

EVALUATION OF FEEDING VALUE OF RUBBER SEED CAKE FOR PROMOTING GROWTH IN CALVES

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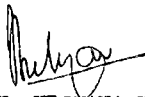
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DECLARATION

I hereby declare that this thesis entitled "EVALUATION OF FEEDING VALUE OF RUBBER SEED CAKE FOR PROMOTING GROWTH IN CALVES" is a bona fide record of research work done by me during the course of research and that the thesis has not previously formed the basis for the award to me of any degree, diploma, associateship, fellowship, or other similar title, of any other University or Society.



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CERTIFICATE

Certified that this thesis, entitled "EVALUATION OF FEEDING VALUE OF RUBBER SEED CAKE FOR PROMOTING GROWTH IN CALVES" is a record of research work done independently by Shri T.V. Viswanathan under my guidance and supervision and that it has not previously formed the basis for the award of any degree, fellowship, or associateship to him.



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INTRODUCTION

INTRODUCTION

In the field of livestock wealth India occupies a unique position, possessing the largest cattle population of the world. Indian cattle are held in high esteem all over the world for their special attributes such as draft ability, heat tolerance, resistance to diseases and ability for converting the coarse forages into protein rich products.

According to the eleventh Livestock Census, there were 179 million cattle and 58 million buffaloes in India (Bhattacharya, 1976), Kerala State accounting for 2.86 million and 0.47 million respectively (Farm Information Bureau, 1977). Although the cattle and buffalo population has almost reached a point of saturation at present, it will continue to increase at a slow rate upto 1980 (National Commission on Agriculture, 1976).

The present per capita availability of milk in India is estimated to be around 110 g against the recommended level of 200 g for adults per day (Ranga-Rau, 1975). While the average annual milk yields of the Indian cow and buffalo are only 157 and 504 g respectively, the milk yields of improved cows in Denmark, U.S.A., U.K., Switzerland and Israel are more than 20 times than that of the Indian cow and over seven times than that of the buffalo (Bhattacharya, 1976). This disparity in the productivity of animals has largely been attributed to the

extent of application of science and technology in the field of Animal Husbandry. Wright (1937) has stated that milk production can be increased by at least 60 per cent by better feeding and management alone. Kay (1946) stated that even 300 per cent increase in milk production is possible by better feeding and management alone.

India is short to the extent of 40 per cent in roughages and 70 per cent in concentrates to meet the livestock needs (Venkatachalar, 1976). Only about 4 per cent of the cultivated area is under fodder crops in contrast to about 25 per cent in U.K. and nearly 60 per cent in U.S.A. (Venkatachalar, loc cit). It has been reported that of the available sources of cattle feed, about 80 per cent is from agro-industrial by-products and the rest is from cultivated fodder (Ulhas, 1976).

The present population of 4000 million in the world is expected to increase to 7000 million by the year 2000 and nearly 500 million people now face dietary protein and energy shortages (National Academy of Sciences, 1971). In this situation, it is essential to formulate rations for animals by minimizing or even avoiding the incorporation of items that are used in human diets. The utilisation of agro-industrial by-products in the rations of animals, thus, assumes paramount importance.

It is an accepted fact that the object in designing ratios

for livestock is to maximise the returns over the feed costs. To achieve this object, one of the possible methods is to supply digestible nutrients to the animal at a lower cost. The utility of any feed stuff will, thus, have to be judged by its ability to supply the digestible protein and energy at a competitive price. It, therefore, becomes imperative to explore the possibility of utilising agricultural and industrial by-products which hitherto go as waste.

The Indian Council of Agricultural Research have initiated extensive investigations on the feeding value of the various agricultural wastes and industrial by-products available in the country for different species of animals. Of the several such unconventional feeds, rubber seed cake - a by-product of rubber plantation - has attracted the attention of the scientists and farmers in the State of Kerala.

In India, rubber is grown over an area of approximately 224,428 hectares (Rubber Research Institute of India, 1977) of which 202,320 hectares are in Kerala (Farm Information Bureau, 1977). The world production of rubber seed cake has been estimated as 150,000 tons (British Rubber Development Board, 1948). It has been estimated that about 46,965 tonnes of rubber seed is now wasted in Kerala (Varghese, 1972).

Though there are few reports on the feeding value of rubber seed cake to animals and birds (Sen, 1952; Morrison, 1955; Buvanendran and Siriwardene, 1970 and Nadarajah et al. 1975),

detailed information on its suitability as an ingredient in the rations of calves is lacking. A detailed investigation was, therefore, carried out to assess the suitability and feeding value of rubber seed cake as an ingredient in the concentrate mixture for growing calves.

REVIEW OF LITERATURE

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The common rubber tree (Hevea brasiliensis) belongs to the family Euphorbiaceae (Encyclopaedia Britannica, 1957). This tree grows well in almost all types of soil and in areas having a rainfall upto 100 inches. The optimum temperature for growth of this tree is from 70-90°F at an altitude below 2000 feet. It is a large tree growing upto 125 feet in height and reaching a circumference of 12 feet under natural conditions. The tree has a well developed and very thick bark, which is its most important part as it yields the latex from which the natural rubber is produced. The flowers appear in the form of a big inflorescence with pale green colour and have an abundant content of nectar. The fruit is green till fully mature and appears as a lobulated oval capsule divided into three compartments, each containing a single, oval hard seed. The seeds are mottled brown in colour. When fully ripe, the capsule explodes and ejects the seeds. The seeds are formed during summer and mature seeds are dispersed from June onwards till September. The secondary seed fall which occurs at the commencement of the winter season is of less importance as compared with that of the main crop (Anon, 1969).

Varghese (1972) reported that the total cost of rubber seed oil and cake produced annually from Kerala comes to the tune of Rs. 1.4 crore of which the cost of cake alone amounts to Rs.48.9 lakhs. According to him, rubber seed which now fetches no price to the cultivator is estimated to cost Rs.200/- per ton

and that it is possible to collect one ton of rubber seed from four hectares of land under cultivation.

A rubber tree will bear approximately 300 fruits each having three to four seeds in it weighing four to six g each. A minimum of 350 trees can be planted in a hectare (Anon, 1969). Of the total weight of the seeds, the shell and kernel form 37 and 63 per cent respectively (Anon, loc cit). After extraction of oil, the cake accounts for 55 per cent of the kernel (Rubber Research Institute of India, 1977). From the above information and taking into consideration that on an average, only 85 per cent of the trees of the plantation would be able to produce seeds (Nadarajah, 1969). It has been calculated that about 37,500 tonnes of rubber seed cake will be available annually in Kerala.

Composition and nutritive value of rubber seed have been studied by many workers. The shelling percentage (Kernels as a percentage of undecorticated seeds) of rubber seed has been reported as 57 per cent, the shells making up 43 per cent of the whole seed (Orok and Bowland, 1974). Figures ranging from 45.0-69.7 per cent have also been reported (Anon, 1948; Nobori and Takehara, 1948 and Rubber Research Institute of India, 1977). Rubber seed oil which forms 35-52 per cent of the kernel (Nobori and Takehara, 1948; Siqueira et al. 1956; Azeemoddin and Rao, 1962 and Rubber Research Institute of India, 1977), is used mainly in soap manufacture, paint industry, production of factice, epoxidised vegetable oil and as a lubricating oil (Rubber Research Institute of India, 1977). Also, it has been used effectively against flies,

lice and similar pests (Medical Research Institute, Ceylon, 1950).

Rubber seed cake contains 23.6 to 29.9 per cent of crude protein (Buvanendran and Siriwardene, 1970; Hyder Ali, 1970 and Siriwardene and Nugara, 1972). Morrison (1957) has reported a crude protein value of 28.8 per cent for rubber seed oil meal. Reported values for crude protein in rubber seed kernel range from 16.87-22.10 per cent (Siqueira et al. 1956; Azeemoddin and Rao, 1962; FAO, 1972 and Orok and Bowland, 1974).

Rajaguru and Vohra (1975) reported the amino acid composition of decorticated rubber seed expressed as weight percentage of protein as: isoleucine 3.1-4.2, leucine 4.8-5.9, lysine 2.8-4.2, methionine 1.1-2.2, cystine 1.4-2.0, phenylalanine 2.8-3.8, threonine 2.8-3.1, tyrosine 2.6-2.8, tryptophan 1.2-1.4 and valine 4.2-6.5. Fatty acid composition of decorticated rubber seed as weight percentage has been reported to be: myristic 0.1, palmitic 8.1, stearic 10.5, arachidonic 0.3, (FAO, 1972). Siqueira et al. (1956) recorded a figure of 450 micro gram for thiamine, 2500 micro gram for nicotinic acid and 250 micro gram for carotene for 100 g of untreated rubber seed kernel.

Pope (1930) claimed that rubber seeds are edible. Lauw Tjin Giok et al. (1967) reported that rubber seed is used by people living in or near the plantations in Nigeria and that there was no evidence of toxicity when rubber seed was fed to animals. No saponin or alkaloid was detected in rubber seed oil

cake when fed as cattle feed (Anon, 1929). Sankunmy et al. (1964) found no toxic symptom in rats on feeding rubber seed at a level of 29.6 per cent in their diet.

Earlier, Gorter (1912) reported that rubber seed kernel contains a cyanogenetic glucoside i.e. a compound which decomposes as a result of enzyme action in a very slightly acid medium, yielding hydrocyanic acid as one of the products. This cyanogenetic glucoside has been claimed to be similar to that present in manioc viz., linamarin, which is the glucoside of acetone cyanohydrin. The mild smell of hydrocyanic acid in moist kernel especially when dried in the copra kiln or in the smoke house is an evidence of the presence of this compound. It is reported that the hydrocyanic acid content diminishes rapidly during the first eight weeks of storage and thereafter the decrease is much more gradual (George et al. 1932). Hydrocyanic acid concentration is found to be 20 mg/100 g in rubber seed products (Bredemann, 1931), 200 mg, 8.9 mg and 3.4 mg per 100 g in fresh seeds, cooked dried materials and defatted dried pressed cake respectively (Lauw Tjin Giok et al. 1967) and 9 mg/100 g of rubber seed cake (ICAR Report, 1976).

Feeding trials carried out on weanling rats fed on synthetic as well as milk based diets incorporating rubber seed cake at 30 per cent level showed no significant change in body weight gain, nutritional status or feed intake of animals when compared with those of the control. It was, however, observed that animals

receiving rubber seed cake evinced black foetid diarrhoea. Though no mortality was observed during the course of the study, histopathological examination of the internal organs of animals receiving rubber seed cake, when slaughtered at the termination of the experiment showed necrotic enteritis (ICAR Report, 1971).

Lauw Tjin Giok et al. (1967) studied the nutritive value of rubber seed protein in rats and reported that rubber seed cake would be a potential source of high protein feed for cattle and sheep. The quantity of sulphur containing amino acids particularly that of methionine was found to be 1.1-2.2 g/100 g of protein (Lauw Tjin Giok et al. 1967; Orok and Bowland, 1974 and Rajaguru and Vohra, 1975). The other essential amino acids were also reported to be present in acceptable levels. Lauw Tjin Giok et al. (1967) claimed that the higher levels of lysine and tryptophan would make rubber seed cake a useful supplementary protein to maize. They also reported that at 20 per cent dietary level of protein (about 60% dried rubber seed in the diet), food intake, protein efficiency ratio and growth rate of rats were comparable with those obtained on rats fed diets with casein at the same level.

Orok and Bowland (1974) reported that a level of 7 to 12 per cent of rubber seed cake prepared from fresh or autoclaved decorticated rubber seed could be utilised efficiently in either soybean meal or peanut meal supplemented diet for rats. Rubber

seed meal was particularly useful as a supplement to peanut meal diets which were generally inferior to diets containing soybean meal (Orok and Bowland, 1974a). Rats fed rubber seed cake supplemented diets consumed less when compared to those receiving other diets which has been attributed to higher digestible energy and metabolizable energy contents of the rubber seed meal supplemented diets. Gross energy per g of rubber seed cake was reported to be 6.5 K cal (Orok and Bowland, 1974). Oluyemi et al. (1976) reported gross energy values of 7.11, 6.99, 4.48 K cal/g for raw rubber seed, autoclaved rubber seed meal and defatted rubber seed meal respectively.

Studies carried out on poultry showed that rubber seed meal could be successfully incorporated upto a level of 20 to 25 per cent in broiler and layer rations (Buvanendran and Siriwardene, 1970). Rajaguru (1971) observed that when pullets were raised on diets with different levels of rubber seed meal (10-40%) from third month of age, though matured late, the egg production was normal in all the groups. Increasing the percentage of rubber seed meal in the diets lowered egg size, shell thickness, hatchability of incubated eggs and weights of chicks hatched out. Buvanendran (1971) reported that rubber seed meal at a level of 20 per cent in the ration caused embryonic mortality and suggested that cyanogenetic glycosides could not be responsible for this effect. Rajaguru (1971) and Rajaguru and Wettimuny (1971) have also observed embryonic mortality in chicks and have attributed this to the amino acid imbalance of rubber

seed meal lowering the biological value of proteins in diets. Rajaguru (1971) suggested that rubber seed cake contained an unidentified antifertility factor, though it had no effect on the quality of semen of the cocks used for artificial insemination.

Growth studies in pigs using rubber seed cake replacing 10 per cent of the coconut oil cake in the ration showed that the material can profitably be used without any deleterious effect on the rate of growth, feed efficiency and on carcass characteristics of the animals (ICAR Report, 1972). Nadarajah et al. (1975) observed that when breeding sows were fed on a ration containing 10 per cent rubber seed meal the fertility of the herd was drastically affected. On the other hand, diets containing 50 per cent rubber seed meal showed excellent results in terms of weight gain and quality of flesh in porkers.

Rubber seed meal has been reported as a possible cattle feed supplement (Ellett et al. 1931; Dawson and Messenger, 1932; Sen, 1952; Morrison, 1957 and Lauw Tjin Giok, 1967). On the other hand, it was suggested that the use of rubber seed cake as animal feed may be unwise because of poisoning from prussic acid (Anon, 1948). Rubber seed cake was found to be unsatisfactory as a feed for calves (Bredemann, 1931). It was suggested that a large part of its oil has to be extracted to make rubber seed meal a suitable cattle feed (Dawson and Messenger, 1932; Sen, 1952 and Nadarajah et al. 1975). Bhushan (1958) claimed

that rubber seed meal is one of the most digestible concentrated cattle feeds available.

Ellett et al. (1931) reported that though rubber seed meal is less palatable, it is an efficient medium protein concentrate for milch cows, closely comparable with linseed meal for milk production. Lactation studies involving eight cows, in a seven week switch over trial, incorporating rubber seed cake at 20 per cent level replacing the entire portion of gingelly cake (20%) in the concentrate mixture failed to produce any significant difference in either milk production (FCM) or in the characteristics of butter fat (ICAR Report, 1976).

Morrison (1957) reported values of 20.4 and 63.4 for DCP and TDN respectively in rubber seed oil meal. Hyder Ali (1970) recorded values of 18.5 and 53.8 for DCP and TDN respectively for rubber seed cake. DCP and TDN of rubber seed cake for swine were found to be 16.65 and 78.86 respectively (George, 1970).

