

The potential of canola meal as a supplement for grass fed beef



Outline

Variability of pasture

Problems associated with grassfed beef

Potential solutions:

- to overcome this pasture gap
- still compliant with PCAS

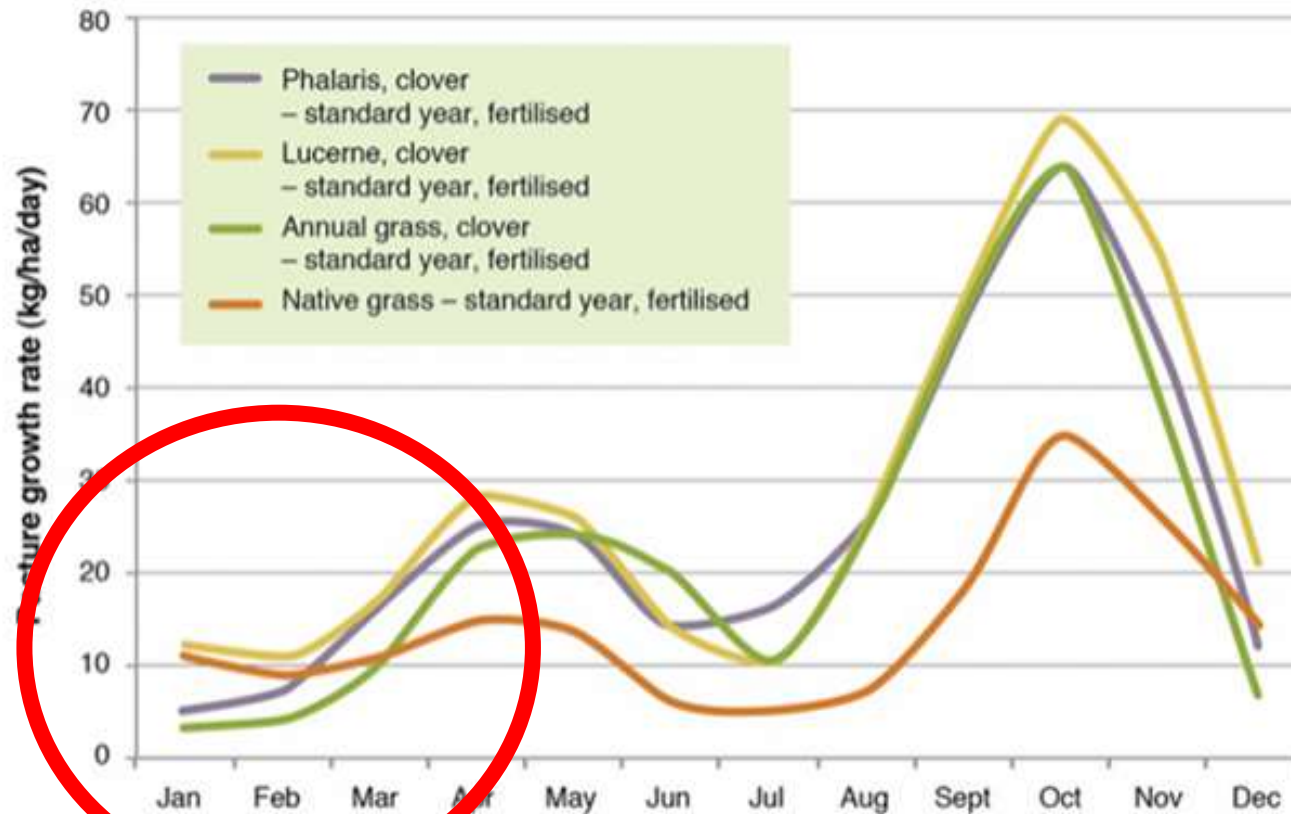
The trial itself

- Design
- Results

What does this mean for producers?



