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CONSTRUINDO SABERES, FORMANDO PESSOAS E TRANSFORMANDO A PRODUÇÃO ANIMAL

Energy supplementation strategies for growth crossbred calves during the dry

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The objective was evaluated the results of energy supplementation strategies of growth crossbred calves during the dry, in Nova Andradina/MS - Brazil. The crossbred calves (½ Angus & ½ Nellore; n=170; 335.49 ± 29.44 days of average age; 216.09 ± 30.19kg of initial body weight), were stratified by BW, and managed in a rotational stocking in *Brachiaria brizantha* cv. Marandu pastures, between August, 2016 and January, 2017. The experiment design was completely randomized with two treatments with eighty five repetitions (85 animals/treatment). Treatments were: 1) energy supplement, contained approximately 28% crude protein and 74% total digestible nutrients, received 1.2 kg/animal/day (**High**); 2) energy supplement (commercial concentrate), contained approximately 30% crude protein and 61% total digestible nutrients, received 0.6 kg/animal/day (**Low**). The each 56 days, the animals were weighty. The beef price and real increase were estimated by 50% carcasses weight and arroba price was R$135,00/15kg. The final balance was calculated by different between real increase and supplement price. The data were analyzed using the PROC GLM of SAS v.9.2 (SAS Institute Inc., Cary, CA). A significance level of 5% was adopted. Did not effect (p> 0.05) between the treatments (High and Low), when the final weight, daily average gain, beef price and real increase, were evaluated (298.92 and 300.78kg; 0.498 and 0.530 kg; R$ 2.71 and 2.87; 425.9 and 452.30, respectively). However, observed significant effect (p<0,05) when the final balance was calculated (R$ 264.12 and 378.95, respectively). Although the animals that received high energy supplementation obtained greater weights, this was not enough to promote economic benefits in the period evaluated. However, it is not known about the beneficial effects of weight gain in a systemic analysis of the cycle.

Keywords: beef cattle, performance, rotational stocking

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