

## *Supplementary Information*

# **The Signature Microbiota Drive Rumen Function Shifts in Goat Kids Introduced to Solid Diet Regimes**

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## **Materials and Methods**

### *Goat Kid Management*

Goat kids remained with their mother and received breast milk from 0 to 20 days. During 20 to 60 days of age, they were separated with their dams and the above three kinds of diets were provided to corresponding groups. Other management strategies including vaccination, cleaning and disinfection of pens followed farm normal policy. All animals were fed with milk replacer from 20 to 60 days. Feeding amount of milk replacer were 2% body weight. Goat kids were fed four times a day (0600, 1200, 1800 and 2200) at 20–30 days, and thrice daily at 30–60 days (0600, 1200 and 1800). The milk replacer was dissolved with hot water cooled to 65–70 °C after boiling, and offered to goat kids when it was cooled to 40 ± 1 °C. The ratio of milk replacer to water was 1:6 (weight (g)/ volume (ml)). The milk replacer (China Patent product ZL02128844.5) used in the experiment was provided by Beijing Precision Animal Nutrition Research Center. The concentrate with ingredients of corn, soybean etc. was purchased from Cargill Feed Company (Nanjing, China). The alfalfa pellets purchased from Baofa Agriculture and Animal Husbandry Co. Ltd, (Gansu, China) had the same diameter (4 mm) as the diet concentrate. During the animal trial, all the goat kids had *ad libitum* access to water, the MRC and MCA kids were freely to access concentrate, and the MCA goats had extra free choice of alfalfa pellets. The nutritional levels of milk replacer, concentrate and alfalfa pellets are shown in Table S1.

### *Sample Collection and Chemical Analysis*

Daily feed intakes were recorded in animal trial. Feed samples were collected, dried in a forced-air oven at 65 °C for 48 h and analyzed for crude protein (CP), non-fiber carbohydrate (NFC), and neutral detergent fiber (NDF) according to the Association of Official Analytical Chemists [1]. Then, average daily intake of CP, NFC and NDF were calculated. Only data of table S1 (dietary composition) and table S2 (growth performance) were published in a Chinese journal paper [2], and other data, such as rumen fermentation parameters and microbiome analysis, are detailed in this manuscript.

### *Data Analysis*

Rumen fermentation parameters were shown using bar charts made in R (v3.6.0) by ‘ggplot2’ package. The ANOVA test was used for significance calculation after detection of homogeneity of variance. After the global test was significant, a post-hoc analysis (Tukey's HSD test) was performed to determine which

group of the independent variable differ from each other group. The remaining fermentation parameters were shown in Table S3.

The Pearson correlation was performed for measurements of association between nutrient intake with rumen fermentation parameters (shown in Table S4), and between phenotypes and alpha diversity (table S5). To better understand the rumen microbial composition in goats introduced different solid diet regime, stacked bar charts of the top 30 genus were made (Figure S1), and significant OTUs were shown in table S6. The p values were calculated by using Kruskal-Wallis test and a post-hoc Dunn Kruskal-Wallis multiple comparison with Bonferroni adjustment to evaluate differences between two groups in R.

A Random Forest classification model was performed to identify the top microbiome signatures to differentiate three supplementary feeding regimes. R package 'AUCRF' (v.1.1) was used to process Random Forest model and select optimal variables based on the area-under-the receiver operator characteristic curve (AUC) of the Random Forest method (AUCRF) [3]. The relative abundances of all the microbiota were included for predictors' selection. The 'ntree' parameters was set at 10,000 in the model. For calculation the probability of each selected variable, a 10-fold cross validation analysis and 20 times repetitions of cross validation were performed. The model accuracy, including AUC, sensitivity and specificity of variables, was calculated using the 'pROC' package (v.1.13). Thus, variables importance plot was generated based on the importance scores (Mean Decrease in Accuracy, MDA) of optimal features and their boxplots of selected features were drawn in R. Firstly, all 3 groups were analyzed together, and then pair wise comparison. The AUC (area under the curve), specificity, and sensitivity were showed in (Figure S2). The top predictors identified by AUCRF model were displayed in (Table S7), and their abundances were showed in Figure S3-S6.

The Random Forest regression model was used to select the rumen microbiota that were important for average daily intake of major nutrients (i.e., CP, NDF and NFC) and rumen fermentation parameters. The model was run in R software using 'RandomForest' package (v 4.6-14). The percent variance explained was reported for the estimation of accuracy of regression model. The top 50 selected features were then analyzed Pearson correlation with those macro indicators respectively. All the Pearson regression results were in File S1.

Predictive function analysis was performed using the PICRUSt algorithm based on the Kyoto Encyclopedia of Genes and Genomes (KEGG) classification using the closed-reference OTUs [4]. The level 3 of functional prediction was shown in Figure S7. The Functional Shifts' Taxonomic Contributors (Fish Taco) software was used to find the rumen bacteria driving the functional shifts between supplementary regimes in this study. The Fish Taco software running on Python system followed the official pipeline at <http://borenstein-lab.github.io/fishtaco/execution.html>. A taxonomic abundance at OTUs' level and functional abundance profile at levels 3 from the PICRUSt analysis were used. The primary statistical results were presented in Files S2-S3. In pairwise comparisons, we labeled MRO groups as control and MRC or MCA as case, and tested MRC as control vs MCA as case. Each functional shift was grouped into case-associated with driving case-enrichment or attenuating case-enrichment, and control-associated driving case-enrichment or attenuating case-enrichment. The output results visualization was performed in FishTacoPlot package in R (Version 3.6.0). Except the representative and significant pathway showed in main text, others were disclosed in Figures S8-S9.

**Table S1.** Nutritional components of milk replacer, starter, and alfalfa pellets.

Items	Milk Replacer	Starter Pellets	Alfalfa Pellets
Chemical composition, % of DM basis			
DM (%)	95.50	95.25	95.53
Total Energy (MJ/Kg)	20.74	18.03	17.39
CP (%)	25.52	19.63	14.77
EE (%)	15.96	3.40	1.04
NDF (%)	---	29.62	51.45
ADF (%)	---	8.64	35.20
Ash (%)	6.54	7.99	11.98
Ca (%)	1.02	0.95	0.90
P (%)	0.66	0.70	0.48

DM: Dry matter; CP: Crude protein; EE: Ether extract; NDF: Neutral detergent fibers;  
ADF: Acid detergent fiber; Ash: Crude ash.

**Table S2.** Effect of early supplementary solid diet on growth performance of goat kids

Items	Treatments			SEM	p-value
	MRO	MRC	MCA		
Milk replacer intake/(g•d <sup>-1</sup> )	130.62	107.91	119.90	4.95	0.1696
Concentrate intake/(g•d <sup>-1</sup> )	---	188.18	189.56	4.82	0.8956
Alfalfa pellets intake/(g•d <sup>-1</sup> )	---	---	34.34	---	---
Dry matter intake/(g•d <sup>-1</sup> )	122.47 <sup>c</sup>	271.50 <sup>b</sup>	309.97 <sup>a</sup>	16.12	<0.0001
Protein intake/(g•d <sup>-1</sup> )	31.33 <sup>c</sup>	58.52 <sup>b</sup>	66.37 <sup>a</sup>	4.07	<0.0001
NDF-Neutral detergent fiber intake/(g•d <sup>-1</sup> )	---	49.25 <sup>b</sup>	66.08 <sup>a</sup>	3.13	0.0004
NFC-Non-fibrous carbohydrate intake/(g•d <sup>-1</sup> )	63.82 <sup>c</sup>	118.16 <sup>b</sup>	131.15 <sup>a</sup>	7.94	<0.0001

MRO = milk replacer, MRC= milk replacer + concentrate, MCA= milk replacer + concentrate + alfalfa; SEM = Standard error of the means. Values with different small letter superscripts in the same row mean significant difference ( $p < 0.05$ ).

Only the data of Table S1 (dietary composition) and Table S2 (growth performance) were published in a Chinese journal article (doi 10.11843/j.issn.0366-6964.2019.05.011), thus the authors have translated them into English since the nutrient intake were used in this draft.

**Table S3.** Effects of early supplementary solid diet on growth performance and rumen fermentation parameters in goat kids

Items	Treatments <sup>1</sup>			SEM	p-value
	MRO	MRC	MCA		
Slaughter BW, kg	7.01 <sup>b</sup>	10.47 <sup>a</sup>	10.23 <sup>a</sup>	0.41	<0.0001
Rumen weight, g	47.42 <sup>c</sup>	126.70 <sup>b</sup>	175.67 <sup>a</sup>	14.94	<0.001
Average daily gain/g	70.28 <sup>b</sup>	123.93 <sup>a</sup>	126.25 <sup>a</sup>	5.48	<0.0001
pH	7.09 <sup>a</sup>	5.88 <sup>b</sup>	6.01 <sup>b</sup>	0.15	<0.0001
Isobutyrate, mmol/L	0.24	0.48	0.23	0.08	0.3589
Isovalerate, mmol/L	0.56	0.98	0.91	0.16	0.5470
Valerate, mmol/L	0.73 <sup>b</sup>	7.34 <sup>a</sup>	5.01 <sup>a</sup>	0.95	0.0045
A:P	2.55	2.23	2.20	0.13	0.5502

MRO = milk replacer, MRC = milk replacer + concentrate, MCA = milk replacer + concentrate + alfalfa; SEM = Standard error of the means. BW=body weight; A:P = the ratio of acetate and propionate. Values with different small letter superscripts in the same row mean significant difference ( $p < 0.05$ ).

