FINANCIAL BALANCE OF DAIRY HEIFERS PRODUCTION UNDER PASTURE RECEIVING CONCENTRATE SUPPLEMENTATION

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The objective of this study was to monitor the financial performance of different types of supplementation for 15 Girolando dairy heifers kept under Tifton 85 pastures between aug/2014 and sept/2014. Animals were distributed on randomized blocks, with 3 treatments and 5 replications. Treatments were a mix of mineral supplement with urea addition; nitrogenous salt; and protein salt. The analysis of the costs of the diet and increment of revenue was made taking into account the data of consumption, the price of the ingredients, the value of pasture rent, remuneration derived from the weight gain of heifers and the price of the replacement animals. Agricultural inputs and rent prices were quoted at 3 stores in the Uberaba/MG region and the average price per arroba of the replacement heifer was estimated based on the value of the live cattle plus 50% of price. It was observed in the evaluation of cost and revenue increment a higher gross revenue for the treatments with greater weight gain. The cost of urea:mineral supplementation, nitrogenous salt, protein salt was 1.70 R$ kg⁻¹, 0.77 R$ kg⁻¹ and 0.92 R$ kg⁻¹, respectively. Although the cost of urea:mineral was higher, the daily cost per head with feeding was lower in this treatment, thus observing a lower expenditure, due to the lower consumption. However, these animals needed more time to gain an arroba of live weight. Thus, it was noted that the total cost per arroba produced for the treatments with urea: mineral, nitrogenous salt and protein salt was 247.55 R$ @⁻¹, 210.37 R$ @⁻¹ and 187.35 R$ @⁻¹ respectively. It was also observed that protein salt supplementation presented better cost benefit than the other types of supplementation evaluated, due to the greater weight gain. In addition, it was generated a positive balance per arroba produced of 10.93 R$ @⁻¹, while the treatment with urea: mineral was -48.82 R$ @⁻¹ and the balance of the nitrogenous salt was of -12.68 R$ @⁻¹. It was also noted that the balance between cost and revenue was 0.10 R$ head day⁻¹ for protein salt, while for urea:mineral it was -0.19 R$ head day⁻¹ and for the nitrogenous salt was -0.10 R$ head day⁻¹. Therefore, it is concluded that the treatment with protein salt, under the conditions analyzed, presented the largest increase in revenue.

Keywords: cost, girolando, revenue, nitrogenous salt, protein salt