

***EFFECT OF SULFUR SUPPLEMENTATION ON NUTRIENTS UTILIZATION
AND RUMEN MICROBIAL ACTIVITY IN OSSIMI SHEEP***

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ABSTRACT:

The present experiment was conducted to study the effect of sulfur supplementation on nutrients digestibility, feeding values and rumen microbial activity using four Ossimi rams surgically fitted with ruminal fistulae. The experimental design was 4X4 Latin square design. The S levels were 0, 2, 4 and 6g/head/d (R0, R2, R3 and R4, respectively) The results obtained showed that S-supplementation led to increase in the digestion coefficients. Ration 3 showed highly significance effect in digestion coefficient of DM, OM, CP, NFE and EE than the other studied rations. Nutritive value (TDN and DCP) was highly significant for ration 3 (N:S ratio 10:1). VFA production and ammonia-N in the rumen of sheep fed ration 3 was significantly higher than the other rations.

Key words: dietary sulfur, digestibility, microbial activity, Ossimi sheep.