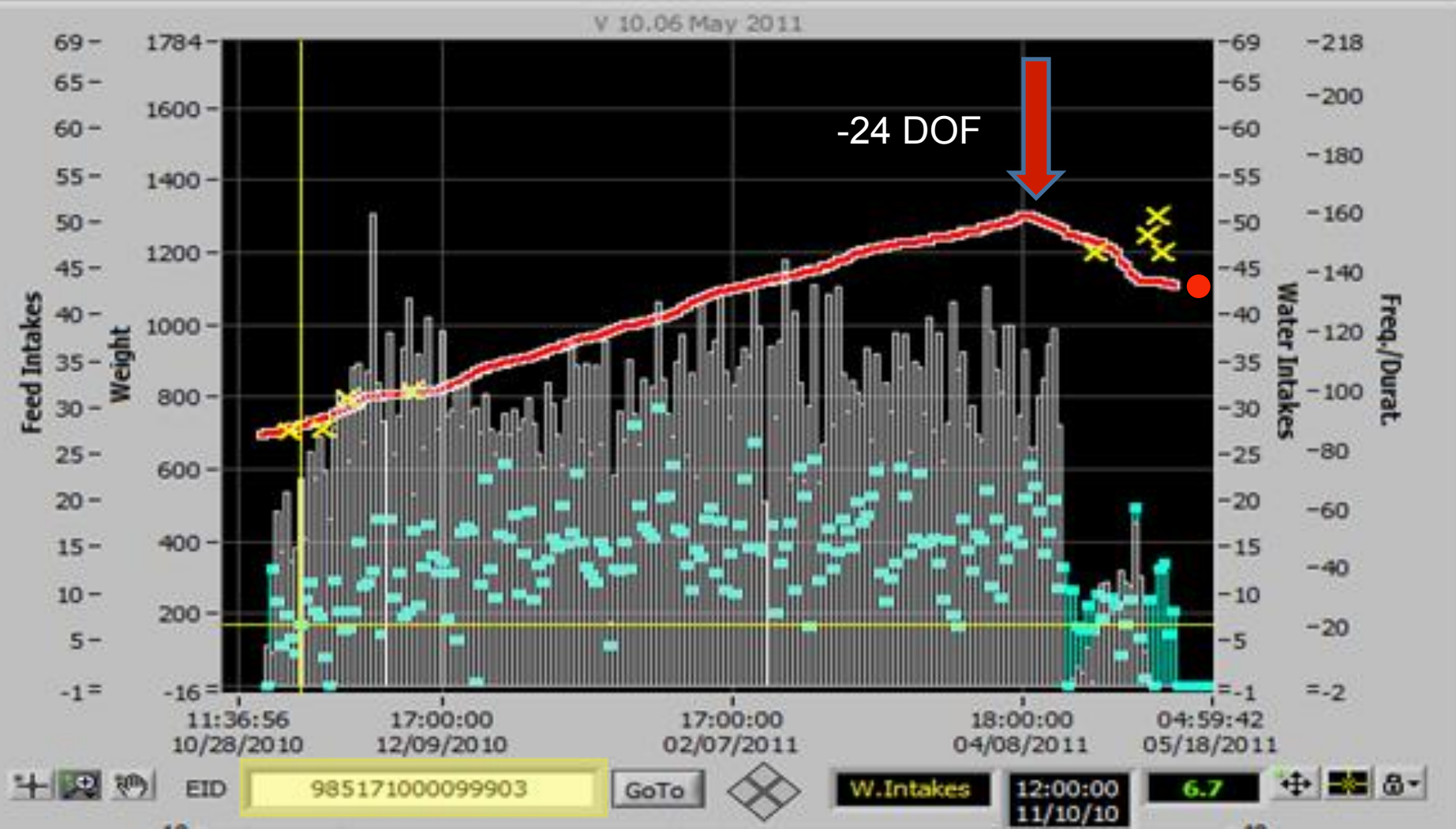
V 10.06 May 2011



~50 DOF

Animal VID#50 died in pen 2011-03-25 Bloat

No Cowboy Pull GS Pull 10d



Animal VID#153 Died 2011-05-10 Chronic Pneumonia

GS Pull -24 Cowboy Pull -16
 GS 8 days earlier than visual



3rd Application - Pasture

Animal Response = Pasture Measure





DMI to WI
correlation and
LOA

Defining “normal”
variation in DMI
and WI

Forage SR and
heifer RFI effects
on grazing heifer
ADG

Building models to
integrate pasture
and animal data

How GrowSafe Handles Data

Idaho Feedyard :

