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Effect evaluation of multinutritional blocks with and without implant on liveweight gain on steers.

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Abstract

In El Canton area, Andres Eloy Blanco county, Barinas State, Venezuela, ubicated in the tropical humid forest zone, with annual precipitations of 2050 mm, average temperature of 26 °C and 145 meters above sea level, a trial was carried out in order to evaluate the effects of multinutritional blocks with and without implant on average daily gain on steers and its economical analysis. A total of 80 Holstein, Brown Swiss and Zebu crossbred animals, averaging 297 Kg of liveweight, during 110 days on the rainy season, were randomly distributed according to the following treatments: To : Control, T1 : Implanted with Ralgro, T2 : Supplemented with multinutritional blocks and T3 : Implanted + Supplemented. The results show that there is significant effects ($P<0.05$) of treatments, where animals treated with T3 showed the highest average daily gain (592.6 g/head), when it was compared with treatments To, T1 and T2 (350.5, 399.8 and 519.2 g, respectively). However, when the economical analysis was considered, group T2 (Multinutritional blocks) showed the highest return/cost value, (1.89:1) compared to animals in treatments To, T1and T3 (1.38:1, 1.33:1 and 1.86:1, respectively). Therefore, it is recommended to use multinutritional blocks on steers, because the investment brought the best money return.

Key words: Multinutritional blocks, steers, implants, average daily gain, supplementation.

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