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Supplementation of fortified feed additives on growth performance of indigenous heifers

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Abstract

By keeping in view the beneficial effect of Probiotics, Live yeast, amino acids fortified with herbs in rumen manipulation to increase animal production as indicated earlier, the experiment entitled 'Effect of supplementation of fortified feed additives on growth performance of Indigenous Heifers' is proposed. Twelve indigenous heifers ranging from 16 months to 23 months were selected for conducting the experiment. These were distributed into two treatment groups i.e. six heifers in each group on the basis of their age and weight. First group is considered as T₀: Basal diet as per NRC of Cattle (Control) and another group is considered as T₁: Basal diet + Fortified Feed Additives. In case of body weight records difference observed was statistically non-significant in the treatments. The final body length of T₀ group 117.00±5.63 cm was less than T₁ group 122.16±5.37 cm. The difference observed was non-significant in the treatments. The body heights of experimental animals were none significantly differed. The mean chest girths are 142.1±3.68 cm and 146.0±3.73 cm and average increased in chest girths is 13.0 cm and 18.8 cm in treatments T₀ and T₁ respectively. The difference observed was statistically non-significant in the treatments.

Keywords: Indigenous, basal diet, experimental animals

Introduction

Animal Husbandry plays an important role in the Indian economy. The livestock sector in India contributes 4.11% to GDP and 25.6% to total Agriculture GDP. There is a decline of 6% in the total indigenous cattle population over previous census. However, the pace of decline of indigenous cattle population during 2012-2019 is much lesser as compared to 2007-12 which was about 9% (Livestock census, 2019). Feed additives are useful for dairy producers for improving the nutrition of dairy animals and increased profits when used correctly. Feed additives fortified with probiotics have been used as additives in milk replacer, and have been shown to increase growth performance and decrease scour occurrence in dairy calves. In recent years, there is much more has been shown in the use of fortified feed additives like probiotics containing *Lactobacillus sporogenes*, *Lactobacillus acidophilus* as feed supplements to improve the cattle health and feed efficiency. By keeping in view the beneficial effect of Probiotics, Live yeast, amino acids fortified with herbs in rumen manipulation to increase animal production as indicated earlier, the experiment entitled 'Supplementation of fortified feed additives on growth performance of Indigenous Heifers' is proposed.

Materials and Methods

Twelve indigenous heifers ranging from 16 months to 23 months were selected for conducting the experiment from Indigenous Cattle Research cum Training Center, Division of Animal Husbandry and Dairy Science, College of Agriculture, Pune. And these were distributed into two treatment groups i.e. six heifers in each group on the basis of their age and weight. First group is considered as T₀: Basal diet as per NRC of Cattle (Control) and another group is considered as T₁: Basal diet + Fortified Feed Additives. Feed has been formulated as per following table.

Particulars	Treatments	
	T ₀ (%)	T ₁ (%)
Soybean straw	44	44
Green maize	22	22
Concentrate mixture: heifer ration	34	34
Total	100	100
Additives	(gm)	(gm)
Live yeast culture	Nil	3
<i>Lactobacillus sporogenes/acidophilus</i>	Nil	1
Jeera (<i>Cuminumcyminum</i>)	Nil	25
Ginger (<i>Zingiberofficinale</i>)	Nil	6
Amino acids	Nil	2
Total	Nil	37

The following observations were recorded during investigation

A. Body Weight Gain: Fortnight weight of the heifers were recorded on standard weighing balance.

B. Body Measurements

1. Body Length – Measure from shoulder to pin bone point with the help of measuring tape.
2. Body Height – Measure from wither point to ground level.
3. Chest Girth – Measure from wither to wither with the help of measuring tape.
4. The data has been analyzed by using Student ‘t’ test given by Panse and Sukatme (1985).

Results and Discussion

Growth performance of indigenous heifers on

supplementation of fortified feed additives was evaluated in terms of Body weight gain, Body length, chest girth and Body height changes.

