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فردي_ <mark>مقبول للنشر</mark>	٨

Title	Effect of substitution partially or completely replaced butterfly pea (<i>Clitoria ternatea</i>) forage on in vitro rumen fermentation and productive performance of calves
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ABSTRACT

This study was conducted to evaluate effect of forage Clitoria ternatea replacement on rumen fermentation characteristics (in vitro) and growth performance of fattening calves (in vivo). Twenty four male crossbreed (Friesian * Balady) local calves with mean initial body weight of 250±2.5 Kg were divided into three groups of 8 animals each. The animals were fed mixed ration at rate about 2.3% of their live body weight in group feeding. The first calves group was fed on the control ration 60% CFM+30% Egyptian clover + 10% Rice straw. The second calves group were fed 60% CFM+6% Egyptian clover + \(^{\text{Y}}\)% Rice straw+ 32% Clitoria ternatea (CT80), while the third calves group were fed 60% CFM+ 40% Clitoria ternatea (CT100). The replacement of Egyptian clover and Rice straw with Clitoria ternatea led to increase in vitro dry matter (IVDMD %) and organic matter (IVOMD %) degradability with increasing level Clitoria ternatea, The optimum levels of Clitoria ternatea replacement were 80% and 100%. While was insignificant (P<0.05) increase in all ruminal basic parameters (e.g. pH, NH₃-N and TVF's). In significant differences (P<0.05) between three tested rations (control, CT80 and CT100) at different time 0, 3 and 6 hrs post feeding were noticed for pH value, NH3-N and TVF's concentrations in the rumen liquor. Nutrients digestibility significant (P<0.05) increase of apparent digestibility of DM, OM, CP and NFE for calves fed Clitoria ternatea containing ration (CT80 and CT100) compared with the control ration. The calves fed (CT100) showed the highest (P<0.05) TDN followed by calves fed (CT80) then calves fed the control ration which recorded lowest values for TDN and DCP. The calves fed (CT100) ration had higher (p<0.05) plasma protein, albumin and globulin values followed by those fed CT80 and control ration respectively. The calves fed control ration had higher (p<0.05) plasma urea nitrogen than those fed rations containing *Clitoria ternatea* (CT80 and CT100). The calves received ration replacement with Clitoria ternatea 100% (CT100) grew faster than those received CT80 and control ration. The total body weight gain and average weight gain were higher (p<0.05) for calves fed of CT100 by about 14%, 12.5 % compared to calves feed of control and CT80 rations respectively, feed conversion as DM, TDN and DCP were improve (p<0.05) for calves fed ration replacement with 100% Clitoria ternatea (CT100) by 13.38, 11.84, and 11.66% respectively compared with calves fed control ration

It could be concluded that Clitoria ternatea can safely, successfully and economically. The full replacement of Egyptian clover and Rice straw with *Clitoria ternatea* rations of calves improved nutrient digestibility, body weight gain, feed conversion and efficiency of protein utilization.