MATERIALS AND METHODS

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Twenty four cross-bred calves (Sindhi x Jersey) of 8-14 months of age, from the University Livestock Farm, Mannuthy, were randomly distributed under three dietary treatments (T_1 , T_2 and T_3) as uniformly as possible in regard to age, sex and weight. The three groups of animals were fed on concentrate rations containing 0, 15 and 30 per cent levels respectively of rubber seed cake. Calves were protected against common contagious diseases and were also dewormed periodically. All animals were fed according to Feeding Standards prescribed by Sen and Ray (1971). Paddy straw formed the sole roughage.

Records of daily feed consumption and fortnightly body weights of animals were maintained throughout the period of the experiment. Linear body measurements like length, girth and height were taken at the beginning, third and sixth month of the study as detailed by Russel (1975). Haematological values namely, RBC, haemoglobin, plasma protein, calcium and inorganic phosphorus were determined at the beginning, third and sixth month of the study as per the methods detailed by Oser (1965) and Swenson (1970).

A digestion-cum-metabolism trial involving five day's collection period was conducted at the end of the study (Hattan and Owen, 1970). Known quantities of the feed were taken everyday for dry matter determination. Composite samples were taken

after pooling the samples collected during the five days of the trial for the determination of the rest of the proximate principles.

Table 1. Percentage composition and cost of concentrate mixtures.

Items	T ₁	T ₂	T ₃	Cost (Rs/quintal)
Rubber seed cake	-	15	30	85.00
Cotton seed cake	30	15	-	133.00
Groundnut cake	22	22	22	147.50
Rice bran	20	14	5	44.40
Maize bran	20	23	26	119.00
Maize	5	8	14	110.00
Mineral mixture (Dicalcium phosphate)	1	1	1	650.00
Salt	2	2	2	15.00
Vitamin A, B ₂ , D ₃ (Rovimax)	12.5 g	12.5 g	12.5 g	11,955.00
DCP (Calculated value)	16.1	16.1	16.0	
TDN (")	69.8	69.3	69.6	
Cost in Rs./quintal	118.83	115.84	114.81	

All precautions were taken to ensure the collection of dung quantitatively, uncontaminated by urine, any feed residue or dirt. The dung was collected manually at 10 a.m. everyday. The dung voided during the previous 24 hours was weighed accurately and representative samples were taken after thorough mixing. Dry matter content of dung for each animal was determined everyday

separately. A representative sample of dung collected from each animal was preserved in a refrigerator. A known quantity of dung was taken from the pooled samples for protein estimation. Dried dung of each animal was preserved in labelled air-tight containers for further analysis. The process of collection, weighing, sampling and drying of dung was continued till the end of the trial.

The urine from males was collected by urine collection bags whereas that from females was collected manually and preserved in polythene cans containing 100 ml of 25 per cent of sulphuric acid. The quantity of urine voided was measured daily and 1/1000th of the volume was taken for the estimation of nitrogen. Another sample was preserved for estimation of calcium and phosphorus.

The analyses of the feeds and faeces were carried out as per the standard methods described in A.O.A.C. (1970).

For the statistical analyses of the results obtained during the course of the present study, methods described by Snedecor and Cochran (1969) were followed.

One animal each from the control and the 30 per cent group was slaughtered at the end of the experiment for histopathological studies.

R E S U L T S

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The results of the chemical analysis of the experimental rations (T_1 , T_2 and T_3) are presented in Table 2. Mean values of body weights of the animals taken at fortnightly intervals are shown in Table 3 and represented in Fig. 1. Statistical analysis of the data on the body weight gain is presented in Table 4. The mean values of linear body measurements of the calves are set out in Table 5 and in Figs. 2 to 4 and statistically analysed in Tables 6 to 8. In Table 9 data on haematological values of calves determined during the experimental period are presented. The results of digestion-cum-metabolism trial conducted at the termination of the experiment are shown in Table 10, and statistically analysed in Table 11. The average value of feed consumption, feed efficiency and the economics involved are detailed in Table 12 and presented in Figs. 5 and 6.

Table 2. Chemical composition of the experimental rations.
(Percentage on dry matter basis)

	Concentrate			Roughage	Rubber seed cake
	T ₁	T ₂	T ₃	Paddy straw	
Dry matter	91.4	92.0	91.4	93.8	92.9
Crude protein	22.4	23.2	22.6	3.9	24.6
Ether extract	7.5	8.2	6.3	1.9	12.0
Crude fibre	16.8	11.3	6.8	31.2	2.9
Nitrogen-free extract	43.8	47.9	55.8	47.1	53.0
Total ash	9.5	9.4	8.5	15.9	7.5
Acid insoluble ash	3.1	3.9	2.5	12.5	0.16
Calcium	0.72	0.75	0.82	0.63	0.35
Phosphorous	0.95	0.94	0.87	0.18	0.62
Hydrocyanic acid mg/100 g	-	-	-	-	8.7

Table 3. Summarised data on fortnightly average body weights (kg) of calves maintained on the experimental rations.

Treat- ments	Number of animal	Fortnights												Overall average daily gain per animal	
		0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11		12
T ₁	8	85 ±4.4	89 ±4.5	92 ±6.5	100 ±5.4	108 ±5.3	112 ±7.2	119 ±7.4	129 ±7.5	135 ±5.6	139 ±7.2	143 ±7.7	155 ±4.2	161 ±7.2	422 g
T ₂	7	85 ±1.1	90 ±1.4	91 ±3.4	99 ±3.4	108 ±2.7	113 ±2.7	121 ±2.0	131 ±3.1	138 ±4.0	141 ±4.1	148 ±5.6	156 ±2.5	161 ±2.6	422 g
T ₃	8	85 ±3.5	89 ±4.1	91 ±6.2	100 ±6.8	108 ±6.6	115 ±6.5	125 ±6.6	135 ±6.1	144 ±8.0	151 ±7.8	160 ±8.1	166 ±9.6	174 ±8.6	494 g

Table 4. Analysis of variance. Weight gain.

Source	df	SS	MSS	F
Fortnight	11	1003.71	91.25	10.24**
Treatments	2	65.00	32.50	3.65*
Sex	1	63.83	63.83	7.16**
Error	249	2217.72	8.91	
Total	263	3350.26		

* Significant at 5% level.

** Significant at 1% level.

Pairwise comparison.

Treatments	T ₁	T ₂	T ₃	C.D. for	T ₁ and T ₂	-	2.17
Mean	76	76	89	"	T ₁ and T ₃	-	1.99
				"	T ₂ and T ₃	-	2.17

Table 5. Average linear body measurements of calves maintained on the experimental rations.

	Height (cm)	Length (cm)	Girth (cm)
<u>Initial</u>			
T ₁	90 ± 2.6	95 ± 3.1	109 ± 2.7
T ₂	90 ± 3.2	95 ± 2.3	108 ± 3.7
T ₃	89 ± 3.3	94 ± 1.8	107 ± 2.3
<u>3rd month</u>			
T ₁	95 ± 3.3	102 ± 1.0	121 ± 2.0
T ₂	96 ± 3.9	103 ± 3.4	121 ± 3.7
T ₃	96 ± 4.1	104 ± 4.2	122 ± 5.5
<u>6th month</u>			
T ₁	100 ± 2.7	110 ± 2.0	130 ± 1.5
T ₂	101 ± 3.7	113 ± 1.6	130 ± 2.3
T ₃	102 ± 1.8	114 ± 2.4	133 ± 4.6

Table 6. Analysis of variance. Height

Source	df	SS	MSS	F
Period	1	272.70	272.70	37.88**
Treatment	2	63.92	31.96	4.44*
Error	42	302.34	7.20	
Total	45	638.96		

* Significant at 5% level.

** Significant at 1% level.

Pairwise comparison.

Treatments	T_1	T_2	T_3	C.D. for T_1 and T_2 - 2.08
Mean	7.06	8.21	7.88	" T_1 and T_3 - 2.01
				" T_2 and T_3 - 2.08



Table 7. Analysis of variance - Length.

Source	df	SS	MSS	F
Period	1	986.28	986.28	21.54**
Treatment	2	91.57	45.79	2.61
Error	42	736.95	17.55	
Total	45	1814.80		

** Significant at 1% level.

Table 8. Analysis of variance - Girth.

Source	df	SS	MSS	F
Period	1	1071.39	1071.39	104.83**
Treatment	2	226.56	113.28	11.08**
Error	42	429.40	10.22	
Total	45	1726.96		

** Significant at 1% level.

Pairwise comparison.

Treatments	T ₁	T ₂	T ₃	C.D. for T ₁ and T ₂	- 2.58
Mean	16.3	17.64	21.31	" T ₁ and T ₃	- 2.52
				" T ₂ and T ₃	- 2.58

Table 9. Summarised data on haematological values of calves maintained on the three experimental rations.
(Average with standard error)

	T ₁			T ₂			T ₃		
	Initial	3rd month	6th month	Initial	3rd month	6th month	Initial	3rd month	6th month
RBC million/mm ³	8.08±0.6	7.99±0.3	7.87±0.2	7.68±0.4	6.98±0.4	7.60±0.2	7.44±0.5	7.30±0.2	7.02±0.3
Haemoglobin g/100 ml of blood	9.0±0.1	10.2±0.4	9.2±0.4	8.4±0.5	9.9±1.1	9.6±0.4	8.3±0.2	9.9±0.3	8.7±0.1
Plasma protein g/100 ml.	8.4±0.2	9.8±0.4	8.4±0.3	9.1±0.3	9.5±1.0	8.5±0.4	9.1±0.3	10.1±0.2	8.7±0.4
Plasma calcium mg/100 ml.	12.4±0.2	12.7±0.4	10.4±0.2	12.8±0.4	11.8±0.4	11.3±0.3	12.4±0.4	12.8±0.4	10.9±0.3
Plasma inorganic phosphorous mg/100 ml.	7.8±0.2	7.4±0.3	7.7±0.4	7.7±0.3	7.8±0.1	7.8±0.3	7.4±0.8	7.6±0.3	7.9±0.4

Table 10. Average digestibility coefficients, digestible nutrients and nitrogen and mineral balances.

Treatments	Digestibility coefficient of the exptl. rations						DCP intake g/day/ animal	TDN intake g/day/ animal	Nitrogen balance g/day/ animal	Mineral balance g/day/animal	
	Dry matter	Organic matter	Crude protein	Ether extract	Crude fibre	N.F.E.				Calcium	Phosphorous
T ₁	49.6 ± 2.1	53.4 ± 2.0	57.7 ± 2.1	70.4 ± 1.7	62.2 ± 1.7	45.1 ± 2.8	347 ±15.8	2412 ±102.7	16.5 ± 1.4	10.1 ± 0.4	6.4 ± 0.5
T ₂	51.2 ± 2.4	54.5 ± 2.5	56.2 ± 1.1	77.1 ± 1.9	60.1 ± 2.2	49.7 ± 3.4	359 ± 8.5	2625 ±104.6	17.2 ± 2.3	9.7 ± 1.2	6.3 ± 0.6
T ₃	55.1 ± 2.6	58.4 ± 3.1	58.7 ± 2.4	69.9 ± 2.5	66.0 ± 2.1	52.8 ± 3.9	375 ±16.6	2694 ±153.8	19.2 ± 2.6	11.2 ± 1.0	7.0 ± 0.8

Table 11. Analyses of variance of digestibility coefficients, nitrogen and mineral balances.

		Dry matter	Organic matter	Crude protein	Ether extract	Crude fibre	N.F.E.	Nitrogen	Calcium	Phosphorous
Treatment	df	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2
	SS	127.20	108.76	24.40	242.12	121.30	235.95	31.36	9.17	2.09
	MSS	63.60	54.38	12.20	121.06	60.70	117.98	15.68	4.58	1.05
Error	df	20	20	20	20	20	20	20	20	20
	SS	972.79	954.20	640.80	730.40	1027.00	1469.70	709.02	138.41	80.65
	MSS	48.63	47.71	32.04	36.52	51.30	73.49	35.45	6.92	4.03
Total	df	22	22	22	22	22	22	22	22	22
	SS	1099.90	1062.96	665.20	972.52	1148.30	1705.65	740.38	129.24	78.56
F		1.31	1.14	0.38	3.32	1.18	1.61	0.44	0.66	0.26

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Table 12. Average feed consumption, feed efficiency and economics.

Treat- ments	Total feed intake		Total weight gain (kg)	Feed efficiency		Cost of raising a year old calf for a period of six months			Cost/kg gain			Cost for 100 kg gain		
	Concen- trate	Paddy straw		Kg conc. per kg gain	Kg total ration per kg gain	Concen- trate	Paddy straw	Total	Conc. straw	Paddy straw	Total	Conc. straw	Paddy straw	Total
	(kg)	(kg)		(kg)	(Rs)	(Rs)	(Rs)	(Rs)	(Rs)	(Rs)	(Rs)	(Rs)	(Rs)	(Rs)
T ₁	384	441	76	5.05	10.85	456.46	101.22	557.68	6.01	1.35	7.36	601	135	736
T ₂	378	435	76	4.97	10.69	437.88	99.62	537.50	5.77	1.31	7.08	577	131	708
T ₃	388	440	89	4.36	9.30	445.00	100.76	545.76	4.99	1.24	6.23	499	124	623

