

Summary

In 1992, 1993, and 1994, *Brachiaria brizantha* cv. Marandu, *Cynodon nlemfuensis* cv. Coastcross-1, and *Setaria anceps* cv. Kazungula were evaluated under grazing by finishing beef cattle at LAPAR's Experiment Station Unit in Ponta Grossa (Paraná, Brazil). A completely randomized experiment design was used with two replications. Animals were introduced into the paddocks at 10 months of age. Stocking rate was adjusted through the carry-and-take system, with a minimum of three testers per experiment unit. Results, averaged over 3 years, have demonstrated that the brachiaria, Coastcross-1 and Marandu, have a remarkable advantage over setaria Kazungula. In terms of live weight gains/ha per year, brachiaria Coastcross-1 (355 kg/ha per year) and Marandu (307 kg/ha per year) had significantly higher live weight gain than setaria Kazungula (223 kg/ha per year). Average daily gains per animal with Marandu (607 g) and Coastcross-1 (592 g) were higher than with Kazungula (379 g). Annual carrying capacity on Coastcross-1 (582 animals/day per ha), Kazungula (568 animals/day per ha), and Marandú (500 animals/day per ha) did not differ significantly.