**Table S4.** Pearson correlation between nutrient and rumen fermentation

Items	CPADI		NDFADI		NFCADI		Slaughter body weight	
	coefficient	p-value	coefficient	p-value	coefficient	p-value	coefficient	p-value
pH	-0.83	0.000	-0.85	0.000	-0.86	0.000	-0.78	0.000
NH <sub>3</sub> -N	-0.78	0.000	-0.82	0.000	-0.82	0.000	-0.76	0.000
MCP	0.80	0.000	0.88	0.000	0.86	0.000	0.82	0.000
acetate	0.92	0.000	0.94	0.000	0.94	0.000	0.78	0.000
propionate	0.82	0.000	0.82	0.000	0.82	0.000	0.67	0.002
butyrate	0.87	0.000	0.88	0.000	0.87	0.000	0.86	0.000
valerate	0.60	0.009	0.65	0.004	0.66	0.003	0.76	0.000
Total VFA	0.94	0.000	0.96	0.000	0.96	0.000	0.86	0.000

CPADI: Crude protein average daily intake; NDFADI: Neutral detergent fibers average daily intake; NFCADI: Non-fibrous carbohydrates average daily intake; Total VFA: Total volatile fatty acids; MCP: Microbial crude protein. A *p* value equal 0 means it was smaller than 0.0005.

**Table S5.** Pearson correlation analysis between phenotypes and Alpha diversity in goat kids.

Items	Shannon Index		Observed species		Chao1	
	coefficients	p-value	coefficients	p-value	coefficients	p-value
CP	-0.04	0.880	-0.65	0.003	-0.66	0.003
NFC	-0.12	0.642	-0.73	0.001	-0.70	0.001
NDF	-0.13	0.594	-0.74	0.001	-0.69	0.001
acetate	-0.09	0.717	-0.64	0.004	-0.59	0.011
propionate	-0.10	0.687	-0.58	0.011	-0.57	0.014
butyrate	-0.15	0.557	-0.71	0.001	-0.72	0.001
Total VFA	-0.18	0.484	-0.75	0.000	-0.71	0.001
valerate	-0.58	0.012	-0.88	0.000	-0.78	0.000
pH	0.44	0.066	0.81	0.000	0.76	0.000
NH <sub>3</sub> -N	0.15	0.562	0.63	0.005	0.63	0.005
MCP	-0.41	0.092	-0.79	0.000	-0.66	0.003
Slaughter body weight	-0.16	0.534	-0.76	0.000	-0.74	0.000

CPADI: Crude protein average daily intake; NDFADI: Neutral detergent fibers average daily intake; NFCADI: Non-fibrous carbohydrates average daily intake; Total VFA: Total volatile fatty acids; MCP: Microbial crude protein. The *p* value equal to 0 means it was smaller than 0.0005.

**Table S6** the average abundance of 281 significant OTUs

OTUID	MRO	MRC	MCA	p-value-KWtest
OTU1_Sphingobacteriaceae_unclassified	0.19182	0.01601	0.00000	0.0013
OTU2_Prevotella	0.00041	0.09529	0.09803	0.0401
OTU4_Prevotellaceae_unclassified	0.11709	0.00032	0.00036	0.0418
OTU5_Sphingobacteriaceae_unclassified	0.11134	0.00036	0.00002	0.0020
OTU6_Prevotella	0.00005	0.01349	0.05890	0.0022
OTU9_Succinivibrio	0.00036	0.01498	0.04738	0.0395
OTU10_Roseburia	0.00003	0.04486	0.00896	0.0264
OTU13_Prevotella	0.00001	0.00414	0.04023	0.0037
OTU15_Prevotellaceae_unclassified	0.00000	0.00291	0.03540	0.0026
OTU18_Prevotella	0.01016	0.00016	0.01923	0.0168
OTU20_Olsenella	0.00010	0.02279	0.00472	0.0192
OTU21_Prevotella	0.00007	0.02081	0.00291	0.0392
OTU22_Succinilasticum	0.00000	0.00491	0.01817	0.0060
OTU24_Cloacibacillus	0.02164	0.00001	0.00000	0.0008
OTU27_Prevotellaceae_unclassified	0.00001	0.00756	0.01181	0.0307
OTU30_Prevotellaceae_unclassified	0.01838	0.00035	0.00000	0.0287
OTU33_Bacteroidetes_unclassified	0.01775	0.00000	0.00000	0.0003
OTU34_Ruminococcus	0.00000	0.00262	0.01489	0.0057
OTU36_Candidatus.Endomicrobium_unclassified	0.01322	0.00298	0.00000	0.0034
OTU38_Prevotellaceae_unclassified	0.00001	0.00982	0.00576	0.0281
OTU39_Ruminococcaceae_unclassified	0.01473	0.00020	0.00024	0.0026
OTU40_Bacteroidetes_unclassified	0.00000	0.00663	0.00808	0.0079
OTU43_Bacteroidetes_unclassified	0.01254	0.00000	0.00000	0.0345
OTU44_Prevotellaceae_unclassified	0.00000	0.00001	0.01248	0.0249
OTU47_Porphyromonadaceae_unclassified	0.00007	0.00952	0.00262	0.0395
OTU52_Bacteria_unclassified	0.00002	0.01040	0.00119	0.0189
OTU53_Lachnospiraceae_unclassified	0.00000	0.01090	0.00021	0.0486
OTU54_Prevotella	0.00000	0.00000	0.01110	0.0085
OTU55_Sphaerochaeta	0.01053	0.00006	0.00001	0.0011
OTU57_Prevotella	0.00000	0.00774	0.00267	0.0092
OTU58_Bacteroidetes_unclassified	0.01022	0.00000	0.00000	0.0085
OTU60_Prevotella	0.00828	0.00119	0.00047	0.0030
OTU62_Prevotellaceae_unclassified	0.00955	0.00000	0.00008	0.0013
OTU63_Prevotella	0.00003	0.00682	0.00276	0.0366
OTU67_Treponema	0.00000	0.00000	0.00906	0.0085
OTU71_Lachnospiraceae_unclassified	0.00000	0.00020	0.00833	0.0287
OTU74_Treponema	0.00001	0.00000	0.00818	0.0055
OTU75_Ruminococcaceae_unclassified	0.00818	0.00000	0.00000	0.0003
OTU77_Bacteroidetes_unclassified	0.00812	0.00000	0.00000	0.0085
OTU79_Neisseriaceae_unclassified	0.00744	0.00013	0.00031	0.0042
OTU83_Bacteroidales_unclassified	0.00005	0.00026	0.00727	0.0053
OTU86_Pyramidobacter	0.00000	0.00354	0.00330	0.0053
OTU87_Butyrivibrio	0.00023	0.00001	0.00657	0.0048
OTU89_Bacteroidetes_unclassified	0.00668	0.00000	0.00000	0.0003
OTU90_Bacteroidetes_unclassified	0.00664	0.00001	0.00000	0.0006
OTU93_Treponema	0.00013	0.00000	0.00646	0.0028
OTU94_Clostridiales_unclassified	0.00646	0.00000	0.00000	0.0003
OTU97_Clostridiales_unclassified	0.00001	0.00515	0.00097	0.0422

**Table S6. Cont.**

OTU98_Anæroplasma	0.00597	0.00000	0.00000	0.0345
OTU99_Elusimicrobium	0.00596	0.00001	0.00000	0.0006
OTU100_Prevotellaceae_unclassified	0.00001	0.00025	0.00568	0.0161
OTU103_Prevotellaceae_unclassified	0.00479	0.00006	0.00076	0.0448
OTU104_Prevotella	0.00018	0.00010	0.00524	0.0268
OTU106_Bacteroidetes_unclassified	0.00546	0.00000	0.00000	0.0345
OTU110_Prevotellaceae_unclassified	0.00002	0.00075	0.00436	0.0060
OTU111_Methanomassiliicoccus	0.00499	0.00003	0.00001	0.0017
OTU114_Megasphaera	0.00000	0.00287	0.00204	0.0046
OTU115_Fibrobacter	0.00000	0.00231	0.00257	0.0107
OTU119_Prevotella	0.00437	0.00000	0.00003	0.0006
OTU121_Bacteroidales_unclassified	0.00325	0.00031	0.00079	0.0321
OTU124_Bacteroidetes_unclassified	0.00426	0.00000	0.00003	0.0041
OTU126_Anæroplasma	0.00420	0.00003	0.00001	0.0159
OTU127_Acidaminococcus	0.00002	0.00175	0.00244	0.0500
OTU128_Bacteroidetes_unclassified	0.00421	0.00000	0.00001	0.0041
OTU130_Clostridiales_unclassified	0.00420	0.00000	0.00000	0.0018
OTU131_Bacteroidetes_unclassified	0.00412	0.00000	0.00008	0.0057
OTU132_Pyramidobacter	0.00261	0.00059	0.00097	0.0043
OTU134_Prevotella	0.00404	0.00000	0.00000	0.0018
OTU137_Escherichia/Shigella	0.00195	0.00104	0.00089	0.0362
OTU138_Prevotella	0.00382	0.00000	0.00003	0.0009
OTU139_Bacteroidetes_unclassified	0.00385	0.00000	0.00000	0.0003
OTU140_Anærovibrio	0.00003	0.00214	0.00157	0.0429
OTU141_Prevotella	0.00369	0.00000	0.00002	0.0057
OTU142_Bacteroidales_unclassified	0.00321	0.00049	0.00000	0.0373
OTU144_Saccharofermentans	0.00331	0.00022	0.00001	0.0408
OTU145_Ruminococcaceae_unclassified	0.00000	0.00000	0.00352	0.0085
OTU147_Bacteroidales_unclassified	0.00333	0.00000	0.00000	0.0003
OTU148_Lachnospiraceae_unclassified	0.00001	0.00251	0.00073	0.0045
OTU151_Ruminococcaceae_unclassified	0.00309	0.00001	0.00000	0.0007
OTU152_Mitsuokella	0.00002	0.00093	0.00211	0.0117
OTU153_Firmicutes_unclassified	0.00302	0.00000	0.00000	0.0085
OTU154_Methanomassiliicoccus	0.00301	0.00001	0.00001	0.0010
OTU158_Clostridiales_unclassified	0.00285	0.00006	0.00000	0.0009
OTU159_Lachnospiraceae_unclassified	0.00290	0.00000	0.00000	0.0085
OTU165_Prevotellaceae_unclassified	0.00000	0.00006	0.00264	0.0057
OTU167_Veillonellaceae_unclassified	0.00160	0.00093	0.00014	0.0347
OTU168_Methanomicrobium	0.00250	0.00013	0.00000	0.0009
OTU169_Bacteroidetes_unclassified	0.00261	0.00000	0.00000	0.0003
OTU173_Megasphaera	0.00000	0.00171	0.00083	0.0447
OTU174_Bacteroidetes_unclassified	0.00243	0.00007	0.00002	0.0227
OTU175_Prevotella	0.00195	0.00000	0.00057	0.0206
OTU176_Prevotellaceae_unclassified	0.00209	0.00035	0.00001	0.0050
OTU177_Campylobacter	0.00134	0.00054	0.00054	0.0391
OTU178_Bacteroides	0.00240	0.00000	0.00000	0.0003
OTU182_Bacteroidetes_unclassified	0.00211	0.00006	0.00015	0.0161
OTU183_Bacteroidetes_unclassified	0.00222	0.00008	0.00001	0.0096
OTU186_Prevotella	0.00001	0.00163	0.00064	0.0075

