

# Effect of milk sources on whey protein and fractions of casein content

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## ABSTRACT:

**Aim:** Milk from Cow, Buffalo and goat ~~were-was~~ used for the study of isolation and fractionation of casein and whey proteins. Buffalo milk and goat milk were subjected to ~~physico-chemical~~ physicochemical attribute studies and a detailed protein profile namely total protein, casein and whey protein along with its various fractions of casein viz;  $\alpha$ ,  $\beta$  and  $\kappa$ -casein. Casein fractions separated were  $\alpha$ -,  $\beta$ - and  $\kappa$  casein by urea fractionation. The aim of this study was to compare various casein fractions isolated from ~~cow's cows~~, Buffalo and Goat milk. ~~The~~ The method of separating casein into its fractions is based on the solubility of the individual components in urea ~~solution, the solution~~ the solution. The separation of casein fractions was conducted by changing the urea concentration in acid media and the yield of fractions and total protein percentages were calculated. Buffalo and goat milks have comparatively higher total protein and whey protein content as compared to cow milk. ~~Maximum~~ whey proteins were found in ~~the~~ goat milk (20.58 %) whereas cow milk had ~~the lowest whey protein~~ low lowest contents (19.29 %). Among casein fractions,  $\alpha$  fraction (16.64%) was found maximum in Buffalo milk followed by cow (14.92 %) and goat milks (5.42 %). ~~Goat~~ The goat milk sample showed ~~the~~ highest  $\beta$  casein (17.81 %) ~~and-whereas, the~~ lowest concentration of  $\beta$  casein was found in cow milk (9.38%).

**Comment [G1]:** Cow milk was not fractionated?

**Comment [G2]:** Revise the 2<sup>nd</sup> sentence as 'Different protein was isolated from cow, buffalo and goat milk such as total protein, casein and whey protein. Furthermore, various fractions of casein such as  $\alpha$ -,  $\beta$ - and  $\kappa$  casein was isolated by urea fractionation'.

**Study Design:** A significant contribution to ~~the~~ total milk production of India comes from buffalo milk and goat milk. ~~In spite of~~ Despite that, Buffalo milk and goat milk are not being utilized for many products ~~in view because~~ of their inherent problems associated in ~~the~~ production of ~~products~~.

**Comment [G3]:** Either remove "study design" section or merge it with methodology section.

**Place and Duration of Study:** Karnataka Veterinary Animal and Fisheries Sciences University (KVAFSU), Dairy Science College, Hebbal, Bangalore Karnataka, ~~India~~

**Comment [G4]:** Write the name of the 'products'.

**Methodology:** The Goat milk samples were collected from Sinchana Goat and ~~S~~sheep farm, Marenahalli village (Bengaluru Rural Dist) and Buffalo milk was obtained from ~~C~~ountry Delight Pvt. Ltd., J. P. Nagar, Bengaluru, Karnataka. Cow milk used in this investigation was collected from SEDP, Dairy Science College, Hebbal, Bengaluru. Commercially available pure Neutrase enzyme was purchased from DSM Nutritional Products India Pvt. Ltd, Bangalore. All the glassware used ~~were-was~~ soaked in chromic acid solution, repeatedly washed with water, rinsed with distilled water and dried before use. For microbiological analysis dried test tubes, conical ~~flask~~ flasks, pipettes were cotton plugged and sterilized in ~~a~~ hot air oven. The chemicals and reagents used in this study were mainly of analytical grade procured from Prince Laboratory Company Pvt. ~~L~~imited, Bangalore. The protein molecular weight markers ~~were~~ used for the electrophoretic study were procured from Bangalore Genei Pvt. Ltd.

**Comment [G5]:** Remove Duration of study as this a one-time study done from collected milk samples.

**Results:** The sources of protein had ~~a~~ significant influence on ~~the~~ total casein and whey ~~proteins~~ protein content of different species. ~~Highest~~ The highest quantity of total caseins (34.30g/l) and whey protein (8.87 g/l) were noted in buffalo milk than ~~in~~ cow (28.52 g/l) and Goat milk (28.45 g/l). Total protein, casein and whey protein contents were greatly affected by the source of milk obtained.

