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Effects of *Pichia norvegensis* and air exposure on the nutritive value of corn silages for dairy cows

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Corn silages are prone to deterioration when exposed to air



Lactate-assimilating yeast species initiate the aerobic deterioration



Heat

Yeast identification



Feeding aerobically unstable silages may decrease:

• Feed intake (Whitlock et al., 2000)

• Milk yield (Hoffman and Ocker, 1997)

• Milk fat content (field observation)





To evaluate the effects of **air exposure** and inoculation with *Pichia norvegensis* in corn silages on the performance of lactating dairy cows.

• 2 Silages



Normalization And and a state of the state of the



• 20 cows \rightarrow 5 replicated 4×4 Latin Squares



4 treatments:

- Control-Fresh Silage (CF)
- Control-Exposed Silage (CE)
- Yeast Inoculated-Fresh Silage (YF)
- Yeast Inoculated-Exposed Silage (YE)

Diets (DM basis):

- 53% corn silage
- 47% concentrates (soybean meal, whole cottonseed, citrus pulp, dry corn meal, mineral and vitamins premix)



Dry matter intake (kg/d)



P-value: Y - 0.21 E - 0.95 Y×E - 0.86

Fat-corrected milk (kg/d)



P-value: Y - 0.03 E - 0.02 Y×E - 0.34

Milk fat content (%)



P-value: Y - 0.48 E - 0.36 Y×E - 0.43

Milk urea-N (mg/dL)



P-value: Y - 0.92 E - 0.05 Y×E - 0.74

Feed efficiency [Milk NE_L/DMI (Mcal/kg)]



P-value: Y - <0.01 E - 0.04 Y×E - 0.39

Conclusions

Both **air exposure** and inoculation of corn silages with *Pichia norvegensis* decreased:

- Milk yield
- Feed efficiency
- No effects on:
 Feed intake
- Milk fat content

Acknowledgments







Thank you!



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