

**Table S2.** Milk yield, milk composition and somatic cell count of the 33 cows in the 90th, 180th and 270th day after lactation (Mean  $\pm$  SD).

Lactation days	90 d	180 d	270 d	<i>p-value</i>
Milk yield (kg)	34.40 $\pm$ 1.61 <sup>a</sup>	31.12 $\pm$ 1.49 <sup>b</sup>	26.46 $\pm$ 1.15 <sup>c</sup>	<0.05
Milk protein (g/100g)	3.03 $\pm$ 0.09 <sup>c</sup>	3.26 $\pm$ 0.08 <sup>b</sup>	3.56 $\pm$ 0.10 <sup>a</sup>	<0.05
Milk protein (g/day)	1043.18 $\pm$ 28.37	1015.26 $\pm$ 25.91	943.47 $\pm$ 24.32	>0.05
Milk fat (g/100g)	3.22 $\pm$ 0.06 <sup>c</sup>	3.58 $\pm$ 0.08 <sup>b</sup>	3.97 $\pm$ 0.07 <sup>a</sup>	<0.05
Milk fat (g/day)	1106.98 $\pm$ 21.15	1115.32 $\pm$ 23.71	1049.86 $\pm$ 19.25	>0.05
Lactose (g/100g)	5.26 $\pm$ 0.10 <sup>a</sup>	4.96 $\pm$ 0.10 <sup>b</sup>	4.66 $\pm$ 0.08 <sup>c</sup>	<0.05
Lactose (g/day)	1808.62 $\pm$ 29.64	1544.27 $\pm$ 27.25	1235.16 $\pm$ 20.73	<0.05
Somatic cell count (SCC) (10 <sup>4</sup> /mL)	24.03	31.79	46.98	-
Somatic cell score (SCS)	4.26 $\pm$ 0.01 <sup>c</sup>	4.67 $\pm$ 0.02 <sup>b</sup>	5.23 $\pm$ 0.01 <sup>a</sup>	<0.05

Note: <sup>a, b, c</sup> =  $p < 0.05$  in the row (lactation days effect). The original data for SCC was transformed using  $SCS = \log_2 (SCC / 100,000) + 3$  for variance analysis reported as back-transformed