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Title: Growth performance, nutrient digestibility, ruminal fermentation, and rumen development of calves during transition from liquid to solid feed: Effects of physical form of starter feed and forage provision

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Growth performance, nutrient digestibility, ruminal fermentation, and rumen development of calves during transition from liquid to solid feed: Effects of physical form of starter feed and forage provision

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Highlights

- The physical form of starter feed did significant effect on starter intake, average daily gain, and rumen development.
- Apparent digestibility of dry matter was greater in calves fed the textured, pelleted diets than the ground diet.
- Ground starter feed with 10% chopped alfalfa hay maintained rumen pH and promoted growth and rumen development compared to a ground or pelleted starter feed.

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