**Table S6. Cont.**

OTU190_Sphaerochaeta	0.00198	0.00022	0.00005	0.0038
OTU191_Lachnospiraceae_unclassified	0.00001	0.00077	0.00146	0.0162
OTU192_Methanimicrococcus	0.00220	0.00000	0.00000	0.0003
OTU193_Bacteroidetes_unclassified	0.00215	0.00000	0.00000	0.0018
OTU205_Firmicutes_unclassified	0.00000	0.00007	0.00176	0.0090
OTU206_Lachnospiraceae_unclassified	0.00131	0.00012	0.00041	0.0110
OTU208_Bacteria_unclassified	0.00180	0.00000	0.00000	0.0003
OTU209_Parabacteroides	0.00175	0.00000	0.00000	0.0085
OTU210_Desulfovibrio	0.00155	0.00012	0.00004	0.0112
OTU213_Clostridiales_unclassified	0.00166	0.00000	0.00000	0.0345
OTU216_Ruminococcaceae_unclassified	0.00136	0.00025	0.00000	0.0025
OTU217_Bacteroidetes_unclassified	0.00160	0.00000	0.00000	0.0003
OTU218_Treponema	0.00159	0.00000	0.00000	0.0018
OTU219_Bacteroidetes_unclassified	0.00155	0.00003	0.00000	0.0009
OTU220_Prevotella	0.00000	0.00058	0.00099	0.0227
OTU221_Pseudobutyribacter	0.00012	0.00001	0.00142	0.0108
OTU222_Firmicutes_unclassified	0.00153	0.00000	0.00002	0.0061
OTU223_Ruminococcaceae_unclassified	0.00155	0.00000	0.00000	0.0018
OTU224_Prevotella	0.00000	0.00090	0.00064	0.0473
OTU226_Prevotella	0.00138	0.00000	0.00015	0.0488
OTU228_Subdivision3_bacteria_incertae_sedis	0.00151	0.00000	0.00000	0.0018
OTU230_Bacteroidetes_unclassified	0.00001	0.00030	0.00118	0.0448
OTU232_Lachnospiraceae_unclassified	0.00147	0.00000	0.00000	0.0085
OTU239_Bacteroidales_unclassified	0.00001	0.00044	0.00091	0.0295
OTU245_Clostridiales_unclassified	0.00122	0.00000	0.00000	0.0003
OTU246_Bacteroidetes_unclassified	0.00102	0.00019	0.00001	0.0339
OTU248_Desulfovibrionaceae_unclassified	0.00104	0.00016	0.00000	0.0078
OTU249_Bacteroides	0.00119	0.00000	0.00000	0.0085
OTU252_Treponema	0.00000	0.00117	0.00001	0.0396
OTU255_Comamonas	0.00114	0.00000	0.00001	0.0061
OTU258_Olsenella	0.00000	0.00073	0.00036	0.0101
OTU262_Firmicutes_unclassified	0.00021	0.00082	0.00000	0.0180
OTU263_Lachnospiraceae_unclassified	0.00104	0.00000	0.00000	0.0345
OTU265_Clostridiales_unclassified	0.00102	0.00000	0.00000	0.0085
OTU266_Porphyromonadaceae_unclassified	0.00102	0.00000	0.00000	0.0003
OTU268_Mitsuokella	0.00001	0.00033	0.00066	0.0377
OTU269_Ruminococcus	0.00000	0.00044	0.00057	0.0106
OTU270_Bibersteinia	0.00088	0.00004	0.00003	0.0326
OTU273_Prevotella	0.00052	0.00000	0.00041	0.0463
OTU275_Saccharofermentans	0.00093	0.00000	0.00000	0.0018
OTU277_Lachnospiracea_incertae_sedis	0.00000	0.00000	0.00092	0.0345
OTU278_Paraprevotella	0.00075	0.00006	0.00009	0.0276
OTU279_Clostridiales_unclassified	0.00090	0.00000	0.00000	0.0003
OTU281_Bacteroidetes_unclassified	0.00089	0.00000	0.00000	0.0003
OTU282_Lachnospiraceae_unclassified	0.00000	0.00024	0.00064	0.0250
OTU287_Pasteurellaceae_unclassified	0.00078	0.00004	0.00003	0.0071
OTU290_Bacteroidetes_unclassified	0.00082	0.00000	0.00000	0.0003
OTU296_Clostridiales_unclassified	0.00075	0.00000	0.00001	0.0006
OTU298_Pyramidobacter	0.00071	0.00004	0.00000	0.0016

**Table S6. Cont.**

OTU306_Megasphaera	0.00000	0.00023	0.00048	0.0246
OTU310_Treponema	0.00068	0.00000	0.00000	0.0018
OTU311_Clostridiales_unclassified	0.00002	0.00050	0.00015	0.0182
OTU313_Methanomassiliicoccus	0.00062	0.00003	0.00000	0.0009
OTU314_Blautia	0.00000	0.00019	0.00046	0.0179
OTU320_Alloprevotella	0.00061	0.00000	0.00000	0.0018
OTU322_Allisonella	0.00000	0.00030	0.00029	0.0248
OTU325_Bacteroides	0.00037	0.00010	0.00011	0.0177
OTU326_Ruminococcaceae_unclassified	0.00054	0.00003	0.00000	0.0078
OTU327_Clostridium.XIVa	0.00046	0.00003	0.00007	0.0055
OTU328_Ethanoligenens	0.00056	0.00000	0.00000	0.0085
OTU329_Methanomassiliicoccus	0.00056	0.00000	0.00000	0.0018
OTU330_Firmicutes_unclassified	0.00056	0.00000	0.00000	0.0003
OTU333_Ruminococcaceae_unclassified	0.00036	0.00019	0.00000	0.0138
OTU337_Bacteroidetes_unclassified	0.00050	0.00000	0.00001	0.0249
OTU338_Prevotella	0.00040	0.00012	0.00000	0.0476
OTU340_Intestinimonas	0.00024	0.00025	0.00003	0.0221
OTU342_Lachnospiracea_incertae_sedis	0.00037	0.00013	0.00000	0.0137
OTU343_Prevotellaceae_unclassified	0.00050	0.00000	0.00000	0.0018
OTU344_Firmicutes_unclassified	0.00048	0.00000	0.00000	0.0345
OTU346_Bacteroidetes_unclassified	0.00048	0.00000	0.00000	0.0085
OTU348_Mannheimia	0.00045	0.00001	0.00000	0.0079
OTU349_Bacteroidetes_unclassified	0.00038	0.00008	0.00000	0.0021
OTU352_Bacteroidetes_unclassified	0.00040	0.00005	0.00000	0.0090
OTU353_Bacteroidetes_unclassified	0.00044	0.00000	0.00000	0.0345
OTU360_Bacteroidetes_unclassified	0.00000	0.00007	0.00036	0.0377
OTU363_Firmicutes_unclassified	0.00035	0.00000	0.00006	0.0034
OTU364_Ruminococcaceae_unclassified	0.00017	0.00000	0.00023	0.0181
OTU365_Neisseriaceae_unclassified	0.00038	0.00001	0.00001	0.0010
OTU366_Bacteroidetes_unclassified	0.00039	0.00000	0.00000	0.0082
OTU370_Clostridiales_unclassified	0.00039	0.00000	0.00000	0.0345
OTU371_Sphaerochaeta	0.00035	0.00003	0.00001	0.0063
OTU372_Bacteria_unclassified	0.00037	0.00001	0.00000	0.0217
OTU373_Clostridiales_unclassified	0.00023	0.00015	0.00000	0.0181
OTU382_Prevotellaceae_unclassified	0.00000	0.00000	0.00035	0.0345
OTU383_Bacteria_unclassified	0.00035	0.00000	0.00000	0.0345
OTU385_Moraxella	0.00033	0.00001	0.00000	0.0040
OTU387_Bacteroidetes_unclassified	0.00035	0.00000	0.00000	0.0003
OTU389_Bacteroidetes_unclassified	0.00034	0.00000	0.00000	0.0345
OTU391_Lachnospiracea_unclassified	0.00000	0.00022	0.00012	0.0233
OTU392_Bilophila	0.00033	0.00000	0.00000	0.0003
OTU393_Sphaerochaeta	0.00027	0.00006	0.00000	0.0089
OTU396_Proteobacteria_unclassified	0.00000	0.00001	0.00030	0.0061
OTU402_Firmicutes_unclassified	0.00030	0.00000	0.00000	0.0085
OTU403_Treponema	0.00028	0.00002	0.00000	0.0023
OTU406_Proteobacteria_unclassified	0.00030	0.00000	0.00000	0.0085
OTU411_Clostridia_unclassified	0.00028	0.00000	0.00000	0.0003
OTU412_Treponema	0.00028	0.00000	0.00000	0.0345
OTU413_Clostridium.XIVb	0.00023	0.00003	0.00001	0.0031