39 **Conclusion:** Thus this investigation has shown that both buffalo and goat milk—milk could  
40 beuninterruptedlyundoubtedly used in the preparation of *Rasagulla*, without ~~comprismising~~compromising  
41 any of thequality characteristics, which means that the ~~utilization share of buffalo and goat~~  
42 ~~milkcouldbeenhanced besides adding onto thebetternutritional profile~~share of the buffalo and goat milk  
43 can be increased in the production of various milk products without affecting the nutritional profile of that  
44 product.

45 **Recommendation:** *Rasagulla* will be consumed universally by all age groups globally. Thus, ~~the~~  
46 consumption of *Rasagulla* helps in providing overall nutritional ~~requirement~~requirements. However, the study  
47 has been conducted on a pilot scale. Moreover, commercial production may ~~necessitates~~ necessitates huge  
48 cost on enzymatic modification of proteins and separation of peptides for value addition.

49 **Keywords:** *Rasagulla*; *Chhana*; *Buffalo milk*; *Goat milk*; *Milk protein*; *Whey Protein* and *Casein*

## 50 INTRODUCTION

51 Milk production in India ~~increased~~reached to 221.0 million tonnes in the year 2021-22 with a growth rate of  
52 6.38 per cent per annum. The share of milk contribution by Cow, Buffalo and Goat to India's milk  
53 production is 51.85 per cent, 44.84 per cent and 2.93 percent, respectively. Among the species,  
54 indigenous Buffaloes have ~~the~~ highest share of milk production in India with 32.13 per cent in the fiscal  
55 year 2022, followed by cross breed cows accounting for over 29.31 per cent of the total milk production  
56 in the country [3]. ~~They are of great economic importance in India in production of milk and milk~~  
57 ~~products.~~ The richness of buffalo milk makes it highly suitable for processing  
58 if proper processing technologies are exploited.

59 Buffalo milk, like cow's milk, can be utilized for the manufacturing of a wide variety of dairy products such  
60 as cream, butter, butter oil (clarified butter or ghee), UHT cream, ice cream, yoghurt and some cheeses  
61 without changing the equipment or  
62 processing strategies. However, processing technology and equipment designed for manufacturing  
63 cow milk product ~~manufacture~~ are often not adequately suitable for ~~the~~  
64 production of certain dairy products using Buffalo milk due to the differences in compositional, physico-  
65 chemical, and  
66 functional properties. ~~Buffalo milk compositional variations greatly affect the processing and yield of certain dair~~  
67 ~~y products.~~ The variation in the composition of buffalo milk as compared to cow milk affects the  
68 processing and yield of various dairy products, as the machineries are standardized for cow  
69 milk. Out of total milk produced in India more than 50 percent of milk is being utilized for the preparation of dairy  
70 products.

**Comment [G6]:** Remove recommendation from abstract and merge it with the conclusion section in the detailed manuscript.

**Comment [mt7]:** Provide reference

**Comment [mt8]:** Provide reference

Buffalo milk is often not considered as an ideal fluid for the manufacture of several types of cheeses, milk powders, evaporated & condensed milk, infant formulae and *Chhana-based Chhana-based* dairysweets, due to the higher concentration of calcium, protein, fat and larger size of casein micelles, which produces undesirable quality, attributed thus causing and causes textural defects in dairy products. Therefore, the conventional processing technologies are often unsuitable and cannot be applied directly for the production of *chhana* and *chhana-based* sweets out of buffalo milk. Pattern of milk consumption in India indicates that about 6 percent of milk is converted into *Chhana* and *Chhana-based Chhana-based* products [6].

Generally, cow milk is preferred for *chhana* making as it produces soft body and smooth texture product which is highly suitable for the production of chhana-based chhana-based sweets, particularly *rasagulla*. However, buffalo milk because of many inherent differences in physico-chemical make up as compared to cow milk, poses many technological problems in the preparation of good quality *chhana* and *rasagulla*. Hence suitable modifications are required in buffalo milk in order to manipulate the composition which is similar to cow milk processing of buffalo milk into products needs suitable modification with respect to composition similar to that of cow milk, thus which ultimately makes it suitable to produce *chhana* and *chhana-based chhana-based* sweets particularly *rasagulla*.