Variable pasture supply



South West Slopes, NSW

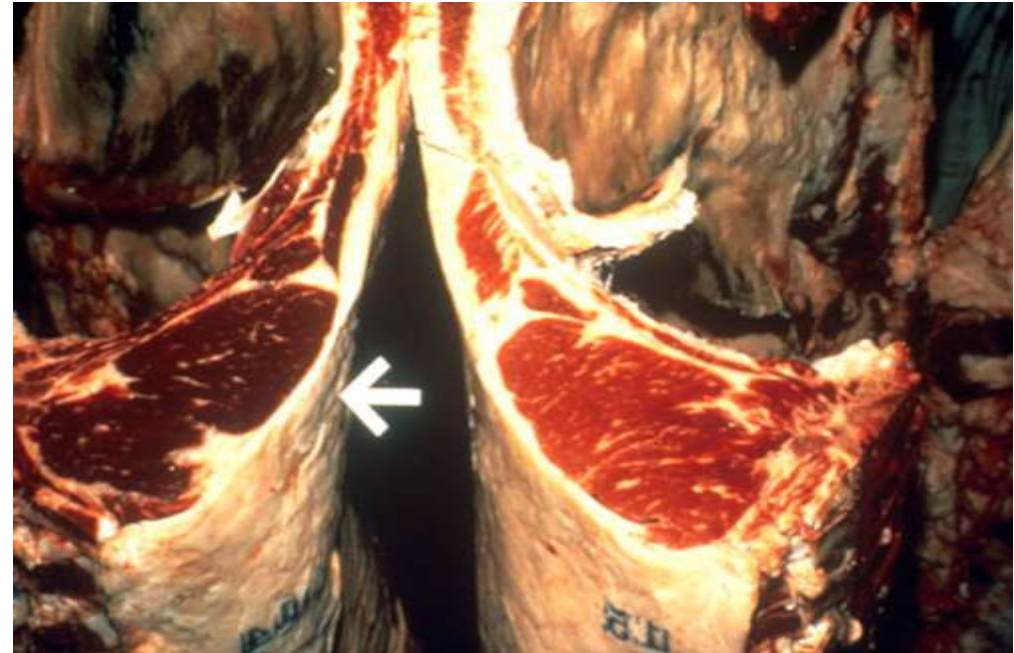
Issues with supplying grassfed beef?

Dark cutting

Seasonal pasture variation

Quality

Constant all year-round supply of product



Potential solutions

PCAS

- Pasturefed cattle assurance system standards
- A certified pasturefed, HGP free and antibiotic free system

Approved supplements

- Canola meal
- Cottonseed meal
- Soybean meal
- Coconut meal
- Peanut meal
- Rice hulls
- Oat hulls

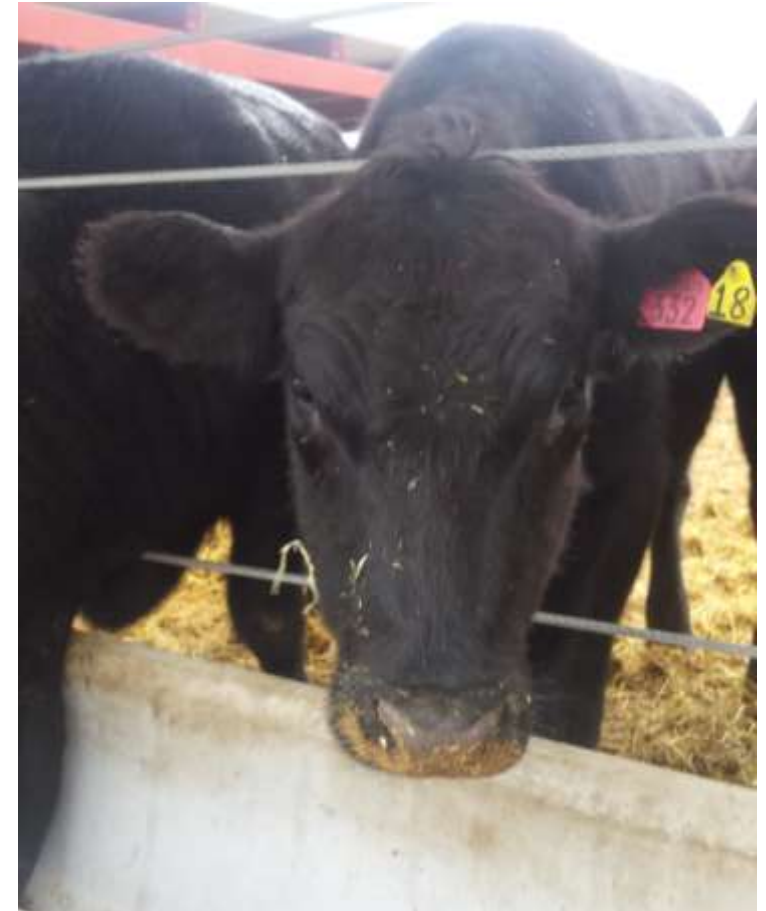


Why Canola meal?