**Table S6. Cont.**

OTU415_Dorea	0.00000	0.00024	0.00003	0.0078
OTU416_Bacteroidetes_unclassified	0.00027	0.00000	0.00000	0.0085
OTU418_Bacteroidetes_unclassified	0.00027	0.00000	0.00000	0.0018
OTU421_Sphaerochaeta	0.00019	0.00008	0.00000	0.0045
OTU422_Porphyromonadaceae_unclassified	0.00027	0.00000	0.00000	0.0003
OTU430_Clostridiales_unclassified	0.00026	0.00000	0.00000	0.0018
OTU443_Subdivision5_bacteria_incertae_sedis	0.00023	0.00000	0.00000	0.0018
OTU447_Firmicutes_unclassified	0.00019	0.00000	0.00004	0.0037
OTU449_Alysella	0.00022	0.00000	0.00000	0.0018
OTU454_Bacteroidetes_unclassified	0.00021	0.00000	0.00000	0.0018
OTU459_Ruminococcaceae_unclassified	0.00021	0.00000	0.00000	0.0018
OTU462_Ruminococcaceae_unclassified	0.00001	0.00011	0.00009	0.0236
OTU464_Burkholderiales_unclassified	0.00000	0.00006	0.00015	0.0030
OTU472_Ruminococcaceae_unclassified	0.00020	0.00000	0.00000	0.0018
OTU477_Ruminococcaceae_unclassified	0.00017	0.00000	0.00002	0.0008
OTU479_Subdivision5_bacteria_incertae_sedis	0.00019	0.00000	0.00000	0.0017
OTU480_Alloprevotella	0.00019	0.00000	0.00000	0.0085
OTU481_Bacteroidetes_unclassified	0.00019	0.00000	0.00000	0.0016
OTU484_Kingella	0.00018	0.00000	0.00000	0.0085
OTU487_Firmicutes_unclassified	0.00018	0.00000	0.00000	0.0003
OTU489_Bacteria_unclassified	0.00017	0.00000	0.00000	0.0345
OTU499_Ruminococcaceae_unclassified	0.00017	0.00000	0.00000	0.0345
OTU500_Butyricimonas	0.00015	0.00001	0.00001	0.0266
OTU501_Bacteria_unclassified	0.00016	0.00000	0.00000	0.0016
OTU502_Moraxella	0.00016	0.00000	0.00000	0.0018
OTU505_Butyrivibrio	0.00014	0.00000	0.00001	0.0039
OTU506_Bacteria_unclassified	0.00015	0.00000	0.00000	0.0003
OTU509_Bacteroidales_unclassified	0.00015	0.00000	0.00000	0.0084
OTU517_Treponema	0.00015	0.00000	0.00000	0.0085
OTU518_Bacteroidales_unclassified	0.00013	0.00001	0.00000	0.0039
OTU522_Ruminococcaceae_unclassified	0.00014	0.00000	0.00000	0.0345
OTU529_Bacteria_unclassified	0.00012	0.00001	0.00000	0.0118
OTU531_Ruminococcaceae_unclassified	0.00011	0.00001	0.00001	0.0489
OTU532_Bacteroidetes_unclassified	0.00000	0.00000	0.00013	0.0342
OTU533_Ruminococcaceae_unclassified	0.00013	0.00000	0.00000	0.0345
OTU537_Sphaerochaeta	0.00013	0.00000	0.00000	0.0018
OTU539_Clostridiales_unclassified	0.00000	0.00004	0.00008	0.0044
OTU540_Bacteroidetes_unclassified	0.00012	0.00000	0.00001	0.0217
OTU541_Parabacteroides	0.00012	0.00000	0.00000	0.0345
OTU545_Clostridiales_unclassified	0.00012	0.00000	0.00000	0.0085
OTU546_Oligosphaera	0.00010	0.00002	0.00001	0.0343
OTU549_Alistipes	0.00012	0.00000	0.00000	0.0017
OTU553_Bacteria_unclassified	0.00012	0.00000	0.00000	0.0085
OTU554_Bacteroidales_unclassified	0.00010	0.00001	0.00000	0.0371
OTU556_Clostridiales_unclassified	0.00011	0.00001	0.00000	0.0249
OTU559_Ruminococcaceae_unclassified	0.00011	0.00000	0.00000	0.0085
OTU563_Oxalobacteraceae_unclassified	0.00011	0.00000	0.00000	0.0082
OTU566_Porphyromonadaceae_unclassified	0.00010	0.00000	0.00001	0.0046
OTU569_Clostridiales_unclassified	0.00010	0.00000	0.00001	0.0010

**Table S6. Cont.**

OTU576_	<i>Chryseobacterium</i>	0.00008	0.00001	0.00001	0.0241
OTU577_	<i>Bacteroidetes</i> _unclassified	0.00010	0.00000	0.00000	0.0345
OTU579_	<i>Ruminococcaceae</i> _unclassified	0.00009	0.00000	0.00000	0.0345
OTU597_	<i>Clostridiales</i> _unclassified	0.00008	0.00000	0.00000	0.0345
	<i>OTU598_Streptococcus</i>	0.00008	0.00000	0.00000	0.0345
OTU601_	<i>Ruminococcaceae</i> _unclassified	0.00008	0.00000	0.00000	0.0082
OTU603_	<i>Lachnospiraceae</i> _unclassified	0.00006	0.00001	0.00000	0.0101
OTU617_	<i>Bacteroidetes</i> _unclassified	0.00008	0.00000	0.00000	0.0017
OTU619_	<i>Pasteurellaceae</i> _unclassified	0.00007	0.00000	0.00001	0.0279
OTU624_	<i>Ruminococcaceae</i> _unclassified	0.00000	0.00000	0.00007	0.0342
	<i>OTU625_Bacteria</i> _unclassified	0.00007	0.00000	0.00000	0.0342
OTU626_	<i>Spirochaetales</i> _unclassified	0.00000	0.00000	0.00007	0.0345
OTU629_	<i>Neisseriaceae</i> _unclassified	0.00007	0.00000	0.00000	0.0085
OTU630_	<i>Subdivision5_bacteria</i> _incertae_sedis	0.00007	0.00000	0.00000	0.0345
	<i>OTU637_Porphyromonas</i>	0.00006	0.00000	0.00001	0.0055
OTU639_	<i>Lachnospiraceae</i> _unclassified	0.00000	0.00000	0.00007	0.0345
	<i>OTU658_Bacteria</i> _unclassified	0.00006	0.00000	0.00000	0.0082
	<i>OTU659_Meganema</i>	0.00004	0.00001	0.00001	0.0491
OTU663_	<i>Neisseriaceae</i> _unclassified	0.00006	0.00000	0.00000	0.0345
OTU678_	<i>Lachnospiraceae</i> _unclassified	0.00000	0.00001	0.00005	0.0281
	<i>OTU688_Moraxella</i>	0.00005	0.00000	0.00000	0.0345
OTU691_	<i>Bacteria</i> _unclassified	0.00005	0.00000	0.00000	0.0345
OTU705_	<i>Pasteurellaceae</i> _unclassified	0.00004	0.00000	0.00000	0.0334
OTU709_	<i>Cardiobacteriaceae</i> _unclassified	0.00004	0.00000	0.00000	0.0084
OTU720_	<i>Bacteroidetes</i> _unclassified	0.00004	0.00000	0.00000	0.0342
	<i>OTU729_Fibrobacter</i>	0.00003	0.00000	0.00000	0.0342
	<i>OTU732_Synergistes</i>	0.00003	0.00000	0.00000	0.0342
	<i>OTU767_Victivallis</i>	0.00003	0.00000	0.00000	0.0342
OTU768_	<i>Clostridiales</i> _unclassified	0.00000	0.00000	0.00003	0.0342
	<i>OTU770_Streptococcus</i>	0.00003	0.00000	0.00000	0.0342
	<i>OTU771_Peptostreptococcus</i>	0.00003	0.00000	0.00000	0.0342
OTU779_	<i>Coriobacteriaceae</i> _unclassified	0.00003	0.00000	0.00000	0.0078
	<i>OTU782_Brevundimonas</i>	0.00003	0.00000	0.00000	0.0078
	<i>OTU783_Porphyromonas</i>	0.00003	0.00000	0.00000	0.0078
	<i>OTU807_Corynebacterium</i>	0.00002	0.00000	0.00000	0.0334
OTU813_	<i>Lachnospiraceae</i> _unclassified	0.00002	0.00000	0.00000	0.0334

