



# **Effect of forage type and protein supplementation on chewing and faecal particle size in sheep**

EAAP annual Meeting August 28, 2014, session 49

**Peder Nørgaard<sup>1</sup>, J.I. Gerdinum<sup>1</sup>, C. Helander<sup>2</sup> and E. Nadeau<sup>2</sup>**

<sup>1</sup>Department of Veterinary Clinical and Animal Science, University of Copenhagen

<sup>2</sup>Department of Animal Environment and Health, Skara  
Swedish University of Agricultural Sciences



## **Introduction:** Forage characteristics

- Forage quality (Mertens, 1994,2007)
  - Characteristics:
    - Protein & starch content
    - Fibre: NDF content & lignification
    - Dig. OM
    - Fermentation characteristics/ silage addit
  - Type of forages: grass, clover, maize
  - Stage of maturity at harvest of maize



## **Introduction:** Effect of maturity forage<sup>EN1</sup> quality

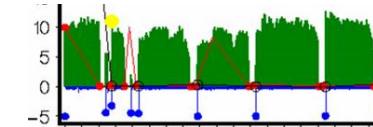
**Intake** of silage: D-value, NDF cont, fermentation charactis.

**Chewing activity:** ↑maturity & ↑ADF/NDF→

↑Rumination time per kg NDF: Schulze et al. 2014

Rumination pattern: ↑duration of ruminating cycles

↑Chewing time per kg NDF



Jalali et al. 2012; Schulze et al. 2014ab

**Faeces characteristics:** ↑maturity & ↑ADF/NDF→

↑Content of DM

↑Particle Dry Matter, % of DM

↑Particle size

Rustas et al. 2010; Jalali et 2012a,b; Kornfelt et al. 2013a,b; Schulze et al. 2014a,b



## Dias nummer 3

---

**EN1**

This is too much text. Try to get the introduction down to 1 or 1.5 slides. Only use the information that is needed for your presentation.  
Elisabet Nadeau, 21/08/2014

## Objectives



- Study effect of
  - forage type, silage additive, maturity at harvest
  - protein supplementation on
- Intake, chewing activity & faeces characteristics in sheep



## Methods: design

- **Duplicated 5\*5 Latin square design, N=50**
  - 5 different forages
  - One square with & one square without **150 g rape seed meal/d**
  - 10 rams, yearlings, 75 kg BW
- **Forages:** grown at 58° 22' N, Sweden
  - **Grass-clover** silage: first cut, 20 mm TCL 
  - **Red clover** silage: first cut, 20 mm TCL
    - With & with out: Homo/Heteroferment **Lactic Acid Bacteria** 
  - **Whole crop maize silage:** 17 mm TCL
    - Early (dough) & normal harvest(dent) 



## Methods: Feeding

- **Ad libitum, +10%,** first 3 wk
- **Restrictive:** last wk
  - 80% of individual ad lib (wk 3) for 1 wk
- **Individual penning**
  - 3 first weeks: Lose 6 m<sup>2</sup> box, straw bedding.
  - Last week in metabolic boxes



## Method: Feed characteristics<sup>1</sup>

Feeds	Red clover		Grass <sup>3</sup>	Maize		Rape seed meal
	LAB <sup>2</sup>	No additive		Early	Normal	
DM, %	31(0.9)	28(0.7)	32(1)	31(3)	34 (4)	89
CP, % DM	16(0.5)	17(0.5)	12(0.1)	8 (0.4)	9(0.3)	35
NDF, % DM	47(1)	48(1)	51(2)	41(2)	41(2)	31
ADL/NDF, g/g	0.11	0.11	0.049	0.050	0.048	0.35
Starch, % DM				29 (6)	31 (6)	6
pH	4.3(0.01)	4.6(0.09)	4.1(0.01)	3.8(0.03)	3.9(0.03)	
Lactic acid, %DM	9.1(1)	6.4(1)	6.9(0.7)	5.3(0.3)	5.5(0.5)	
Acetic acid, %DM	21(3)	64(14)	17(3)	17(4)	14(0.8)	
NH <sub>3</sub> -N, % total N	9(2)	12(0.4)	11(1)	10(0.5)	11(0.9)	

<sup>1</sup>SD in parenthesis, 5 samples

<sup>2</sup>Homo /Heterofermentative Lactic Acid Bacteria

<sup>3</sup>First cut, 77% timothy, 18% meadow fescue and 5% red clover



## Methods: Measurements

- **Ad lib intake** day 15 to 21
- **Recordings for 96 hours last week, at restrictive**
  - Collectiv forage samples each period
  - Residual feed once daily
  - Total collection of faeces
  - Chewing activity: Jaw movements oscillations (JMO)
- **Laboratory methods**
  - Washing, drying and sieving of faeces
  - Transformation of JMO into Eating and ruminating
    - Using princip Schleisner et al. 1999.
- **Statistical analysis** : Proc mixed, SAS vers. 9.3
  - Fixed effects: forage type, period and supplement
  - Random: Animal (protein)



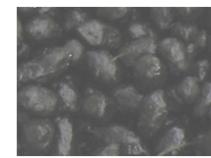
## Results: Ad libitum daily intake of forage DMI and NDF relative to body weight (BW)

Silage	Red clover	Grass	Maize	SEM	Effect, P<,%			
	LAB <sup>x</sup>	No additive			Silage Protein supplement			
<b>DMI</b>								
%BW	2.43 <sub>a</sub>	2.38 <sub>a</sub>	2.50 <sub>a</sub>	2.16 <sub>b</sub>	2.33 <sub>ab</sub>	0.05	0.1***	0.2**
<b>NDF</b>								
%BW	1.09 <sub>b</sub>	1.11 <sub>b</sub>	1.22 <sub>a</sub>	0.84 <sub>c</sub>	0.89 <sub>c</sub>	0.02	0.1***	4*