Goat milk differs from cow or buffalo milk in having better digestibility, alkalinity, buffering capacity and certain therapeutic values in medicine and human nutrition. Goat milk is considered to be an ideal food for people suffering from cow milk allergies and other gastro-intestinal/gastrointestinal ailments. Feeding goat milk to infants provides significantly higher digestibility as compared to cow milk. The children fed on goat milk surpassed those fed on cow milk in weight gain, skeletal mineralization and blood serum content of vitamin A, calcium, thiamin, riboflavin, niacin and hemoglobin [7].

The protein fractions such as  $\alpha$ -casein,  $\beta$ -casein, k-casein,  $\beta$ -lactoglobulin and  $\alpha$ -lactalbumin are similar in concentration in goat milk and cow milk. Goat milk proteins are similar to the cow milk proteins — fractions — such — as —  $\alpha$ -casein,  $\beta$ -casein, k-casein,  $\beta$ -lactoglobulin,  $\alpha$ -lactalbumin, but they differ widely in genetic polymorphisms and their frequencies in the goat population. Peptides formed from the enzymatic cleavage of caseins of goat milk have greater advantages than those from cow milk casein. Goat milk fat differs in contents of fatty acids profile significantly from average cow milk fat. Goat milk has a higher content of monounsaturated fatty acids, polyunsaturated/polyunsaturated fatty acids, medium chain fatty acids, than cow milk which are proven to be beneficial for cardiovascular disorders.

## MATERIALS AND METHODS

The materials used and methods followed in this investigation for production of protein hydrolysates and bioactive peptides from Buffalo milk and Goat milk. The Goat milk samples were collected from Sinchana Goat and sheep farm, Marenahalli village (Bengaluru Rural Dist) and Buffalo milk was obtained from Cecountry Delight Pvt. Ltd., J. P. Nagar, Bengaluru, Karnataka. Cow milk used in this investigation was collected from SEDP, Dairy Science College, Hebbal, Bangalore. Commercially available pure Neutrase enzyme was purchased from DSM Nutritional Products India Pvt. Ltd, Bangalore. All the glassware used were soaked in chromic acid solution, repeatedly washed with water, rinsed

Comment [mt9]: Provide reference

Comment [mt10]: Provide references for all the statements given in the last para of introduction.

with distilled water and dried before use. For microbiological analysis dried test tubes, conical ~~flask~~flasks, pipettes were cotton plugged and sterilized in hot air oven. The chemicals and reagents used in this study were mainly of analytical grade procured from Prince Laboratory Company Pvt. Limited, Bangalore. The protein molecular weight markers ~~were~~ used for the ~~elcterophoretic~~ ~~electrophoretic~~ study ~~were~~ ~~was~~ procured from Bangalore Genei Pvt Ltd. All the necessary reagents were prepared in distilled or double glass distilled water for all analytical purposes and freshly prepared reagents were used in the study. Standard procedures (IS 1479) 2001 were followed for analysis ~~milk~~.

#### **Isolation Preparation of whole casein and whey proteins**

Whole casein and whey proteins were ~~isolated~~ ~~prepared~~ by coagulation of buffalo and goatskin milk separately at pH 4.6 using 10 per cent dilute hydrochloric acid. ~~Then the suspension was~~ ~~cooled~~ ~~the~~ ~~suspension~~ ~~down~~ to room temperature and ~~was~~ ~~leave~~ ~~left~~ ~~it~~ for 5 min. ~~Afterwards, it was~~ ~~filtered~~ through muslin cloth and casein precipitate was washed 2 to 3 times with cold distilled water to remove traces of acid. The resultant product was freeze dried ~~as per the method~~ [5]. Whey proteins were separated by precipitation and filtration of whey. The protein was estimated by Kjeldahl Method.

**Comment [mt11]:** Either change the description of the first para of the material method or remove the methodology section from the abstract, as both of them are similar word to word.

#### **Fractionation of caseins by urea solubility method**

Casein fractions were separated ~~on the basis of~~ ~~based on~~ their differential solubility in urea solution as per the method outlined [5].

