

# Control of milk protein synthesis by amino acids in dairy cows

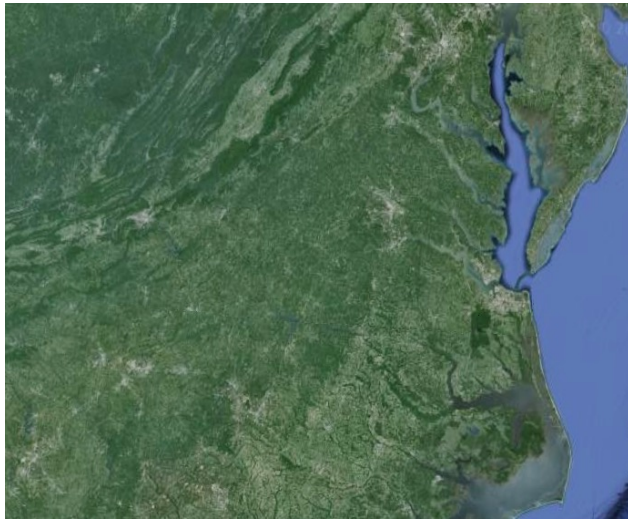
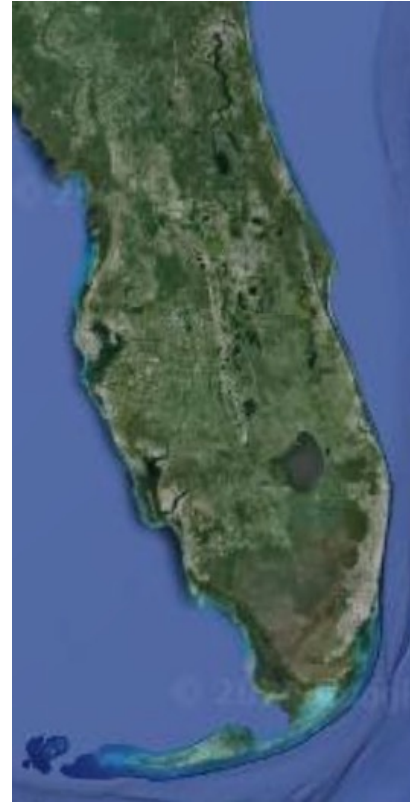
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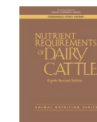




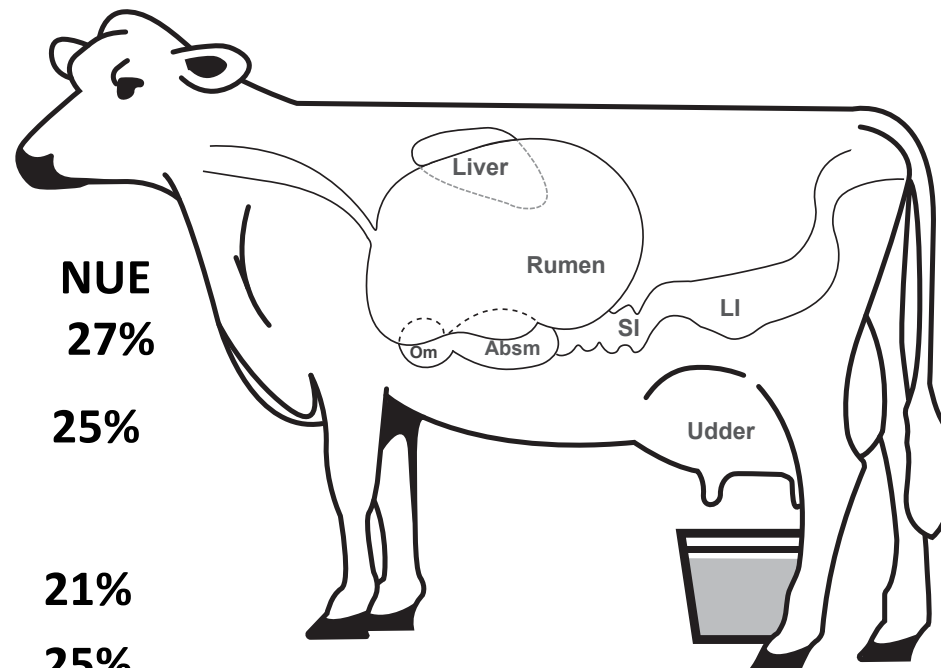
# OUTLINE



- Nitrogen (N) efficiency and emissions
- Limiting amino acids (AA)
- Regulation of milk protein synthesis, ...  
*and beyond*
  - Transcription
  - Translation
  - Insulin role
  - Energy sources
- Model performance



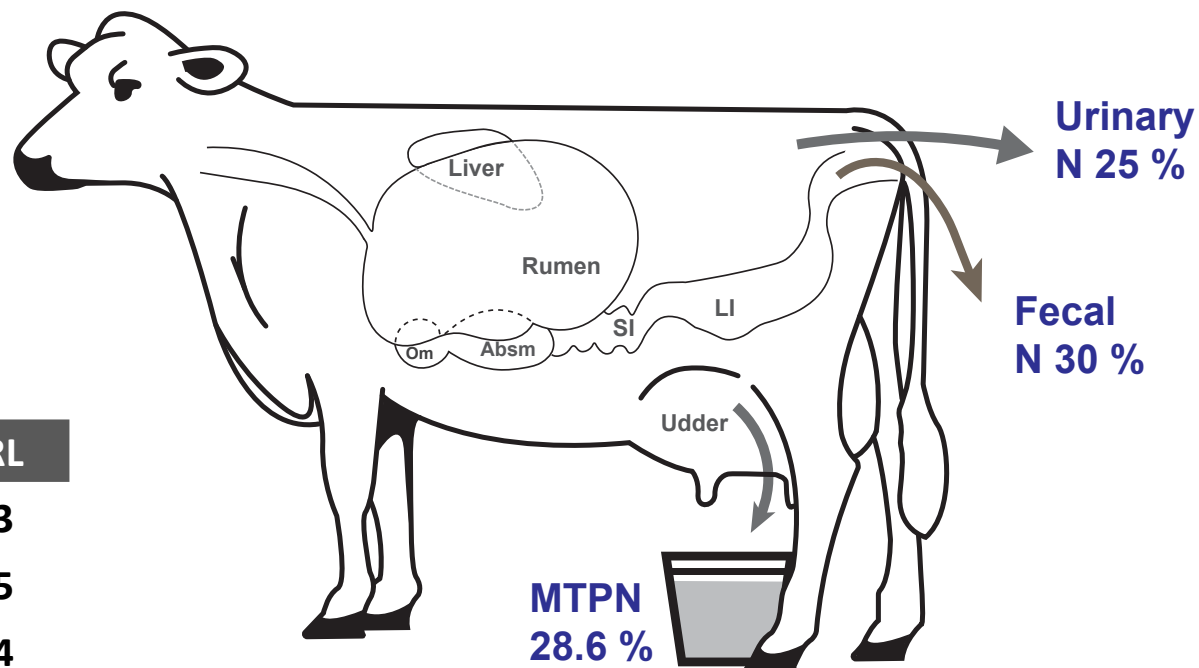
## How much N does a lactating cow waste?



	<b>NUE</b>
Spek et al., 2013	<b>27%</b>
Arriola Apelo et al., 2014	<b>25%</b>
Brito & Silva, 2020	
Jersey - Organic	<b>21%</b>
Jersey - Conventional	<b>25%</b>
Non-Jersey - Organic	<b>27%</b>

