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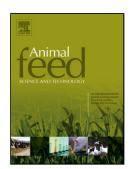
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ACCEPTED MANUSCRIPT

Interaction of forage provision (alfalfa hay) and sodium butyrate supplementation on performance, structural growth, blood metabolites and rumen fermentation characteristics of lambs during pre-weaning period

Running head; interaction of forage and sodium butyrate in pre-weaning lambs

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Highlights

- This study was the first to investigate the interaction effects of forage and sodium butyrate in preweaning period in lambs
- Forage improved faecal score as well as rumen pH however intake, gain and feed efficiency did not influenced
- Sodium butyrate improved intake and gain and increased SCFA in to more efficient profile
- Forage inclusion in pre-weaned lambs was not efficient but simultaneous using with sodium butyrate could be recommendable

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