

Effect of offering herbal additive during transition period on lactation performance and reproduction of Holstein lactating cows ⁽¹⁾

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The objectives of this study was to investigate the effects of adding herbal additive in transition period on body weight (BW), body condition score (BCS), daily milk yield (DMY), milk fat percentage (MFP), milk protein percentage (MPP), milk lactose percentage (MLP), somatic cell counts (SCC), milk urea nitrogen (MUN) and reproduction performance in transition period of Holstein cows. According to calving season, current study was divided into winter and summer experiments, total of 24 dairy cattle at transitioning period were randomly allocated into 2 groups to evaluate the effect of the herbal additive on dairy cattle. The results of the winter period showed that the cattle supplemented with herbal additive, there were no difference between control groups on BW (519 vs. 555 kg), BCS (3.00 vs. 3.25), DMY (27.4 vs. 26.1 kg), MFP (3.54 vs. 3.36%), MPP (3.27 vs. 3.22%), MLP (4.45 vs. 4.60%), MUN (11.3 vs. 12.3 mg/dL) and SCC (22.58 vs. 25.10 10,000/mL). The results of the summer period showed that the cattle supplemented with herbal additive, there were no difference between control groups on BW (512 vs. 578 kg), BCS (2.96 vs. 3.08), DMY (22.8 vs. 29.3 kg), MFP (3.28 vs. 3.27%), MPP (2.85 vs. 2.87%) and MLP (5.03 vs. 4.89%), MUN (11.2 vs. 10.0 mg/dL) and SCC (36.7 vs. 30.5 10,000/mL). In conclusion, this experiment indicated that adding herbal additive in transition period of dairy cow ration can improve health and reproduction performance. There is no adverse effect on BW, BCS, DMY, MFP, MPP, MLP, MUN and SCC.

Key words: Dairy cattle, Transition, Herbal additive.

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