Effect of Transition Diet on Production and Metabolism in Periparturient Dairy Cows. By Guo et al., page 5247. Cows fed a diet of intermediate energy content from 17 d prepartum to 14 d postpartum had greater plasma ketone body concentrations after parturition than cows immediately transitioned from a low-energy, dry-cow diet to a high-energy peak lactation diet. The negative effect may result from glucose deficiency and increased lipid metabolism postpartum.