

The effect of level of concentrate feeding and roughage on meat production

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Forty Friesian calves averaging 15' kg in L.B.W. with 258 days old, and thirty-eight Friesian calves averaging 184 kg in L.B.W. with 344 days old herd at Sakha (Karada), Agricultural Production Research Station (Ministry of Agriculture) were used in two successive experiments conducted throughout the summer of 1982 and 1983, respectively. The study was conducted to examine the effect of Napier grass, Sorghum grass and Darawa 88 swards for 8 weeks with two different levels of concentrate on the performance of growing calves in the two experiments. In each of the feeding experiments, the animals were divided into five similar groups and were randomly allocated to five feeding treatments. Eight calves were individually weighed according to their body weights. During a green feeding period of 112 days, two levels of concentrate (1 and 2% of L.B.W.) were tested with both Napier grass and Sorghum grass in the first feeding trial, and with both Napier grass and Darawa 88 in the second feeding trial, in comparison to a control ration containing 1% rice straw. During a 180-day period of 98 days, all groups in both feeding trials received a 18% concentrate ration, 1% rice straw and concentrates at a rate of 1 and 2% of L.B.W. respectively. No digestibility trials were conducted to determine the feeding values of the different rations used in the feeding trials. At the end of the second feeding trial, two animals were randomly chosen from each group and were slaughtered to investigate the effect of feeding treatments on carcass characteristics. The results and conclusions could be summarized as follows, 1) Average digestibility during the first digestibility trial was 5.87, 75.24, 75.20, 77.09 and 66.1% for A, B, C, D and E rations, while the average digestibility was 61.6, 71.6, 64.19, 71.87 and 65.5% for I, II, III, IV and V rations, during the second digestibility trial. Rations containing sorghum forages and supplemented with concentrate have significantly higher digestibility coefficients than those of the control ration in the first trial. The digestion coefficients for all nutrients, except CP had increased with increasing the concentrate level in the diet in both first and second digestibility trials. 2) Liver weight for rats A, B, C, D and E was 15.42, 16.16, 17.49, 14.42 and 9.~ respectively, during the first trial, while the corresponding values for rats I, II, III, IV and V during the second trial was 10.24, 11.79, 5.24, 9.07 and 8.3%. There was a significant difference for all the digestible nutrients, except the digestible CP, to increase with increasing the concentrate level from 1 to 2% of L.B.W. in the diets in both first and second digestibility trials. 3) Average feeding values as TDN, BE and DE for rats A, B, C, D and E, during the first trial, were 70.39, 72.~ 73.80, 76.33 and 64.7% TDN; 61.99, 64.45, 64.68, 16.7 and 53.5% BE and 3.07, 3.21, 3.56, 3.69 and 3.29 kcal/kg D.M., respectively. Average feeding values as TDN, BE and DE for the rats I, II, III, IV and V were 61.99, 69.7, 61.89, 70.83 and 62.7% TDN; 52.46, 61.14, 53.55, 6.~ and 52.47% BE and 2.55, 3.08, 3.48 and 2.84 kcal/kg D.M., respectively, during the second trial. 4) Average daily D.M. intake was 7.74, 8.43, 8.15, 9.10 and 6.72 kg for calves fed rations A, B, C, D and E, respectively, during the whole period, in the first feeding trial, while the corresponding values, expressed as kg/100 kg L.B.W. were 23.55, 3.43, 3.11 and 2.88 kg. In the second feeding trial, the average daily D.M. intake was 8.44, 9.24, 8.80, 8.96 and 8.18 kg for calves fed I, II, III, IV, and V rations, respectively, during the whole period. The corresponding values, expressed as kg/100 kg L.B.W. were 3.07, 3.37, 2.80, 3.21 and 3.05 kg. The average daily gain from Sorghum grass and Napier grass was 81 g D.M./kg higher than that of Napier grass, during the first trial,

"h1~. ~h. DKoODBlmpt'1on~roa Kapler graBS 4ur1Dg the 2nd fe~irJg trial was signUicant17 higher than that of Darawa. 5) .Ivereg. daily body weight gains were O.SO, 0.83,0.84 and 0.7? kg tor calves fed .1, B, C, D and B rat ODS, respectively, during the whole period in the 1stfee 1Dg -erial, while the average daily gains were 0.88, 0.9~, 0.92, 0.90 and 0.?9 kg tor calves fed rations I,II, III~ IV and V, respective1.7. during 'the whole period in the i2nd feeding trial. The differences _ong groups in daiq body .eight gains were not sign1tificant in the 181; teeding trial. The calves which were fed control ratioD (V) in 1;he 2nd feeding trial had slgnU'icant17 ($P < 0.05$)lower daiq body weight gain than the other groups. 6) Average teed efficiency values expressed as kggain/kg BE intake were O.IBO, 0.166. 0.167, 0.151 and 0.213 kg for calves fed A, B, C, D and B rations, respect1ve~, dur1.Dg the whole period in the 1st feeding trial, while thecorrespoDding averagestor teed efficiency expressed as kg BErequired per kg weight gain .ere 5.562, 6.046, 5.998, 6.640 and 4.720 kg. Average kg gain/kg SB intake tor the calves fed It II, III, IV and V rations .ere 0.202, 0.185, 0.229, 0.172 and 0.189 kg, respectively, during the .hole period in the 2nd feeding trial. Corresponding average. for kg SB requ1red/kg .eight laiD .ere 5.067, 5.481, 4.458, 5.8898Dd 5.515 kg. The difterenee. in teed eff1c1eDC7.ere blgbq significant ($P < 0.01$) between calve. fed cODtrol ration &lid thoeetted the other ra1;i0D8 duriDg the 1st feecl1Dg"trial. aDdalso be...n Cal'Y1I8 fed ration nl aDd'those t_ ~he o"ther rat10ns dur1Dg the 2nd f.eding trial.