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Essential oils blend with a newly developed enzyme cocktail works synergistically to enhance feed utilization and milk production of Farafra ewes in the subtropics

Short title: *Exogenous enzymes and essential oils for lactating ewes*

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Highlights

- Capsicum/thymus essential oils blend and exogenous fibrolytic enzymes were tested.
- Diets were supplemented with either 2 mL essential oils or 4 g enzymes cocktail.
- Supplements increased fiber digestibility and ruminal short chain fatty acids.
- Supplements increased milk production, fat content and milk (feed) efficiency.
- Supplements enhanced milk nutritive value.
- Synergism was observed between exogenous enzymes and essential oils blend.