**Table S7** the top 50 features selected of RandomForest classification model based on MDA

Order based on MDA	MRO-MRC-MCA	MRO-MRC	MRO-MCA	MRC-MCA
1	OTU93_Treponema	OTU365_Neisseriaceae_unclassified	OTU216_Ruminococcaceae_unclassified	OTU74_Treponema
2	OTU87_Butyrvibrio	OTU296_Clostridiales_unclassified	OTU464_Burkholderiales_unclassified	OTU104_Prevotella
3	OTU539_Clostridiales_unclassified	OTU5_Sphingobacteriacae_unclassified	OTU60_Prevotella	OTU396_Proteobacteria_unclassified
4	OTU330_Firmicutes_unclassified	OTU148_Lachnospiracea_e_unclassified	OTU22_Succinilasticum	OTU539_Clostridiales_unclassified
5	OTU313_Methanomassiliicoccus	OTU290_Bacteroidetes_unclassified	OTU422_Porphyromonadaceae_unclassified	OTU87_Butyrvibrio
6	OTU83_Bacteroidales_unclassified	OTU18_Prevotella	OTU39_Ruminococcacea_e_unclassified	OTU83_Bacteroidales_unclassified
7	OTU89_Bacteroidetes_unclassified	OTU111_Methanomassiliicoccus	OTU94_Clostridiales_unclassified	OTU42_Prevotella
8	OTU396_Proteobacteria_unclassified	OTU411_Clostridia_unclassified	OTU178_Bacteroides	OTU93_Treponema
9	OTU75_Ruminococcacea_e_unclassified	OTU569_Clostridiales_unclassified	OTU147_Bacteroidales_unclassified	OTU221_Pseudobutyrivibrio
10	OTU24_Cloacibacillus	OTU119_Prevotella	OTU290_Bacteroidetes_unclassified	OTU110_Prevotellaceae_unclassified
11	OTU154_Methanomassiliicoccus	OTU487_Firmicutes_unclassified	OTU349_Bacteroidetes_unclassified	OTU599_Spartobacteria_unclassified
12	OTU387_Bacteroidetes_unclassified	OTU447_Firmicutes_unclassified	OTU539_Clostridiales_unclassified	OTU100_Prevotellaceae_unclassified
13	OTU217_Bacteroidetes_unclassified	OTU281_Bacteroidetes_unclassified	OTU55_Sphaerochaeta	OTU163_Prevotellaceae_unclassified
14	OTU104_Prevotella	OTU422_Porphyromonadaceae_unclassified	OTU154_Methanomassiliicoccus	OTU54_Prevotella
15	OTU422_Porphyromonadaceae_unclassified	OTU154_Methanomassiliicoccus	OTU330_Firmicutes_unclassified	OTU432_Lachnospiracea_unclassified
16	OTU74_Treponema	OTU217_Bacteroidetes_unclassified	OTU208_Bacteria_unclassified	OTU88_Treponema
17	OTU178_Bacteroides	OTU79_Neisseriaceae_unclassified	OTU313_Methanomassiliicoccus	OTU67_Treponema
18	OTU5_Sphingobacteriacae_unclassified	OTU24_Cloacibacillus	OTU89_Bacteroidetes_unclassified	OTU643_Neisseria
19	OTU290_Bacteroidetes_unclassified	OTU208_Bacteria_unclassified	OTU411_Clostridia_unclassified	OTU177_Campylobacter
20	OTU55_Sphaerochaeta	OTU114_Megasphaera	OTU24_Cloacibacillus	OTU145_Ruminococcacea_unclassified
21	OTU39_Ruminococcacea_e_unclassified	OTU506_Bacteria_unclassified	OTU413_Clostridium.XI_Vb	OTU205_Firmicutes_unclassified
22	OTU90_Bacteroidetes_unclassified	OTU330_Firmicutes_unclassified	OTU296_Clostridiales_unclassified	OTU273_Prevotella
23	OTU94_Clostridiales_unclassified	OTU75_Ruminococcacea_e_unclassified	OTU403_Treponema	OTU15_Prevotellaceae_unclassified

**Table S7. Cont.**

24	OTU365_Neisseriaceae_u nclassified	OTU94_Clostridiales_u nclassified	OTU266_Porphyromonad aceae_unclassified	OTU314_Blautia
25	OTU411_Clostridia_uncl assified	OTU313_Methanomassi liicoccus	OTU298_Pyramidobacter	OTU48_Treponema
26	OTU296_Clostridiales_u nclassified	OTU387_Bacteroidetes_ unclassified	OTU5_Sphingobacteriace ae_unclassified	OTU591_Atopobium
27	OTU487_Firmicutes_unc lassified	OTU147_Bacteroidales_ unclassified	OTU281_Bacteroidetes_u nclassified	OTU415_Dorea
28	OTU147_Bacteroidales_u nclassified	OTU178_Bacteroides	OTU1_Sphingobacteriace ae_unclassified	OTU123_Prevotella
29	OTU99_Elusimicrobium	OTU139_Bacteroidetes_ unclassified	OTU151_Ruminococcace ae_unclassified	OTU52_Bacteria_une nclassified
30	OTU392_Bilophila	OTU477_Ruminococcac eae_unclassified	OTU111_Methanomassili coccus	OTU171_Olsenella
31	OTU506_Bacteria_une nclassified	OTU93_Treponema	OTU119_Prevotella	OTU143_Fibrobacter
32	OTU169_Bacteroidetes_u nclassified	OTU363_Firmicutes_une nclassified	OTU217_Bacteroidetes_u nclassified	OTU6_Prevotella
33	OTU119_Prevotella	OTU39_Ruminococcace ae_unclassified	OTU34_Ruminococcus	OTU611_Bacteria_une nclassified
34	OTU279_Clostridiales_u nclassified	OTU169_Bacteroidetes_ unclassified	OTU365_Neisseriaceae_u nclassified	OTU115_Fibrobacter
35	OTU139_Bacteroidetes_u nclassified	OTU62_Prevotellaceae_ unclassified	OTU387_Bacteroidetes_u nclassified	OTU165_Prevotellace ae_unclassified
36	OTU221_Pseudobutyryvi brio	OTU279_Clostridiales_ unclassified	OTU83_Bacteroidales_u nclassified	OTU29_Prevotella
37	OTU208_Bacteria_une nclassified	OTU266_Porphyromona daceae_unclassified	OTU392_Bilophila	OTU96_Alloprevotell a
38	OTU266_Porphyromonad aceae_unclassified	OTU33_Bacteroidetes_u nclassified	OTU6_Prevotella	OTU86_Pyramidobact er
39	OTU33_Bacteroidetes_u nclassified	OTU392_Bilophila	OTU219_Bacteroidetes_u nclassified	OTU91_Prevotellacea e_unclassified
40	OTU245_Clostridiales_u nclassified	OTU89_Bacteroidetes_u nclassified	OTU33_Bacteroidetes_u nclassified	OTU140_Anærovibri o
41	OTU110_Prevotellaceae_ unclassified	OTU86_Pyramidobacter	OTU75_Ruminococcaceae _unclassified	OTU768_Clostridiales _unclassified
42	OTU111_Methanomassili coccus	OTU99_Elusimicrobium	OTU192_Methanimicroco ccus	OTU698_Parasutterel la
43	OTU281_Bacteroidetes_u nclassified	OTU245_Clostridiales_ unclassified	OTU190_Sphaerochaeta	OTU313_Methanoma ssiliicoccus
44	OTU192_Methanimicroco ccus	OTU55_Sphaerochaeta	OTU421_Sphaerochaeta	OTU626_Spirochaetal es_unclassified
45	OTU42_Prevotella	OTU90_Bacteroidetes_u nclassified	OTU13_Prevotella	OTU78_Bacteroidales _unclassified
46	OTU79_Neisseriaceae_u nclassified	OTU192_Methanimicro coccus	OTU115_Fibrobacter	OTU524_Lachnospira ceae_unclassified
47	OTU477_Ruminococcace ae_unclassified	OTU138_Prevotella	OTU168_Methanomicrob ium	OTU464_Burkholderi ales_unclassified
48	OTU6_Prevotella	OTU168_Methanomicro bium	OTU487_Firmicutes_une nclassified	OTU66_Treponema

**Table S7. Cont.**

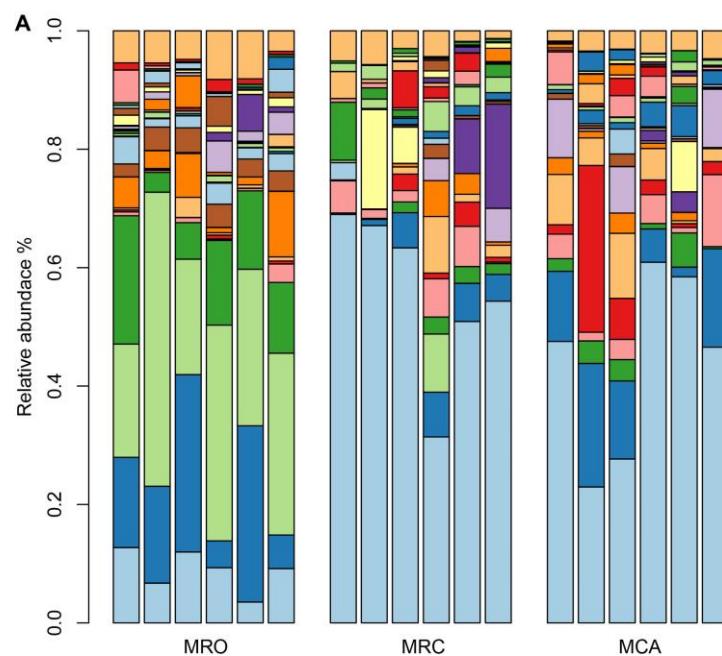
49	OTU60_Prevotella	OTU60_Prevotella	OTU506_Bacteria_unclassified	OTU596_Ruminococcaceae_unclassified
50	OTU158_Clostridiales_unclassified	OTU186_Prevotella	OTU40_Bacteroidetes_unclassified	OTU382_Prevotellaceae_unclassified

**Table S8.** The prediction accuracy of Random Forest regression model

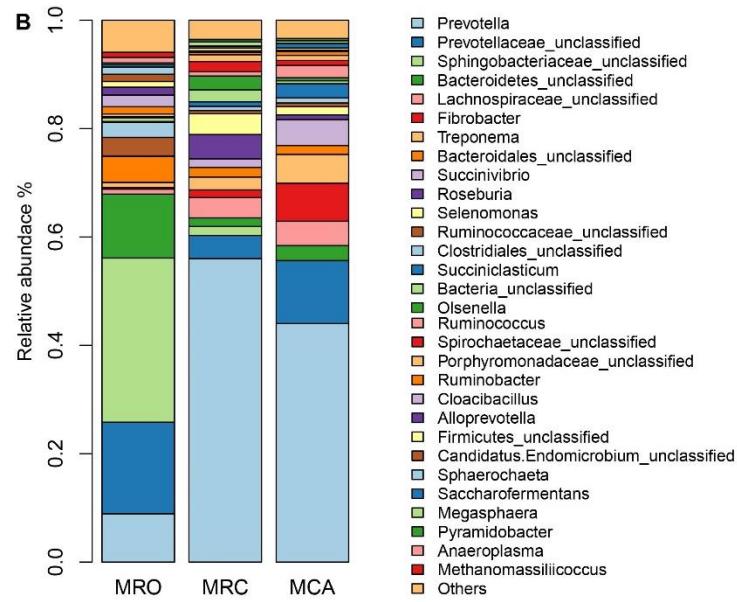
Items	Prediction accuracy (%)
CP	73.01
NDF	73.79
NFC	75.81
acetate	61.40
propionate	40.95
butyrate	57.03
valerate	73.05
Total VFA	70.06
Slaughter weight	69.50

The Random Forest regression model were used to select the rumen bacteria that were important for intake of major nutrient (CP, NDF and NFC). The model was run in R software using randomForest package (v 4.6-14) with 10000 ntrees. The percent variance explained was reported for the estimation of accuracy of regression model. CP: Crude protein average daily intake; NDF: Neutral detergent fibers average daily intake; NFC: Non-fibrous carbohydrates average daily intake, Total VFA: Total volatile fatty acids.