# NITROGEN EFFICIENCY

## Where is the N going?



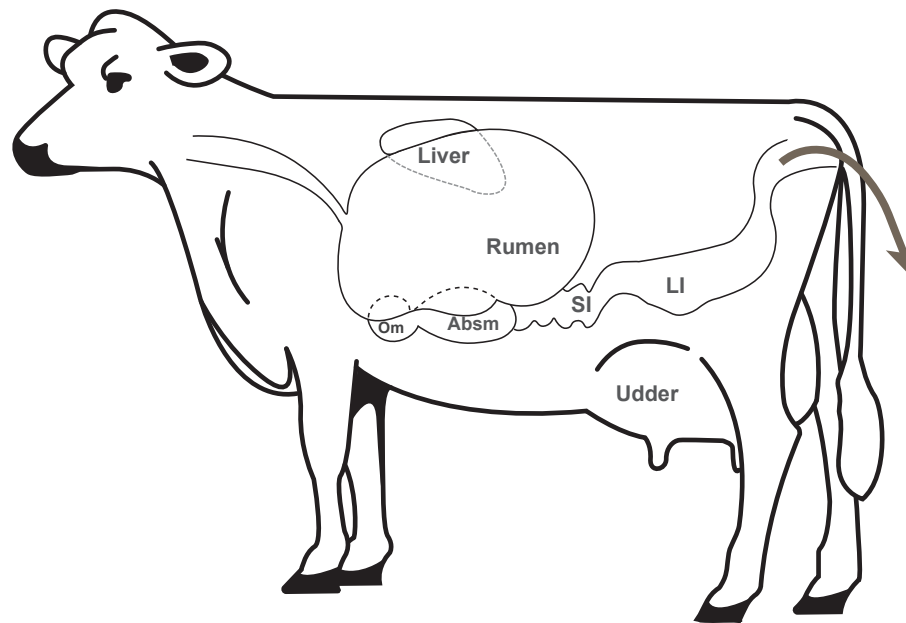
CTRL

CP %	17.3
DMI, lb/d	48.5
Milk lb/d	83.4
Protein %	2.99
MUN mg/dL	11.9

Adapted from Chowdhury et al. JDS 2024

## *Is all the N excreted the same?*

Risk of negative environmental impact of N emissions

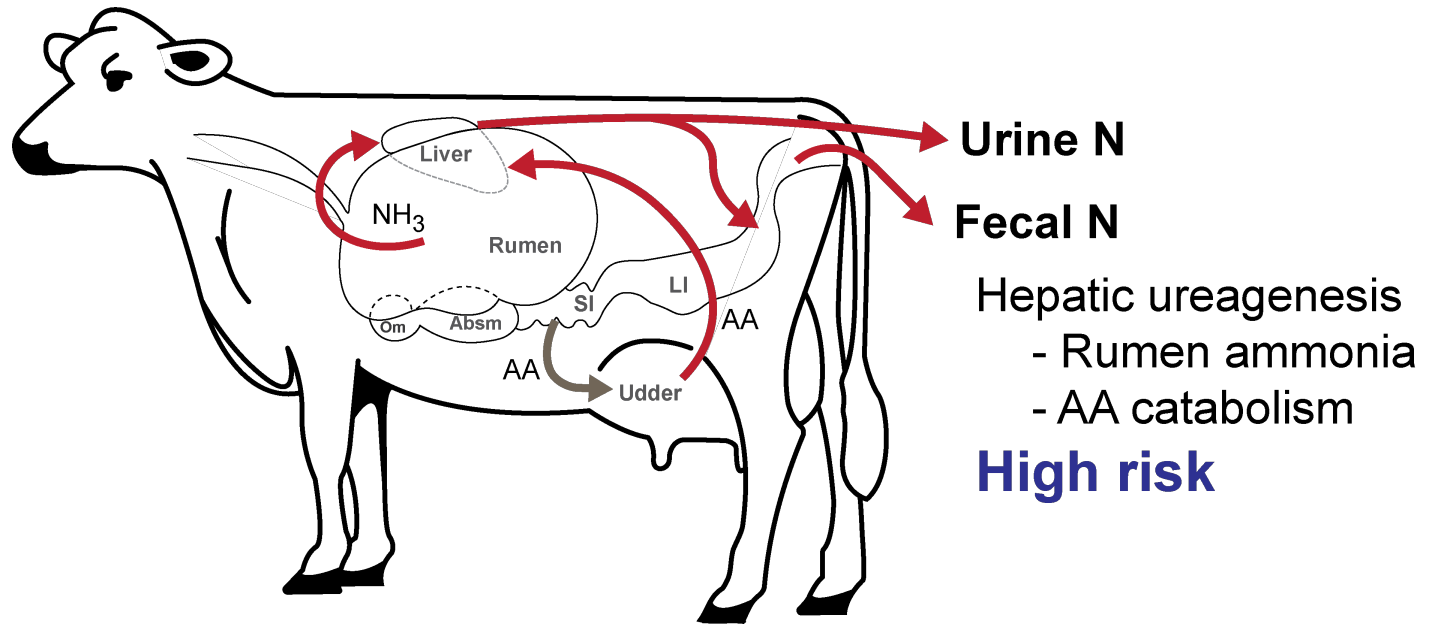


**Fecal N**  
Undigested proteins  
- ADIN  
- Maillard  
- MiCP  
- Endogenous  
**Low risk**



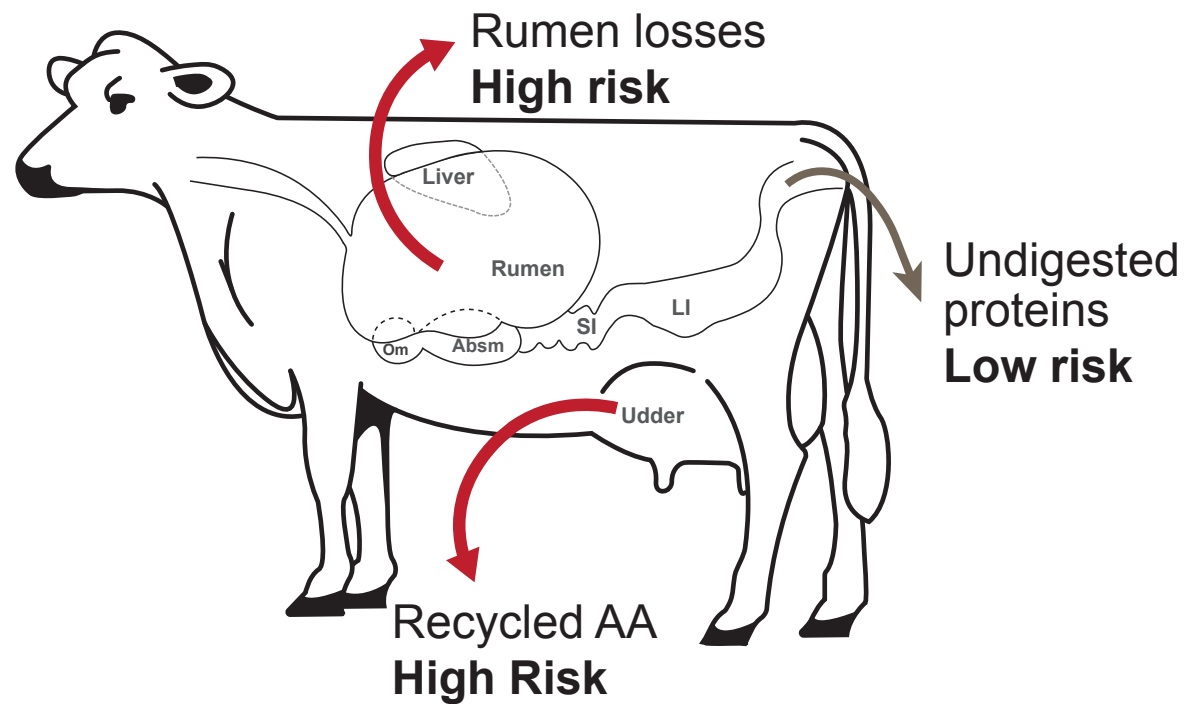
## *Is all the N excreted the same?*

Risk of negative environmental impact of N emissions



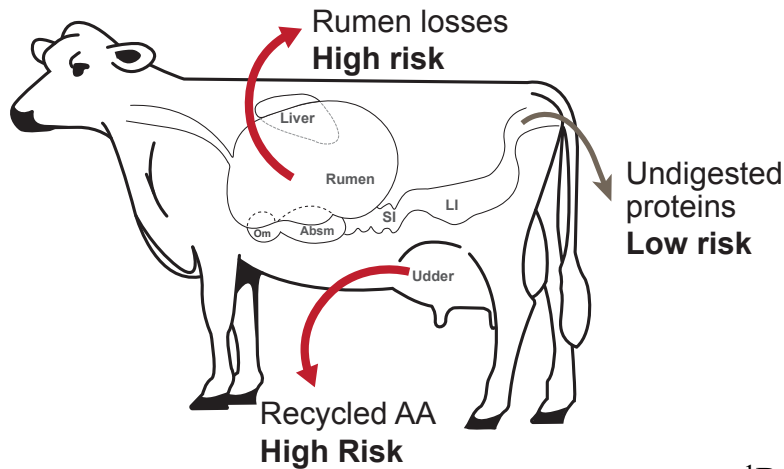
# NITROGEN EFFICIENCY

## Risk of negative environmental impact of N emissions





## Prediction of N partitioning by NASEM



N losses, % intake	CTL	BAA
<sup>1</sup> Rumen	21.6	18.7
<sup>2</sup> Intestinal	24.9	29.2
<sup>3</sup> Catabolic	13.0	17.6

$${}^1\text{Rumen} = \frac{\text{RDP Bal}_g}{6.25 \times \text{NIn}_g}$$

$${}^2\text{Intestinal} = \frac{(\text{RUPIn}_g + \text{MiCP}_g - \text{An MPIn}_g)}{6.25 \times \text{NIn}_g}$$

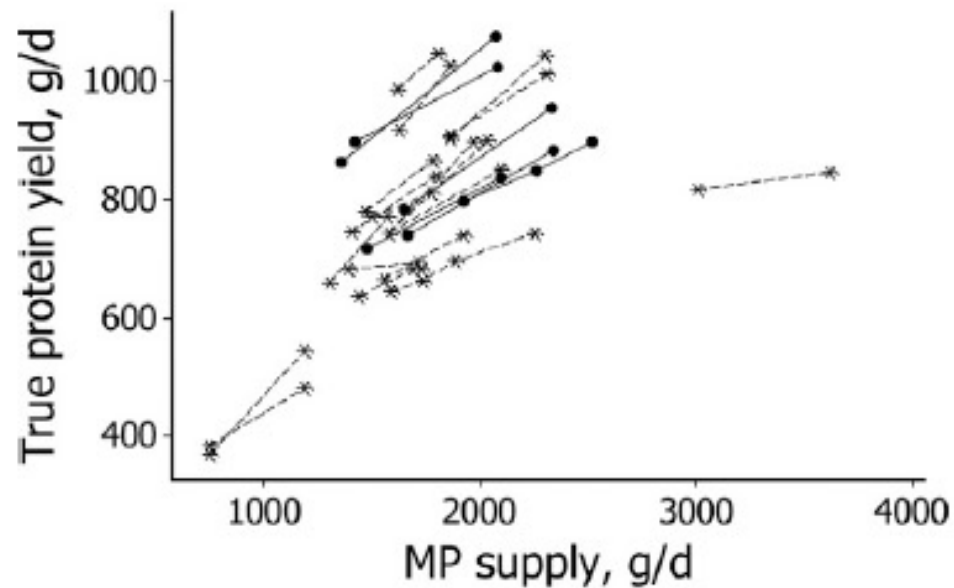
$${}^3\text{Catabolic} = \frac{(\text{MPIn}_g - \text{Mlk NP}_g - \text{Scrf NP}_g - \text{Fe NPEnd}_g - \text{UrNPEnd}_g)}{6.25 \times \text{NIn}_g}$$