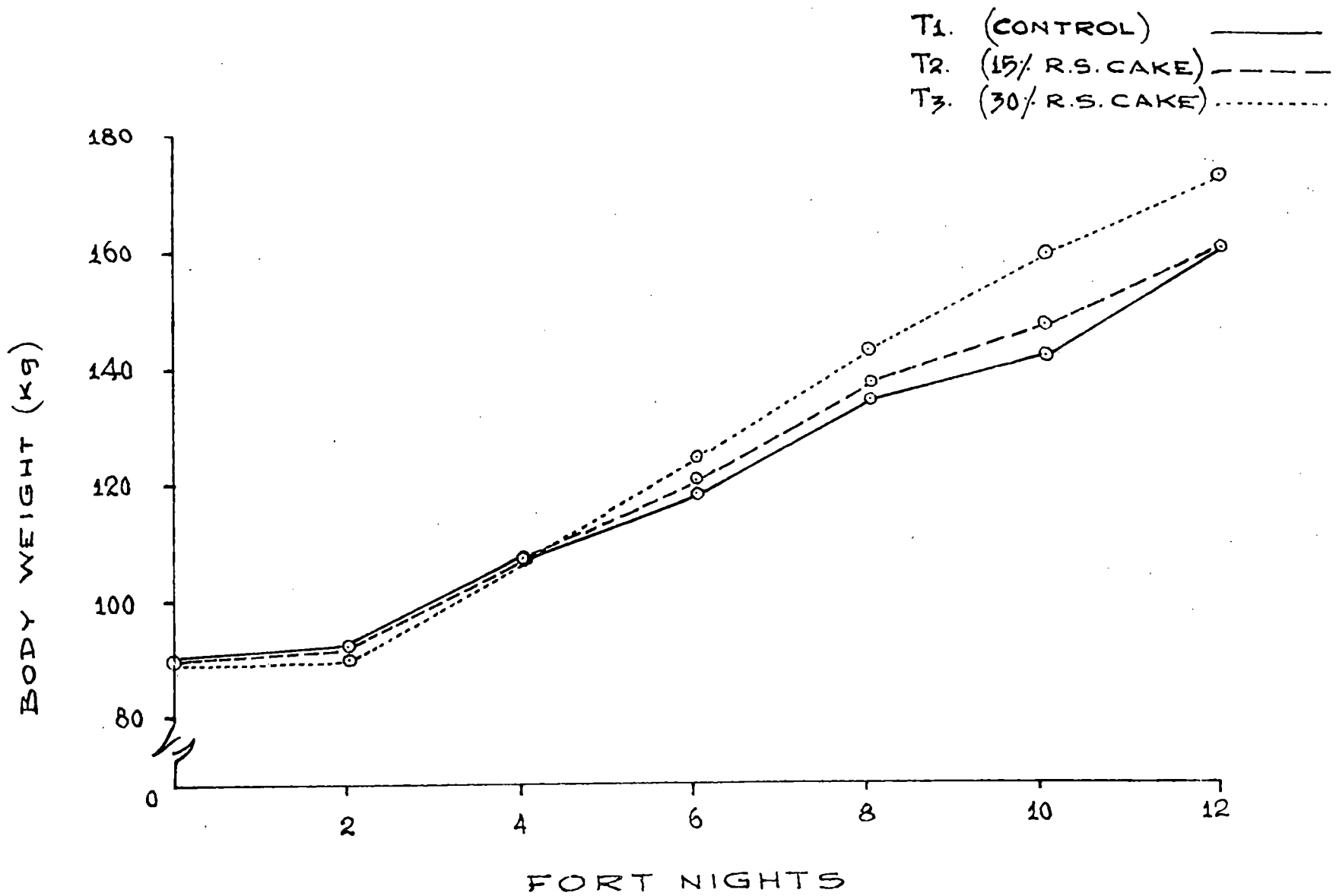


FIG. I. AVERAGE BODY WEIGHT OF CALVES

T₁. (CONTROL) ———
T₂. (15% R.S. CAKE) - - - -
T₃. (30% R.S. CAKE) ·····

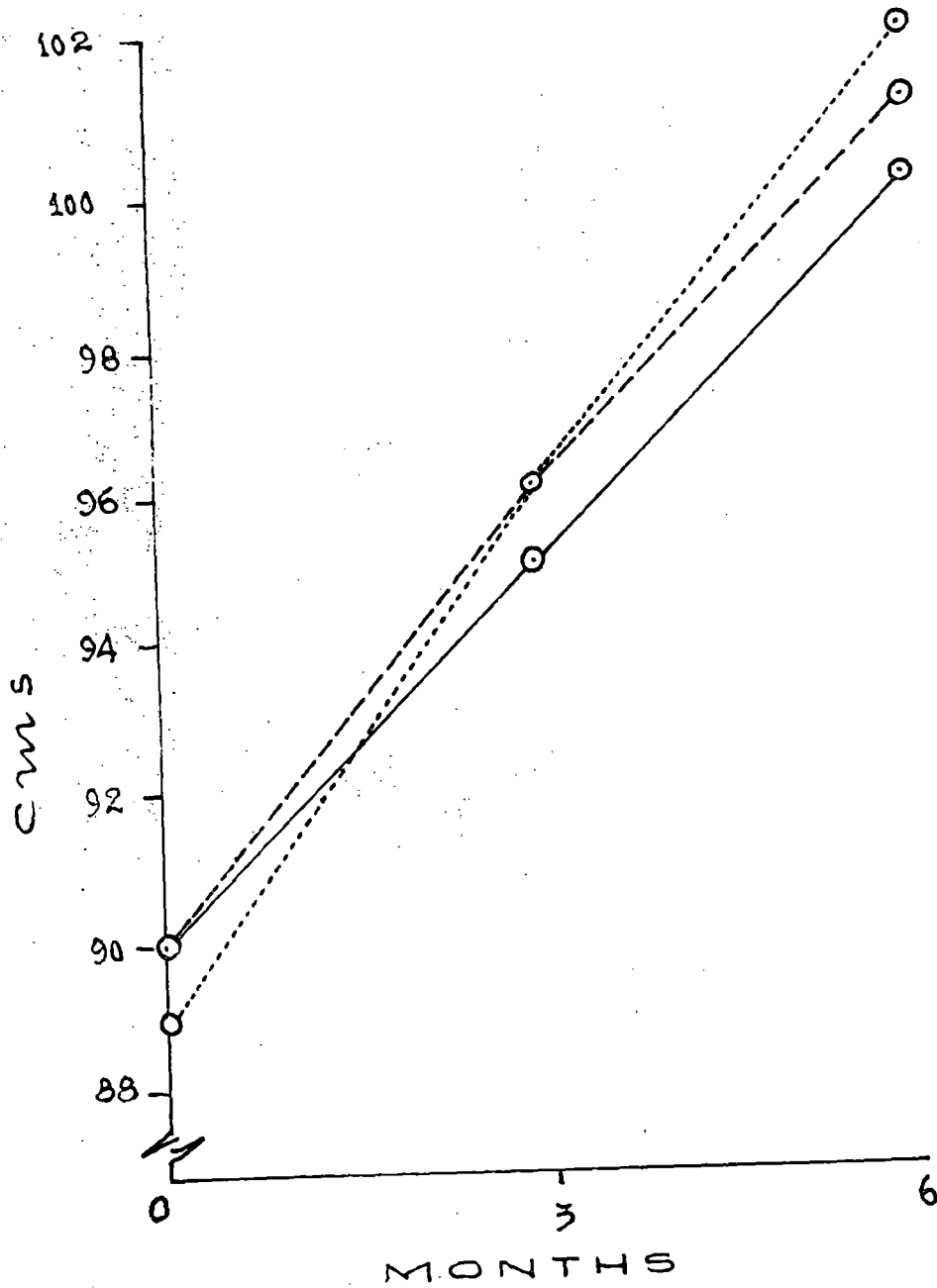


FIG. II. AVERAGE HEIGHT OF CALVES

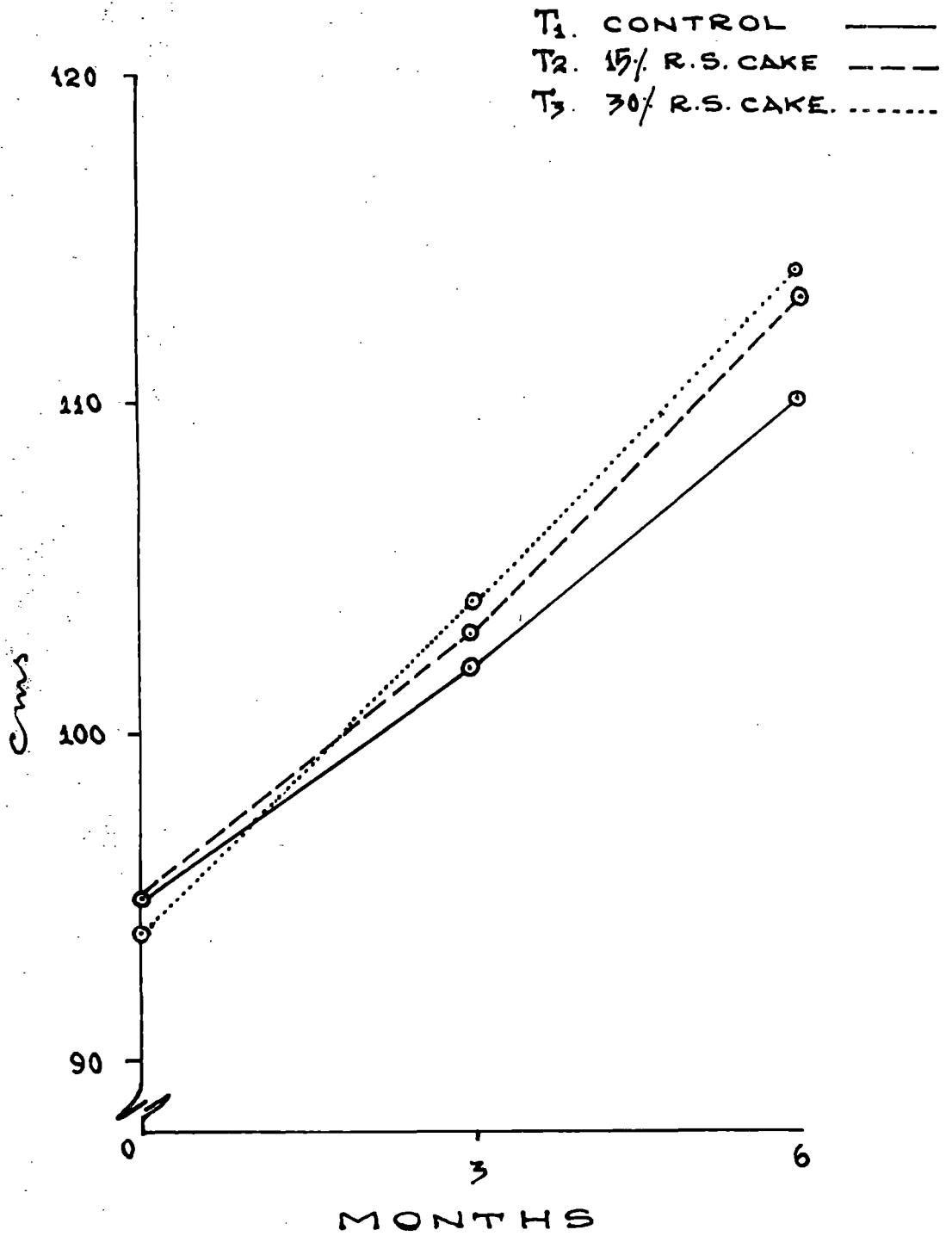


FIG. III. AVERAGE LENGTH OF CALVES

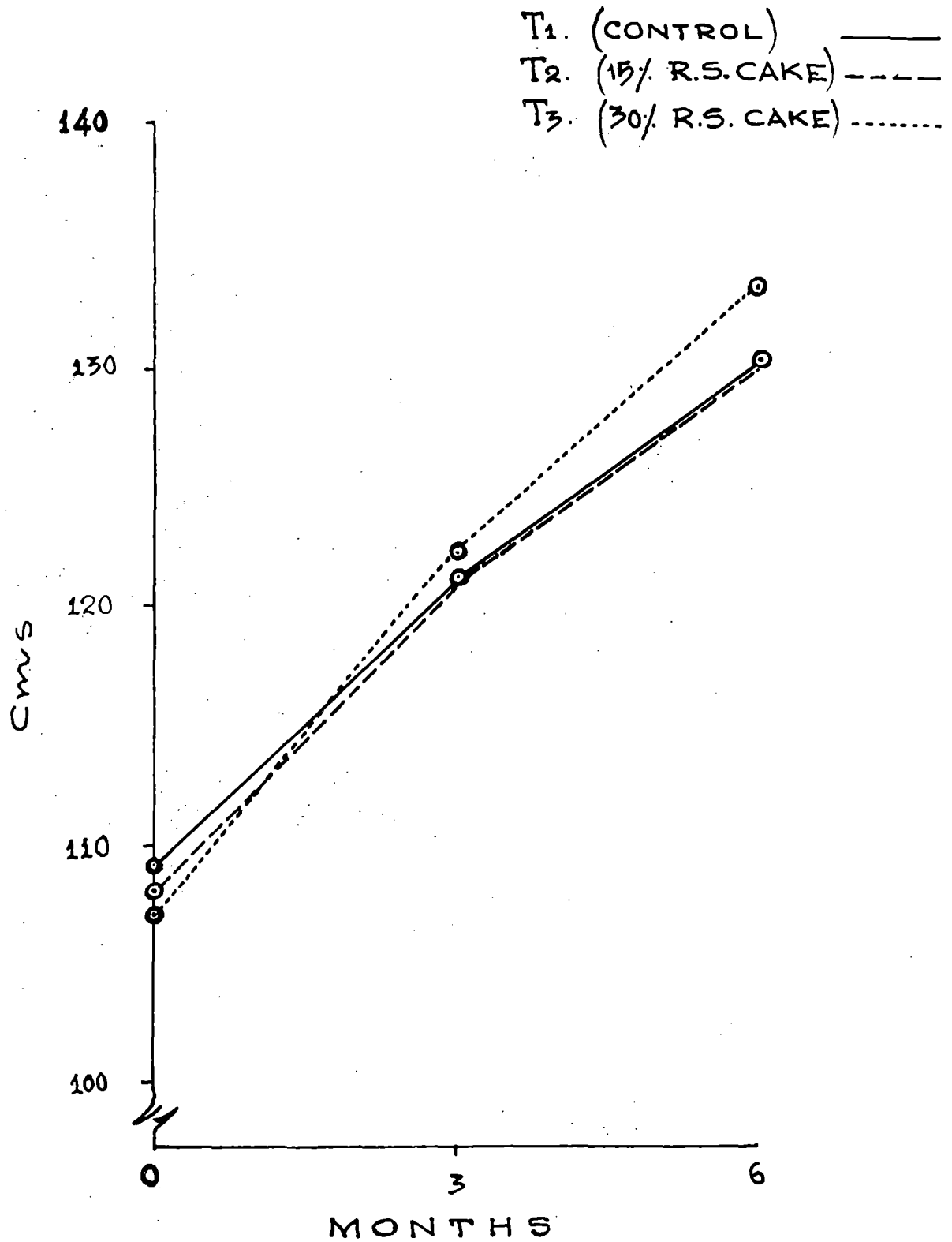


