

## **Nutrition**

As more Americans continue to demand foods that are healthful, delicious, and easy to prepare, lamb offers a protein-packed, flavorful alternative to the typical protein sources. This is important not only from a nutrition perspective, but also in terms of flavor, enjoyment, nourishment...and lamb delivers on all of these fronts!

## Protein-packed and nutrientrich, lamb is nourishing.

A single portion of lamb provides over half your daily protein needs—an ideal fuel for active bodies.<sup>2</sup>

- Protein is an important part of your plate because it can lower the blood sugar impact of meals.<sup>3</sup>
- Research from the American Journal of Clinical Nutrition suggests that protein encourages feelings of fullness.<sup>3</sup>
- According to scientific research, eating protein can help preserve lean body mass during weight loss efforts.<sup>4</sup>

With a variety of essential vitamins and minerals, lamb supplies the body with nutrients to support optimal health.

- Lean lamb is a nutrient-packed powerhouse and a source of healthy, unsaturated fats.<sup>1</sup>
- Forty percent of the fat in lean lamb is heart healthy monounsaturated fat.<sup>1</sup>
- A 3-oz. serving of lamb provides nearly five times the amount of the essential

- omega-3 fatty acid, alpha-linolenic acid (ALA), compared to a 3-oz. serving of beef. <sup>5</sup>
- Lamb is nutrient rich and on average, it's an excellent source of protein, vitamin B12, niacin, zinc, and selenium and a good source of iron and riboflavin.<sup>5</sup>
- Supporting a strong immune system begins with a healthy diet. A single portion of lean lamb serves up a significant amount of nutrients essential for immune function: zinc, selenium, protein, and iron. <sup>6-7</sup>

## Lamb is ideal for feel-good meals.

- As a delicious and nutrient-rich food, lamb is a natural choice.
- Shepherds care for lamb with a rancher-commitment to natural animal farming practices.
- With lamb, you can feel good about the quality of the protein on your plate.
- Quick cooking lamb loin and rib chops are the perfect small portion of meat – around 3 ounces of satisfying protein and rich flavor.
- 1. USDA Lamb Cut Nutrition Data\_2013 from USDA's National Nutrient Database for Standard Reference Release 25.
- 2. Gannon MC, Nuttal FQ, Saeed A, Jordan K, Hoover H. An increase in dietary protein improves the blood glucose response in persons with type 2 diabetes. American Journal of Clinical Nutrition 2003;78:734-41.
- 3. Paddon-Jones D, Westman E, Mattes RD, Wolfe RR, Astrup A, Westerterp-Plantenga M. Protein, weight management, and satiety. American Journal of Clinical Nutrition. 2008;87(sup-pl):1558S-61S.
- 4. Devkota S, Layman D. Protein metabolic roles in treatment of obesity. Current Opinion in Clinical Nutrition & Metabolic Care. 2010;13:403-407.
- 5. Lamb Nutrition & Health Messages
- 6. Nutrient Content of Lamb
- 7. Institute of Medicine, Dietary Reference Intakes for Vitamin A, Vitamin K, Arsenic, Boron, Chromium, Copper, Iodine, Iron, Manganese, Molybdenum, Nickel, Silicon, Vanadium, and Zinc. 2001.
- 8. Beard J, Tobin B. Iron status and exercise. American Journal of Clinical Nutrition. 2000 Aug;72(2 Suppl):594S-7S.