



Using a blood marker for detecting ruminal acidosis in lactating cows

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Ruminal acidosis results from an excessive acid load in the rumen not neutralized by salivary or feed buffers. Cows susceptible to both subacute (SARA) and acute ruminal acidosis change their metabolism, eating behavior, and production performance. Measuring ruminal pH on commercial dairy farms is impracticable. Thus, developing alternative methods for identifying cows with low pH would help dairy veterinarians and nutritionists managing rumen health.

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