Good source of protein, minerals, particularly phosphorus

Readily available in Wagga Wagga – Riverina Oils and BioEnergy (ROBE)

Certified non GM, a by – product from the oil refining process



Supplementing grassfed beef with canola meal to determine live animal performance, carcass quality and omega -3 fatty acids



Trial design

40 Angus steers

2 treatment groups:

- Treat 1; Pellets
- Treat 2; Canola meal

8 pens:

- 5 steers per/pen

Induction weight 474kg



Diet

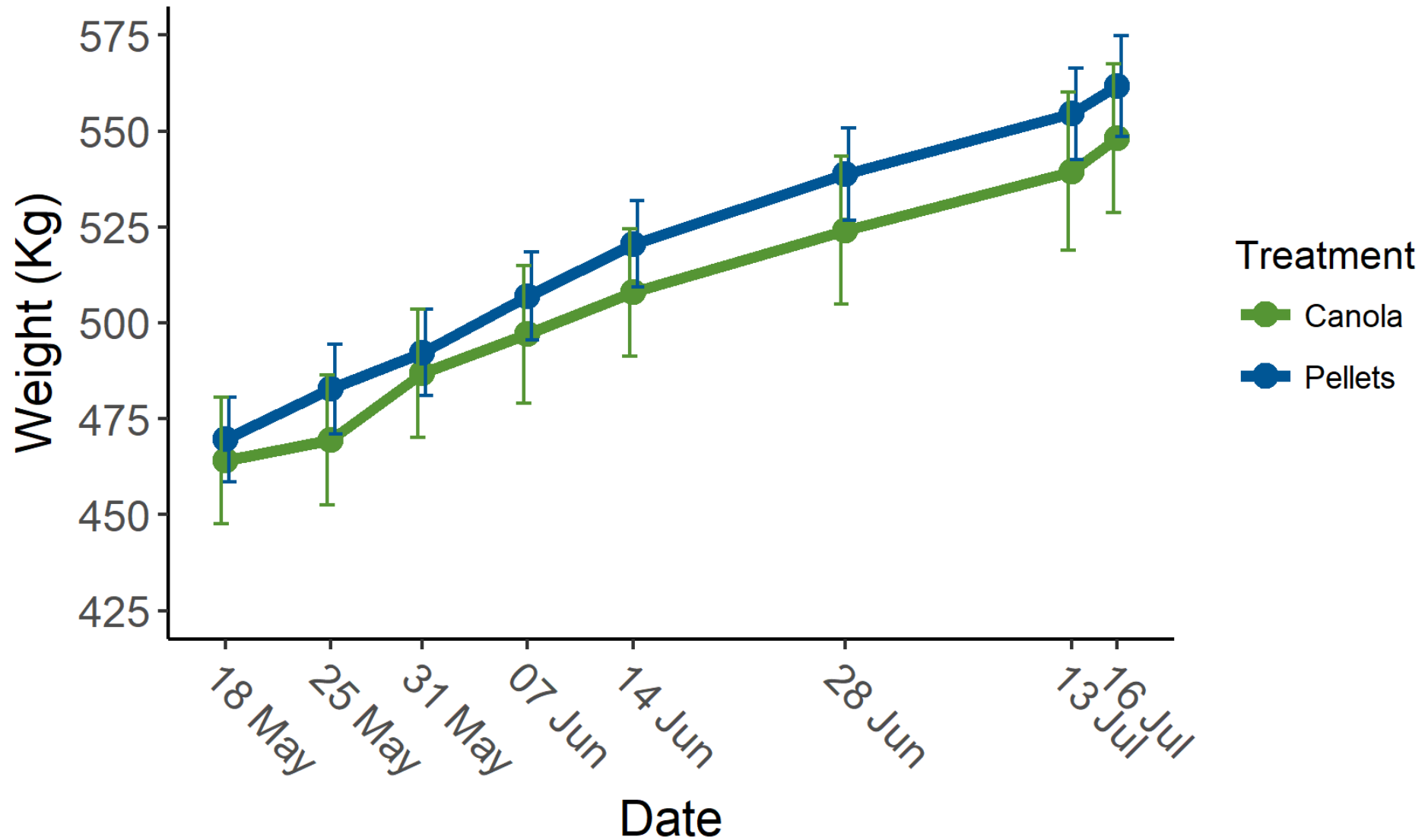
- 2.5kg Canola meal/head/day
- 2.5kg Pellets/head/day
- Hay fed ad lib

