

cantidades significativas en relación a los requerimientos. Mas aun, los análisis obtenidos de mezclas minerales colectadas a través de America Latina han demostrado, muy frecuentemente, poca relación entre las cantidades de los elementos que muestra la etiqueta y las concentraciones determinadas en el suplemento (McDowell et al., 1983). Por otro lado, algunos suplementos comerciales que contienen selenio, son distribuidos en regiones donde se han comprobado intoxicaciones por selenio en el ganado.

Los suplementos minerales son ofrecidos para corregir las deficiencias de elementos minerales en la dieta del ganado. La utilización de suplementos minerales específicos que consideren las concentraciones de los macrominerales y los minerales de traza en los suelos y forrajes de las diferentes zonas, ecológico-geográficas del país, es indispensable para maximizar la producción del ganado en pastoreo. En estos suplementos se debe considerar la relación calcio:fósforo, las interacciones entre elementos minerales, y la presencia de cantidades tóxicas de algunos minerales. Tambien se debe considerar el consumo del suplemento mineral que debe variar, por lo general, entre 50 y 150 gramos por día. Bonner, eds. New York: Academic Press.

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