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Fibrolytic enzyme supplementation through ruminal bolus on eating behavior, nutrient digestibility and ruminal fermentation in Jersey heifers fed either corn silage- or sugarcane silage-based diets


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Highlights

- We assessed the effects of a fibrolytic enzyme (FE) product on heifers fed different forages.
- FE increased DM digestibility in cows fed either sugarcane silage or corn silage.
- FE improved NDF digestibility, notably in those cows fed sugarcane silage.
- FE increased the time spent eating of animals, regardless of forage.
- FE had no impact on ruminal fermentation and microbial protein synthesis.

Abstract: Sugarcane is relatively affordable in subtropical regions and can be used as a forage source for cattle; however, its low fiber degradation in the rumen may impair diet digestibility and animal performance. The objective of this study was to evaluate the influence of a fibrolytic enzyme product in dairy heifers fed either corn silage or sugarcane silage-based diets on nutrient intake and digestibility, eating behavior, energy and N utilization, ruminal fermentation, microbial protein synthesis, and blood
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