## Effect of protein level on N use efficiency

	CTRL	L-CP	P (n=14)
CP %	17.3	15.1	
DMI, lb/d	48.5	46.4	0.37
Milk lb/d	83.4	79.9	0.17
Protein %	2.99	3.01	0.4
MUN mg/dL	9.44	6.91	<0.01
<b>NUE %</b>	<b>28.6</b>	<b>33.9</b>	<b>&lt;0.01</b>

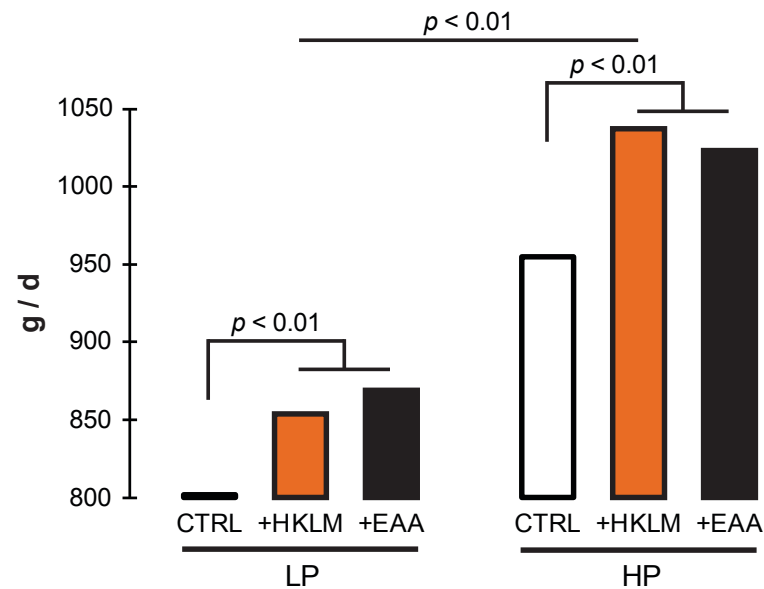
- 25% increase in N efficiency
- Relative increase in more stable fecal N
- **Absolute and relative decrease in urea-N losses**

## MP effect on MTP yield



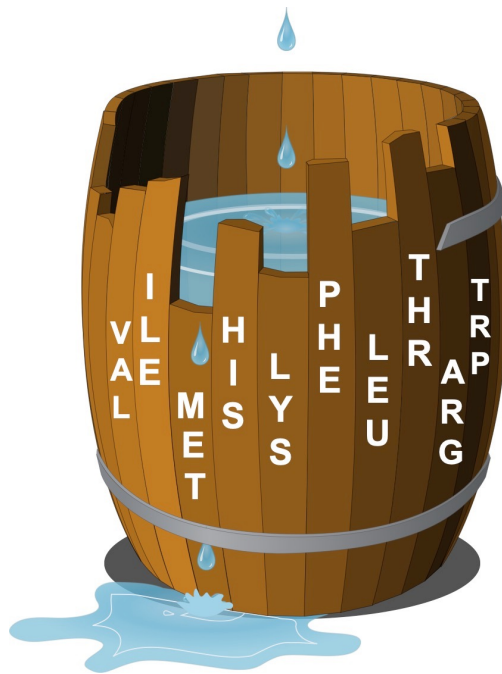
**POSSITIVE DIMINISHING RESPONSE**

## Balancing for His, Lys, Leu, and Met or all the EAA



Milk protein yield

## Limiting AA theory



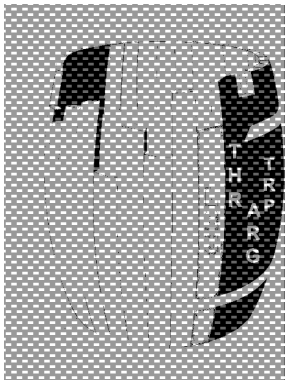
The **first limiting AA** (e.g. Met) limits responses to other AA

Substrate based approach, but . . .

***Does the cow run out of AA?***

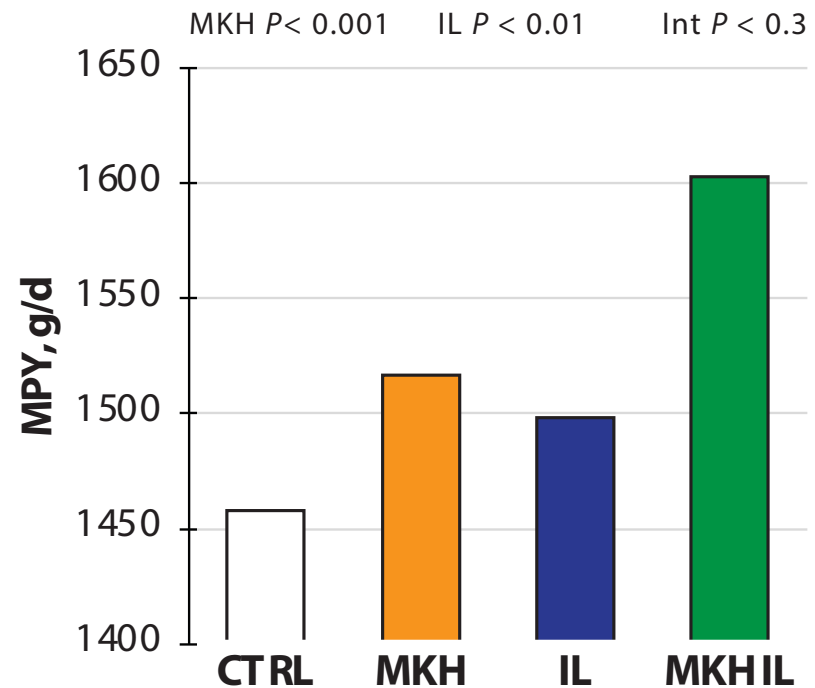
***What about fat responses?***

## Independent AA effects – MPY response to jugular infusion of 5 essential AA



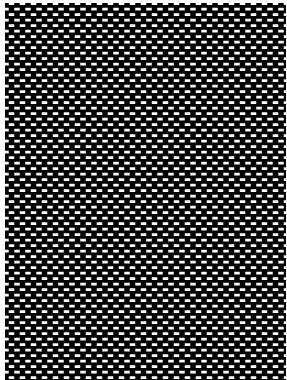
Independent, additive responses to different AA contradicts the idea of a first limiting AA

Met, Lys, His, Ile, and Leu became the 5 NASEM AA with independent, additive effects on MPY

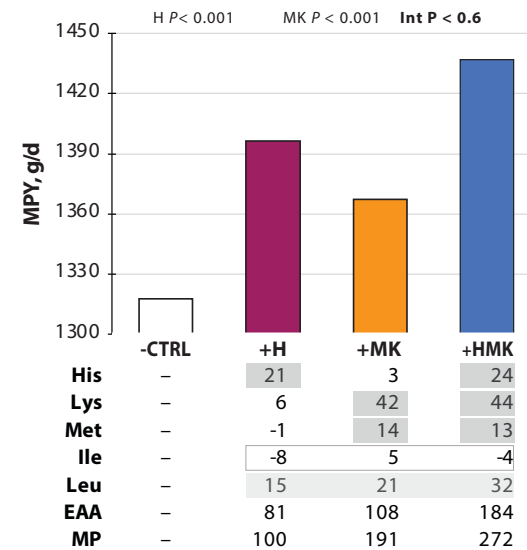


Adapted from Yoder et al. JDS 2020

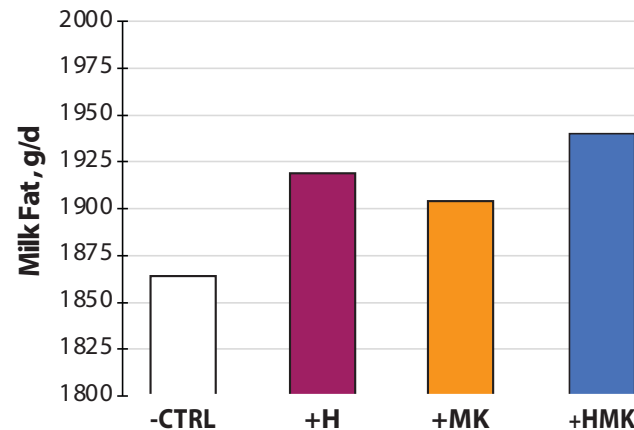
## Independent AA effects – diet approach



Independent, additive responses using dietary approaches



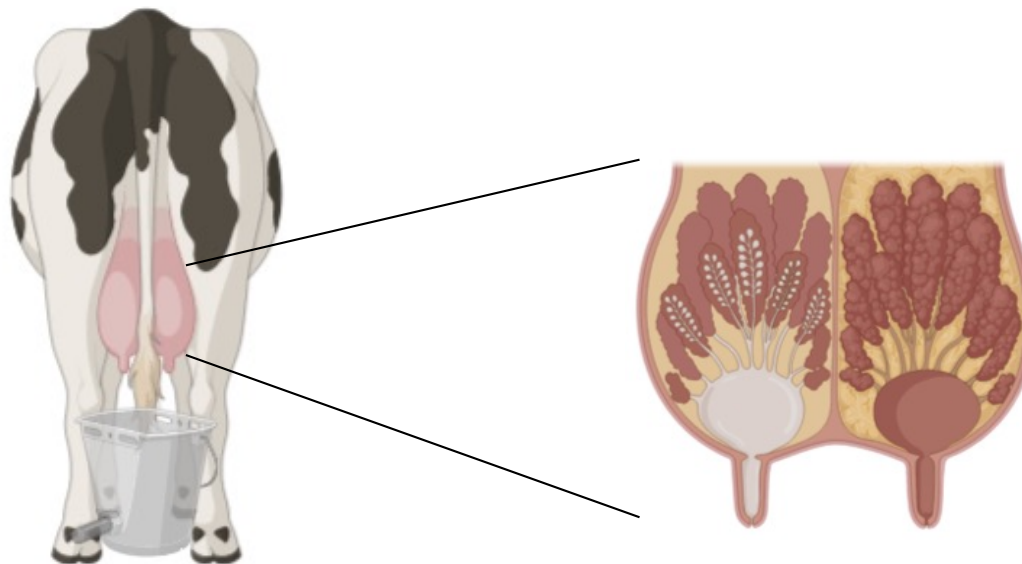
## AA effects on milk fat production



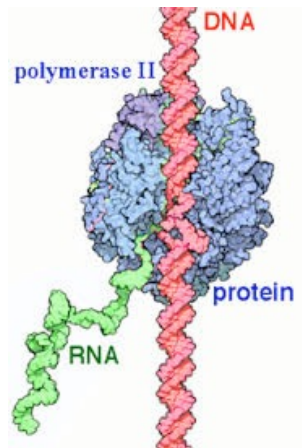
Independent AA  
effects on milk fat  
synthesis