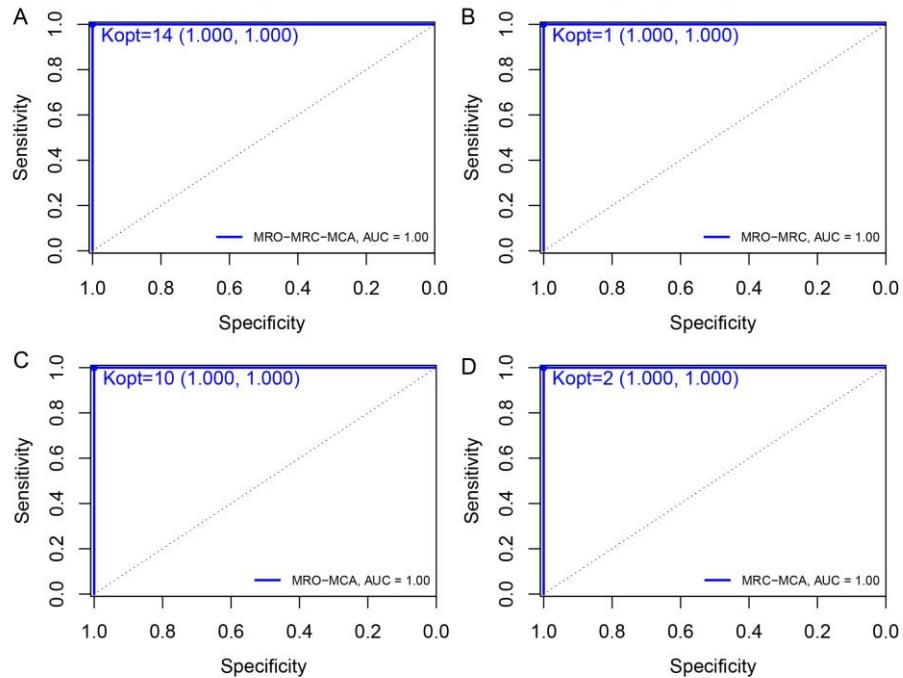
## Supplementary Figures



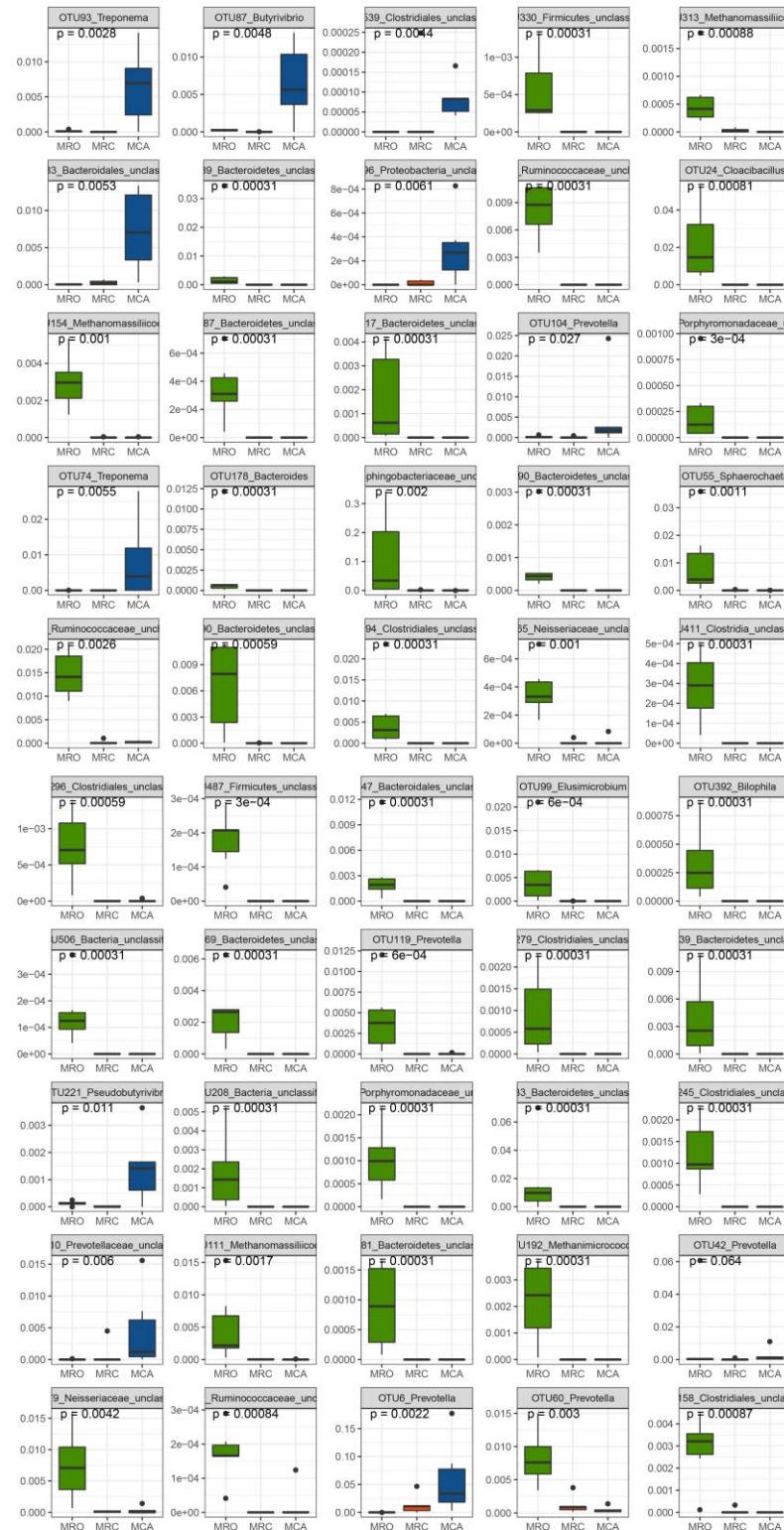
**Figure S1. Cont.**



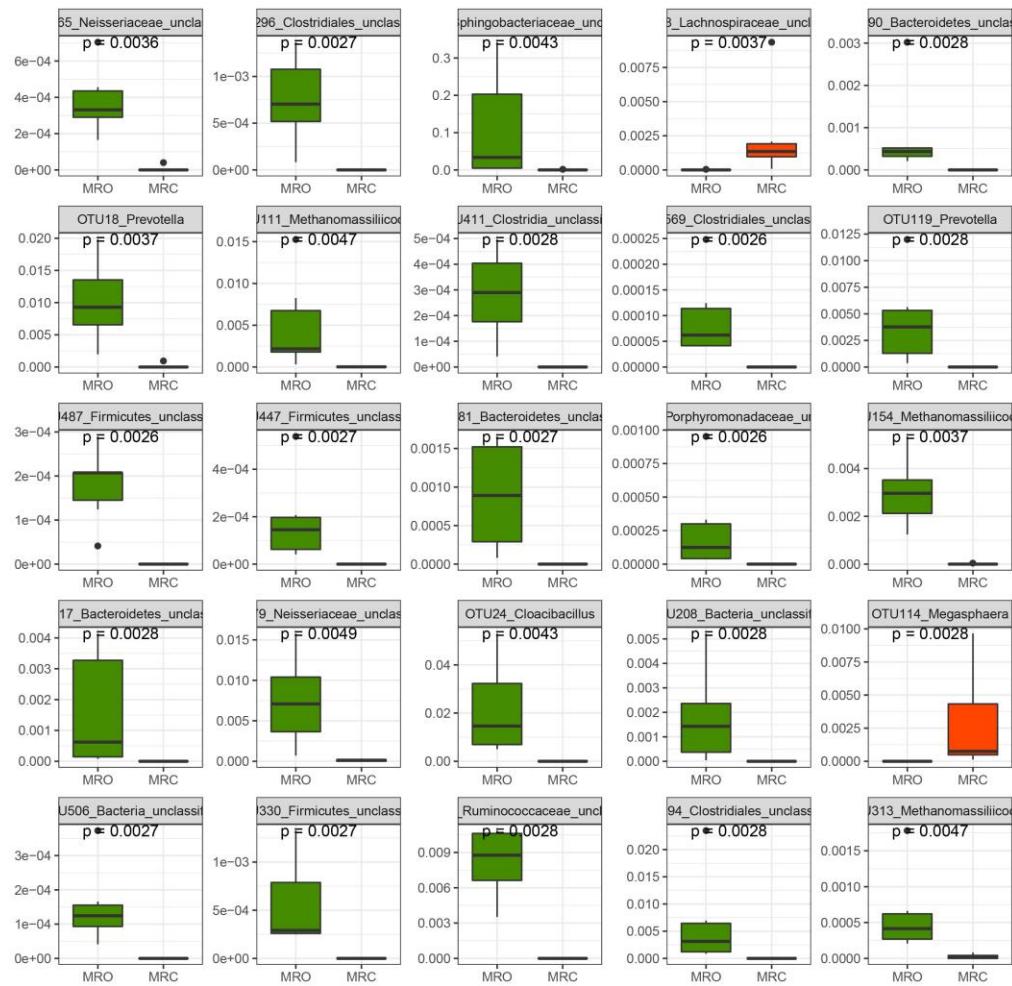
**Figure S1.** The rumen microbiome across three groups at genus level. Each bar shows the relative abundance of individual (A) or average (B) samples collected at MRO, MRC and MCA.