FIG. IV. AVERAGE GIRTH OF CALVES

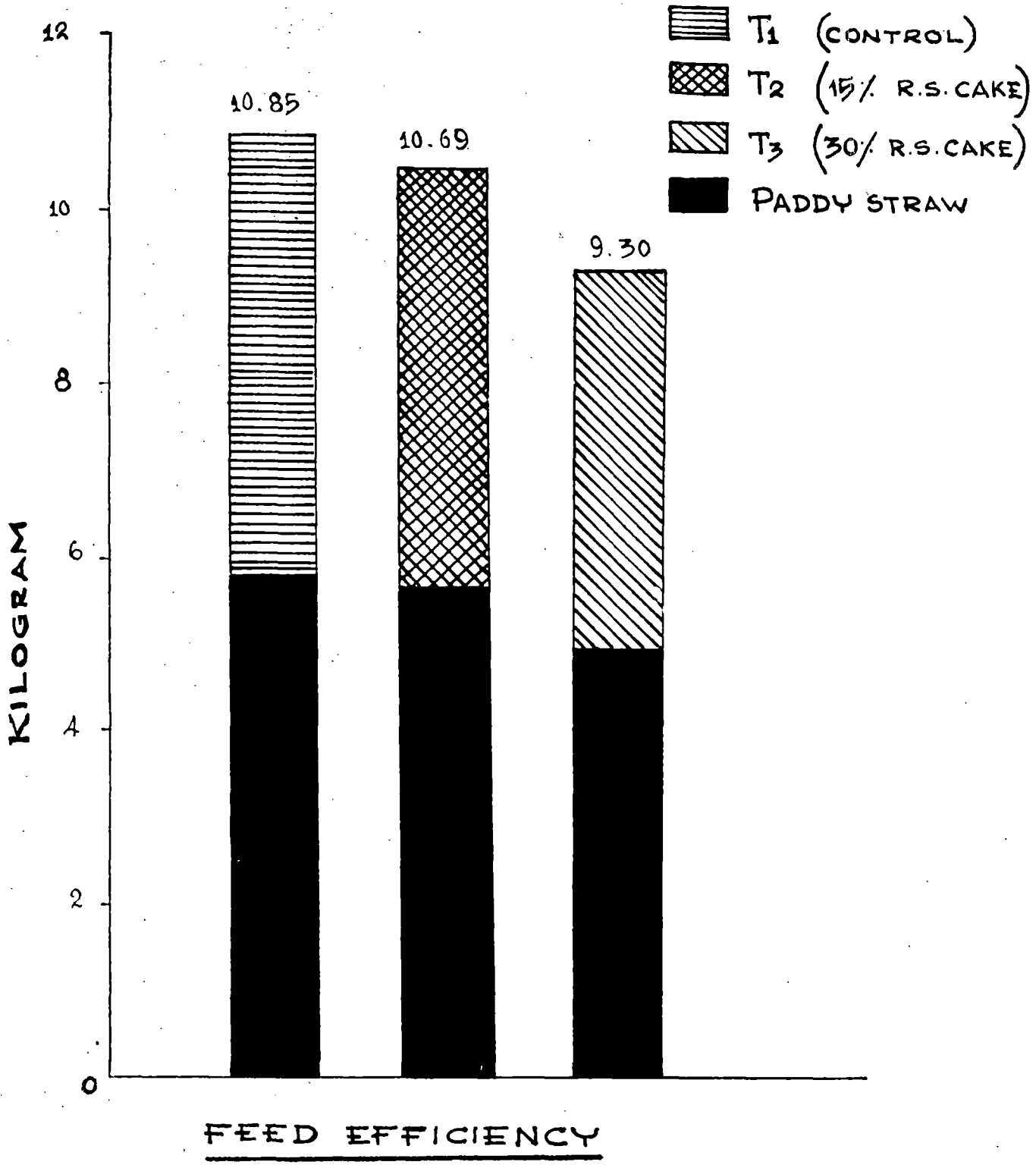
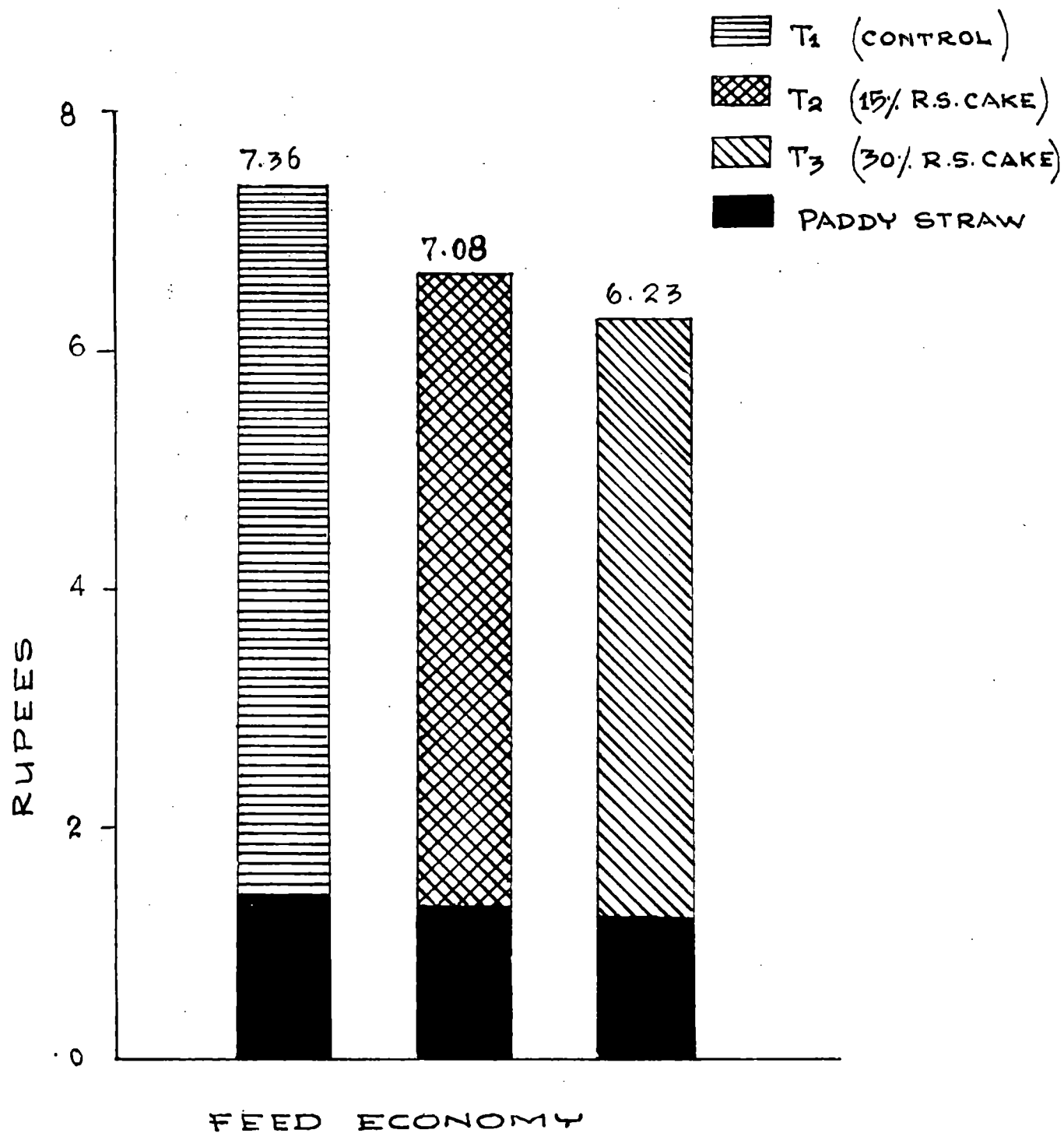
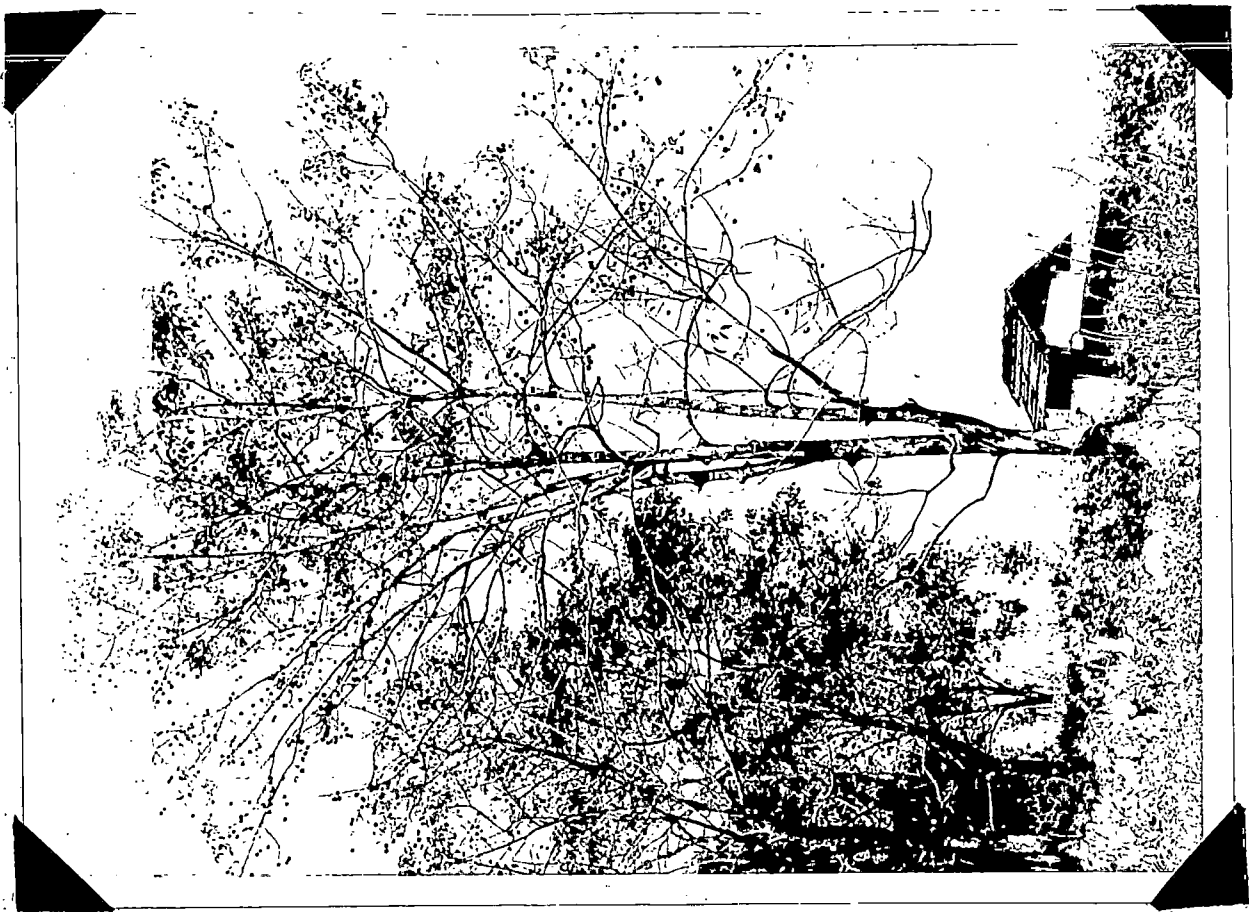
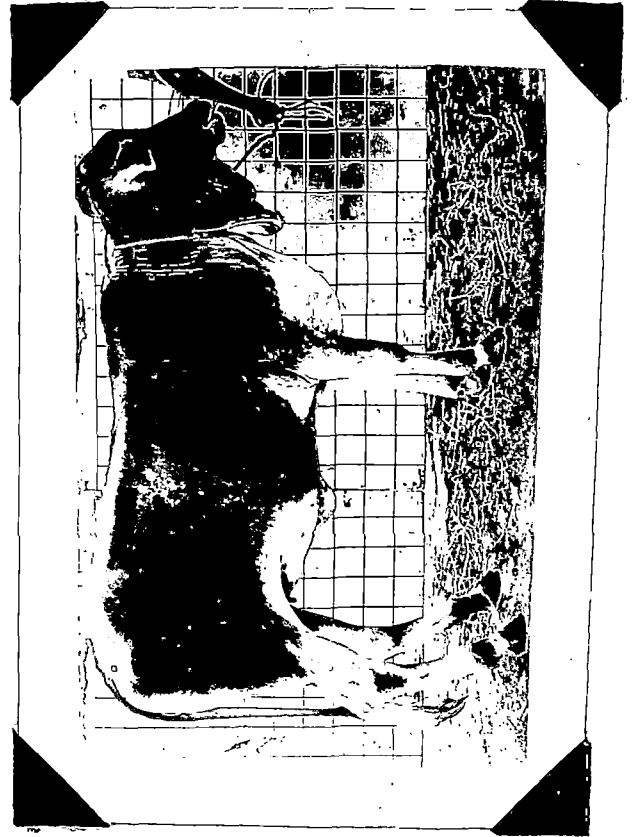
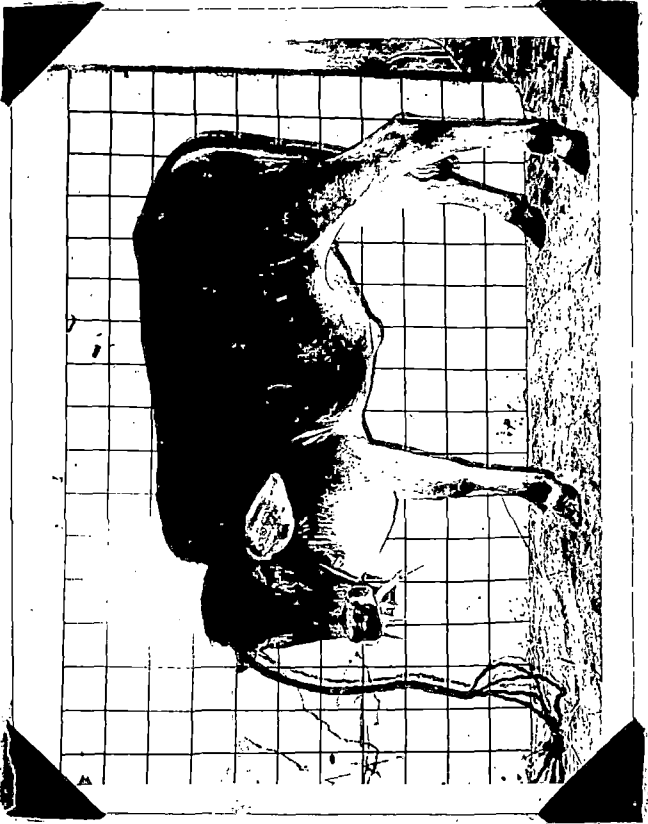


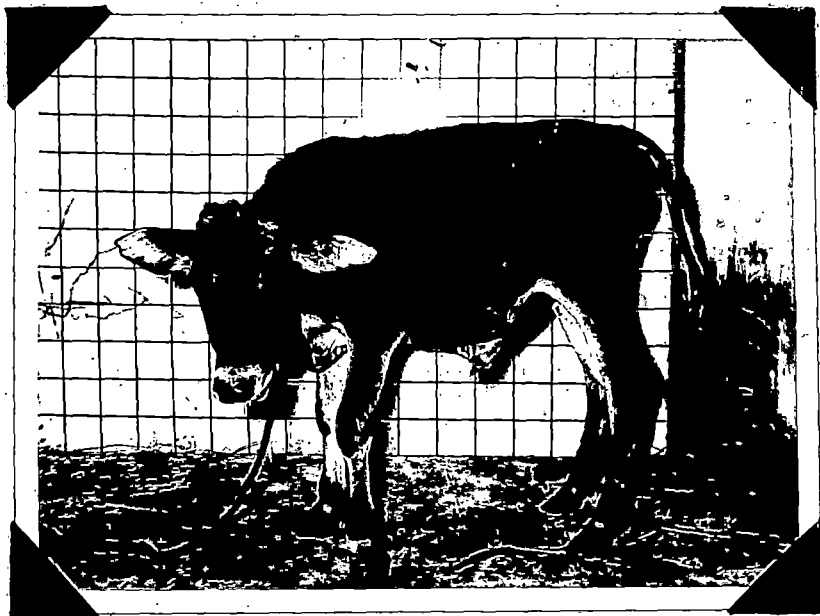
FIG. V. FEED REQUIRED PER KILOGRAM BODY WEIGHT GAIN