- 840 animals – Feed Intake
- 5400 animals – 36 pens GSB
 - 69M data points per day logged in GrowSafe native format:
 - Fast access, small archive
 - MSecs to find and read data

Existing databases can not handle large data volumes without extensive computer infrastructure

- At midnight 30 processes populate the Feedyard DB
- We leverage personal computer and the time available

A core 2 duo processor 2GHZ, 2GB RAM takes ~6 hrs to process data

Standard i5 PC has reduced processing time to 1.5 hours



IT Started Here - 2001



Collaboration

Alberta Agriculture
Olds College
Lacombe Research Center
Lethbridge Research Center

University of Alberta

Morison Farms
Cattleland Feedlots
All the Producers

Inspiration

Dr John Basarab

Dr. Stephen Moore

Dr. Denny Crews

Patrick Ramsey

Neil French

Dr. Erasmus Okine

Dr. Barry Irving

Dr. Karen Schwartzkopf-Genswein

Dr. Tim McAllister

Dr. Susan Marcus

Perspiration

Cletus Sehn

Vern Erickson

Connie Burton

Trevor Hamilton

Lisa McKeown

Brant Baker

All the Students

Alberta Leading Research

AGRI-FACTS
Practical Information for Alberta's Agriculture Industry

July 2006 Agiles 410/11-1

Residual Feed Intake (Net Feed Efficiency) in Beef Cattle

Improving the feed efficiency of a beef cattle herd can mean big savings for producers. One way to achieve this goal is to select breeding bulls that are naturally feed-efficient, since 60 to 90 per cent of the genetic improvement in a herd comes through the sire.

Benefits

On average, it costs \$50 less over 112 days to feed an efficient bull compared to an inefficient one. An efficient bull will pass on superior genetics for feed efficiency to his progeny, which will be realized as feed savings for calves in the feedlot and for replacement heifers entering the cow herd.

Feed is a major expense for cattle producers, second only to feed costs. With 75 per cent of the total feed cost used for maintenance in breeding cows, improving feed efficiency can have a big economic effect.

A 5 per cent improvement in feed efficiency could have an economic effect four times greater than a 5 per cent improvement in average daily gain. Improving feed efficiency will have an effect on the unit cost of production and the value of breeding stock, embryos, semen and feeder animals.

Residual feed intake

Residual Feed Intake (RFI) or net feed efficiency is defined as the difference between an animal's actual feed intake and its expected feed requirements for maintenance and growth. RFI is the variation in feed intake that remains after the requirements for maintenance and

growth have been met. Efficient animals eat less than expected and have a negative or low RFI, while inefficient animals eat more than expected and have a positive or high RFI (see Figure 1 and 2).

Considerable variation in RFI exists among individual animals within breeds or genetic crosses. This variation suggests that substantial progress can be made in RFI since the heritability of the trait is about 40 per cent.

Research

In the early 2000s, Dr. John Basarab and colleagues were the first in North America to integrate the concept of RFI with new advances in radio-frequency (RF) identification, wireless communication, RF detection, data acquisition and computer software integration (GrowSafe Systems Ltd., Airdrie, Alberta, Canada).

Their results were also the earliest in North America to show the relationships between RFI and carcass characteristics, body composition, heat production, methane and methane production. They were the first to uncover the economic potential associated with selecting beef cattle for RFI.

Based on this proof of concept work, a three-year feeding trial was organized and conducted at Olds College to identify feed efficient breeding bulls and to disseminate the RFI technology to the beef industry. The trial made use of the GrowSafe System to measure individual animal feed intake (see Figure 3).

Improving feed efficiency can have a big economic effect

Alberta
Agriculture, Food and
Rural Development

GrowSafe Testing

Where

100+ installations

23 US States

7 Canadian Provinces

10 Alberta Sites

Mexico

Australia

UK

Finland

Uruguay

Brazil

More than 40 Students

More than 450 publications