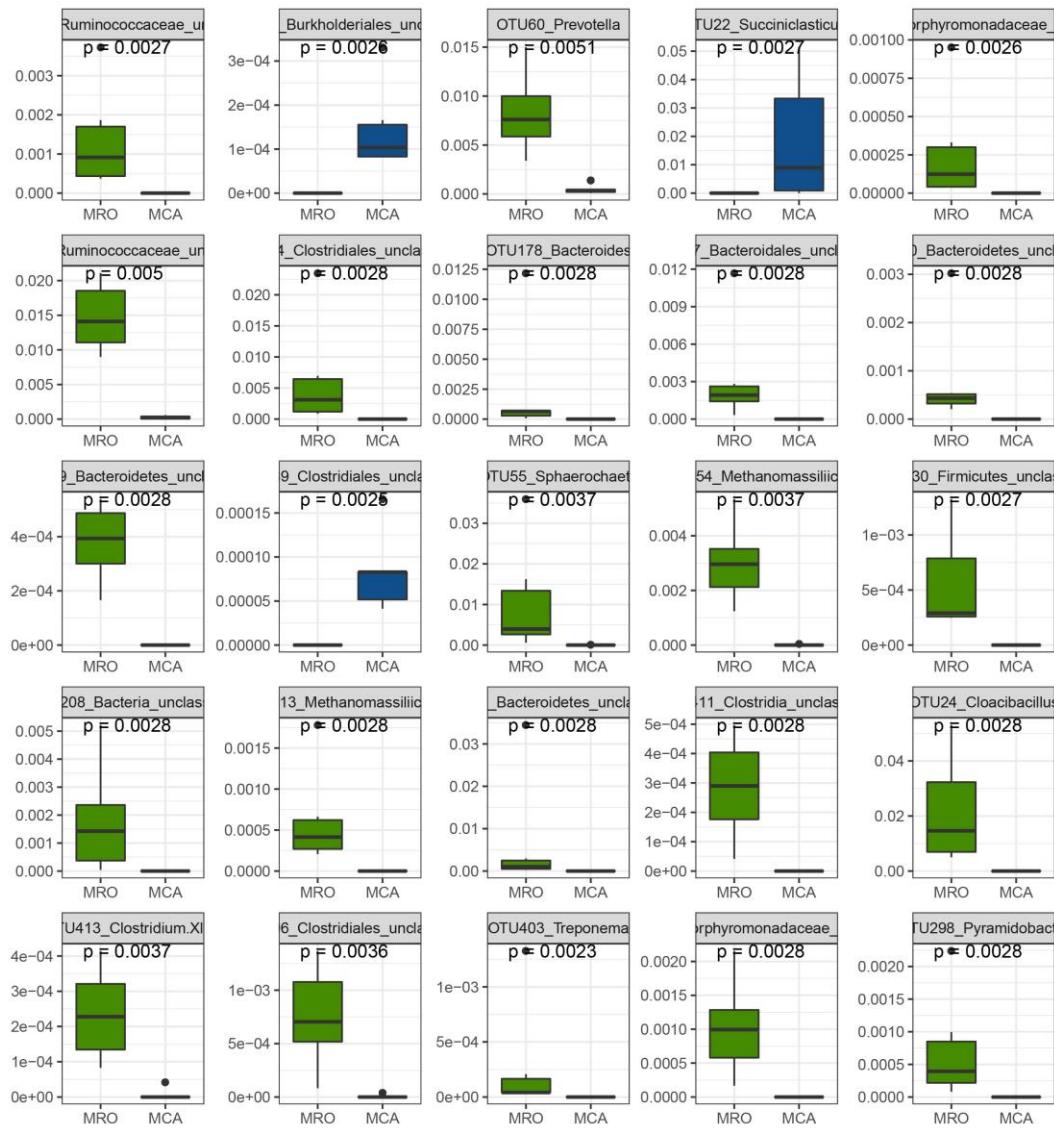
**Figure S2.** AUC curve of RandomForest classification model for differentiating MRO, MRC and MCA based on mean decrease accuracy: A: three groups; B: MRO vs MRC; C: MRO vs MCA; D: MRC vs MCA. The 'Kopt' shows the number of optimal variables fitted the AUCRF model. The values in parentheses are (specificity, sensitivity).



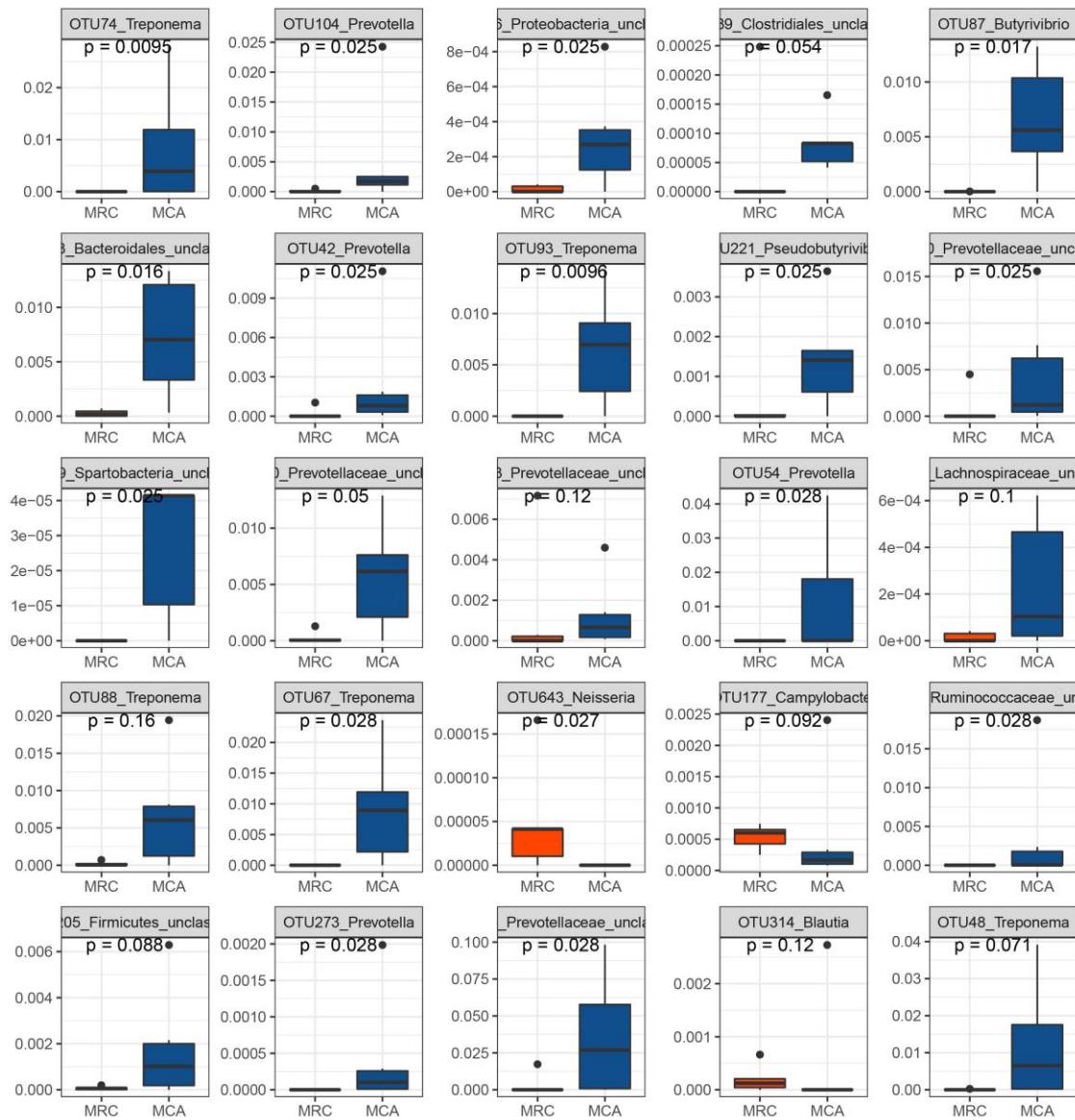
**Figure S3.** Top 50 features boxplots identified by AUCRF that differentiate MRO, MRC and MCA. The *p* values were calculated by using Kruskal–Wallis test. MRO = milk replacer, MRC = milk replacer + concentrate, MCA = milk replacer + concentrate + alfalfa.



