INCREASING THE MILK QUALITY WITH GRAZING FEEDING IN HUMID SPAIN GRASSLAND

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INTRODUCTION

Systems of milk production based on pasture can compete with intensive ones, not only reducing costs but also with the best quality final product.

Fatty acid (FA) profile of milk and conjugated linoleic acid (CLA) may be modified by diet. The availability of fresh forage could be a great tool for farmers as added final value remains in the farm.

OBJECTIVE

To examine the evolution of the fatty acid profile and CLA during the whole lactation in three herds with different forage in the diet: grazing or silage.

MATERIAL AND METHODS

DM intake of 3 treatments with 61 Friesian cows. Control and analysis of milk production

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>HERDS (nº cows)</th>
<th>FORAGE</th>
<th>SILAGE hours</th>
<th>RATIONED (DM)</th>
<th>CONCENTRATE (k/cow)</th>
<th>GRAZING controlled (k/cow)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A (11)</td>
<td>SILAGE</td>
<td>24</td>
<td>40 (14,9)</td>
<td>6,5</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B (27)</td>
<td>GRAZING+SILAGE</td>
<td>12 + 12</td>
<td>15(8,4)</td>
<td>6,5</td>
<td>10,8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C (23)</td>
<td>GRAZING</td>
<td>24</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>6,5</td>
<td>20,9</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

RESULTS

- Forage intake is an important factor in determining the CLA content in milk fat.
- By increasing the grazing feeding there was a significant increase in unsaturated fatty acids including CLA and a decrease in saturated fat milk.
- The content of CLA in milk was three times higher in cows grazing in spring than in those fed silage in stable, in the summer grazing this difference is reduced

CONCLUSIONS

Acknowledgements