Table 1. Comparison of Canola meal and Pellets used throughout the trial

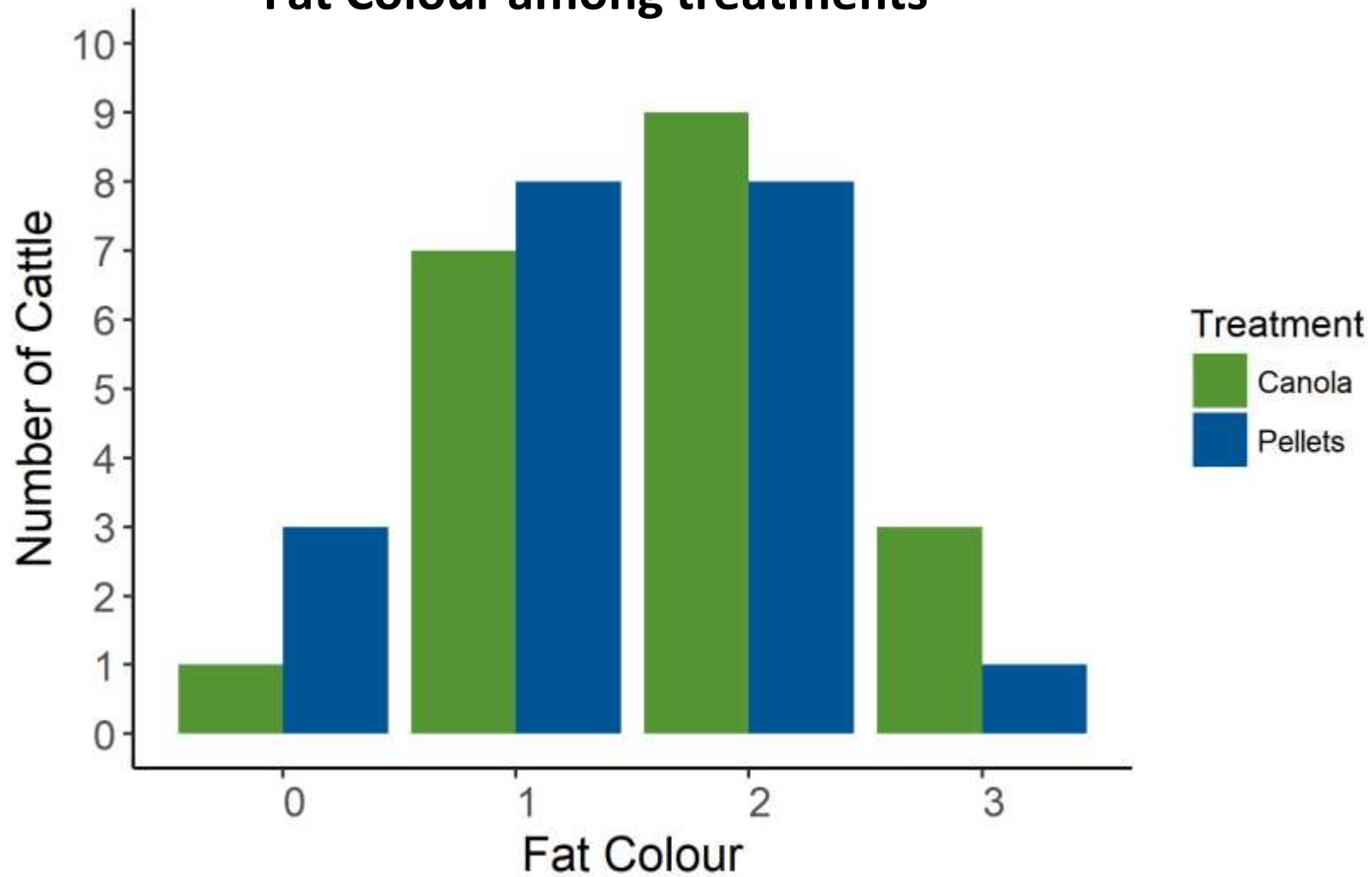
	DM (%)	ME (MJ/kg DM)	CP (%)	NDF (%)	ADF (%)	Price
Canola Meal	90	11.9	37.7	32	21	\$345
Pellets	93.1	11.9	20.1	31	11	\$345



