

## Accepted Manuscript

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PII: S0377-8401(18)30409-7  
DOI: <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.anifeedsci.2018.07.019>  
Reference: ANIFEE 14045

To appear in: *Animal Feed Science and Technology*

Received date: 23-3-2018  
Revised date: 9-7-2018  
Accepted date: 31-7-2018

Please cite this article as: Silva AL, Detmann E, Rennó LN, Pedroso AM, Fontes MMS, Morais VC, Sguizzato ALL, Abreu MB, Rotta PP, Marcondes MI, Effects of rumen undegradable protein on intake, digestibility and rumen kinetics and fermentation characteristics of dairy heifers, *Animal Feed Science and Technology* (2018), <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.anifeedsci.2018.07.019>

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## Effects of rumen undegradable protein on intake, digestibility and rumen kinetics and fermentation characteristics of dairy heifers

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Submitted to Animal Feed Science and Technology in March 2018

### Highlights:

- Voluntary feed intake is not affected by rumen undegradable (RUP) protein supply.
- Urinary nitrogen excretion tended to decrease as RUP supply increased.
- The level of 51% of RUP in the dietary CP is adequate for growing dairy heifers.

### Abstract

The aim of this work was to evaluate the influence of increasing amounts of rumen undegradable protein (RUP) on intake, nutrient digestibility, rumen kinetics and fermentation characteristics and N use efficiency of dairy Holstein heifers. Eight rumen-cannulated Holstein heifers (initial body weight  $276 \pm 8.3$  kg) were used in a replicate 4

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