## Regulation of milk protein synthesis in the mammary glands



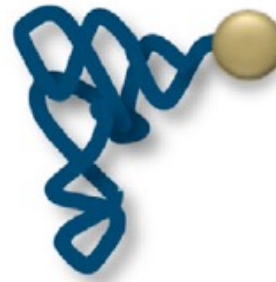
# REGULATORY MECHANISMS



DNA

## Transcription

**Jak**  
**STAT**



tRNA

## Translation

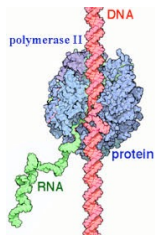
Integrated  
Stress  
Response



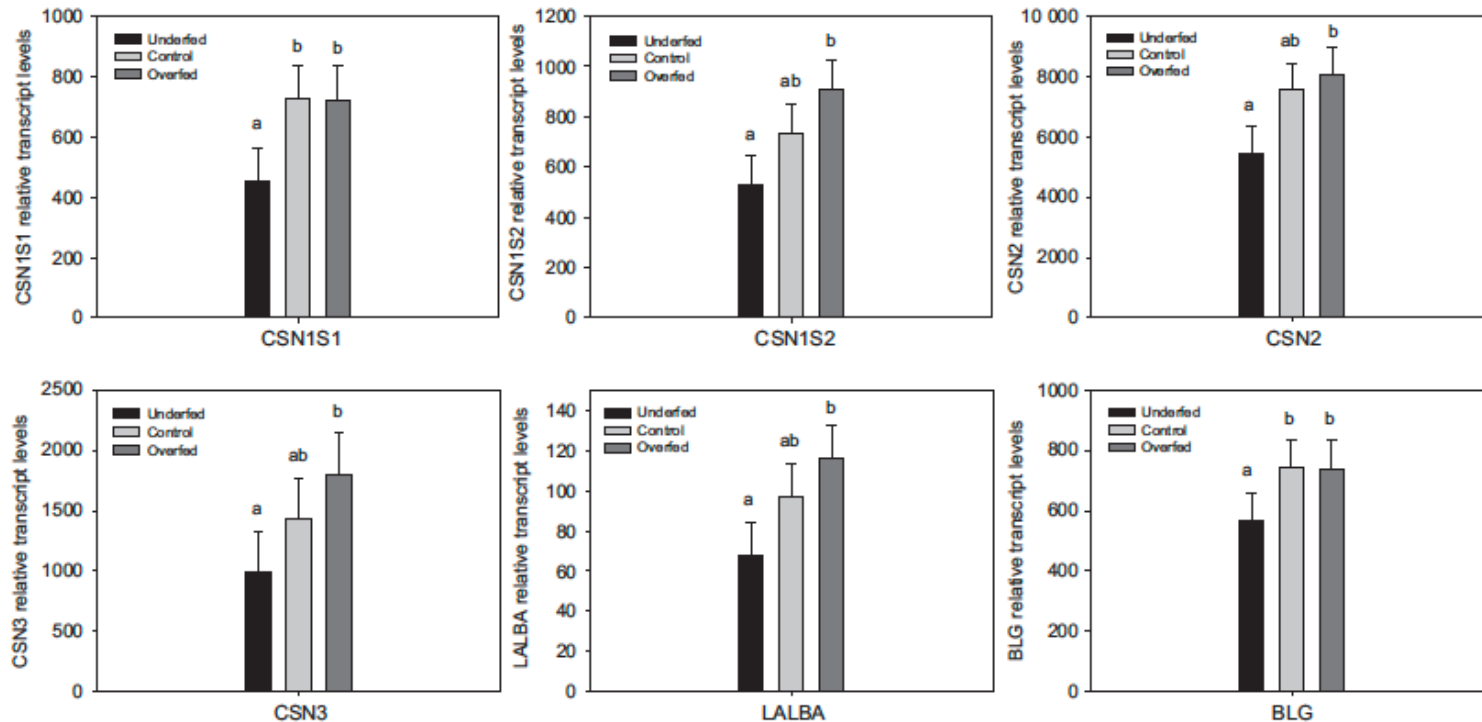
Ribosome

**mechanistic**  
**Target of**  
**Rapamycin**  
**Complex 1**

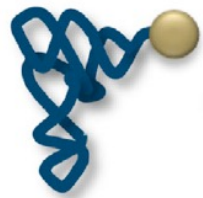
## Regulation of milk protein's gene transcription



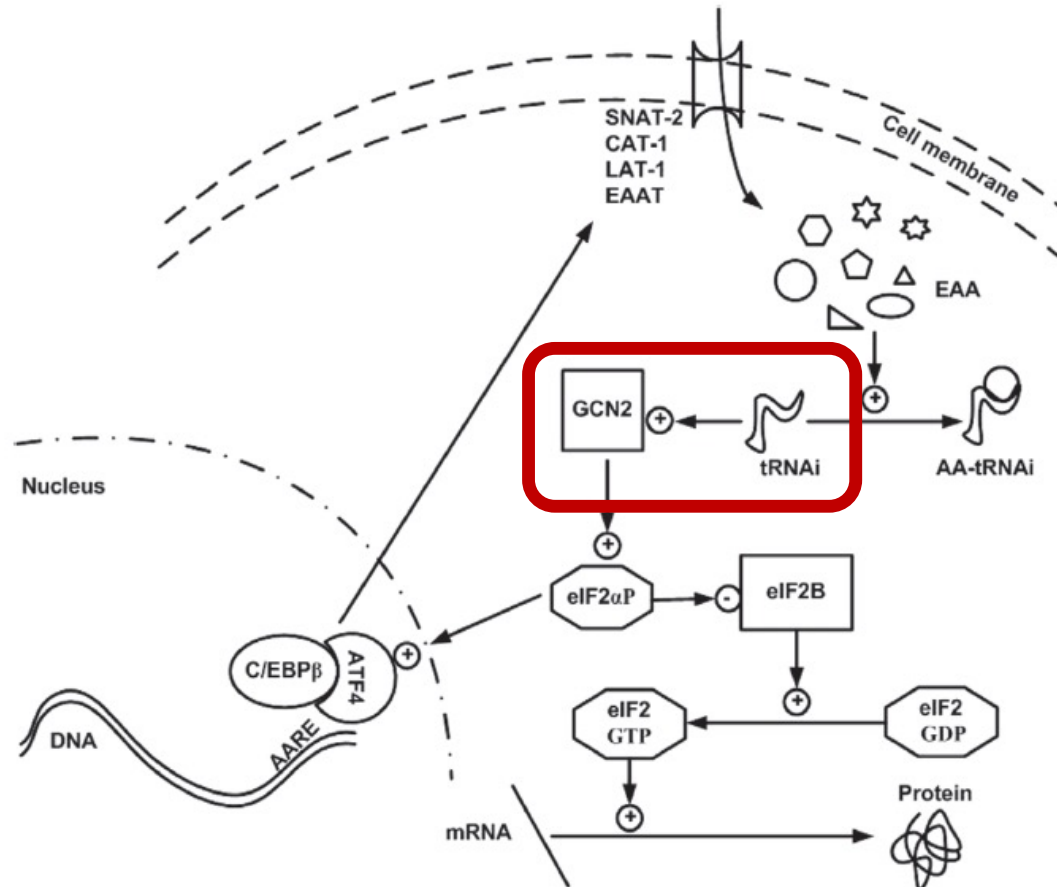
Transcription



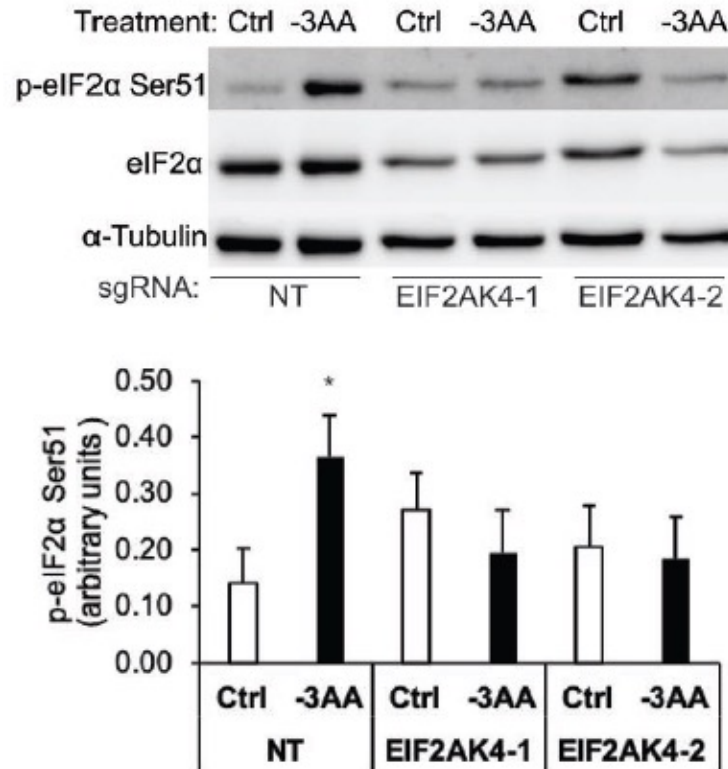
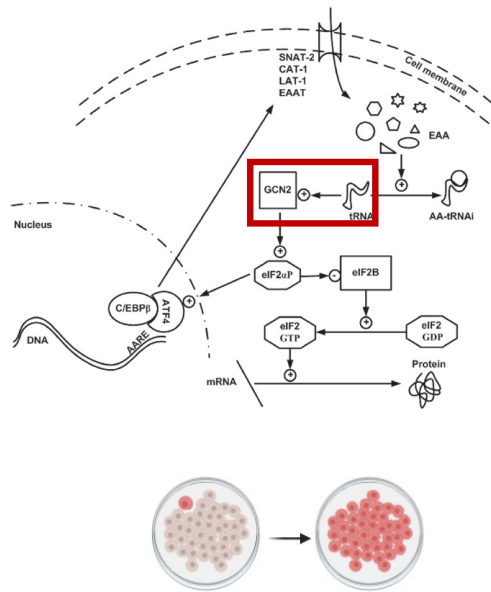
## Regulation of milk protein translation - ISR