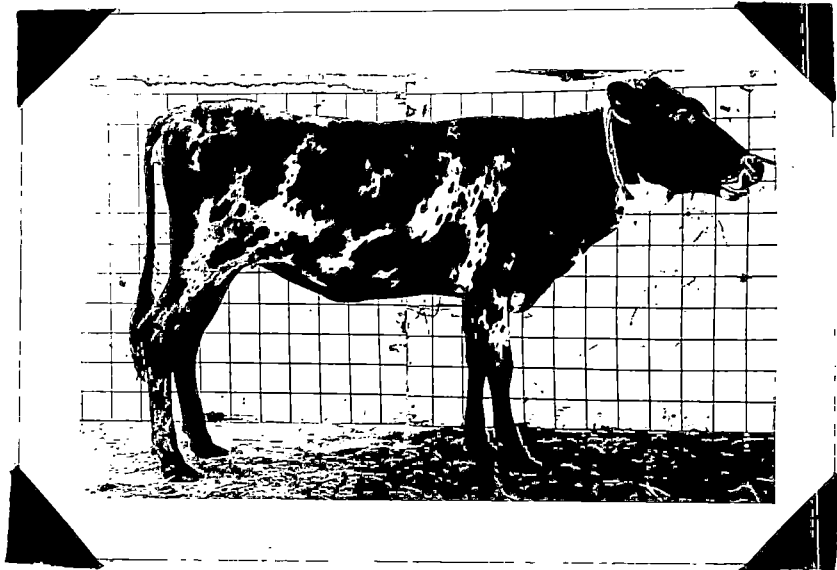
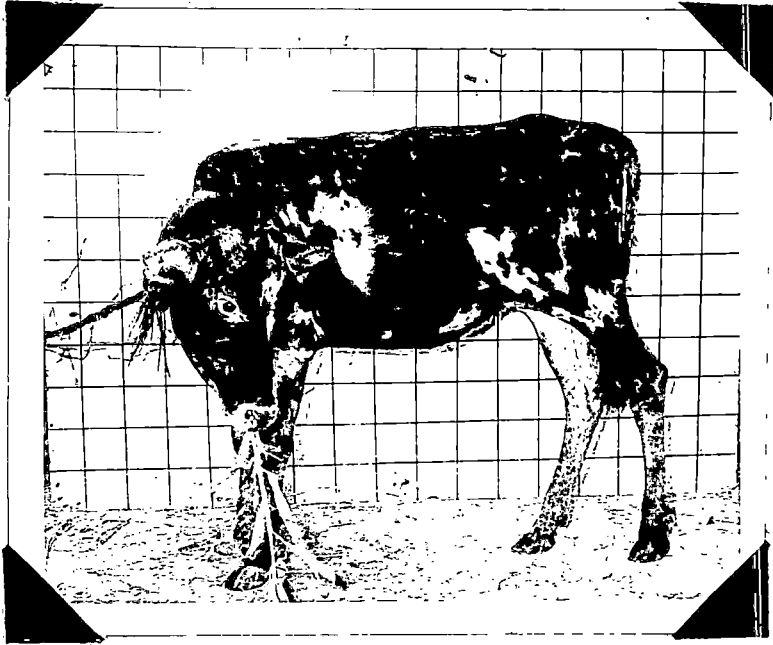


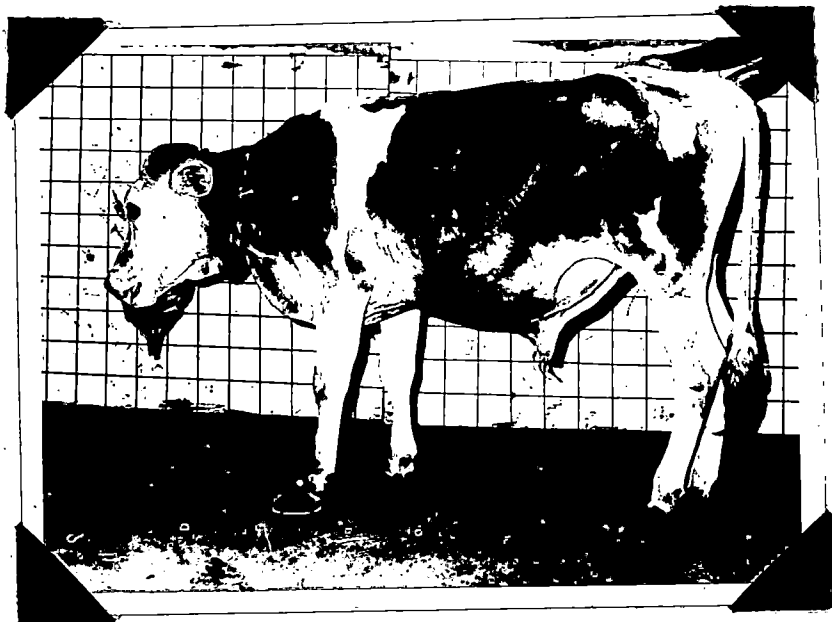
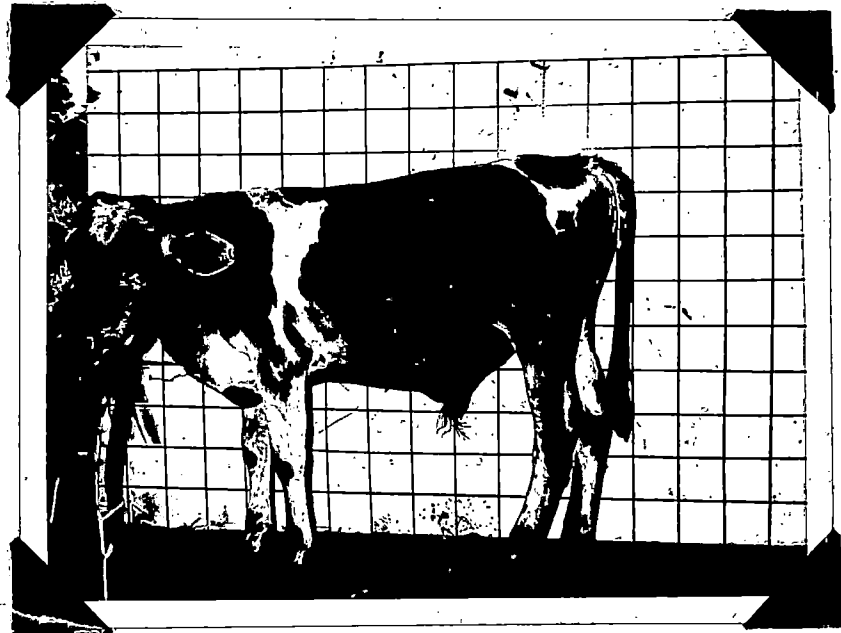
**FIG. VI. COST OF FEED PER KILOGRAM
BODY WEIGHT GAIN**

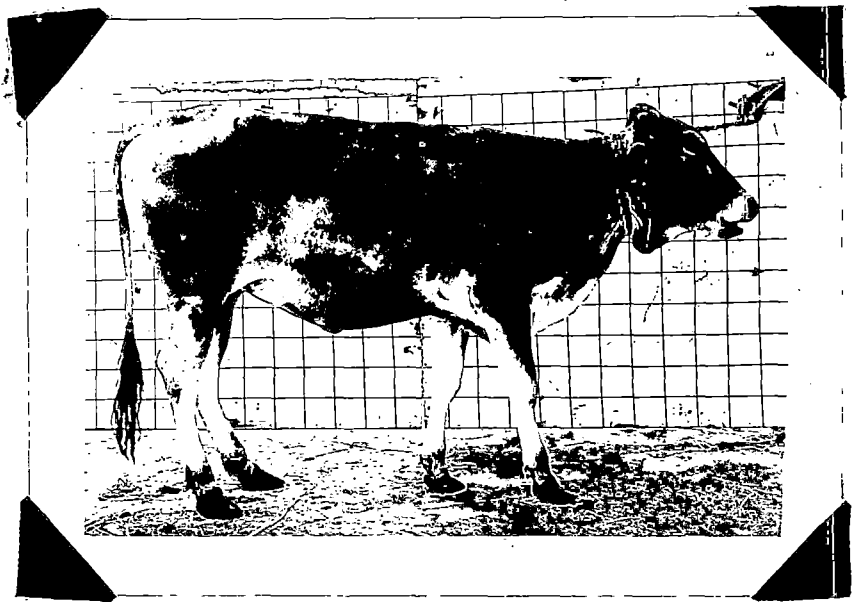
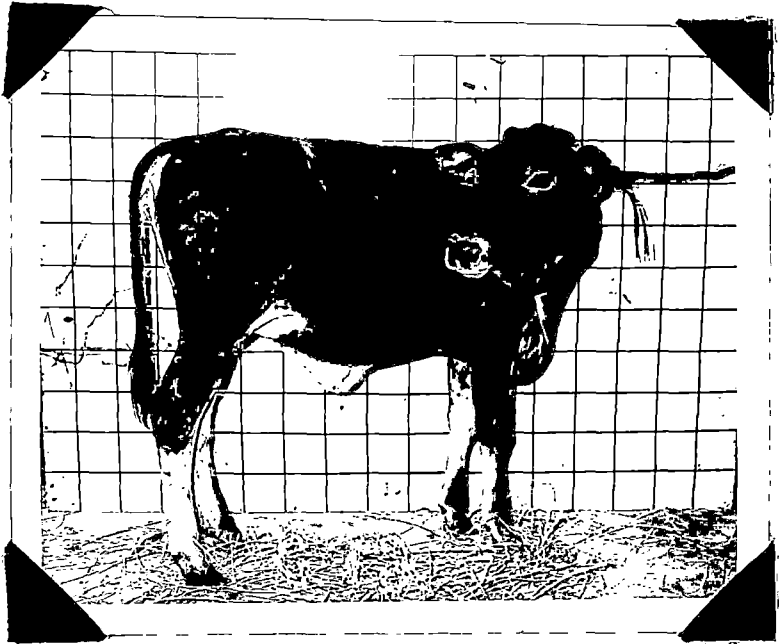


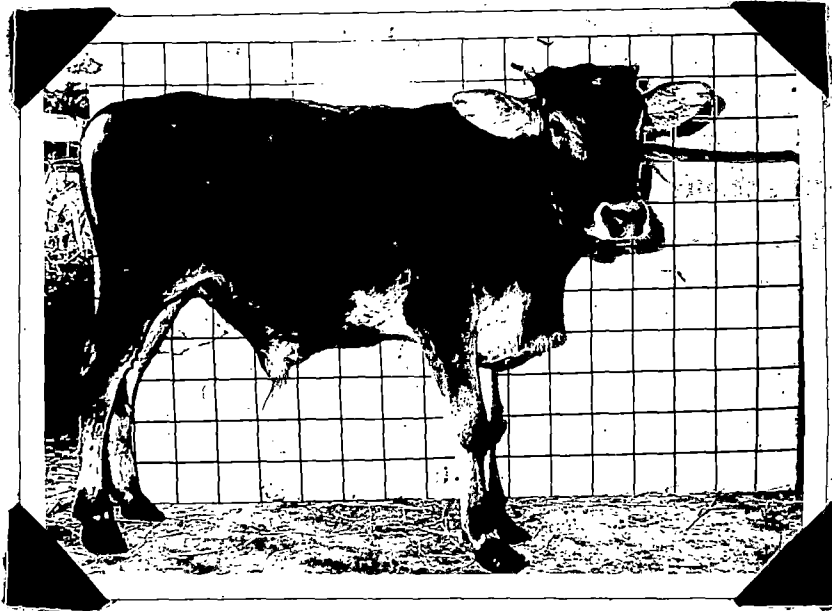












DISCUSSION

DISCUSSION

From the chemical composition of the concentrate mixtures presented in Table 2 it can be seen that they are almost identical in respect of the nutritional moities except for crude fibre and nitrogen-free extract and conform to the standards specified by ISI for compounded cattle feeds (ISI, 1968). The higher levels of rubber seed cake used in the mixtures T₂ and T₃ replacing equal amounts of cotton seed cake of higher fibre content evidently diminishes the crude fibre content of these mixtures. It can be observed that (Table 2) rubber seed cake is fairly rich in crude protein (24.6) and low in crude fibre (2.9). From the point of view of chemical composition it can be considered as a protein supplement comparable to coconut cake. The results also indicate that the hydrocyanic acid content of rubber seed cake used for the study was 8.7 mg/100 g as against the value of 9.5 mg/100 g reported previously (ICAR Report, 1976). Further, the animals receiving rations containing rubber seed cake at both 15 and 30 per cent levels did not exhibit any toxic symptoms during the period of the experiment. This is in agreement with the report of Radeleff (1970) that any plant material containing less than 20 mg of hydrocyanic acid per 100 g is not toxic to animals.

Growth

From the summarised data presented in Table 3, represented in Fig. 1 and statistically analysed in Table 4, it will be seen

that the animals under treatment T_3 showed significantly higher overall weight gains ($P < 0.05$) than those under treatments T_1 and T_2 , the average cumulative weight gains of the three groups during the experimental period of six months being 76 kg each for T_1 and T_2 and 89 kg for T_3 . The average daily gains obtained for animals under the dietary treatments T_1 and T_2 were found to be 422 g each while that for T_3 was 494 g. Almost similar values have been obtained by Ranjhan (1977) for Jersey x Haryana cross-bred calves of 3-12 months of age. Average daily gains of 222 g for Sindhi calves of 6-12 months (Bhoreskar, 1966), 270 g for Sahiwal (Mudgal, 1965b), 238 g for Tharparkar (Mudgal, 1965a), 420 g for Jersey calves of 6-12 months (Rajagopalan, 1974) and 386 g for Sahiwal x Brown Swiss cross-bred calves (Bhatnagar *et al.* 1966) have been reported. The results obtained during the course of the present study also indicate that irrespective of the treatment differences, males gained significantly more weight than females ($P < 0.01$), the daily gains for males and females being 427 and 409 g for T_1 , 435 and 405 g for T_2 and 543 and 442 g for T_3 respectively. The superior performance of male over female calves has been recorded by other workers (Mudgal, 1965b and Brody, 1965).

From the Tables 5-8, Figs. 2-4 and Plates 2-13, it can be seen that animals under the dietary treatment T_3 recorded significantly higher height ($P < 0.05$) and girth ($P < 0.01$) as compared to those under treatments T_1 and T_2 . However, there was no significant difference in body length of animals on the three treatments.

Average increase in height, length and girth of the animals under the three treatments, T_1 , T_2 and T_3 were found to be 10, 11 and 13 cm; 15, 18 and 20 cm and 21, 22 and 26 cm respectively. Higher body measurements recorded for animals under T_3 are commensurate with their increased body weights. Correlation between the increase in body size and mass has already been reported by Brody (1965).

Blood values

From the data presented in Table 9, it is evident that all the animals under the three dietary regimes maintained normal levels of haematological constituents such as RBC, haemoglobin, plasma protein, calcium and inorganic phosphorus suggesting that incorporation of rubber seed cake at 15 and 30 per cent level in the rations of growing calves appears to have no deleterious effect on the physiological well being and nutritional status of the animals.

