

Effect of sire breed on carcass traits measured via ultrasound of crossbred cattle during feedlot

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Presentation type

Pôster

Track

Genetics, animal, breeding

Keywords

backfat thickness, Biceps femoris, Bos taurus, feedlot, Longissimus dorsi The aim of this study was to evaluate the effect of sire breed on carcass traits measured via ultrasound of crossbred cattle during feedlot. Steers (n=74) and heifers (n=71) produced along two years mating Nellore, 1/2 Nellore x 1/2 Angus and 1/2 Nellore x 1/2 Caracu dams with Braford (BF), Charbray (CC) and Caracu (CR) were raised grazing tropical grasses until 20 months (mo) of age and then finished in feedlot for 4 mo. Animals with 380 ± 49 kg of initial body weight were kept in individual pens and received a total mixed ration containing 74% of Total Digestible Nutrients and 13% of Crude Protein. Ultrasound carcass scanning was performed in the beginning and end weighings of the feedlot to determine *Longissimus ribeye area* (REA_i and REA_f), *Longissimus backfat thickness* (BFT_i and BFT_f) and rump fat thickness (RFT_i and RFT_f). Data were analyzed using mixed model methodology. There were no sire breed effects on REA_i and REA_f (P>0.05). Progenies of BF, CC and CR obtained average gains in muscle of 10.6 cm²,

12.2 cm² e 7.9 cm², respectively. No differences ($P>0.05$) for BFT_i and BFT_f were found between progenies of BF (4.7 e 8.2 mm), CC (4.1 e 7.8 mm) and CR sires (4.4 e 7.7 mm). Sire breed did not influence on RFT_i , however BF progenies had greater RFT_f than CC progenies (11.3 vs. 8.9 mm; $P<0.10$), CR group was intermediate (10.3 mm). Braford breed has superiority in rump fat thickness at the end of feedlot compared to Charbray breed, both being similar to Caracu. The evaluated sire breeds are viable alternatives to be used in crossbreeding programs, presenting carcasses with good quality.