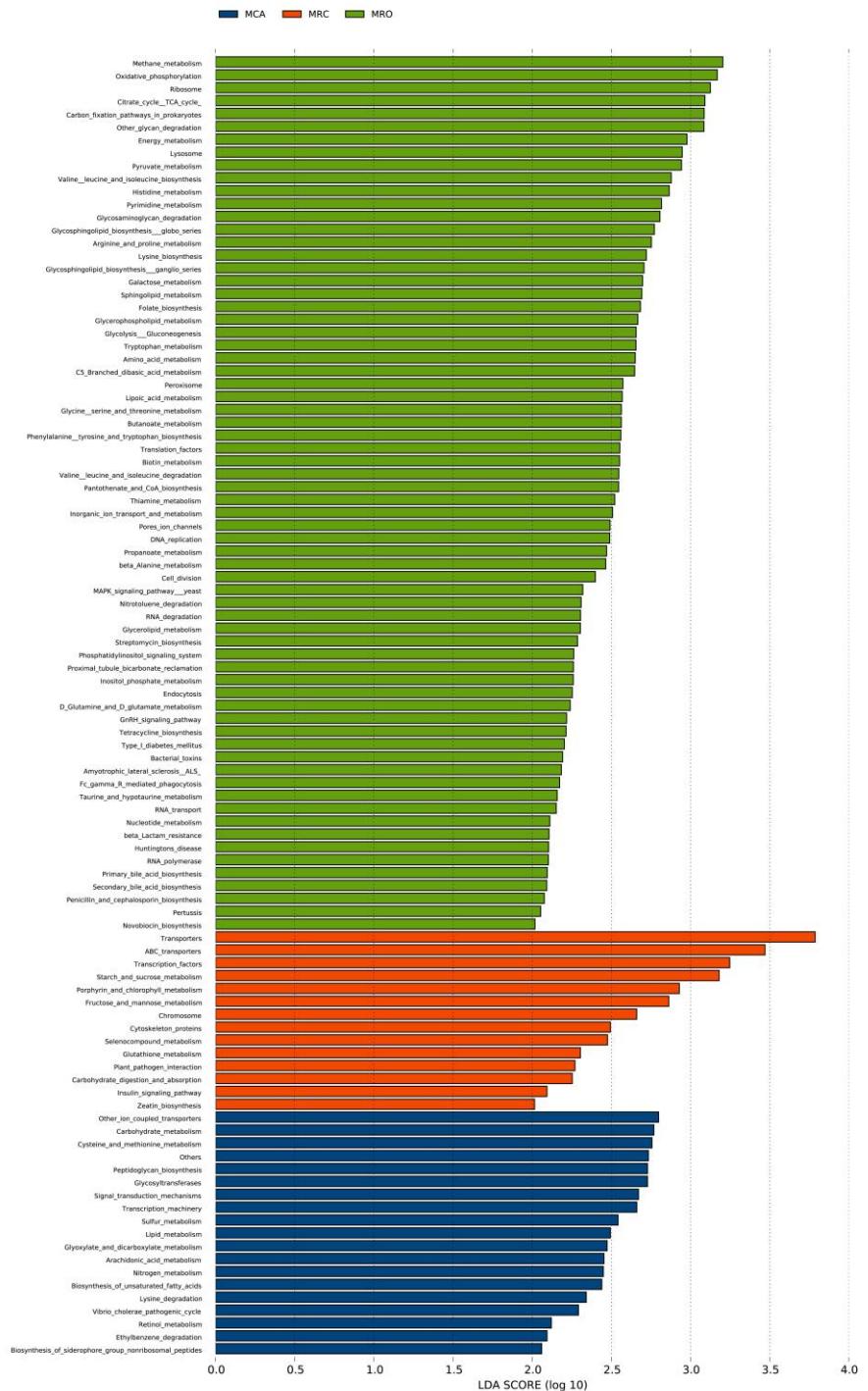
**Figure S4.** Top 25 predictors of pairwise AUCRF for differentiating MRO-MRC. The *p* values were calculated by using Kruskal-Wallis test. MRO = milk replacer, MRC = milk replacer + concentrate.



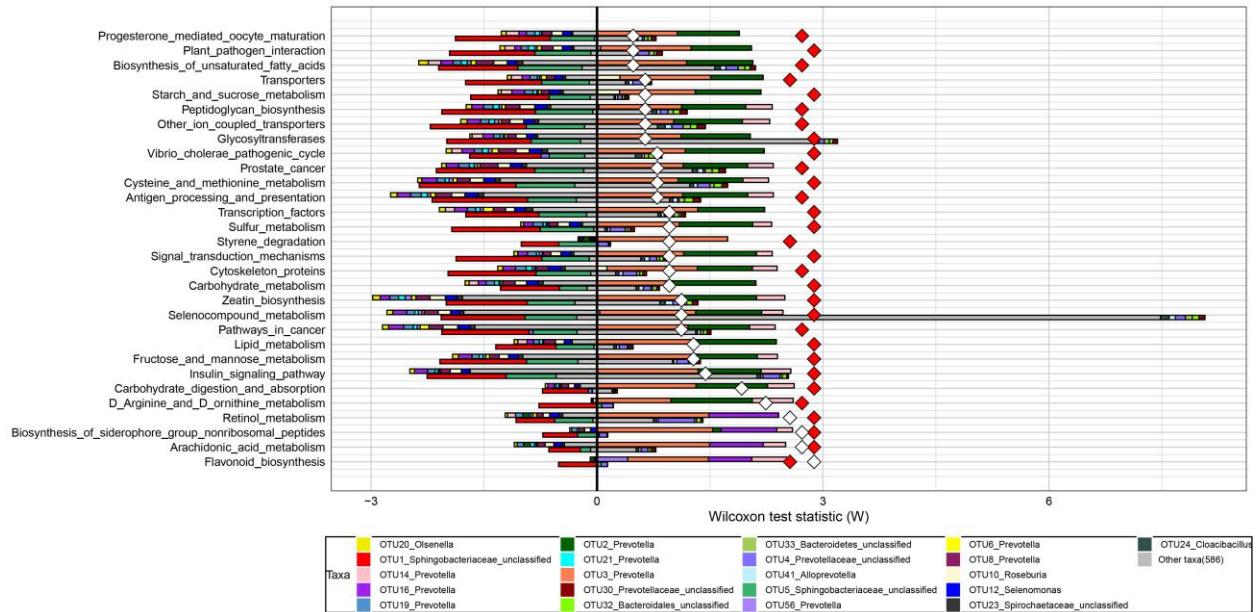
**Figure S5.** Top 25 predictors of pairwise AUCRF for differentiating MRO and MCA. The  $p$  values were calculated by using Kruskal–Wallis test. MRO = milk replacer, MCA = milk replacer + concentrate + alfalfa.



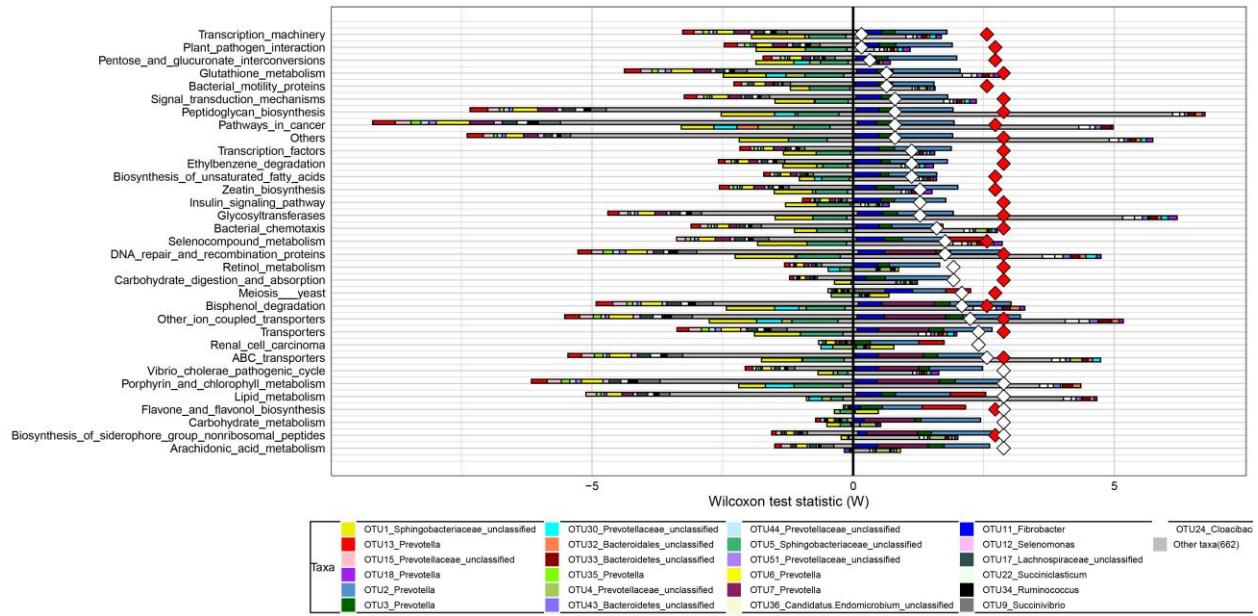
**Figure S6.** Top 25 predictors of pairwise AUCRF for differentiating MRC-MCA. The *p* values were calculated by using Kruskal-Wallis test. MRC = milk replacer + concentrate, MCA = milk replacer + concentrate + alfalfa.



**Figure S7.** Predictive function analysis (levels 3 PICRUSt)



**Figure S8.** Comparing taxon-level contribution profiles of functional shifts in MRC rumen samples by FishTaco. Taxon-level shift contribution profiles for some case-associated (MRC case, MRO control) functional modules by FishTaco. The horizontal axis represents rank and statistic scores, and the vertical axis represents related pathways. For each functional pathway, the bar on the top-right of Y axis represents case-associated bacteria driving the enrichment in the functional module; the bar on the top-left of Y axis indicates case-associated bacteria attenuating functional shift; the bar on the bottom-right of Y axis represents bacteria depleted in control driving functional shift; the bar on the bottom-left of Y axis shows bacteria depleted in control attenuating functional shift. White diamonds represent bacterial-based functional shift scores. FishTaco:Functional Shifts' Taxonomic Contributors; MRO = milk replacer; MRC = milk replacer + concentrate



**Figure S9.** Comparing taxon-level contribution profiles of functional shifts in MCA rumen samples by FishTaco. Taxon-level shift contribution profiles for some case-associated (MCA case, MRO control) functional modules by Fish Taco. The horizontal axis represents rank and statistic scores, and the vertical axis represents related pathways. For each functional pathway, the bar on the top-right of Y axis represents case-associated bacteria driving the enrichment in the functional module; the bar on the top-left of Y axis indicates case-associated bacteria attenuating functional shift; the bar on the bottom-right of Y axis represents bacteria depleted in control driving functional shift; the bar on the bottom-left of Y axis shows bacteria depleted in control attenuating functional shift. White diamonds represent bacterial-based functional shift scores. MRO = milk replacer; MCA = milk replacer + concentrate + alfalfa; Fish Taco:Functional Shifts' Taxonomic Contributors;

## **Supplemental File legends**

File S1: Pearson correlation between top 50 species selected by RandomForest regression and major nutrient intake of goat kids (sheet ‘ADFI’) and fermentation parameters and pre-slaughter live weight of goat kids (sheet ‘VFA’). We used heatmap color to label the pearson coefficients and pvalue. Also, the NCBI Blast results were shown in the table.

File S2: OTUs taxonomy, their NCBI Blast results and sequences

## **Supplementary References**

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