Digestibilities of nutrients

Data given in Table 10 indicate that while the coefficients of digestibilities of the nutrients were almost similar in respect of treatments T_1 and T_2 and those for T_3 , though not significant, were higher. When Red Sindhi calves of 18 months of age were fed on concentrate mixture along with paddy straw, a ration similar to the control (T_1) used in the present study,

Gupta and Saha (1977) obtained digestibility coefficients of 48.0, 50.9, 55.4, 65.9, 54.9 and 47.5 per cent for dry matter, organic matter, crude protein, ether extract, crude fibre and nitrogen-free extract respectively. When calculated indirectly, the DCP and TDN values of the three concentrate mixtures T₁, T₂ and T₃ containing rubber seed cake at 0, 15 and 30 per cent levels were found to be 15.5 and 66.7, 15.6 and 71.8 and 16.2 and 73.7 respectively. The markedly higher TDN value of the concentrate mixture T₃ may be responsible for the significantly higher weight gains obtained for the animals under the treatment T₃. Further it can be seen that with all the three rations the requirements of the animals in terms of DCP and TDN were met as per the standards prescribed by Sen and Ray (1971). The nutritive ratio for the treatments T₁, T₂ and T₃ were found to be 1: 3.3; 3.6 and 3.55 respectively.

Nitrogen and mineral balances

From the results presented in Table 10 it is observed that all animals maintained a positive balance for nitrogen, calcium and phosphorus. Further, there is a progressive increase in the balance of nitrogen in the treatment T₁, T₂ and T₃ respectively as the level of rubber seed cake increased from 0 to 30 per cent in the concentrate rations, the values being 16.5, 17.2 and 19.2 g of nitrogen per day respectively.

Calcium and phosphorus balances also showed almost a

similar trend without having any significant differences among the treatments. The respective values for T_1 , T_2 and T_3 for calcium balance were 10.1, 9.7 and 11.2 g per day while those for phosphorus being 6.4, 6.3 and 7.0 g per day respectively.

Histopathological studies

Histopathological examination of internal organs such as liver, thyroid, pancreas, kidney, heart, spleen and adrenal of animals slaughtered at the end of the trial did not reveal any pathological changes suggesting that rubber seed cake can be safely incorporated in the rations of growing calves upto a level of 30 per cent. Garner (1961) has reported that hydrocyanic acid can be detected from muscles and tissues of animals showing symptoms of hydrocyanic acid toxicity. In the present study, muscle and liver tissues of the animals slaughtered were not found to contain any hydrocyanic acid thereby indicating the absence of hydrocyanic acid toxicity.

Feed efficiency and economics

From Table 12 and Figs. 5 and 6, it can be seen that the feed efficiency values expressed in terms of kg concentrate required per unit gain in body weight were found to be 5.05, 4.97 and 4.36 for treatments T_1 , T_2 and T_3 respectively, while the respective figures for total ration being 10.85, 10.69 and 9.30. Further, the results presented in Table 12 and Fig. 6 indicate that the cost of ration per unit gain was Rs. 7.36,

Rs. 7.08 and Rs. 6.23, the concentrate alone amounting to Rs. 6.01, Rs.5.77 and Rs.4.99 respectively for the treatments T_1 , T_2 and T_3 . The differences obtained between the treatments in respect of biological and economic efficiency can be attributed to their difference in body weight gains and to the differences in the cost of rations. It can also be seen that even if the cost of concentrates is assumed to be the same, the treatment T_3 stands out as the most efficient ration to promote growth in calves.

From a critical evaluation of the results obtained during the course of the present investigation, it can be concluded that rubber seed cake can beneficially and economically be incorporated at 30 per cent level in the concentrate mixture for growing calves.

S U M M A R Y

S U M M A R Y

An investigation spread over a period of six months was carried out to evaluate the feeding value of rubber seed cake, using 24 Jersey x Sindhi cross-bred calves of 8-14 months of age, divided and distributed under three dietary treatments (T_1 , T_2 and T_3), the animals on the different treatments being fed concentrate mixtures containing 0, 15 and 30 per cent levels of rubber seed cake respectively. The criteria for evaluation were growth rate, nutriture, digestibility coefficients of nutrients, toxic effects, feed efficiency and economics of rearing.

The salient observations made during the course of the investigation and the inferences drawn from the results obtained are given below:

1. Calves receiving concentrate mixture containing 30 per cent rubber seed cake showed significantly better overall weight gains than those fed mixtures containing 0 and 15 per cent rubber seed cake respectively.
2. Concentrate mixture incorporating rubber seed cake at 30 per cent level, on feeding, brought about significantly higher increase in height, length and girth in calves.
3. The physiological well being of the animals, as adjudged from their haematological values, is not influenced by

feeding rubber seed cake in the concentrate mixture even at a level of 30 per cent.

4. The digestibility coefficients of nutrients were found to be higher in animals receiving concentrate mixture with 30 per cent rubber seed cake.
5. Nitrogen, calcium and phosphorus balances of animals increased progressively as the level of rubber seed cake in the concentrate mixture increased from 0-30 per cent.
6. Rubber seed cake when incorporated at 30 per cent level in concentrate mixture did not exert any toxic effect on the animal, in as much as neither any pathological changes could be detected on histopathological examination of internal organs nor any hydrocyanic acid could be detected in any of the tissues.
7. Animals receiving concentrate mixture containing 30 per cent rubber seed cake had better feed efficiency values than those receiving 15 per cent and 0 per cent rubber seed cake in their concentrate mixture.
8. The cost of ration per kilogram gain was found to be highest in animals receiving the control ration, less in animals receiving 15 per cent rubber seed cake, and least in those receiving 30 per cent rubber seed cake in the concentrate mixture.

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APPENDICES

APPENDIX I a

Data on fortnightly body weights (Kg) of calves maintained
on the experimental rations.

Treatment T₁ (Control)

Animal number	Sex	Age (days)	Fortnights												
			0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
667	Male	381	108	115	122	133	143	151	157	172	176	186	186	200	211
551	"	283	79	82	84	90	98	100	104	113	120	123	124	132	138
666M	"	384	80	84	90	96	105	109	118	127	132	137	141	153	158
566	"	234	74	77	80	84	90	92	102	115	118	120	127	138	142
664	Female	428	85	88	92	100	105	109	115	125	132	133	135	148	155
540	"	337	83	86	90	98	105	110	117	125	130	134	146	157	162
533	"	368	76	80	83	90	95	100	103	112	117	122	123	131	140
547	"	359	96	100	101	109	121	127	138	144	151	155	162	172	178
Mean \pm SE		347	85	89	92	100	108	112	119	129	135	139	143	155	161
		\pm 21.2	\pm 4.4	\pm 4.4	\pm 6.5	\pm 5.4	\pm 5.3	\pm 7.2	\pm 7.4	\pm 7.5	\pm 5.6	\pm 7.2	\pm 7.7	\pm 4.2	\pm 7.2

APPENDIX I b

Treatment T₂ (15% Rubber seed cake)

Animal number	Sex	Age (days)	Fortnights												
			0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
670*	Male	225	84	84	84	91	100	Died on 4-11-1976							
555	"	279	83	85	86	96	106	111	122	133	139	145	156	165	174
659	"	404	88	92	93	102	112	114	123	132	140	143	146	151	156
663	"	394	85	91	94	102	111	115	124	139	144	145	162	166	166
527	Female	409	89	96	96	103	112	117	123	131	140	142	150	156	157
537	"	355	86	92	94	100	109	115	122	132	140	141	146	157	160
541	"	304	82	88	88	91	103	113	116	125	133	135	141	150	160
518	"	442	82	85	90	96	104	107	116	126	132	133	138	145	154
Mean ± SE**		359 ± 20.4	85 ± 1.1	90 ± 1.4	92 ± 3.4	99 ± 3.4	108 ± 2.7	113 ± 2.6	121 ± 2.0	131 ± 3.1	138 ± 4.0	141 ± 4.1	148 ± 5.6	156 ± 2.5	161 ± 2.6

* Died on 4-11-1976.

** Average of seven animals only.

APPENDIX I c

Treatment T₃ (30% Rubber seed cake)

Animal number	Sex	Age (days)	Fortnights												
			0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
668	Male	366	102	110	120	136	141	150	159	175	187	197	206	218	223
535	"	366	95	100	102	110	118	123	140	146	151	163	170	181	187
565	"	235	73	78	80	89	100	106	117	130	139	145	156	166	176
553	"	275	76	76	79	89	98	101	110	121	130	134	146	150	151
666F	Female	406	80	84	85	90	95	103	112	118	129	135	141	141	146
544	"	354	84	88	90	97	106	113	118	129	137	141	143	150	158
669	"	384	74	77	78	82	89	99	110	112	123	127	137	138	147
672	"	333	95	98	98	109	119	126	135	146	158	165	180	184	200
Mean \pm SE		340 \pm 20.1	85 \pm 3.5	89 \pm 4.1	91 \pm 6.3	100 \pm 6.8	108 \pm 6.6	115 \pm 6.5	125 \pm 6.6	135 \pm 6.1	144 \pm 8.0	151 \pm 7.8	160 \pm 8.1	166 \pm 9.6	174 \pm 8.6

APPENDIX II a

Data on linear body measurements of calves maintained
on the experimental rations.

Treatment T₁ (Control)

Animal number	Initial			At 3rd month			At 6th month		
	Height (cm)	Length (cm)	Girth (cm)	Height (cm)	Length (cm)	Girth (cm)	Height (cm)	Length (cm)	Girth (cm)
667	96	105	119	101	114	130	107	123	142
666M	86	93	105	95	96	118	99	110	125
566	85	90	103	91	97	114	96	108	122
551	87	88	108	94	97	115	97	105	124
664	88	99	111	93	106	123	98	109	130
533	86	90	105	87	101	115	92	108	123
547	97	98	112	98	104	129	102	109	137
540	96	93	110	97	100	122	106	106	135
Mean ± SE	90 ± 2.6	95 ± 3.1	109 ± 2.7	95 ± 3.3	102 ± 1.0	121 ± 1.9	100 ± 2.7	110 ± 2.0	130 ± 1.5

APPENDIX II b

Treatment T₂ (15% Rubber seed cake)

Animal number	Initial			At 3rd month			At 6th month		
	Height (cm)	Length (cm)	Girth (cm)	Height (cm)	Length (cm)	Girth (cm)	Height (cm)	Length (cm)	Girth (cm)
537	90	96	113	96	100	129	100	109	132
527	95	98	108	102	104	119	105	114	129
541	92	98	108	99	105	119	103	115	128
518	90	94	104	92	99	115	97	108	125
659	91	94	108	97	105	126	100	111	133
663	89	91	109	94	101	120	99	112	131
670*	87	91	106	Died on 4-11-1976					
555	85	95	103	95	109	116	100	121	131
Mean ± SE**	90 ± 3.2	95 ± 2.3	108 ± 3.7	96 ± 3.9	103 ± 3.4	121 ± 3.7	101 ± 3.7	113 ± 1.6	130 ± 2.3

* Died on 4-11-1976.

** Average of seven calves only.

APPENDIX II c

Treatment T₃ (30% Rubber seed cake)

Animal number	Initial			At 3rd month			At 6th month		
	Height (cm)	Length (cm)	Girth (cm)	Height (cm)	Length (cm)	Girth (cm)	Height (cm)	Length (cm)	Girth (cm)
668	93	100	115	103	101	133	110	128	147
565	90	89	103	100	101	121	107	114	135
535	93	96	110	102	108	125	105	113	136
553	88	93	103	93	105	117	100	111	128
672	92	97	110	97	103	126	103	119	139
669	88	85	105	97	103	126	98	104	131
666F	85	98	103	89	102	116	95	110	123
544	86	94	105	91	106	118	98	110	128
Mean \pm SE	89 \pm 3.3	94 \pm 1.8	107 \pm 2.3	96 \pm 4.1	104 \pm 4.2	122 \pm 5.5	102 \pm 1.8	114 \pm 2.4	133 \pm 4.6

APPENDIX III a (1)

Haematological values of the calves maintained on the experimental rations.

Initial values

Treatment T₁

Animal number	RBC mill/ mm ³	Haemoglobin g/100 ml of blood	Plasma protein g/100 ml	Plasma calcium mg/100 ml	Plasma inorganic phosphorous mg/100 ml
667	6.97	8.6	9.2	11.9	7.3
551	7.11	9.0	8.4	12.9	9.2
666M	8.47	9.4	8.4	12.9	7.4
566	8.10	9.0	7.6	13.9	7.8
664	8.78	9.6	8.8	11.9	7.7
540	9.05	9.2	8.8	12.1	7.2
533	8.22	8.8	8.0	10.3	8.0
547	7.92	8.4	8.0	13.1	7.4
Mean ± SE	8.08 ± 0.6	9.0 ± 0.1	8.4 ± 0.2	12.4 ± 0.2	7.6 ± 0.2

APPENDIX III a (ii)

Treatment T₂ (15% Rubber seed cake)

Animal number	RBC mill/mm ³	Haemaglobin g/100 ml of blood	Plasma protein g/100 ml	Plasma calcium mg/100 ml	Plasma inorganic phosphorus mg/100 ml
670	6.14	7.4	8.0	12.1	7.7
555	8.04	8.2	9.6	12.7	7.7
659	6.75	9.2	11.2	12.1	6.4
663	5.76	8.0	8.8	12.9	9.6
527	6.87	9.0	9.2	13.3	7.2
537	8.33	8.2	8.8	13.1	7.3
541	10.17	8.2	8.4	13.1	7.7
518	7.86	8.0	8.0	12.7	8.0
Mean ± SE	7.68 ± 0.4	8.4 ± 0.5	9.1 ± 0.3	12.8 ± 0.4	7.7 ± 0.3

APPENDIX III a (iii)

Treatment T₃ (30% Rubber seed cake)

Animal number	RBC mill/mm ³	Haemaglobin g/100 ml of blood	Plasma protein g/100 ml	Plasma calcium mg/100 ml	Plasma inorganic phosphorous mg/100 ml
668	8.56	8.6	10.0	11.9	8.3
535	7.15	9.0	9.6	11.3	7.4
565	8.67	8.6	8.8	12.3	6.9
553	7.19	7.6	8.8	13.9	10.9
666F	5.35	7.4	8.4	11.9	6.9
544	6.18	7.2	10.0	13.3	4.2
669	9.14	9.6	8.4	12.1	6.9
672	7.35	8.2	8.4	12.7	8.0
Mean ± SE	7.44 ± 0.5	8.3 ± 0.2	9.1 ± 0.3	12.4 ± 0.4	7.4 ± 0.8

APPENDIX III b (i)

At 3rd month

Treatment T₁ (Control)

Animal number	RBC mill/mm ³	Haemaglobin g/100 ml of blood	Plasma protein g/100 ml	Plasma calcium mg/100 ml	Plasma inorganic phosphorous mg/100 ml
667	8.19	9.8	10.2	12.5	5.5
551	6.41	9.8	10.7	12.8	6.4
666M	9.50	10.4	8.4	12.6	8.0
566	8.36	10.6	8.9	12.2	8.3
664	7.93	10.6	10.7	12.4	8.7
540	8.58	9.8	9.8	12.6	7.4
533	7.08	10.2	10.2	12.5	7.2
547	7.88	10.0	9.8	14.3	7.5
Mean ± SE	7.99 ± 0.3	10.2 ± 0.4	9.8 ± 0.4	12.7 ± 0.4	7.4 ± 0.3

APPENDIX III b (ii)

Treatment T₂ (15% Rubber seed cake)

Animal number	RBC mill/mm ³	Haemoglobin g/100 ml of blood	Plasma protein g/100 ml	Plasma calcium mg/100 ml	Plasma inorganic phosphorous mg/100 ml
670*					
555	5.80	9.8	9.8	11.2	8.0
659	5.73	11.8	8.9	12.0	7.5
663	6.99	10.0	9.8	12.4	9.0
527	7.74	11.8	11.1	13.0	7.0
537	7.86	9.8	9.3	11.4	7.4
541	6.66	8.4	10.2	11.0	8.0
518	8.12	10.0	9.3	11.8	7.5
Mean ± SE	6.98 ± 0.4	9.9 ± 1.1	9.5 ± 1.0	11.8 ± 0.4	7.8 ± 0.1

* Died on 4-11-1976.