Weight gain in canola fed steers versus pellet fed

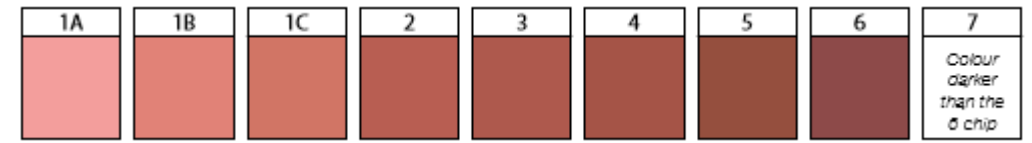
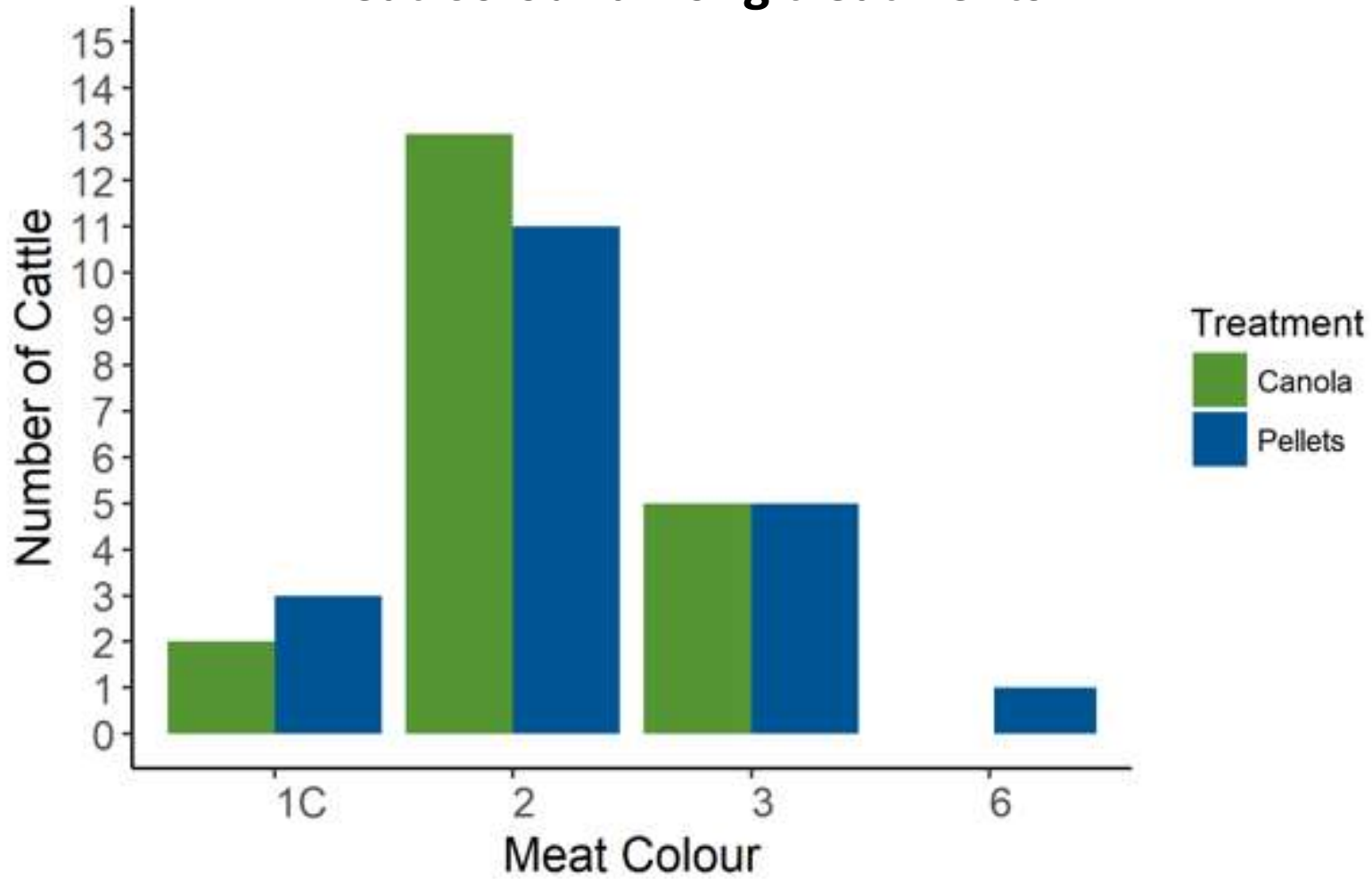


