



Growth performance of Sahiwal heifers fed on *Jowar* straw in combination with soybean straw

Minakshi S. Mahalle, S.D. Chavan and N.S. Mawal

ABSTRACT : This study was conducted to evaluate the growth performance of Sahiwal heifers fed on jowar straw in combination with soybean straw and concentrate mixture using six sahiwal heifers with average initial body weight. The heifers were assigned into three treatments having, T₁ - Jowar straw (Ad.lib) +3kg green fodder+1kg concentrate, T₂ - 50% *Jowar* straw +50% soybean straws + 3kg green fodder +0.750kg concentrate, T₃ -soybean straw (Ad lib) +3kg green fodder +0.500kg concentrate (Dry green and concentrate feeding will be provided on the basis of DCP and TDN required as per feeding standard). Experimental feeding lasted 95 days using switch over design with a period of 27 days per period. The total DM and DMI (% of body weight) intake for T₂ diets were higher than those fed T₁ and T₃ diets. The overall Average Daily Gain (ADG) was higher in T₂ than of T₁ and T₃ were as Average Daily Gain found to be lowest in T₃. The body measurement (chest girth, length and height) were also higher in T₂ compared to those fed T₁ and T₃ diets. Hence, it can be concluded that in 50% *Jowar* straw +50% soybean straws + 3kg green fodder +0.750kg concentrate, enhanced growth performance sahiwal heifers.

KEY WORDS : Growth performance, Weight gain, Body measurement, Sahiwal heifers

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