APPENDIX III b (iii)

Treatment T₃ (30% Rubber seed cake)

Animal number	RBC mill/mm ³	Haemoglobin g/100 ml of blood	Plasma protein g/100 ml	Plasma calcium mg/100 ml	Plasma inorganic phosphorous mg/100 ml
668	6.69	10.0	10.2	12.5	8.6
535	7.55	10.0	9.8	12.4	6.7
565	8.19	10.4	9.8	13.6	8.8
553	6.60	10.4	11.1	12.8	7.0
666F	6.24	9.2	10.2	12.6	6.1
544	6.96	9.6	10.7	12.9	7.2
669	7.76	10.0	9.3	12.8	8.0
672	8.01	9.8	9.3	12.4	8.3
Mean ± SE	7.30 ± 0.2	9.9 ± 0.3	10.05 ± 0.2	12.8 ± 0.4	7.6 ± 0.3

APPENDIX III c (i)

At 6th month

Treatment T₁ (Control)

Animal number	RBC mill/mm ³	Haemoglobin g/100 ml of blood	Plasma protein g/100 ml	Plasma calcium mg/100 ml	Plasma inorganic phosphorous mg/100 ml
667	7.61	9.4	8.9	10.4	8.1
551	7.45	8.8	8.2	10.4	7.5
666M	7.29	8.6	8.5	11.2	7.3
566	8.34	10.4	7.4	9.0	7.5
664	7.68	10.4	8.9	10.5	8.0
540	8.02	7.6	8.9	9.6	8.7
533	8.66	8.0	8.5	11.0	7.4
547	7.94	10.4	8.2	11.0	7.6
Mean ± SE	7.87 ± 0.2	9.2 ± 0.4	8.4 ± 0.3	10.4 ± 0.2	7.7 ± 0.4

APPENDIX III c (ii)

Treatment T₂ (15% Rubber seed cake)

Animal number	RBC mill/mm ³	Haemoglobin g/100 ml of blood	Plasma protein g/100 ml	Plasma calcium mg/100 ml	Plasma inorganic phosphorous mg/100 ml
555	6.32	7.8	7.8	11.2	8.2
659	7.03	9.8	8.5	10.6	7.1
663	7.29	10.2	9.6	11.0	7.9
527	7.79	7.6	8.5	11.8	6.2
537	7.98	9.6	8.9	12.2	7.1
541	8.22	10.6	8.2	10.8	7.7
518	8.25	11.4	8.2	11.2	8.1
Mean ± SE	7.60 ± 0.2	9.6 ± 0.4	8.5 ± 0.4	11.3 ± 0.3	7.8 ± 0.3

APPENDIX III c (iii)

Treatment T₃ (30% Rubber seed cake)

Animal number	RBC mill/mm ³	Haemoglobin g/100 ml of blood	Plasma protein g/100 ml	Plasma calcium mg/100 ml	Plasma inorganic phosphorous mg/100 ml
668	7.28	8.2	9.3	11.4	8.2
535	6.18	7.6	7.8	10.4	7.8
565	8.18	8.2	8.2	10.4	8.2
553	6.63	8.8	8.2	10.2	8.0
666F	6.38	8.8	8.8	11.6	8.2
544	6.79	7.8	9.8	9.8	6.6
669	8.07	10.8	9.3	11.8	7.5
672	6.68	9.0	8.5	11.2	8.5
Mean ± SE	7.02 ± 0.3	8.7 ± 0.1	8.7 ± 0.4	10.9 ± 0.3	7.9 ± 0.4

APPENDIX IV a

Percentage chemical composition of dung collected during the metabolism trial.

Treatment T₁

Nutritional moiety	Animal number							
	667	551	666M	566	664	540	533	547
Dry matter	21.0	23.2	22.2	22.1	22.8	23.7	22.6	21.9
Organic matter	81.4	81.1	81.6	82.5	81.6	81.2	82.1	82.1
Crude protein	9.6	10.8	11.6	11.1	12.5	10.4	12.8	11.4
Ether extract	2.5	1.7	2.8	1.9	2.6	3.3	2.9	3.2
Crude fibre	21.4	17.4	17.6	19.6	19.1	16.1	18.9	17.3
N.F.E.	47.9	51.2	49.6	49.9	47.4	51.4	47.5	51.2
Total ash	18.6	18.9	18.4	17.5	18.4	18.8	17.9	17.9
Acid insoluble ash	14.4	14.3	14.0	14.8	14.2	13.7	13.8	13.9
Calcium	0.76	0.68	0.72	0.88	0.81	0.76	0.78	0.98
Phosphorous	0.55	0.55	0.74	0.74	0.68	0.61	0.79	0.78

APPENDIX IV b

Treatment T₂ (15% Rubber seed cake)

Nutritional moiety	Animal number						
	555	659	663	527	537	541	518
Dry matter	20.2	23.3	23.3	24.0	24.9	21.6	25.8
Organic matter	82.5	81.1	81.1	81.0	81.2	80.5	80.4
Crude protein	10.4	12.9	12.2	13.0	12.4	11.0	12.3
Ether extract	1.7	2.0	2.2	2.3	3.3	2.0	2.5
Crude fibre	15.8	17.5	19.3	17.2	17.3	19.2	20.2
N.F.E.	54.6	58.7	47.4	48.5	48.2	48.3	45.4
Total ash	17.5	18.9	18.9	19.0	18.8	19.5	19.6
Acid insoluble ash	14.1	14.3	15.1	14.2	14.2	15.8	14.7
Calcium	0.50	0.68	0.78	0.92	0.91	0.88	1.02
Phosphorous	0.42	0.56	0.44	0.91	0.89	0.67	0.82

APPENDIX IV c

Treatment T₃ (30% Rubber seed cake)

Nutritional moiety	Animal number							
	668	535	565	553	666F	544	669	672
Dry matter	23.5	21.9	21.3	23.9	23.1	25.8	22.9	22.2
Organic matter	82.4	81.0	80.6	81.8	81.9	81.9	80.3	82.3
Crude protein	13.0	11.3	11.0	13.6	10.6	11.1	12.2	10.5
Ether extract	2.3	2.2	3.1	2.6	3.2	2.4	2.2	2.9
Crude fibre	17.5	14.4	14.9	13.9	14.7	15.9	15.0	15.0
N.F.E.	49.6	53.1	51.6	51.7	53.4	52.5	51.1	53.9
Total ash	17.6	19.0	19.4	18.2	18.1	18.1	19.7	17.7
Acid insoluble ash	13.9	14.4	14.7	14.3	14.9	12.7	14.6	14.0
Calcium	1.10	0.67	0.78	0.97	1.18	1.25	1.19	0.77
Phosphorous	0.59	0.58	0.64	0.34	0.81	0.89	0.77	0.61

APPENDIX V a

Digestibility coefficients of the nutrients in the three experimental rations.

Treatment T₁ (Control)Dry matter

	Animal number							
	667	551	666M	566	664	540	533	547
Intake from concentrate g	2514	2057	2285	2057	2285	2285	2057	2285
Intake from paddy straw g	3283	2720	2626	2533	2251	2157	2345	2814
Total intake g	5797	4777	4911	4590	4536	4442	4402	5099
Outgo in dung g	3185	2786	2474	1814	2224	2533	2192	2224
Digested g	2612	1991	2437	2750	2312	1909	2210	2875
Digestibility coefficient	45.0	41.6	49.6	59.9	50.9	42.9	50.2	56.3
Mean \pm SE	49.6 \pm 2.1							

Organic matter

Intake from concentrate g	2275	1862	2068	1862	2068	2068	1862	2068
Intake from paddy straw g	2761	2288	2208	2130	1893	1814	1972	2366
Total intake g	5036	4150	4276	3992	3961	3882	3834	4434
Outgo in dung g	2593	2259	2019	1518	1815	2057	1800	1824
Digested g	2443	1891	2257	2474	2146	2056	2034	2610
Digestibility coefficient	48.5	45.5	52.8	61.9	54.1	52.9	53.0	58.8
Mean \pm SE	53.4 \pm 2.0							

(Contd.....)

APPENDIX V a (Contd.)

Crude protein

		Animal number							
		667	551	666M	566	664	540	533	547
Intake from concentrate	g	563	461	512	461	512	512	461	512
Intake from paddy straw	g	128	106	102	99	88	85	90	110
Total intake	g	691	567	614	560	600	597	517	622
Outgo in dung	g	308	251	287	205	278	265	281	254
Digested	g	383	316	427	355	322	332	270	368
Digestibility coefficient		55.4	55.7	69.5	63.4	53.7	55.6	49.0	59.1
Mean \pm SE		57.7 \pm 2.1							

Ether extract

Intake from concentrate	g	188	154	171	154	171	171	154	171
Intake from paddy straw	g	60	51	49	47	42	41	43	51
Total intake	g	248	205	220	201	213	212	197	222
Outgo in dung	g	81	47	66	44	57	83	63	70
Digested	g	167	158	154	157	156	129	134	152
Digestibility coefficient		67.3	77.1	70.0	78.1	73.0	60.8	68.0	68.5
Mean \pm SE		70.4 \pm 1.7							

(Contd.....)

APPENDIX V a (Contd.)

Crude fibre

		Animal number							
		667	551	666M	566	664	540	533	547
Intake from concentrate	g	422	346	384	346	384	384	346	384
Intake from paddy straw	g	1024	849	819	790	702	673	732	878
Total intake	g	1446	1195	1203	1136	1086	1057	1078	1262
Outgo in dung	g	682	485	435	361	425	408	414	384
Digested	g	764	710	768	775	661	649	664	878
Digestibility coefficient		52.8	59.4	63.8	68.2	60.8	61.4	61.5	69.5
Mean + SE					62.2 ± 1.7				

Nitrogen-free extract

		667	551	666M	566	664	540	533	547
Intake from concentrate	g	1101	901	1001	901	1001	1001	901	1001
Intake from paddy straw	g	1546	1281	1237	1193	1060	1016	1104	1325
Total intake	g	2647	2182	2238	2094	2061	2017	2005	2326
Outgo in dung	g	1526	1426	1227	918	1054	1301	1041	1138
Digested	g	1121	756	1011	1176	1007	716	964	1188
Digestibility coefficient		42.3	34.6	45.2	56.1	48.8	35.4	48.0	51.0
Mean + SE					53.4 ± 2.0				

(Concl.)

APPENDIX V b

Treatment T₂ (15% Rubber seed cake)

Dry matter

		Animal number						
		555	659	663	527	537	541	518
Intake from concentrate	g	2300	2300	2300	2300	2300	2300	2300
Intake from paddy straw	g	2626	2814	2814	2814	2814	2814	2345
Total intake	g	4926	5114	5114	5114	5114	5114	4625
Outgo in dung	g	2771	2313	3006	2282	2195	2630	1961
Digested	g	2155	2801	2108	2832	2919	2484	2684
Digestibility coefficient		43.7	54.7	41.2	55.3	57.0	48.5	57.8
Mean ± SE		51.2 ± 2.4						

Organic matter

Intake from concentrate	g	2084	2084	2084	2084	2084	2084	2084
Intake from paddy straw	g	2208	2367	2367	2367	2367	2367	1972
Total intake	g	4292	4451	4451	4451	4451	4451	4056
Outgo in dung	g	2286	1876	2438	1848	1782	2117	1577
Digested	g	2006	2575	2013	2603	2669	2334	2479
Digestibility coefficient		46.7	57.8	45.2	58.4	59.9	52.4	61.1
Mean ± SE		54.5 ± 2.5						

(Contd....)

APPENDIX V b (Contd.)

Crude protein

		Animal number						
		555	659	663	527	537	541	518
Intake from concentrate	g	534	534	534	534	534	534	534
Intake from paddy straw	g	99	106	106	106	106	106	91
Total intake	g	633	640	640	640	640	640	625
Outgo in dung	g	289	298	306	247	271	291	243
Digested	g	344	342	334	393	369	349	382
Digestibility coefficient		54.3	53.4	52.2	61.4	57.7	54.5	59.7
Mean ± SE		56.2 ± 1.1						

Ether extract

Intake from concentrate	g	190	190	190	190	190	190	190
Intake from paddy straw	g	47	51	51	51	51	51	44
Total intake	g	237	241	241	241	241	241	234
Outgo in dung	g	48	45	66	51	72	53	48
Digested	g	189	196	175	190	169	188	186
Digestibility coefficient		79.7	81.3	72.6	78.8	70.1	78.0	79.5
Mean ± SE		77.1 ± 1.9						

(Contd.....)

APPENDIX V b (Contd.)

Crude fibre

		Animal number						
		555	659	663	527	537	541	518
Intake from concentrate	g	260	260	260	260	260	260	260
Intake from paddy straw	g	819	878	878	878	878	878	732
Total intake	g	1079	1138	1138	1138	1138	1138	992
Outgo in dung	g	438	405	580	393	380	505	396
Digested	g	641	733	558	745	758	633	596
Digestibility coefficient		59.4	64.4	49.0	65.4	66.6	55.6	60.1
Mean \pm SE		60.1 \pm 2.2						

Nitrogen-free extract

Intake from concentrate	g	1102	1102	1102	1102	1102	1102	1102
Intake from paddy straw	g	1237	1325	1325	1325	1325	1325	1104
Total intake	g	2339	2427	2427	2427	2427	2427	2206
Outgo in dung	g	1513	1126	1425	1107	1058	1270	890
Digested	g	826	1301	1002	1320	1369	1157	1316
Digestibility coefficient		35.3	53.6	41.2	54.3	56.4	47.6	59.7
Mean \pm SE		49.7 \pm 3.4						

(Concl.)

APPENDIX V c

Treatment T₃ (30% Rubber seed cake)

Dry matter

		Animal number							
		668	535	565	553	666F	544	669	672
Intake from concentrate	g	2514	2285	2285	2285	2285	2285	2285	2285
Intake from paddy straw	g	3283	2814	2814	2814	2345	2345	2814	2814
Total intake	g	5797	5099	5099	5099	4630	4630	5099	5099
Outgo in dung	g	2286	2921	2399	1877	2072	1988	1882	2768
Digested	g	3511	2178	2700	3222	2558	2642	3217	2331
Digestibility coefficient		60.6	42.7	53.0	63.1	55.2	57.1	63.1	45.7
Mean ± SE		55.1 ± 2.6							

Organic matter

Intake from concentrate	g	2300	2091	2091	2091	2091	2091	2091	2091
Intake from paddy straw	g	2761	2367	2367	2367	2367	2367	2367	1972
Total intake	g	5061	4458	4458	4458	4458	4458	4458	4063
Outgo in dung	g	1884	2366	1934	1555	1697	1628	1511	2278
Digested	g	3177	2092	2524	2923	2761	2830	2947	1785
Digestibility coefficient		62.8	46.9	56.6	65.6	61.9	63.5	66.1	43.9
Mean ± SE		48.4 ± 3.1							

(Contd.....)

