

Nutritional Evaluation of *Gliricidia* (*Gliricidia maculata*) Fodder Tree during Winter in Konkan Region

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Abstract—An experiment was conducted to evaluate the nutritional value of *Gliricidia maculata* fodder tree leaves. In the analysis, leaves from five different *Gliricidia* fodder trees were harvested in winter. *Gliricidia* is a fast growing tropical leguminous tree. It is mostly grown in larger parts of the world. Tree is used for firewood, timber, charcoal, medicinal purpose, hedges, live fences, soil stabilization and as green manure crop. Being a leguminous fodder tree it is good source nitrogen. Chemical composition of *Gliricidia* fodder tree leaves was measured. The chemical analysis of *Gliricidia maculata* was done for the proximate principles viz., Dry matter, Crude protein, Crude fibre, Ether extract, Nitrogen free extract, Total ash and Acid insoluble ash (AOAC, 1995). Results showed that crude protein (CP) values were higher (20.84 %) in *Gliricidia* compared to crude fibre (16.86 %). The concentration of tannin in *Gliricidia maculata* was lower (1.09 %), whereas the values for organic matter, dry matter, moisture content, ether extract, nitrogen free extract, ash, acid insoluble ash, calcium and phosphorus were recorded as 86.10, 32.48, 67.52, 4.16, 44.24, 13.90, 4.96, 1.82 and 0.24 %, respectively. It shows that the *Gliricidia maculata* is the good source of nutrients, whereas it can be utilized as a feed for the livestock.