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Effects of increasing palm kernel cake inclusion in supplements fed to grazing lambs on growth performance, carcass characteristics, and fatty acid profile¹

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Highlights

- Increasing dietary palm kernel cake (PKC) for grazing lambs reduced total DMI
- Pasture intake was reduced as PKC was added in the supplement
- Feeding increasing PKC in the supplement did not affect lamb growth performance
- Most carcass characteristics were not affected by increasing levels of palm kernel cake in the supplement.
- Supplementing with PKC did not affect the majority of fatty acids in lamb meat

ABSTRACT

The aim of this study was to evaluate the effects of the inclusion of palm kernel cake (PKC) in the supplement composition for grazing lambs on intake, digestibility, growth performance, carcass characteristics and fatty acid profile of the meat. Thirty-one non-castrated Santa Inês-crossed male lambs (age = 120 ± 15 d; initial body weight = 20 ± 3.9 kg) were divided into 4 groups, following a completely randomized design. Treatments were 0%, 10%, 20%, and 30% PKC substitution for ground corn and wheat bran in the supplement. Animals were

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