Fat Colour among treatments



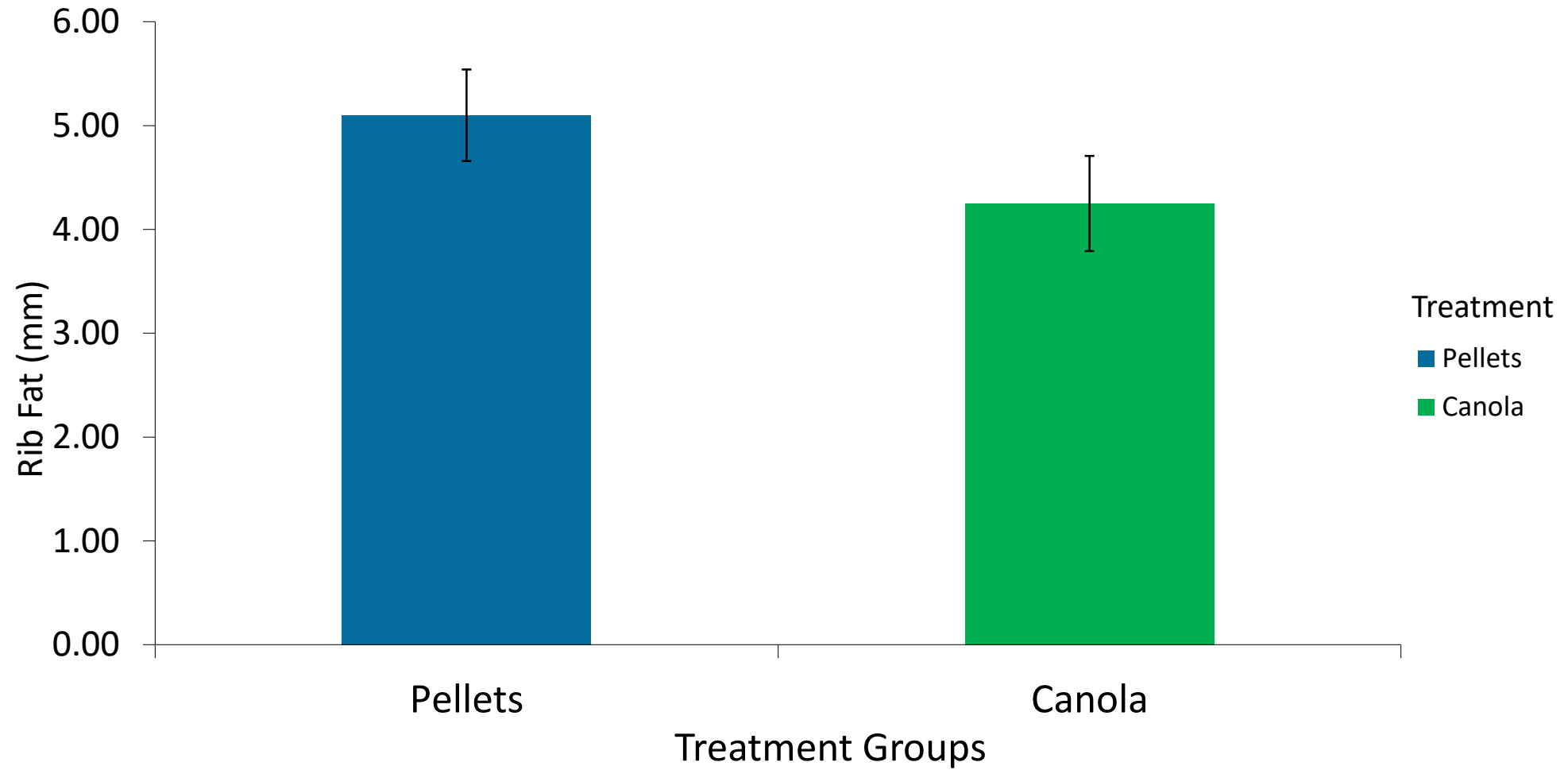
AUS-MEAT Fat Colour scale

Meat Colour among treatments



AUS-MEAT Meat Colour Scale

Rib Fat among treatments



What does this mean for producers/processors?

Fill's the pasture gap

Potential to improve meat quality

Omega-3 fatty acids -> Human health benefits?

PCAS accredited -> \$\$\$



Questions

