

# SPANISH VERSION OF TAURUS: A BEEF MANAGEMENT SOFTWARE PACKAGE

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## ABSTRACT

Taurus program, an integrated software package developed by the University of California is available in Spanish. It consists of three modules: a module for formulation and evaluation of rations (Taurus), a module for prediction of the performance, costs and returns of a cattle operation (Profit Projection), and a module for estimation of energy values of feeds based on its proximate analyses (Feed Tag).

At present, the modules will be only partially translated into Spanish. All of the help messages windows, feed libraries, and customizable reports will be in Spanish. The data entry screens (field names, etc.) will be in English, with fully translated equivalent screens available in the User's Manual for users less familiar with the English terms. The user's manual will be fully translated to Spanish.

**KEYWORDS.** Ration formulation, Beef cattle, Spanish translation.

## HELP FILES

The Taurus package consists of four interdependent programs: Taurus, Feed Library Editor, Feed Tag and Profit Projection. Each of these programs have their own help facility, and each help file relates to a specific data entry screen in the program.

The Taurus program help messages are contained in seven text files with the extension .hlp:

- General.hlp (help for animal information screen)
- Nutrient.hlp (help for nutrient constraints screen)
- Feedlist.hlp (help for feed list screen)
- Groups.hlp (help for feed groups screen)
- Ratios.hlp (help for ratio screen)
- Loading.hlp (help for loading and unloading screens)
- Output.hlp (help for output screens)

These files are external to the program, and because of these feature the text in these files can be edited and changed to any language using a word processor, by retrieving the desired file, typing the new text and saving the new file in ASCII format (i.e. CTL-F5 in Word Perfect). The help files in the different languages can be saved under names such as General.eng, General.spa, and the one that needs to be used can be copied into the Taurus directory under the name General.hlp (by typing Copy \*.spa \*.hlp from the DOS prompt, if Spanish is the selected language). The program will only recognize any one of the seven file names listed above.

The Feed Library Editor program help messages are internal to the program and can not be modified.

The Feed Tag program help message is also internal to the program and can not be modified.

The Profit Projection program help messages are contained in two text files with the extension .hlp:

- PP.hlp (help for input screens)
- Output.hlp (help for output screens)

These two files, like those in Taurus, are external to the program and can be translated in the same way that Taurus help files can.

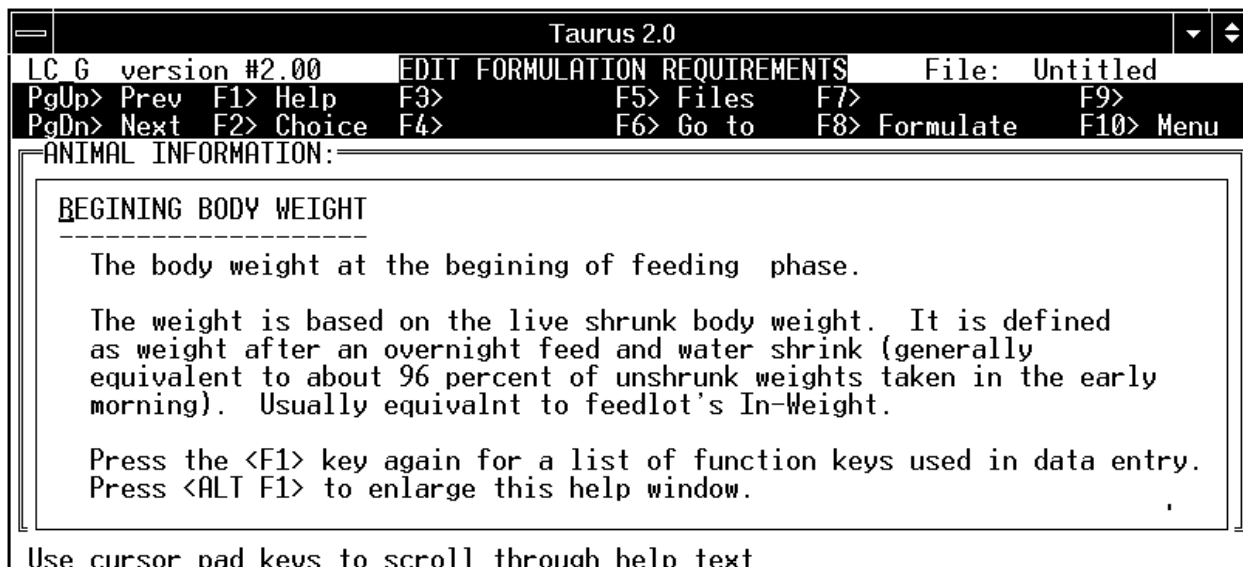


Figure 1. Display of sample help message in English.