#### **Analysis of casein fractions by SDS-PAGE**

SDS-PAGE was carried out to assess the molecular weight ranges of casein fractions ~~by following the~~ ~~method~~ [9]. The following reagents were employed for analysis.

**Comment [mt12]:** Either mention the name and concentration of the reagents used or remove the sentence.

## **RESULTS AND DISCUSSION**

#### **Effect of source of milk protein on yield of caseins and whey proteins**

Casein and whey proteins were isolated from cow, buffalo and goat milk. The yield of total protein, casein, and whey protein ~~s~~ are presented in Table (1). As observed from the table, buffalo milk resulted in ~~a~~ significantly higher ~~total~~ protein content (42.50 g/l) followed by goat milk (35.82 g/l) and cow milk (35.76 g/l). The respective casein content of cow, buffalo and goat milk were observed to be 28.52 g/l, 34.30 g/l, and 28.45 g/l. The casein yield was highest in buffalo milk (80.71%) followed by cow milk (79.76%) and goat milk (79.42%). The protein content of cow, buffalo and goat milk was observed to be 3.58, 4.25 and 3.68 percent respectively. The whey ~~proteins~~ ~~pr~~ ~~ote~~ ~~in~~ yield was observed to be 7.24, 8.20 and 7.37 g/l, respectively, for cow, buffalo and goat milk. Whey protein yield varied between 19.29 to 20.58 percent as against ~~yield of casein~~ ~~casein~~ ~~yield~~ which varied between 79.42 to 80.71 percent.

The cow, buffalo and goat milk used in this investigation were analysed for total protein, casein and whey proteins content, and the results are presented in Table (1-). It is pertinent to note that buffalo milk resulted in highest yield of total protein (42.50 g/l) as compared to cow's (35.76 g/l) and goat milk (35.82 g/l). Higher yield of total protein in buffalo milk is mainly attributed to higher initial protein content in

buffalo milk. The buffalo milk resulted in higher yield of casein (34.30 g/l) as compared Cow (28.52 g/l) and goat milk (28.45g/l). Buffalo milk yielded not only higher casein but also higher whey protein content. In case of buffalo milk the yield of whey protein was higher (8.20 g/l) as against cow's milk (7.24 g/l) and goat milk (7.37 g/l), these results are in agreement with the earlier workers[1,4 & 9]. The Buffalo milk possessed higher casein and whey protein content as compared to cow's milk and goat milk.

#### Effect of source of protein on yield of various fractions of casein

The effect of source of milk protein on yield of various fractions of protein is presented in Table (2) and Fig (2). The total casein content of cow, buffalo and goat milk was recorded to be 27.47g/l, 34.13g/l, and 26.62g/l, respectively. The total casein content in buffalo milk (16.64g/l) and cow milk (14.92 g/l) were significantly higher as compared to goat milk (5.42 g/l). Goat milk had significantly higher  $\beta$  casein (17.85 g/l) as compared to buffalo (12.30 g/l) and cow milk (9.38 g/l). It is observed from the table (3) that the concentration of k-casein was much higher in buffalo milk (5.19 g/l) as compared to goat milk (3.35 g/l) and cow milk (3.17 g/l). There was a significant difference in k-casein content of buffalo milk (5.19g/l) as compared to cow (3.17g/l) and goat milk (3.35g/l). Significant difference was observed in the protein content amongst Cow, Buffalo and Goat.

The effect of source of milk proteins on yield of various fractions of casein was studied and results are presented in Table (2). The casein obtained from various sources was subjected to fractionation and the yield of various fractions viz  $\alpha$  casein,  $\beta$  casein and k casein were estimated. It is pertinent to note that buffalo milk resulted in higher yield of total  $\alpha$  casein and k-casein (16.64 and 5.19 g/l) as compared to cow (14.92 and 3.17 g/l) and goat milk (5.42g/l and 3.35 g/l). This could be due to genetic inheritance of buffalo milk, which carry higher proportion of  $\alpha$  casein and k-casein than cow and goat milk. The results are in agreement with earlier workers[8&9]. Similarly,  $\beta$  casein content was also higher in buffalo milk (12.30 g/l) as compared to cow milk (9.38 g/l). But in goat milk  $\beta$  casein (17.85 g/l) content was significantly higher as compared to cow (9.38 g/l) and buffalo milk (12.30 g/l), though goat milk yielded lowest per cent of  $\alpha$ -casein as compared to cow and buffalo milk. This may be due to variation from species specific[2& 7].

