

# **GROWTH RATE OF CALVES FED DIFFERENT TYPES OF CALF MILK REPLACER (CMR)**

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## **Abstract**

Growth rate was determined in Holstein-Friesian Cross female calves fed either High Fat CMR or Low Fat CMR. The experiment was conducted in two periods of 4 and 3 weeks respectively. In both periods, calves were fed 1 kg of either the High Fat CMR or the Low Fat CMR daily but in the first period calves were also fed 0.5 kg of concentrate daily (restricted level of concentrate feeding) and in the second period calves were fed 1 kg of concentrate daily. Although there were no significant differences between treatments in final liveweight at the end of each period and also in liveweight gain in both periods, calves fed the High Fat CMR gained slightly more weight than those fed the Low Fat CMR (679 vs 536 and 726 vs 536 g/day in the first and second period respectively). Final liveweights of calves fed the High Fat CMR and the Low Fat CMR in the first and second periods were 71 vs 65 and 86 vs 76 kg respectively. The major factor which influenced the differences was likely to be the higher concentration of fat and thus higher estimated ME concentration in the High Fat CMR resulting in higher total ME intake.

**Key words :** Growth rate , calf milk replacer

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