



Milk production in Gir cows without green fodder during monsoon

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ABSTRACT : Eighteen Gir cows of similar body weight and stage of lactation were randomized into three groups of six each and were offered one of the dietary treatments (T_1 : Green jowar@5 kg per day per animal and ad lib feeding of wheat straw, T_2 : Green jowar and wheat straw mixed in the ratio of 30:70 offered ad libitum and T_3 : 4% urea treated wheat straw offered ad libitum) along with concentrate mixture to meet protein requirement for a period of 70 days. Body weight losses in experimental cows in all the groups were non-significant. T_2 group cows produced significantly ($p<0.01$) higher milk and FCM yield and also consumed higher DMI with narrow R:C ratio than control and T_3 group of cows. However, cost of feeding was significantly ($p<0.01$) lower in urea treated wheat straw offered group of cows compared to control with 135 per cent higher return over feed cost.

KEY WORDS : Gir cows, Wheat straw, Milk, FCM production

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