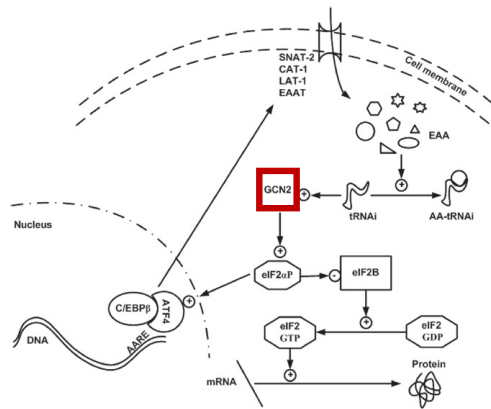
tRNA



## GCN2 sensing of AA in BMEC

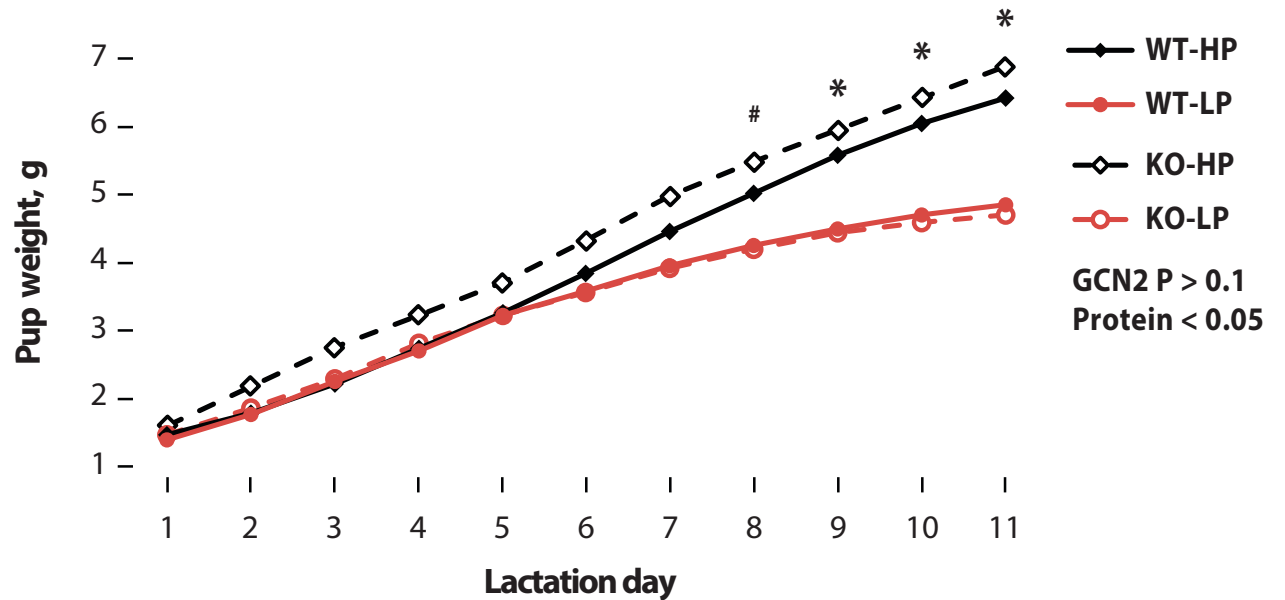


## GCN2 regulation of lactation

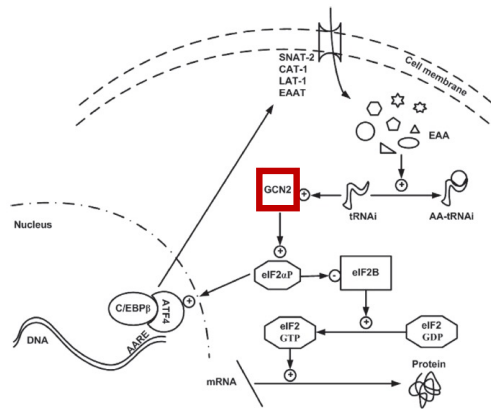


WAP-cre GCN2

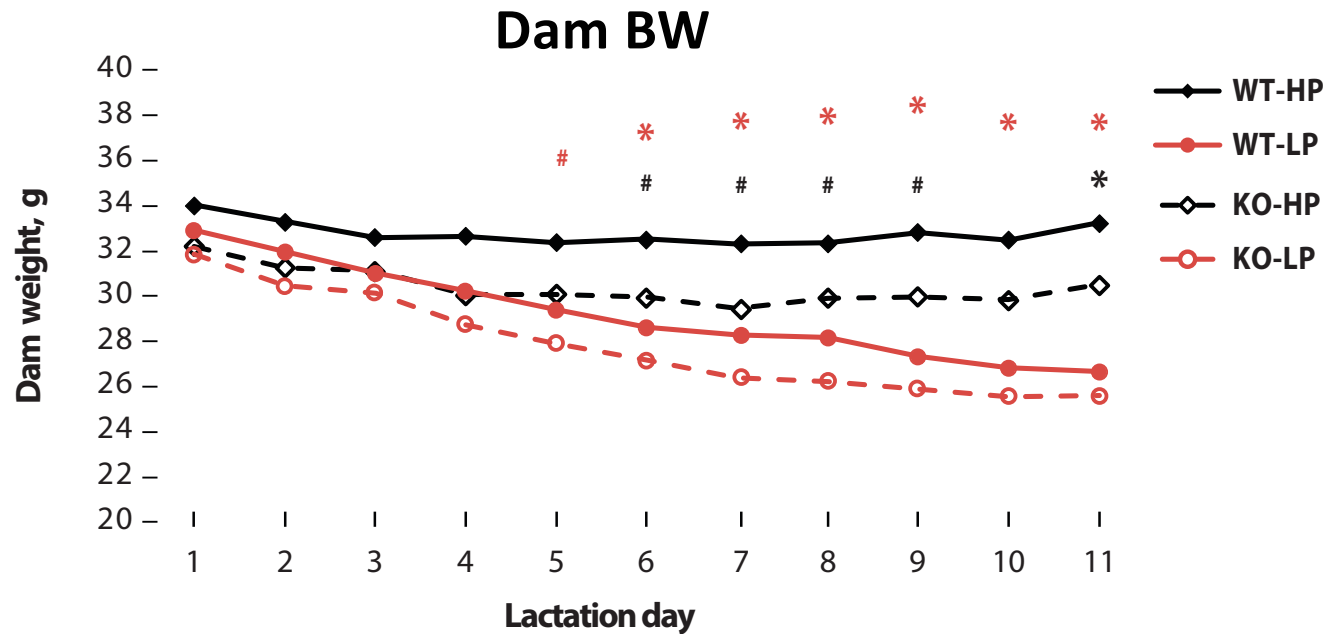
### Pup Growth



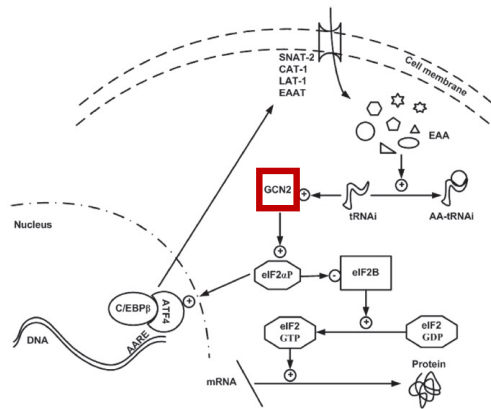
## GCN2 regulation of lactation



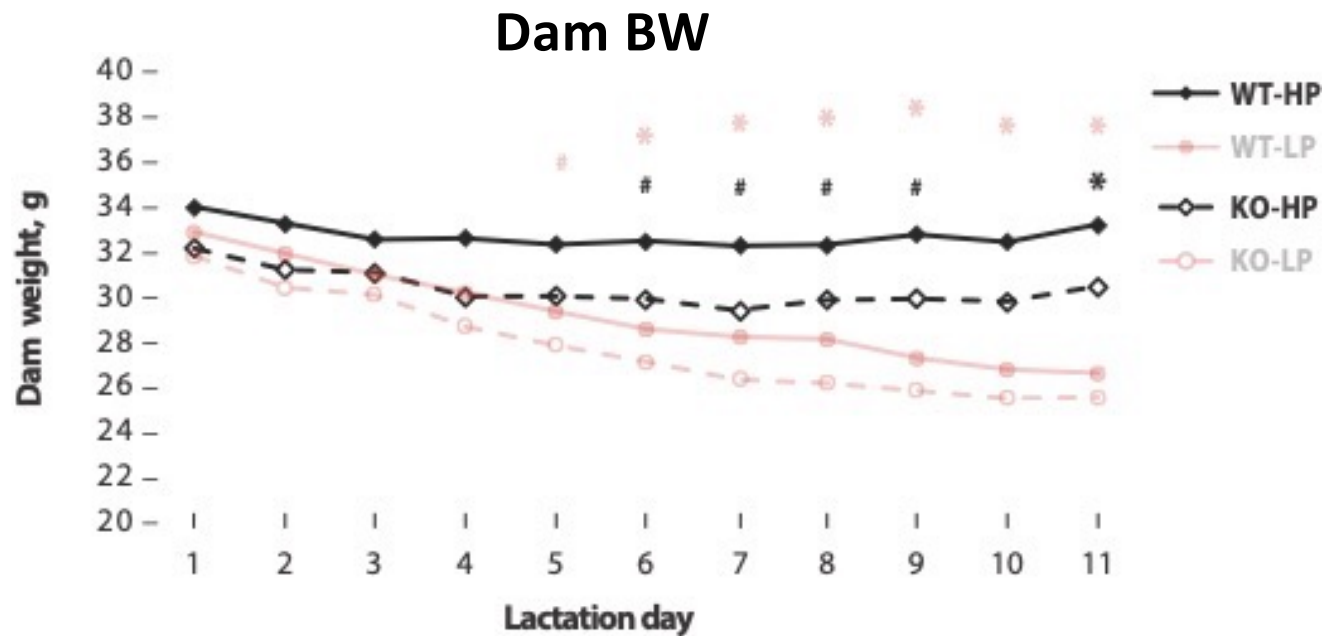
WAP-cre GCN2



## GCN2 regulation of lactation

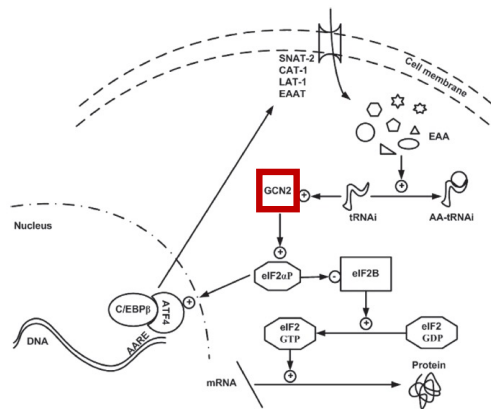


