

# Evolution of feed intake, milk production and body weight in Romanian Holstein-Friesian dairy cows in early lactation

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## SUMMARY

An experiment conducted on 8 multiparous Holstein-Friesian cows during the first 12 weeks of lactation monitored the feed intake, milk production and body weight. We used classical diets for dairy cows, consisting of 5,5 kg alfalfa hay, corn silage at discretion and 8 kg compound feed, allowing a daily yield of 25 kg milk. The feed intake and milk yield were monitored daily and presented as week average, while body weight was determined weekly. The experimental data were processed with GAMA exponential equations. The lowest intake was noticed during the first week of lactation, 11.09 kg DM/day, while the highest intake was observed during the 8th week, 18.11 kg DM/day. The average energy intake for the 12 weeks of lactation was 15.58 milk FU/day, representing 96.9% of the energy requirement. The peak of lactation was observed in week 6, 25.20 kg milk/day. The production of the first week of lactation represents 67.9% from the highest yield. The lowest body weight (527 kg) was noticed in week 8 of lactation, representing 93.6% of the highest body weight.

Keywords: Holstein-Friesian cows, feed intake, milk yield, GAMA exponential equations