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Increase in total solids of whole milk and its effects on development in postweaning calves Rafael Alves de Azevedo*¹, Pâmela Michéli Furini¹, Sâmara Raiany de Almeida Rufino¹, Fernanda Samarini Machado², Mariana Magalhães Campos², Aloma Eitere Leão¹, Paulo Campos Martins¹, Ângela Maria Quintão Lana¹, Sandra Gesteira Coelho¹; Federal University of Minas Gerais, Belo Horizonte, Minas Gerais, Brazil¹, EMBRAPA Dairy Cattle, Coronel Pacheco, Minas Gerais, Brazil²

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This study aimed to evaluate the effects of intensive whole milk feeding in calves on postweaning feed intake and performance. Sixty crossbred Holstein-Gyr calves were distributed in four treatments until the weaning. The treatments consisted of WM with the increasing addition of MR (Sprayfo Violet SSP), to adjust the TS to 12.5; 15.0; 17.5 and 20.0%, after the measurement the TS in WM using Brix refractometer (DD-3 MISCO Palm Abbe Digital), which had the degree brix value converted to TS (Moore et al., 2009). The calves were fed 6 L/d, divided in two equal meals (8 and 16h) provided in buckets, from 5 to 55 days of age. From 56 to 59 days, the volume was reduced to 3 L/d (8h). At 60 days the animals were weaned. Starter (Soylac Rumen 20% CP) and water were provided ad libitum throughout the experiment. Corn silage was provided ad libitum to calves from 70 days of age. Feed intake, average daily gain (ADG) and structural body measures were measured in postweaning calves. Data were analyzed by ANOVA using the PROC GLM procedure in SAS. Results are presented in Table 1. Starter, corn silage and water intakes and ADG in postweaning calves did not change as the TS increased up to 20.4%. Increasing TS resulted in a tendency of linear increase in withers height and final body weight.

Table 1. Feed intake and performance of postweaning calves fed liquid diet with increasing total solid content during preweaning period.

Item	Treatment, % TS					P-value
	13.5	16.1	18.2	20.4	SEM	r-value
Starter intake, g DM/d	2088.91	2073.93	2140.40	2230.93	53.13	0.69
Corn silage intake, g DM/d	201.1	170.4	188.7	201.2	12.33	0.79
Water intake, kg/d	8.4	8.1	9.1	8.9	0.20	0.27
ADG, g/d	999.57	976.77	971.75	1010.23	25.44	0.94
Withers height, cm	91.9	92.5	93.5	94.0	0.40	0.08
Final body weight, kg	101.5	104.9	107.0	110.7	1.60	0.07

KEYWORDS

milk system milk replacer