



MINISTRY OF JIHAD-E-AGRICULTURE

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Use of Dried Dairy products waste in calf starter ration

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Abstract

This study was carried out to investigate the effect of adding dried dairy wastes to starter diet on growth performance in Holstein dairy calves. A total of 28 female newborn Holstein dairy calves were randomly allocated to four groups (n=7/group), and after two weeks of habituation to the experimental conditions and diet, were fed individually with starter diets containing 0 (control), 10, 20, or 30% dried dairy waste up to eight weeks of age. Feed intake, weight gain, and feed efficiency (gained weight/consumed feed) were measured weekly, during the experimental period. Results showed that body weight, weight gain, feed intake, and feed efficiency were not affected by the treatments ($P>0.05$). Interactive effect of treatment by week showed that treatments' effect on growth performance was affected by age of calves ($P<0.05$). In conclusion, results of the present study revealed that inclusion of dried dairy products up to 30% of calves' starter diet had no adverse effect on performance, and therefore can be used as an affordable and valuable nutritional by-product of dairy industry in nutrition of calves.

Keywords: Calf, Dairy product, Feeding, Performance, Starter diet.