APPENDIX V c (Contd.)

Crude protein

		Animal number							
		668	535	565	553	666F	544	669	672
Intake from concentrate	g	568	516	516	516	516	516	516	516
Intake from paddy straw	g	128	110	110	110	91	91	110	110
Total intake	g	696	626	626	626	607	607	686	626
Outgo in dung	g	295	331	264	256	219	221	224	292
Digested	g	401	295	362	370	388	386	462	334
Digestibility coefficient		57.6	47.1	57.8	59.1	63.9	63.6	67.3	53.4
Mean \pm SE		58.7 \pm 2.4							

Ether extract

Intake from concentrate	g	158	143	143	143	143	143	143	143
Intake from paddy straw	g	61	52	52	52	44	44	52	52
Total intake	g	219	195	195	195	187	187	195	195
Outgo in dung	g	53	64	75	48	67	48	38	78
Digested	g	166	131	120	147	120	139	157	117
Digestibility coefficient		75.8	67.2	61.5	75.4	64.2	74.3	80.5	60.0
Mean \pm SE		69.9 \pm 2.5							

(Contd.....)

APPENDIX V c (Contd.)

Crude fibre

		Animal number							
		668	535	565	553	666F	544	669	672
Intake from concentrate	g	171	155	155	155	155	155	155	155
Intake from paddy straw	g	1024	878	878	878	732	732	878	878
Total intake	g	1195	1033	1033	1033	887	887	1033	1033
Outgo in dung	g	400	421	357	261	305	316	288	415
Digested	g	795	612	676	772	582	571	751	618
Digestibility coefficient		66.5	59.2	65.4	74.7	65.6	64.4	72.7	59.8
Mean ± SE					66.0 ± 2.1				

Nitrogen-free extract

Intake from concentrate	g	1403	1275	1275	1275	1275	1275	1275	1275
Intake from paddy straw	g	1546	1325	1325	1325	1104	1104	1325	1325
Total intake	g	2949	2500	2500	2500	2379	2379	2500	2500
Outgo in dung	g	1134	1551	1239	970	1106	1044	962	1492
Digested	g	1815	949	1261	1530	1273	1335	1538	1008
Digestibility coefficient		61.5	38.0	50.4	61.2	53.5	56.1	61.5	40.3
Mean ± SE					52.8 ± 3.9				

(Concl.)

APPENDIX VI

Data on intake of digestible crude protein and total digestible nutrients.

Animal number	T ₁		Animal number	T ₂		Animal number	T ₃	
	DCP (g)	TDN (g)		DCP (g)	TDN (g)		DCP (g)	TDN (g)
667	383	2645	555	344	2236	668	401	3385
551	316	2138	659	342	2817	535	295	2151
666M	427	2553	663	334	2287	565	362	2569
566	355	2659	527	393	2836	553	370	3003
664	322	2341	537	369	2876	666F	388	2513
540	332	1987	541	349	2562	669	462	3104
533	270	2200	518	382	2713	544	386	2605
547	368	2776	-	-	-	672	334	2223
Mean + SE	347 _{+15.8}	2412 _{+102.6}		359 _{+8.5}	2625 _{+104.6}		375 _{+16.6}	2694 _{+153.0}

APPENDIX VII a
 Nitrogen balance g/day
 Treatment T₁ (Control)

Nitrogen (g)	Animal number							
	667	551	666M	566	664	540	533	547
Intake from concentrate	90.1	73.8	81.9	73.8	81.9	81.9	73.8	81.9
Intake from paddy straw	20.3	17.0	16.3	15.8	14.1	13.6	14.4	17.3
Total intake	110.4	90.8	98.2	89.6	96.0	95.5	88.2	99.2
Outgo in dung	49.1	40.2	45.9	32.8	44.5	42.4	45.0	40.6
Outgo in urine	44.6	37.4	37.8	40.6	36.8	27.4	30.5	40.4
Total outgo	93.7	77.6	83.7	73.4	81.3	69.8	75.5	81.0
Balance	16.7	13.2	14.5	16.2	14.7	25.7	12.7	18.2
Mean \pm SE	16.5 \pm 1.4							

APPENDIX VII b

Treatment T₂ (15% Rubber seed cake)

Nitrogen (g)	Animal number						
	555	659	663	527	537	541	518
Intake from concentrate	85.4	85.4	85.4	85.4	85.4	85.4	85.4
Intake from paddy straw	15.8	17.0	17.0	17.0	17.0	17.0	14.6
Total intake	101.2	102.4	102.4	102.4	102.4	102.4	100.0
Outgo in dung	46.2	47.7	48.6	39.5	43.4	46.6	38.9
Outgo in urine	40.6	43.6	45.6	38.5	36.1	36.6	40.8
Total outgo	86.8	91.3	94.2	78.0	79.5	83.2	79.7
Balance	14.4	11.1	8.2	24.4	22.9	19.2	20.3
Mean ± SE	17.2 ± 2.3						

APPENDIX VII c

Treatment T₃ (30% Rubber seed cake)

Nitrogen (g)	Animal number							
	668	535	565	553	666F	544	669	672
Intake from concentrate	90.9	82.6	82.6	82.6	82.6	82.6	82.6	82.6
Intake from paddy straw	20.5	17.6	17.6	17.6	14.7	14.6	17.6	17.6
Total intake	111.4	100.2	100.2	100.2	97.2	97.2	100.2	100.2
Outgo in dung	47.2	53.0	42.0	41.0	35.0	35.4	35.8	46.7
Outgo in urine	49.4	32.2	44.9	48.6	32.9	35.4	38.9	34.6
Total outgo	96.6	86.2	87.1	89.6	67.9	70.8	74.7	81.3
Balance	14.8	14.0	13.1	10.6	29.3	26.4	26.5	18.9
Mean \pm SE	19.2 \pm 2.6							

APPENDIX VIII a

Mineral balance g/day

Treatment T₁ (Control)

Calcium	Animal number								
	667	551	666M	566	664	540	533	547	
Intake from concentrate	g	18.1	14.8	16.5	14.8	16.5	16.5	14.8	16.5
Intake from paddy straw	g	20.7	17.1	16.5	16.0	16.4	13.6	14.8	17.7
Total intake	g	38.8	31.9	33.0	30.8	32.9	30.1	29.6	34.2
Outgo in dung	g	24.2	18.9	17.8	16.2	18.0	19.3	17.1	21.8
Outgo in urine	g	5.2	2.7	4.8	3.6	3.2	2.3	2.9	2.3
Total outgo	g	29.4	21.6	22.6	19.8	21.2	21.6	20.0	24.1
Balance	g	9.4	10.3	10.4	11.0	11.7	8.5	9.6	10.1
Mean ± SE					10.1 ± 0.4				
Phosphorous									
Intake from concentrate	g	23.9	19.5	21.7	19.5	21.7	21.7	19.5	21.7
Intake from paddy straw	g	5.9	4.9	4.7	4.6	4.1	3.9	4.2	5.1
Total intake	g	29.8	24.4	26.4	24.1	25.8	25.6	23.7	26.8
Outgo in dung	g	17.5	15.3	18.3	13.6	15.1	15.5	17.3	17.3
Outgo in urine	g	6.3	2.0	3.7	5.8	3.2	0.9	1.3	2.6
Total outgo	g	23.8	17.3	22.0	19.4	18.3	16.4	18.6	19.9
Balance	g	6.0	7.1	4.4	4.7	7.5	9.2	5.1	6.9
Mean ± SE					6.4 ± 0.5				

APPENDIX VIII b

Treatment T₂ (15% Rubber seed cake)

Calcium	Animal number							
	555	659	663	527	537	541	518	
Intake from concentrate	g	17.3	17.3	17.3	17.3	17.3	17.3	17.3
Intake from paddy straw	g	16.5	17.7	17.7	17.7	17.7	17.7	14.8
Total intake	g	29.8	35.0	35.0	35.0	35.0	35.0	32.1
Outgo in dung	g	13.9	15.7	23.4	21.2	20.0	21.0	20.0
Outgo in urine	g	10.3	6.8	6.0	2.1	2.5	3.1	2.9
Total outgo	g	24.2	22.5	29.4	23.3	22.5	24.1	22.9
Balance	g	5.6	12.5	5.6	11.7	12.5	10.9	9.2
Mean ± SE		9.7 ± 1.2						
Phosphorous								
Intake from concentrate	g	21.6	21.6	21.6	21.6	21.6	21.6	21.6
Intake from paddy straw	g	4.7	5.1	5.1	5.1	5.1	5.1	4.2
Total intake	g	26.3	26.7	26.7	26.7	26.7	26.7	25.8
Outgo in dung	g	11.6	13.0	13.2	20.8	19.5	17.6	17.3
Outgo in urine	g	8.8	2.9	4.4	1.4	1.9	2.7	1.8
Total outgo	g	20.4	15.9	17.6	22.2	21.4	20.3	19.1
Balance	g	5.9	10.8	9.1	4.5	5.3	6.4	6.7
Mean ± SE		6.3 ± 0.6						

APPENDIX VIII c

Treatment T₃ (30% Rubber seed cake)

Calcium		Animal number							
		668	535	565	553	666F	544	669	672
Intake from concentrate	g	20.6	18.7	18.7	18.7	18.7	18.7	18.7	18.7
Intake from paddy straw	g	20.7	17.7	17.7	17.7	14.8	14.8	17.7	17.7
Total intake	g	41.3	36.4	36.4	36.4	33.5	33.5	36.4	36.4
Outgo in dung	g	25.1	19.6	18.7	18.2	25.1	24.9	22.3	21.3
Outgo in urine	g	3.4	5.0	3.1	5.8	1.0	2.2	3.3	2.0
Total outgo	g	28.5	24.6	21.8	23.6	26.1	27.1	25.6	23.3
Balance	g	12.8	11.8	14.6	12.8	7.4	6.4	10.8	13.1
Mean ± SE		11.2 ± 1.0							
Phosphorous									
Intake from concentrate	g	21.9	19.9	19.9	19.9	19.9	19.9	19.9	19.9
Intake from paddy straw	g	5.9	5.1	5.1	5.1	4.2	4.2	5.1	5.1
Total intake	g	27.8	25.0	25.0	25.0	24.1	24.1	25.0	25.0
Outgo in dung	g	13.5	16.9	10.4	6.4	16.8	17.7	14.5	16.9
Outgo in urine	g	7.5	3.2	4.9	8.6	2.1	1.1	3.3	2.0
Total outgo	g	20.0	20.1	15.3	15.0	18.9	18.8	17.8	18.9
Balance	g	7.8	4.9	9.7	10.0	5.2	5.3	7.2	6.1
Mean ± SE		7.0 ± 0.8							

APPENDIX IX a

Data on feed consumption, efficiency and economy.

Treatment T₁ (Control)

Animal number	Total feed intake		Total weight gain (kg)	Feed efficiency (kg conc./kg gain)	Cost of concentrate for raising a year old calf for a period of six months (Rs)	Cost of concentrate per kg gain (Rs)	Cost of concentrate for 100 kg gain (Rs)
	Concentrate mixture (kg)	Paddy straw (kg)					
667	437	532	103	4.24	519.29	5.04	501.00
551	371	442	59	6.28	440.86	7.47	747.00
666M	378	439	78	4.84	449.18	5.76	576.00
566	371	437	68	5.45	440.86	6.48	648.00
664	378	403	70	5.40	449.18	6.42	642.00
540	378	437	79	4.78	449.18	5.69	569.00
533	371	407	64	5.79	440.86	6.89	689.00
547	389	437	82	4.74	462.25	5.64	564.00
Average	384	441	76	5.05	456.46	6.01	601.00

APPENDIX IX b

Treatment T₂ (15% Rubber seed cake)

Animal number	Total feed intake		Total weight gain (kg)	Feed efficiency (kg conc./kg gain)	Cost of concentrate for raising a year old calf for a period of six months (Rs)	Cost of concentrate per kg gain (Rs)	Cost of concentrate for 100 kg gain (Rs)
	Concentrate mixture (kg)	Paddy straw (kg)					
555	378	440	91	4.15	437.88	4.81	481.00
659	378	440	68	5.55	437.88	6.44	644.00
663	378	441	81	4.66	437.88	5.41	541.00
527	378	436	68	5.55	437.88	6.44	644.00
537	378	441	74	5.10	437.88	5.92	592.00
541	378	443	78	4.84	437.88	5.61	561.00
518	378	401	72	5.25	437.88	6.08	608.00
Average	378	435	76	4.97	437.88	5.77	577.00

APPENDIX IX c

Treatment T₃ (30% Rubber seed cake)

Animal number	Total feed intake		Total weight gain (kg)	Feed efficiency (kg conc./kg gain)	Cost of concentrate for raising a year old calf for a period of six months (Rs)	Cost of concentrate per kg gain (Rs)	Cost of concentrate for 100 kg gain (Rs)
	Concentrate mixture (kg)	Paddy straw (kg)					
668	437	432	121	3.61	446.61	4.32	432.00
535	389	440	92	4.23	433.98	5.19	519.00
565	378	436	103	3.67	433.98	4.66	466.00
553	378	436	75	5.04	433.98	5.86	586.00
666F	378	403	66	5.73	433.98	7.11	711.00
544	378	400	72	5.25	433.98	6.57	657.00
669	378	437	73	5.18	433.98	6.77	677.00
672	389	533	105	3.70	446.61	5.02	502.00
Average	388	440	89	4.36	445.46	4.99	499.00

EVALUATION OF FEEDING VALUE OF RUBBER SEED CAKE
FOR PROMOTING GROWTH IN CALVES

By
T.V. VISWANATHAN

ABSTRACT OF A THESIS
Submitted in partial fulfilment of
the requirements for the degree

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ABSTRACT

A detailed investigation was carried out to assess the value of rubber seed cake as an ingredient in the concentrate mixture of calves to study the growth rate, nutriture, feed efficiency and economics of rearing. Twenty four, Jersey x Sindhi cross-bred calves of 8-14 months of age belonging to the University Livestock Farm, Mannuthy were divided into three equal groups and distributed under three dietary treatments, T₁, T₂ and T₃, the animals being fed concentrate mixtures containing 0, 15 and 30 per cent levels of rubber seed cake respectively for a period of six months. Paddy straw served as the sole roughage. Rubber seed cake at 30 per cent level promoted better weight gains, body size and feed efficiency. Incorporation of rubber seed cake in the concentrate mixture improved the digestibility coefficients of nutrients as also the balance of nitrogen, calcium and phosphorus in the animals. Animals fed rubber seed cake maintained perfect health as evidenced from their haematological values and were free from any toxic effect as adjudged from the histopathological examination of the internal organs and their carcass quality.

The cost of feed was found to be 14 per cent lower for kg body weight gain when rubber seed cake was incorporated at 30 per cent level in the concentrate mixture of growing calves. The overall results obtained during the course of the present investigation indicate that rubber seed cake can be incorporated in the concentrate mixture for growing calves at 30 per cent level to achieve both biological and economic efficiency.