Body weight

Table 1: Effect of fortified feed additives supplementation on average body weight

Fortnight	Treatments		‘t’ Cal	‘t’ Tab (at 5%)
	T ₀	T ₁		
Initial	186.20±13.52	186.23±13.92	0.48	2.17
1	193.60±13.21	194.50±13.04		
2	199.60±13.63	203.40±13.13		
3	206.50±13.15	211.70±13.21		
4	214.50±13.65	220.40±13.39		
5	221.80±13.14	228.60±13.51		
Final	228.40±13.06	236.50±13.78		
Mean±S.E.	207.22±13.33	211.60±13.42		
Gain in Average Body weight	42.20	50.27		

It was observed that, the initial body weight was 186.20±13.52 and 186.23±13.92 in treatments T₀ and T₁ respectively, and the final body weight was 228.40±13.06 and 236.50±13.78 in treatments T₀ and T₁ respectively, also the average body weight gained were 42.20 and 50.27 kg in treatments T₀ and T₁ respectively. The difference observed was statistically non-significant in the treatments.

Body Measurements

Body length

Table 2: Effect of fortified feed additives supplementation on average body length (cm).

Fortnight	Treatments		‘t’ Cal	‘t’ Tab (at 5%)
	T ₀	T ₁		
Initial	102.66±5.09	105.00±5.61	0.83	2.17
1	105.16±5.04	107.33±5.60		
2	108.66±5.18	109.83±5.83		
3	110.83±5.36	112.50±5.26		
4	112.83±5.28	115.16±5.51		
5	114.83±5.56	117.50±5.90		
Final	117.00±5.63	122.16±5.37		
Mean±S.E.	110.28±5.30	112.78±5.58		
Gain in Average Body length	14.34	17.16		

From table 2, it was observed that the mean body lengths were 110.28±5.30cm and 112.78±5.58 cm, also the average body lengths were increased to 14.34 cm and 17.16 cm of indigenous heifers in treatments T₀ and T₁ respectively but it was statistically non-significant. The final body length

of T₀ group 117.00±5.63cm was less than T₁ group 122.16±5.37 cm. The difference observed was non-significant in the treatments.

Body Height

Table 3: Effect of fortified feed additives supplementation on average body height (cm).

Fortnight	Treatments		‘t’ Cal	‘t’ Tab (at 5%)
	T ₀	T ₁		
Initial	111.16±1.49	112.33±1.32	1.78	2.17
1	111.83±1.62	112.33±1.31		
2	112.33±1.48	113.00±1.32		
3	112.66±1.37	114.16±1.50		
4	113.66±1.41	115.83±1.64		
5	114.00±1.53	117.33±1.68		
Final	114.66±1.37	119.00±1.69		
Mean±S.E.	112.90±1.46	114.85±1.49		
Gain in Average Body height	3.50	6.67		

From table 3, it was observed that the initial body heights are 111.16±1.49 cm and 112.33±1.32 cm and the final body

heights were 114.66±1.37 cm and 119.00±1.69 cm and the average increased in body heights are 3.50 cm and 6.67 cm in

the treatments T₀ and T₁ respectively. The body heights of experimental animals were none significantly differed.

Chest Girth

Table 4: Effect of fortified feed additives supplementation on average chest girth (cm).

Fortnight	Treatments		't' Cal	't' Tab (at 5%)
	T ₀	T ₁		
Initial	135.8±3.55	137.5±3.61	1.27	2.17
1	137.6±3.62	139.8±3.83		
2	140.0±3.72	142.6±3.98		
3	142.1±3.83	145.5±3.73		
4	144.1±3.94	148.6±3.88		
5	146.5±3.98	152.3±3.64		
Final	148.8±3.15	156.3±3.47		
Mean±S.E.	142.1±3.68	146.0±3.73		
Gain in Average Chest girth	13.0	18.8		

From table 4, it was observed that initial chest girth was 135.8±3.55 cm and 137.5±3.61 cm which was increased to final at 148.8±3.15 cm and 156.3±3.47 cm in both treatments respectively. The mean chest girths are 142.1±3.68 cm and 146.0±3.73 cm and average increased in chest girths is 13.0 cm and 18.8 cm in treatments T₀ and T₁ respectively. The difference observed was statistically non-significant in the treatments.

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