

Table S1. Chemical composition and Lactobacillus count of the tested feeds.

item	type of forage				
	alfalfa	ensiled alfalfa	maize ¹	ensiled maize ¹	TMR PR
<i>nutrient (% w/w DM)</i>					
DM	95	51	96	35	87
ash	11	7.9	3.9	4.8	6.3
CP	23	21	9.4	8.5	16
fat	2.1	2.0	2.5	2.5	2.8
NDF	38	43	40	41	40
ADF	27	28	24	25	24
ADL	6.0	6.1	2.9	2.9	4.4
starch	-	-	29	33	31
LAB (Ufc/g FM)	3.5·10 ³	-	1.6·10 ⁶	-	-

Notes: DM, Dry Matter; FM, Fresh Matter; CP, Crude Protein; NDF, Neutral Detergent Fibre; ADF, Acid Detergent Fibre; ADL, Acid Detergent Lignin; LAB, Lactobacillus; TMR PR, total mixed ration for Parmigiano Reggiano PDO.

¹ whole plant maize.