<sup>x</sup>Homo/Heterofermentative Lactic Acid Bacteria

**NS effect of silage type or supplement on BW**





## Results: Faeces characteristics

Silage type	Red clover	Grass	Maize	SEM	Effect, P<,%
	LAB <sup>x</sup>	-	Early		
DM, %	40 <sub>ac</sub>	40 <sub>a</sub>	41 <sub>a</sub>	37 <sub>b</sub>	37 <sub>bc</sub>
PDM <sup>p</sup> , %	30 <sub>a</sub>	32 <sub>b</sub>	29 <sub>a</sub>	26 <sub>c</sub>	26 <sub>c</sub>
PDM<0.11m %	33 <sub>a</sub>	33 <sub>a</sub>	29 <sub>b</sub>	21 <sub>c</sub>	20 <sub>c</sub>
PDM>1 mm ,%	1.2 <sub>a</sub>	1.1 <sub>a</sub>	0.9 <sub>a</sub>	2.5 <sub>b</sub>	2.4 <sub>b</sub>
GPS <sup>G</sup> , mm	0.18 <sub>b</sub>	0.18 <sub>b</sub>	0.16 <sub>a</sub>	0.21 <sub>c</sub>	0.21 <sub>c</sub>
				0.006	0.1***

<sup>x</sup>Homo/Heterofermentative Lactic Acid Bacteria

<sup>p</sup> Particle Dry Matter, residuals after washing, % of DM

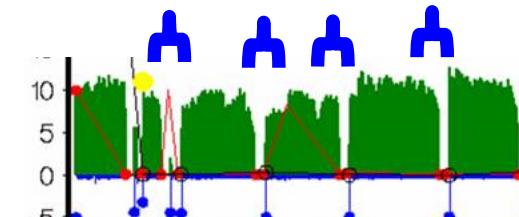
<sup>G</sup> Geometric mean Particle Size

**NO significant effect of protein supplement**



## Results: Effective rumination activity

**Effective= Period time -  $\Sigma$  intercycle time**



Silage type	Red clover	Grass	Maize	SEM	Effect, P<,%			
	LAB <sup>x</sup>	No additive	Early		Silage	Protein Suppl.		
Min per day	423 <sub>a</sub>	454 <sub>a</sub>	377 <sub>b</sub>	459 <sub>b</sub>	450 <sub>b</sub>	16	0.1***	NS
JM per g NDF	70 <sub>a</sub>	70 <sub>a</sub>	56 <sub>b</sub>	95 <sub>c</sub>	92 <sub>c</sub>	3.7	0.1***	NS
Min per kg NDF	706 <sub>a</sub>	692 <sub>a</sub>	554 <sub>b</sub>	932 <sub>c</sub>	918 <sub>c</sub>	25	0.1***	NS
<b>Ruminating cycles (RC)</b>								
RC per g NDF	1.1 <sub>a</sub>	1.0 <sub>b</sub>	1.0 <sub>b</sub>	1.3 <sub>c</sub>	1.3 <sub>c</sub>	0.05	0.1***	4*
Sec per RC	40 <sub>a</sub>	40 <sub>ac</sub>	35 <sub>b</sub>	43 <sub>c</sub>	42 <sub>c</sub>	1.4	0.1***	6
JM per RC	66 <sub>a</sub>	68 <sub>ac</sub>	59 <sub>b</sub>	72 <sub>c</sub>	70 <sub>c</sub>	2.2	0.1***	7

<sup>x</sup>Homo/Heterofermentative Lactic Acid Bacteria

### Effect of protein supplementation

- 0.2 RC per gNDF, P<4%, intake of NDF as covariate ->only significant effect of NDFI



## Results: Effective Eating and total activity

	<b>Eating</b>	<b>Total chewing = Eating+ruminating</b>
Min effective per day	157	588
JM per g NDF	24	100
Min effective per kg NDF	280	1040

NS effect of silage type or protein supplement on  
Eating and total chewing activity



## Conclusions

- **Forage type affects**
  - Intake of DM and NDF
  - Rumination activity: min/kg NDF and pattern
  - Faeces characteristics: particle size & particle DM
- **Silage additive (LAB)**
  - ↑ Ruminating cycles per g NDF
  - ↓Particle DM in faeces, % DM
- **No effects of early vs normal harvest maize**
- **Protein supplement**
  - ↑intake of DM and NDF
  - ↔ chewing and faeces characteristics
- **No effect of forage type or supplement on**
  - Eating and total chewing activity





Extra slides for answering questions:

$$\text{GPS} = \exp \left( \left[ A \times \ln(0.05) \right] + \left[ B \times \ln \sqrt{(0.106 \times 0.212)} \right] + \left[ C \times \ln \sqrt{(0.212 \times 0.5)} \right] + \left[ D \times \ln \sqrt{(0.5 \times 1.0)} \right] + \left[ E \times \ln \sqrt{(1.0 \times 2.36)} \right] + \left[ F \times \ln \sqrt{(2.36 \times 4.75)} \right] \right),$$



Methods:

# Preparation of digesta

## 1. Washing in 2-3 nylon bags:

- 10 µm pore size
- 1-2 g dry matter per bag
- 2 ml liquid soap per g dry matter
- **Washing machine: colour at 40°C**



## 2. Freeze drying:

## 3. Dry sieving though

- 2.36, 1.0, 0.5 & 0.2 mm pore size
- **Weighing sieve fractions->**
- **Mass proportions**