**Comment [mt13]:** The para is just the repetition of the data mentioned the 1<sup>st</sup> para of results and discussion. Remove references mentioned in the 2<sup>nd</sup> para and incorporate it in the 1<sup>st</sup> para.

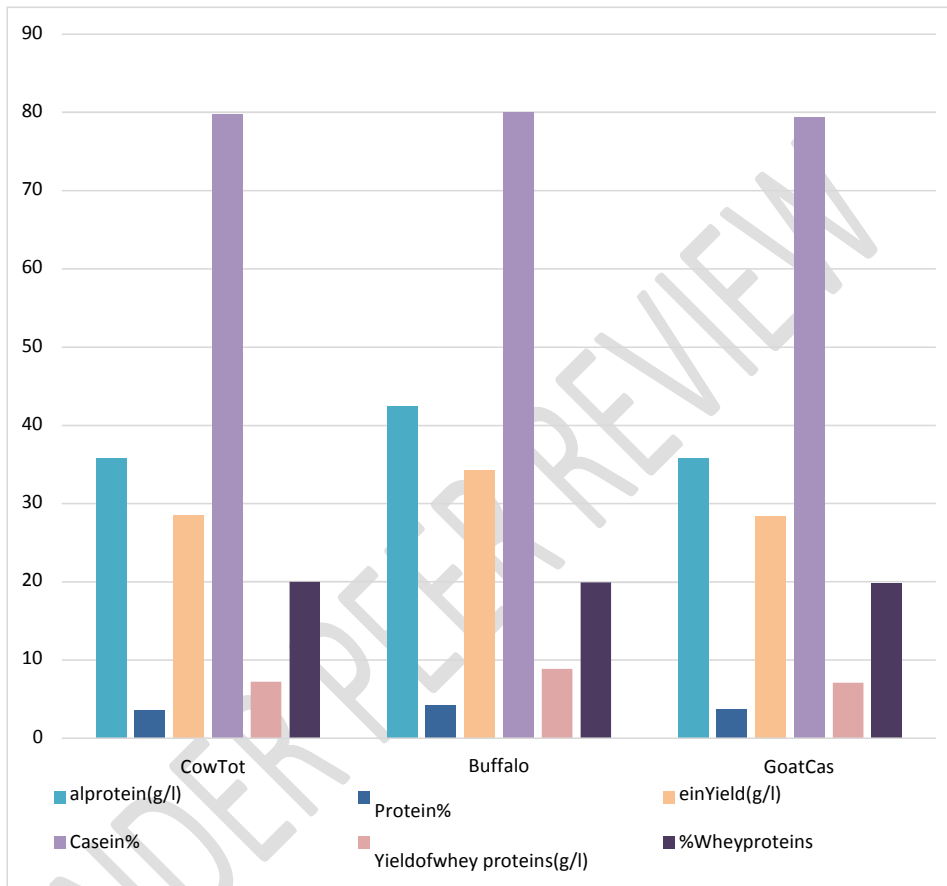
**Comment [mt14]:** Kindly mention the word 'significant', if the results were statistically significant. If it is statistically significant, mention the name of the statistical test used in material and methods section.

**Comment [mt15]:** Again, the para is just the repetition of the data mentioned the above paragraph. Remove references mentioned in the 2<sup>nd</sup> para and incorporate it in the above para.

