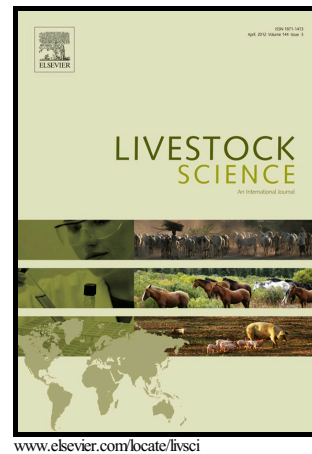


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Rosemary and lemongrass herbs as phytogetic feed additives to improve efficient feed utilization, manipulate rumen fermentation and elevate milk production of Damascus goats

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ABSTRACT

This study was conducted to determine the effect of rosemary or lemongrass herbs at 10 g daily on feed utilization, milk production, composition, and fatty acid profile in lactating Damascus goats. Fifteen goats were divided into 3 treatments (5 goats each) and fed a basal diet of berseem clover and concentrates (1:1 on dry matter (DM) basis; Control treatment) or the control diet supplemented with either 10 g daily of rosemary (Rosemary treatment), or 10 g daily of lemongrass (Lemongrass treatment) for 12 weeks. Inclusion of lemongrass and rosemary did not affect ($P>0.05$) nutrient intake. However, inclusion of lemongrass or rosemary increased ($P<0.05$) organic matter and fiber digestion. Ruminant pH was not influenced ($P>0.05$) by dietary treatment. Feeding lemongrass or rosemary treatment increased ($P<0.05$) ruminal concentration of short chain fatty acids, propionate, and serum

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