WAP-cre GCN2

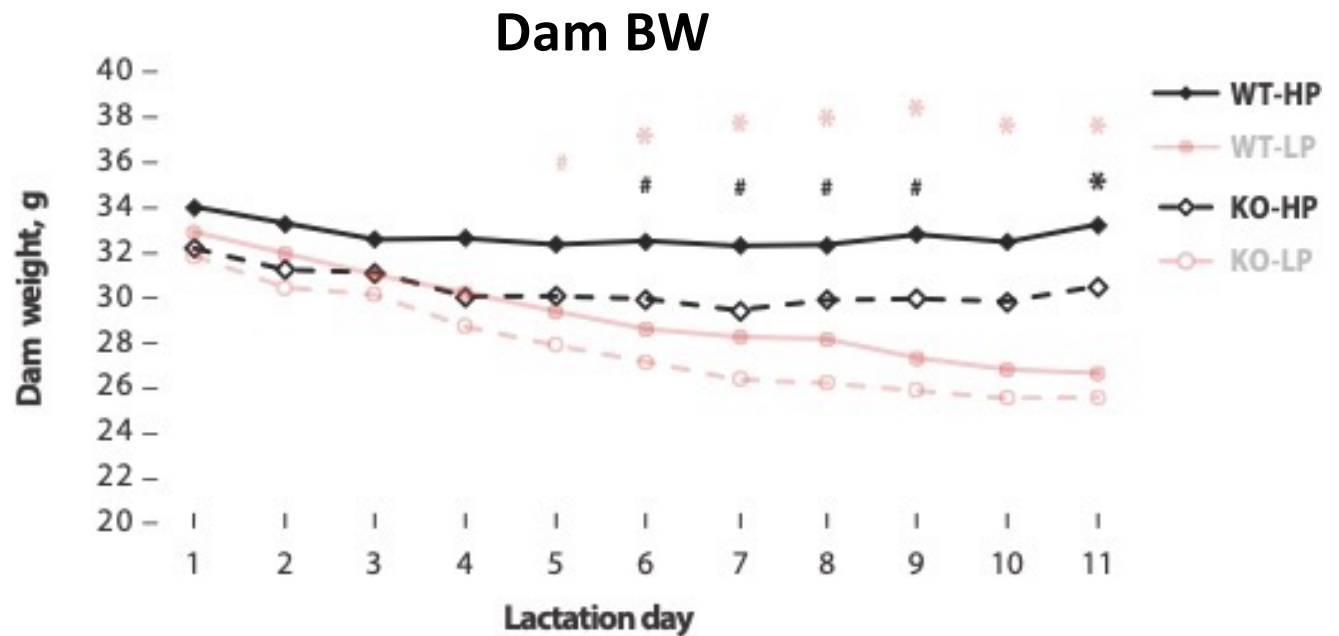




## GCN2 regulation of lactation

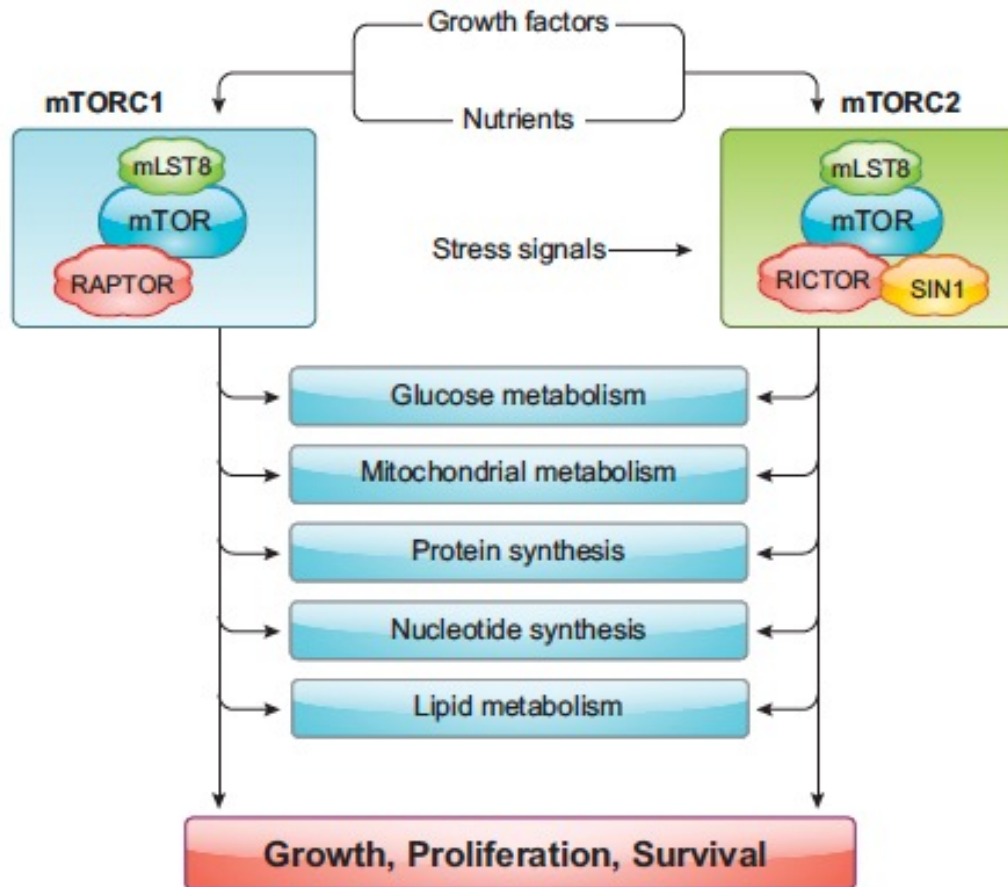


WAP-cre GCN2



- Limited evidence in vitro and other species
- Probably more relevant under strong AA imbalance

## mTORC1 regulation of translation, . . . *and beyond*

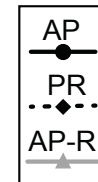
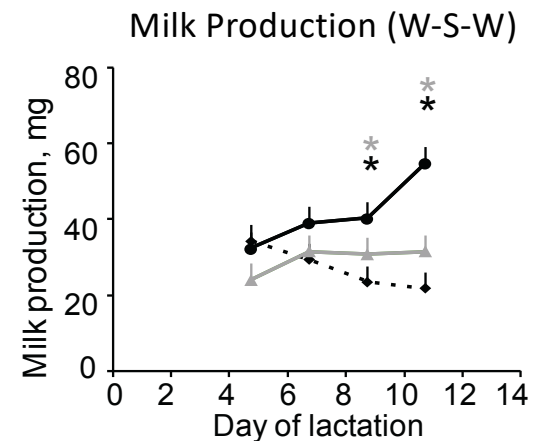
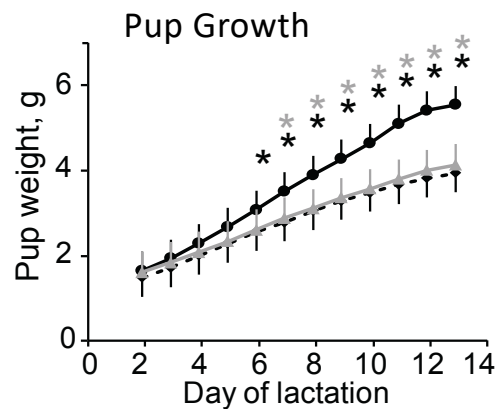
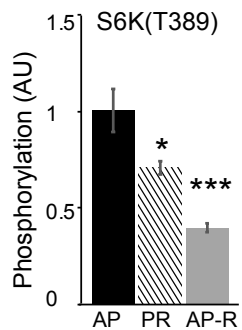


