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## **Metabolisable protein concentration increased with increasing dry matter concentration in grass-clover silage measured in fistulated dairy cows**

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### **Highlights**

- Grass-clover was ensiled after pre-wilting to different dry matter (DM) contents
- Silages were fed sole to fistulated dairy cows
- Higher silage DM concentration reduced rumen protein degradation
- Higher silage DM concentration increased rumen microbial synthesis
- Higher silage DM concentration increased small intestinal amino acid digestibility

### **Abstract**

The aim of this experiment was to study the effect of increased dry matter (DM) concentration in grass-clover silage, obtained by extending the pre-wilting period before ensiling, on the amount of metabolisable protein (MP) supplied to lactating dairy cows. Spring growth and first regrowth of grass-clover swards grown by two Danish organic farmers were cut and pre-wilted to a planned DM concentration of 350 and 700 g/kg, respectively, giving in total eight silages with DM

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