**Table1:Effect ofsourceofmilk proteinon yield ofcaseinsand wheyproteins.**

Source of Milk	Total Protein(g/l)	Protein(%)	Caseins(g/l)	Casein Yield(%)	Whey Proteins(g/l)	Whey Proteins Yield (%)
Cow	35.76 <sup>a</sup>	3.58 <sup>a</sup>	28.52 <sup>a</sup>	79.76 <sup>a</sup>	7.24 <sup>a</sup>	20.24 <sup>a</sup>
Buffalo	42.50 <sup>b</sup>	4.25 <sup>b</sup>	34.30 <sup>b</sup>	80.71 <sup>a</sup>	8.20 <sup>b</sup>	19.29 <sup>a</sup>
Goat	35.82 <sup>a</sup>	3.68 <sup>a</sup>	28.45 <sup>a</sup>	79.42 <sup>a</sup>	7.37 <sup>ac</sup>	20.58 <sup>a</sup>
<b>CD(p&lt;0.05)</b>	<b>0.57</b>	<b>0.51</b>	<b>0.55</b>	<b>0.53</b>	<b>0.53</b>	<b>0.58</b>

- All the values are average of three trails.
- Similar superscripts indicate non-significant at corresponding critical difference (CD)



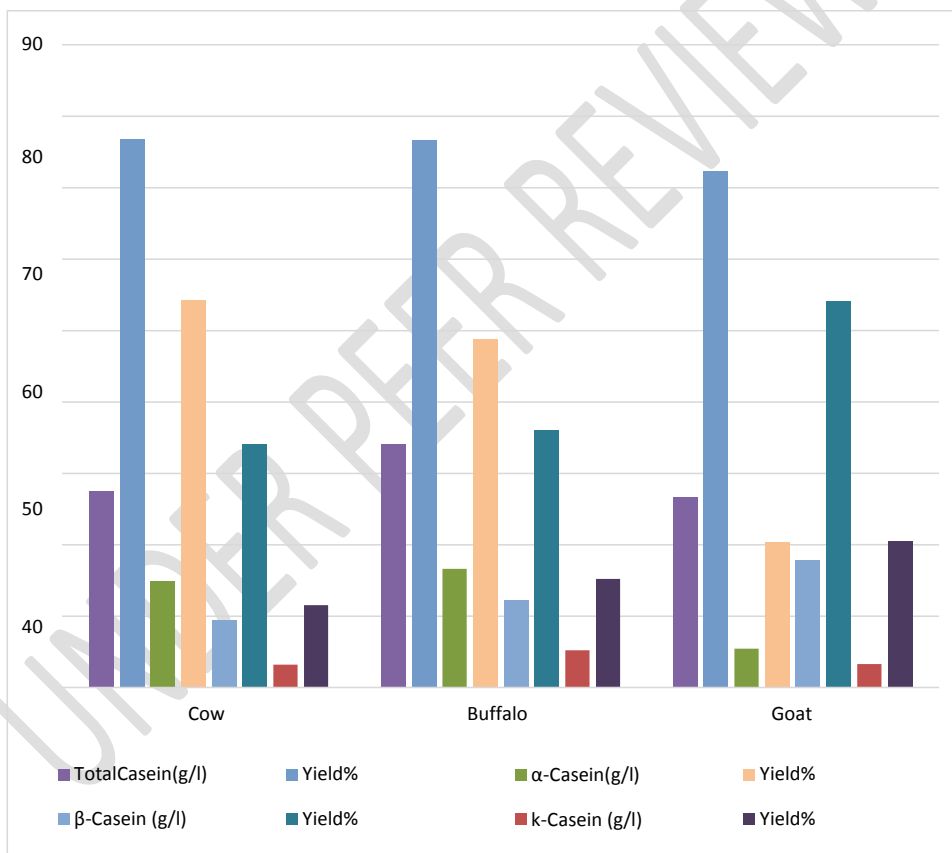
**Fig.1.Effectofsourceofmilkproteinon yield ofcaseinsandwheyprotein.**