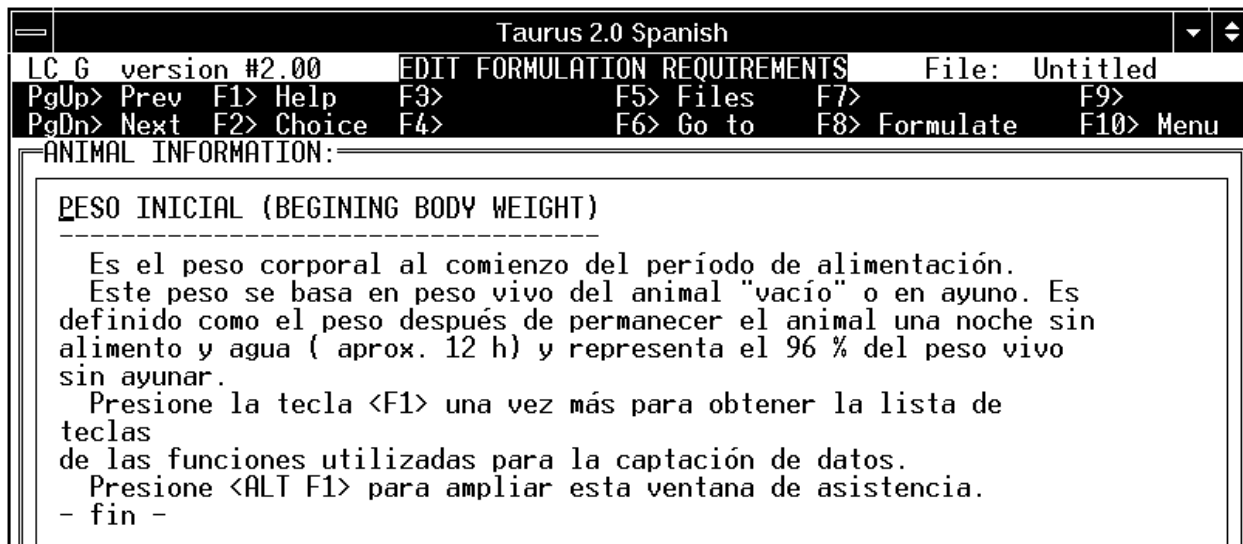


Figure 2. Display of sample help message in Spanish.

## HELP FILE FORMAT

Each help file consists of a series of help messages. Each help message consists of a **KEYWORD**, such as **\*RATION NAME** or **\*BEGINWT**, preceded by an asterisk in the first column. The **TITLE** comes next, followed by the **BODY** of the help message. The keyword must remain the same, but the title and the body of the message can be translated. The program recognizes the asterisk/keyword as the beginning and end of a new

help message, as illustrated bellow. The program will bring into the help window any text contained between the two keywords. Following is an example of the format of the help file:

*\*RATION NAME*

*TITULO DE LA RACION (RATION TITLE)*

*Entre un nombre, direcci3n u otro tipo de identificaci3n para su raci3n en estas dos lineas. Este titulo sera imprimido en la parte superior de todos los reportes generados para esta raci3n,....*

During data entry, when the cursor is on a certain field, this field has a keyword which is the same as the keyword in the help file. When press F1 for help, the program searches the specific help file for that keyword and brings that help message into the screen. Figures 1 and 2 illustrate the help message for beginning body weight, from the General.hlp file, in English and Spanish, respectively. The same procedure was followed in the translation of all other help message files in Taurus.

Taurus 2.0

LC 6 version #2.00 EDIT FORMULATION REQUIREMENTS File: Untitled

PgUp> Prev F1> Help F3> F5> Files F7> F9>  
PgDn> Next F2> Choice F4> F6> Go to F8> Formulate F10> Menu

FEED LIST:

Lib Feed	Code No.	Name	PRICE \$/ton	MINIMUM Amount Unit	MAXIMUM Amount Unit	Edit Feed?
STD 4	4	ALFALFA dehy 17% P	0.00	0.0000	0.0000	N
STD 31	31	ALMOND hulls 20% CF	0.00	0.0000	0.0000	N
STD 160	160	CACTUS spineless	0.00	0.0000	0.0000	N
STD 161	161	CALCIUM carbonate	0.00	0.0000	0.0000	N
STD 230	230	CORN grain cracked	0.00	0.0000	0.0000	N
STD 249	249	COTTON sd mech 41%cp	0.00	0.0000	0.0000	N
STD 266	266	EGGS wo shells dried	0.00	0.0000	0.0000	N
STD 382	382	MOLASSES Brown	0.00	0.0000	0.0000	N
STD 479	479	POTASSIUM bicar	0.00	0.0000	0.0000	N
STD 614	614	SORGHUM SUD ear veg	0.00	0.0000	0.0000	N
STD 674	674	UREA 42% nitrogen	0.00	0.0000	0.0000	N

Press <F2> for choice list. Press <space bar> <Enter> to delete.

Figure 3. A sample feed list in English.

Taurus 2.0 Spanish

LC 6 version #2.00 EDIT FORMULATION REQUIREMENTS File: Untitled

PgUp> Prev F1> Help F3> F5> Files F7> F9>  
PgDn> Next F2> Choice F4> F6> Go to F8> Formulate F10> Menu

FEED LIST:

Lib Feed	Code No.	Name	PRICE \$/ton	MINIMUM Amount Unit	MAXIMUM Amount Unit	Edit Feed?
STD 4	4	ALFALFA deshid 17% P	0.00	0.0000	0.0000	N
STD 31	31	ALMENDRA casc 20% FC	0.00	0.0000	0.0000	N
STD 160	160	NOPAL sin espinas	0.00	0.0000	0.0000	N
STD 161	161	CALCIO carbonato de	0.00	0.0000	0.0000	N
STD 230	230	MAIZ grano quebrado	0.00	0.0000	0.0000	N
STD 249	249	ALGODON pasta mec 41	0.00	0.0000	0.0000	N
STD 266	266	HUEVOS sin casc seco	0.00	0.0000	0.0000	N
STD 382	382	MELAZA cafe	0.00	0.0000	0.0000	N
STD 479	479	POTASIO bicarbonato	0.00	0.0000	0.0000	N
STD 614	614	SUDAN tierno fresco	0.00	0.0000	0.0000	N
STD 674	674	UREA 42% nitrogeno	0.00	0.0000	0.0000	N

Press the <Insert> key to toggle choices, or <F2> to list choices

Figure 4. A sample feed list in Spanish.

## **TAURUS FEED LIBRARIES**

Taurus feed libraries consist of four database files:

- Standard feed library (Taustd.dbf)
- Alternate feed library (Taualt.dbf)
- Infeasible feed library (Tauinf.dbf)
- Group feed library (Taugrp.dbf)

The standard feed library was also translated to Spanish. These files are in the dBASE-III PLUS file format, so they can easily be accessed with the dBASE program, outside of the Taurus package, and modified by using the BROWSE command. The only thing that you would want to change is the NAME field because the nutrient names are standard.

The same editing can also be accomplished using the FEED LIBRARY EDITOR in the Taurus program. Selecting "O" (other library) from the FEED LIBRARY menu, pressing "S" (standard library) to access the standard library feeds, then typing the feed name in Spanish under the FEED NAME field in the edit screen, this will be done individually for each feed. Figure 3 illustrates a portion of the standard feed library list in English. Figure 4 illustrates the same portion of the standard feed library list after translation into Spanish. The other feed libraries may be translated in the same way.

In cases like that of the Feed Tag help message which can not be modified, we provide a fully translated help message in the Taurus Spanish Version User's Manual, for reference, for those users less familiar with the English terms. Similarly, as in the case of this Feed Tag help screen, the Spanish version of the manual contains fully translated copies of all the program screens.

One of the projects we are working on is: extracting all English text from the program code and saving them in an external directory so that all text, such as prompts, menu options, or error messages will have a message number (keyword) separate from the body of the message, and the program will search the message file for a message number for the corresponding help message. This will allow for multilingual capacity.

## **CONCLUSION**

This program and accompanying manual were translated because for some time the English version has been used by The University of California Cooperative Extension in teaching Spanish speaking students and producers the use of the Taurus program and, in general, about ration formulation. We feel that with this translated version, future cooperative research and/or education conducted with the Spanish speaking public will be facilitated by this Spanish version of the program, and its fully translated manual. The future ability to translate the various modules into different languages will allow for ease of the transfer of these technology to other publics.

This program and manual are available from: Extension Software Support and Distribution, Department of Animal Science, University of California, Davis, Davis, CA 95616, USA. (916) 752-1278.

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