

FLUSHING: A TOOL TO IMPROVE BODY CONDITION OF DAIRY GOATS IN PASTURE.

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Abstract / Resumo:

This trial was carried out to evaluate the effect of flushing under recovery of body condition of dairy goats in Tanzania grass (*panicum maximum cv.Tanzania*)pasture. The goats were maintained on pasture pasture during eight hours per day in wet season. Three treatments were used to grazing management: intensive (high nitrogen - 600kg/ ha year), moderate (medium nitrogen 300Kg/ha year) and extensive (no nitrogen). The experimental design was completed randomized, with four repetitions by treatment. The amount concentrate (flushing) was 600g/head per day for all animals. The diet composition was done with 11%crude protein and 2.61 Mcal/Kg. Before flushing the body condition was 1.5, 1.6 and 1.8 to intensive, moderate and extensive management. There was improving of body condition for all treatments after flushing (intensive: 1.8; moderate: 2,5 and extensive: 2.2). Probably a short grazing time reduced the intake had been need supplementataion to recovery the body condition prior to breeding season. Finally, flushing was an efficient tool to recovery body condition of goats in pasture during wet season independent grazing management used.