## Review

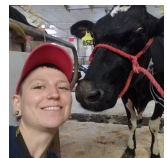
# Rapamycin: An InhibiTOR of Aging Emerges From the Soil of Easter Island

Sebastian I. Arriola Apelo and Dudley W. Lamming

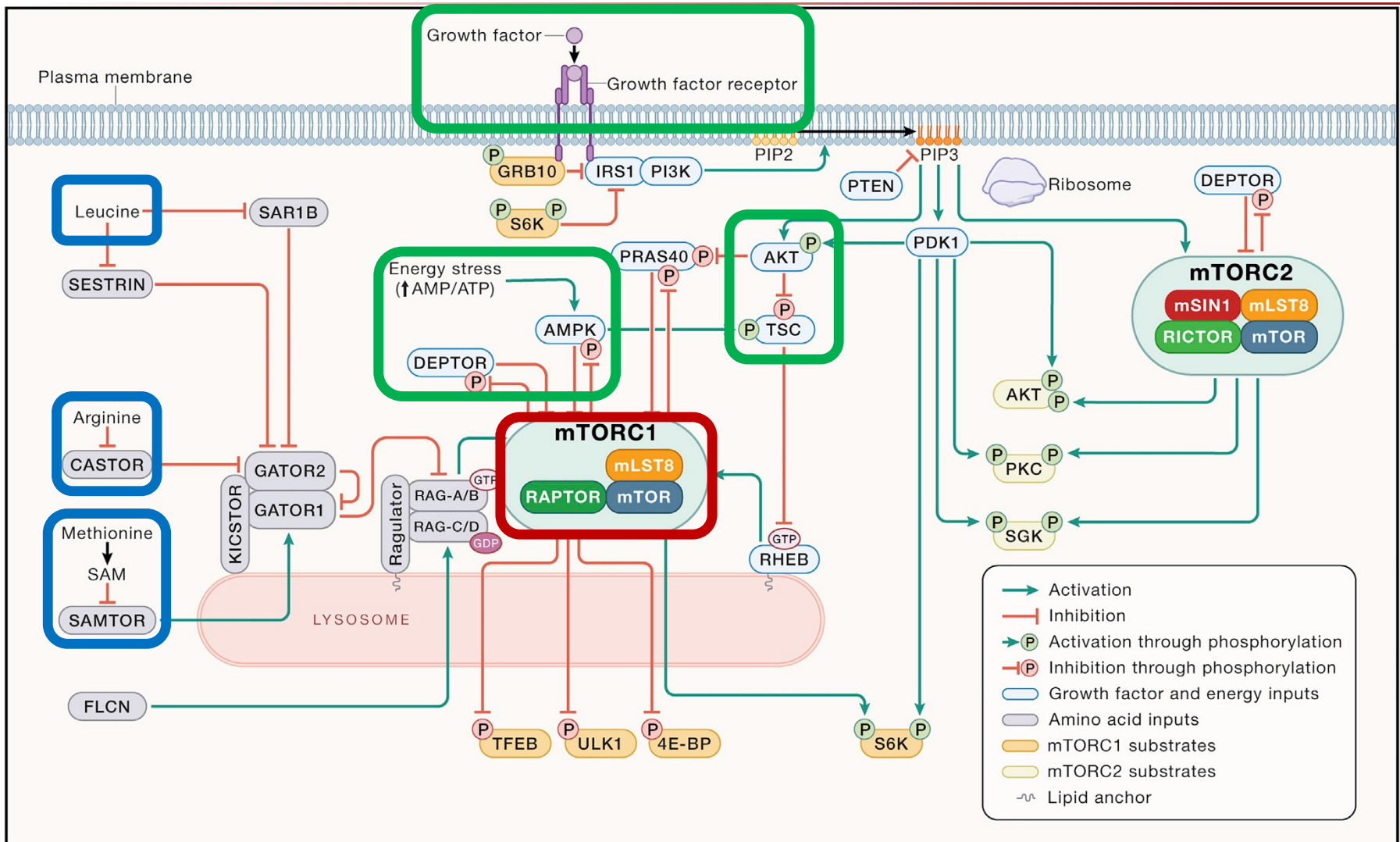
Department of Medicine, University of Wisconsin–Madison and William S. Middleton Memorial Veterans Hospital, Madison, Wisconsin.



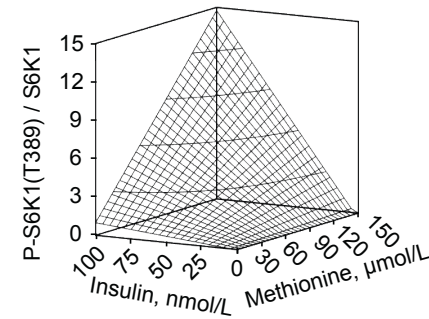
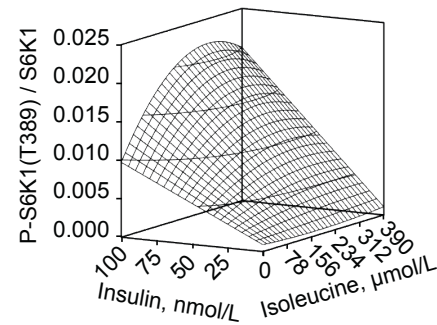
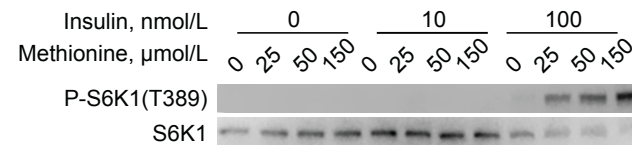
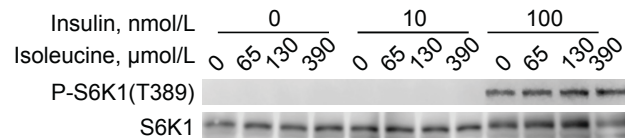
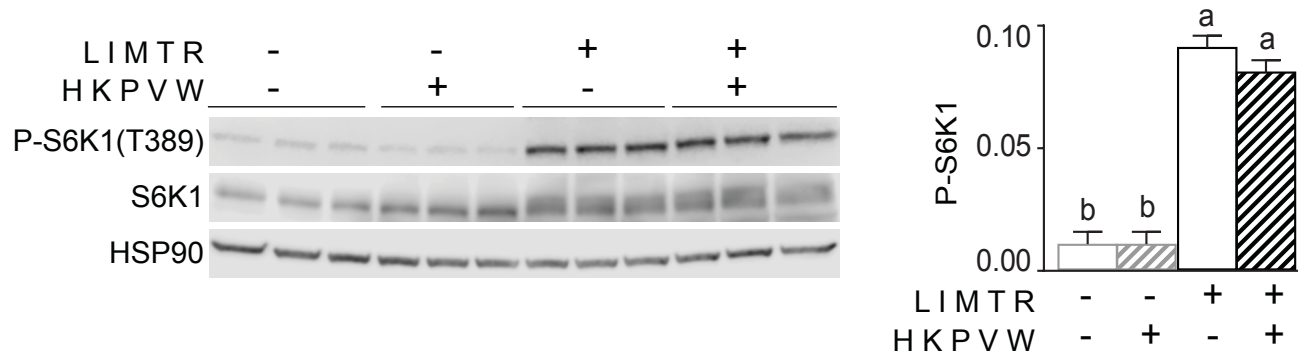
- mTORC1 mediates AA effect in murine lactation



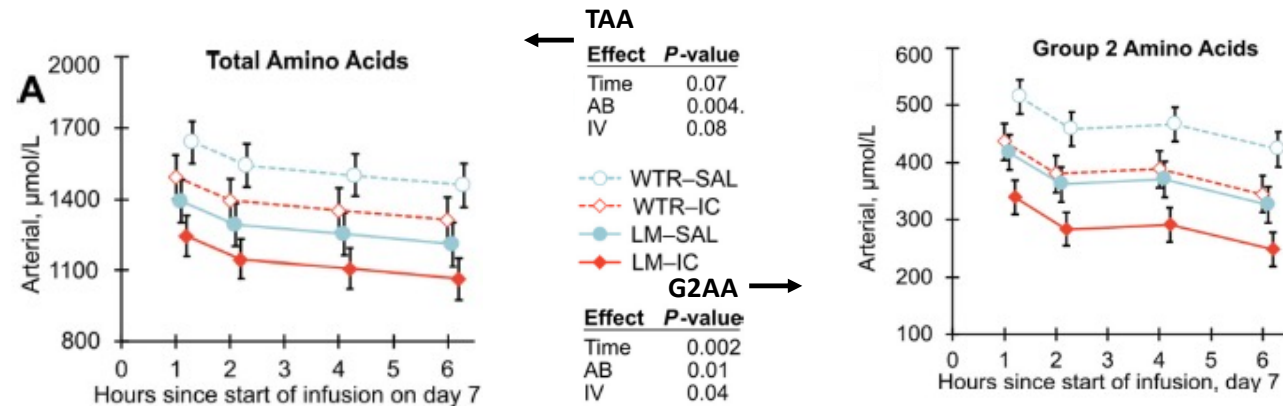
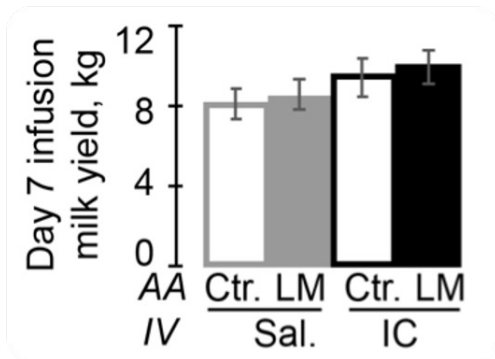
# REGULATORY MECHANISMS



