

Extra walking of dairy cows to

access the pasture in a grazing system:

Effect on feeding behaviour



Grazing (GRA), the cows had access to the pasture immediately after a.m. milking until previous p.m. milking.



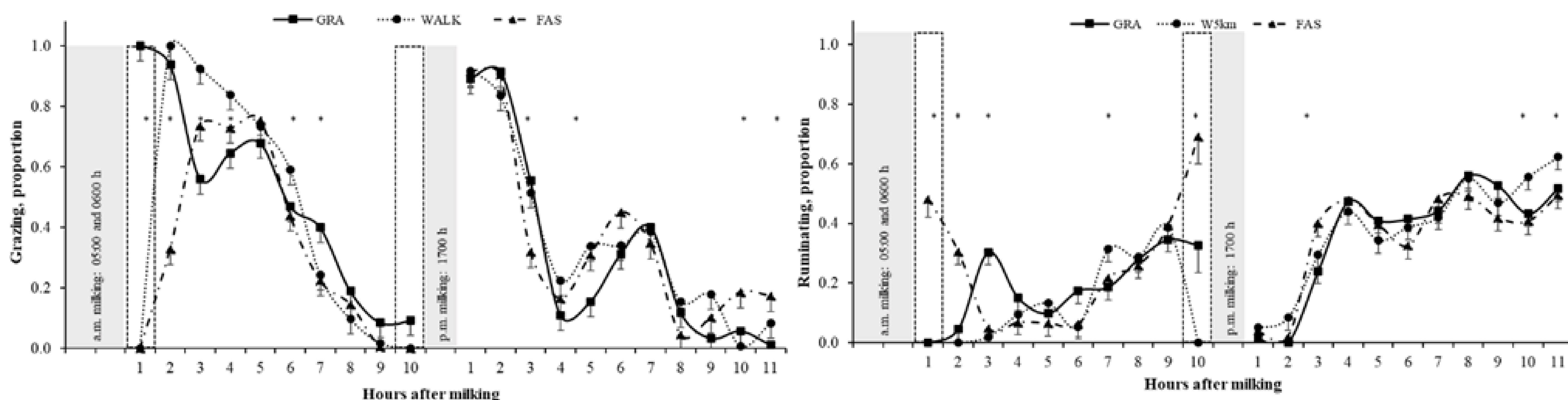
Walking (WALK), the cows walked 2.5 km before and after grazing at the pasture totalizing a walk of 5 km/d.



Fasting (FAS), the cows fasted in a paddock without food and water while WALK group walked, and afterwards accessed to the pasture.

Results

Grazing and Ruminating (proportion of total observation) of dairy cows, in a grazing system that: GRA, WALK or FAS. The milking's periods of day are represented as grey area, and the treatments moment are represented as dotted area. Asterisks (*) indicate at least one significant difference ($P \leq 0.05$) among the treatments at each time-point, when T and $T \times H \leq 0.05$.



The short-time fasting period during walking decreased the time to grazing and increase the time to ruminating, of dairy cows. Moreover, the exercise of walking 5 km/d reversed the effect of the fasting period during walking of dairy cows in a grazing system.

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