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**Intake, digestibility, nitrogen balance, performance and carcass traits of Santa Ines
lamb fed with sunflower cake from biodiesel production**

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Highlights

- Nutrients intake, and DM and NFC digestibilities reduced in lambs fed with sunflower cake
- Sunflower cake in lamb's diet increased EE intake and digestibility
- Final BW, total gain, ADG, FE and commercial cuts decreased by sunflower cake inclusion
- Sunflower cake in lamb's diet decreased intake, fecal excretion, balance and retention of N
- Sunflower cake for the diets of the lambs is not recommended at levels studied

Abstract

This study was conducted to determine the impact of sunflower cake inclusion in the diets of Santa Ines lambs on intake, digestibility, nitrogen balance, performance and carcass characteristics. Forty male Santa Ines lambs with an average body weight of 20.9 ± 0.41 kg were distributed in a completely randomized design with four treatment diets containing sunflower cake at 0, 10, 20, and 30% of total dry matter (DM). The sunflower cake inclusion linearly reduced the intake of DM expressed as g/day, %BW and g/kg BW^{0.75}, as well as the crude protein (CP), non-fiber carbohydrates (NFC), total digestible nutrients (TDN), neutral detergent fiber corrected for ash and protein (NDF_{ap}) of Santa Ines

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