

# Sustainable and efficient production of growing steers in the tropical pastures



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## Take home Message

**Ensure productivity, profitability and sustainability in the production of beef cattle on the pasture during the dry season**

### Introduction

The nutrition during the growing phase is critical to the development of the animal so that it can express the most of their genetic potential. In Brazil, during the winter (dry season) there is a reduction in the quantity and quality of forage. Thus, supplementation strategies are fundamental to the success of cattle production in pasture and keep good production rates during the winter is one of the biggest challenges of Brazilian beef cattle.

### Material and methods

This production system has been applied 2016 /2017 in two Brazilian states (São Paulo and Minas Gerais). The Research Center of Premix Company and partners farms were used to develop this production system. 2 thousand beef cattle (steers) were evaluated during one year. The parameters used were daily average gain and gain per area. The beginning of the project it is necessary to analyse the soil for possible corrections and design the fertilizations. The diet was based on forage and protein-energetic supplements (0.3% of live weight). The supplement used was added with natural additive (Fator P® – Premix Company). In winter was supplemented with corn silage; It was offered 1% of live weight in silage corn and 0.3% of the live weight in protein-energetic supplements with additive Fator P ®. At the end of the period, the productivity was calculated by summing the individual gains for the area used.

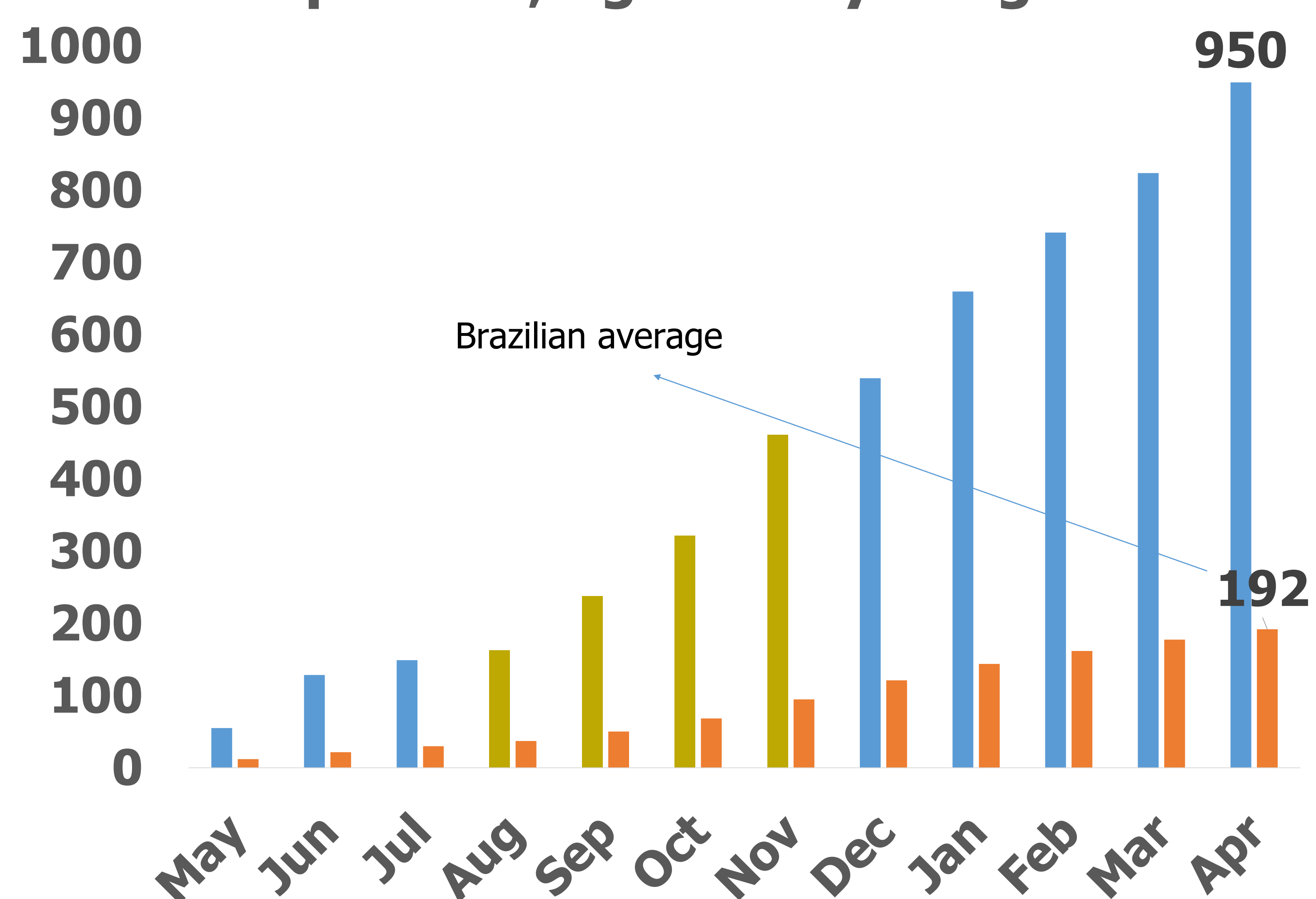
### Results & Discussion

The average daily gain of the animals was 620 grams per day and were produced 950 kg/ hectare/ year. This production is about five times higher than the average of the Brazilian national production. To succeed in this project it is necessary to increase the gains per area, so it is necessary to increase the capacity per area. The productive principles of this systems are:

- Increased individual gains - better supplementation;
- Increase of productive units (light animals);
- Better forage quality;
- Forage conservation (silage or hay) for winter;
- Use the natural additives.

Use of integrated systems (agriculture-livestock) is important in pasture reforms and the environment.

### Cumulative production per hectare of pasture, kg of body weight



PECUÁRIA DE VALOR SUSTENTÁVEL PREMIX

**The sustainable production of beef cattle on pasture can be ensured with better use of forage, efficient supplementation, natural additives and additional roughage in the dry season**

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