## Specific AA regulation of mTORC1

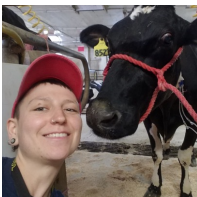


## Insulin role in AA regulation of milk production



### Mammary gland extraction of AA at h 6 of clamp

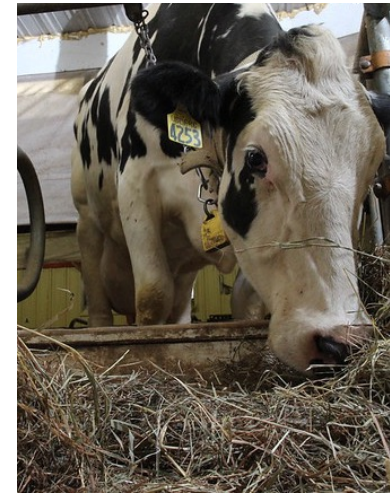
	WTR		LM		SEM	p-value	
	SAL	IC	SAL	IC		AB	IV
<b>%</b>							
<b>Total AA</b>	22.9	24.2	23.2	24.5	5.07	0.95	0.79
<b>EAA</b>	39.5	37.8	38.8	37.1	6.12	0.34	0.69
<b>Group 1 AA</b>	34.5	36.7	31.0	33.2	6.30	0.43	0.64
<b>Group 2 AA</b>	38.9	35.5	46.6	43.2	5.30	0.05	0.39
<b>NEAA</b>	14.2	16.5	11.8	14.1	6.05	0.68	0.70



# ENERGY SOURCES

## Starch role in milk production

Item	Diets (NDF : starch ratios)			
	T1	T2	T3	T4
Ingredient, % DM				
Alfalfa	15.0	15.0	15.0	15.0
Corn silage	20.0	25.0	30.0	35.0
Oat hay	0.0	5.0	10.0	15.0
Corn	35.0	25.0	15.0	5.0
CP	17.5	17.6	17.6	17.6
NDF	29.8	34.0	37.7	41.2
ADF	18.1	20.5	25.0	27.7
Starch	34.4	28.8	23.2	17.6
NEL†, Mcal/kg	1.81	1.73	1.65	1.57
DMI, kg/day	23.2 <sup>a</sup>	21.7 <sup>a</sup>	20.1 <sup>b</sup>	18.3 <sup>c</sup>
MP‡, g/day	3,029 <sup>a</sup>	2,831 <sup>ab</sup>	2,614 <sup>bc</sup>	2,462 <sup>c</sup>
Milk yield, kg/day	33.2 <sup>a</sup>	33.0 <sup>a</sup>	31.4 <sup>b</sup>	28.3 <sup>c</sup>
FCM†, kg/day	32.2 <sup>a</sup>	32.5 <sup>a</sup>	32.0 <sup>a</sup>	29.2 <sup>c</sup>
ECM‡, kg/day	34.2 <sup>a</sup>	34.1 <sup>a</sup>	33.4 <sup>b</sup>	30.2 <sup>c</sup>
Protein, kg/day	1.06 <sup>a</sup>	1.02 <sup>b</sup>	0.96 <sup>c</sup>	0.85



Substituting starch decreases:

- Dietary energy density
- Dry matter intake
- VFA production
- MiCP & MP supply
- Lactose, protein, and fat yield

## Isocaloric substitution of starch with non-pNDF (+fat) in AA balanced diets

Ingredient, % DM	HS-DAA	HS-BAA	LS-DAA	LS-BAA
Corn silage	37.8	37.8	38.0	38.0
Haylage	33.5	33.5	33.6	33.6
Corn grain	14.7	14.3	8.0	7.6
Soybean hulls	10.7	8.1	14.8	12.2
80:10 C16C18:1	0.0	0.0	1.5	1.5
Soybean meal	0.8	0.8	1.6	1.6
SE-SBM	0.4	0.8	0.4	0.8
Corn gluten meal	0.0	2.4	0.0	2.4
RP-Met/Lys	0.0	0.2	0.0	0.2



# ENERGY x AMINO ACIDS



## Isocaloric substitution of starch with non-pNDF (+fat)

Ingredient, % DM	HS-DAA	HS-BAA	LS-DAA	LS-BAA
Corn silage	37.8	37.8	38.0	38.0
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Corn gluten meal	0.0	2.4	0.0	2.4
RP-Met/Lys	0.0	0.2	0.0	0.2
<b>RDP</b>	<b>9.0</b>	<b>9.0</b>	<b>9.0</b>	<b>9.0</b>
<b>MP</b>	<b>7.5</b>	<b>8.8</b>	<b>7.8</b>	<b>9.0</b>
<b>NDF</b>	<b>34.5</b>	<b>31</b>	<b>39.6</b>	<b>36.0</b>
<b>Starch</b>	<b>28.0</b>	<b>28.2</b>	<b>20.5</b>	<b>20.7</b>
<b>FA-H</b>	<b>3.4</b>	<b>3.4</b>	<b>5.7</b>	<b>5.6</b>

=MP

# Isocaloric substitution of starch with non-pNDF (+fat) in AA balanced diets

Item	HS		LS		ES	P - values	
	DAA	BAA	DAA	BAA		AA	ES x AA
DMI, kg/d	31.38	33.97	31.32	33.91	0.86	< 0.001	1.00
Milk kg/d	41.7	45.2	44.0	46.7	< 0.001	< 0.001	0.36
ECM, kg/d	42.4	46.0	46.4	49.4	< 0.001	< 0.001	0.61
Fat, g/d	1567	1674	1794	1878	< 0.001	< 0.001	0.67
Protein, g/d	1188	1356	1235	1380	0.03	< 0.001	0.47
Fat, %	3.85	3.80	4.10	4.05	< 0.001	0.39	0.97
Protein, %	2.87	3.05	2.87	2.95	0.12	< 0.001	0.11

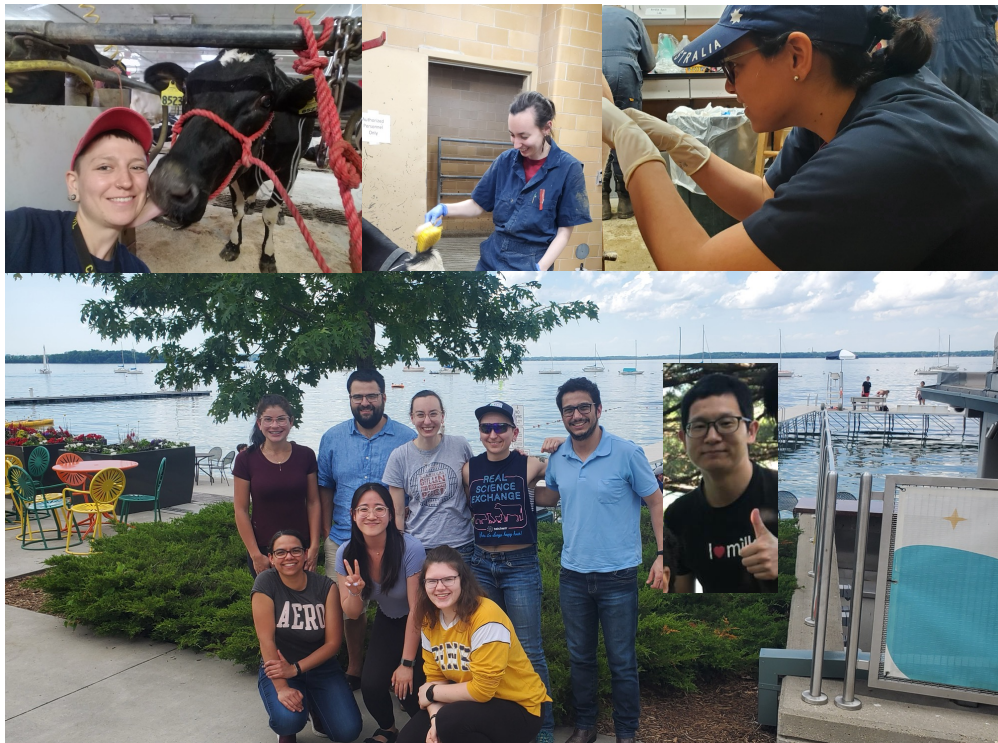
## Isocaloric substitution of starch with non-pNDF (+fat) in AA balanced diets

Item	HS		LS		ES	P - values	
	DAA	BAA	DAA	BAA		AA	ES x AA
Allantoin, mmol/d	445	440	493	465	0.19	0.56	0.68
MiCP, g/d	2164	2610	2251	2638	0.005	< 0.001	0.14
Urine N, g/d	149	195	174	237	< 0.001	< 0.001	0.048
Fecal N, g/d	274	310	262	318	0.81	< 0.001	0.24
PUN, mg/dL	8.4	11.3	10.8	14.1	< 0.001	< 0.001	0.44
MUN, mg/dL	8.3	11.0	9.8	13.3	< 0.001	< 0.001	< 0.01

# Conclusions

- There is room to reduce N emission by dairy cows, specifically at rumen and post-absorptive levels
- Balancing for specific AA improves milk protein and **milk fat responses**, and . . .
- The mechanisms for the regulation of milk components synthesis have been largely elucidated
- Energy plays a critical role in milk protein synthesis regulation
- However, the mammary has the plasticity to use different energy sources
- Peripheral roles of insulin, post peak-lactation could shadow the effect of glucogenic energy sources

## AKNOWLEDGEMENTS



### Collaborators

- Wenli Li
- Jimena Laporta
- Laura Hernandez
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