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### Effect of tannins-extract supplementation on performance of grazing cattle during dry season

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The use of tannins-extract in the ruminant diet can modulate rumen fermentation, mainly by reducing protein degradation, showing to be an alternative to the use of ionophores. This study was conducted to assess the effect of tannins-extract (TE) supplementation on performance of crossbred cattle raised grazing tropical grass during the dry season. Fifty males and sixty one females, produced from mating Caracu, Senepol and Guzera bulls with Nelore,  $\frac{1}{2}$  Nelore +  $\frac{1}{2}$  Angus and  $\frac{1}{2}$  Nelore +  $\frac{1}{2}$  Caracu cows were used, from 10 to 14 mo of age. The animals were placed in pasture of *Brachiaria brizantha* cv. Marandu under continuous stocking, divided in eight paddocks of approximately 8.0 ha, four paddocks per sex. Treatments were assigned to paddocks following a randomized block design. Each paddock contained troughs for feed and drinking with free access by animals. During the dry season (115 d, June to November of 2016), four paddocks (n = 54 animals, two paddocks per sex) received protein supplement (340 g crude protein kg<sup>-1</sup> supplement) without feed additives (control), while the other four paddocks (n = 57 animals, two paddocks per sex) received the same protein supplement with TE (Bypro, SilvaFeed, 2g kg<sup>-1</sup> supplement). Supplements were formulated to promote intake of 1 g kg<sup>-1</sup> of body weight (BW) and were offer *ad libitum*. Intakes of supplements were evaluated by weighing of orts. The BW was recorded in periods of 56 d to calculate average daily gain (ADG) and determine final BW. The variables were analyzed using GLM procedure of SAS at 5% significance. There was no treatment effect (P>0.05) on supplement intake (300.4 vs 260.6 g head d<sup>-1</sup> and 1.30 vs 1.15 g kg<sup>-1</sup> of BW d<sup>-1</sup> to control vs. TE, respectively). There was no effect (P>0.05) of TE supplementation on final BW and ADG. Animals concluded the period with 239.0 vs 245.0 kg of BW and 0.232 vs 0.236 kg d<sup>-1</sup> of ADG received supplement with or without TE, respectively. The use of tannins-extract in protein supplement under tropical grazing in dry season does not influence the performance of growing crossbred cattle.

**Keywords:** additive, bovine, nutrition, ruminant, supplement

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