**Comment [mt16]:** Mention this Figure in any section of result.

**Table 2: Effect of source of protein on yield of various fractions of casein**

Source of Casein Fractions	Total Casein (g/l)	Yield (%)	Total $\alpha$ -Casein (g/l)	Yield (%)	Total $\beta$ -Casein (g/l)	Yield (%)	Total $\kappa$ -Casein (g/l)	Yield (%)
Cow	27.47 <sup>a</sup>	76.83 <sup>a</sup>	14.92 <sup>a</sup>	54.31 <sup>a</sup>	9.38 <sup>a</sup>	34.14 <sup>a</sup>	3.17 <sup>a</sup>	11.53 <sup>a</sup>
Buffalo	34.13 <sup>b</sup>	76.70 <sup>a</sup>	16.64 <sup>b</sup>	48.75 <sup>b</sup>	12.30 <sup>b</sup>	36.03 <sup>b</sup>	5.19 <sup>b</sup>	15.20 <sup>b</sup>
Goat	26.62 <sup>c</sup>	72.33 <sup>b</sup>	5.42 <sup>c</sup>	20.36 <sup>c</sup>	17.85 <sup>c</sup>	54.05 <sup>c</sup>	3.35 <sup>ac</sup>	20.49 <sup>c</sup>
<b>CD (p &lt; 0.05)</b>	<b>0.53</b>	<b>0.54</b>	<b>0.47</b>	<b>0.60</b>	<b>0.56</b>	<b>0.50</b>	<b>0.55</b>	<b>0.49</b>

- All the values are average of three trails.
- Similar superscripts indicate non-significant at corresponding critical difference (CD)



**Fig.2. Effect of source of protein on yield of various fractions of casein**

## CONCLUSION:

Casein obtained from cow, buffalo and goat milk were fractionated by urea solubility method and the fractions were quantified. The significant effect of source on protein yield and fraction of casein was observed. Higher yield of  $\alpha$ -casein (54.31%) was observed in cow milk than buffalo milk (48.95 %) and lower yield (20.36 %) was found in goat milk. Amongst the three species, highest percent of  $\beta$ -casein was noted in goat milk (54.05%) followed by buffalo (36.03%) and cow milk (34.14%), The highest molecular weight in respect of  $\alpha$ -casein (23.82 kDa) was observed in cow milk followed by goat milk (23.61 kDa) and buffalo milk (22.74 kDa). Whereas the molecular weight of  $\beta$  casein in respect of cow milk was 24.31, and it was 23.84 for buffalo milk and 23.82 for goat milk. There was no wide variation in molecular weight of  $\kappa$ -casein irrespective of source of milk. The molecular weight of  $\kappa$ -casein varied between 19.15 to 19.38 kDa.

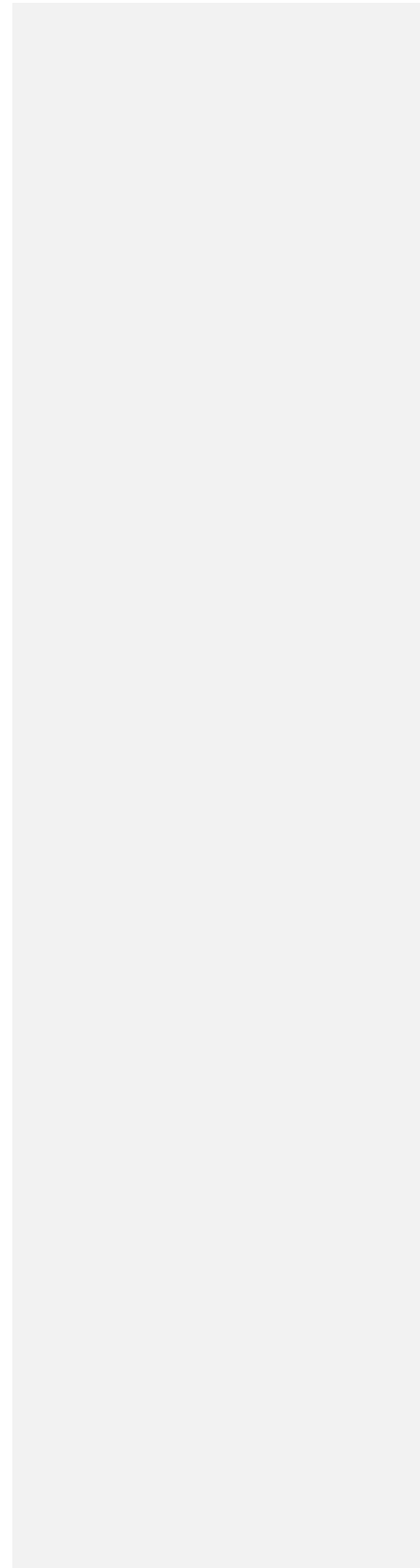
Comment [mt17]: Mention units

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