

Essential fatty acids (EFA) and bio-surfactants (BS) can improve de bovine production in tropical pasture

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The aim of this work was test blend of EFA and BS in the performance of beef cattle in tropical pasture

- 6 hectares of pasture of *Urochloa brizantha* (*syn. Brachiaria brizantha*).
- 24 steers Nellore were evaluated for 313 days
- Initial weight was 253 ±10.9 kg
- The diet was pasture and protein-energy supplements (0.4% of live weight) with (test) or not (control) additives.
- The additive was the blend of EFA (14.02g/kg-linolenic) and BS (57.5g/kg-phosphatidylcholine)
- The parameters used were daily average gain (ADG), carcass yield(CY) and carcass daily gain (CDG)
- The rumen degradability of dry matter (DP) of the forage was analyzed with cannulated animals (Orskov & McDonald,1979)
- The analysis of variance was used with 5% significance

	ADG, kg/day	CY, %	CDG, kg/day	DP,%
Test	0,735	55,39	0,456	56,71
Control	0,680	55,58	0,429	54,25
P-value	0,02	0,75	0,06	0,03
CV %	7,83	2,74	0,68	3,64

4.5% more degradation of dry matter for the test. It can explain the 8% more of daily average gain and 8.45 kg of carcass in the period

The blend of EFA and BS can take additive effect improving the bovine production on tropical pasture and be alternative environmentally friendly