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Effects of pregnancy and short-lasting acute feed restriction on total ghrelin concentration and metabolic parameters in dairy cattle

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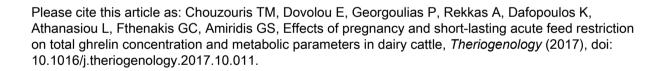
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20	Abstract
21	The aims of this study were: to compare total ghrelin concentration throughout
22	pregnancy between lactating cows and heifers, and to study the response to acute
23	feed restriction in pregnant or non-pregnant heifers. Blood samples were collected
24	each month of pregnancy from cows (n=5) and heifers (n=5) and analyzed for total
25	ghrelin concentration. Compared to pre-conception values, ghrelin concentrations
26	tended to be greater during 3 rd month of pregnancy in heifers, whereas they were
27	higher in the 7 th , 8 th and 9 th months in lactating cows, but no difference was detected
28	between lactating cows and heifers. In experiment two, pregnant (n=4) and non-
29	pregnant (n=4) heifers were fasted for 24 hours. Blood samples were collected 0, 4,

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