

Effect of Dietary Levels of Bhend (*Thespesia Populnea*) Leaves on the Utilization of Paddy Straw in Goats

V.C. Kedaree^{1*}, R.G. Burte² and P.B. Khirari³

^{1,2,3}Department of Animal Husbandry and Dairy Science College of Agriculture, Dr. Balasaheb Sawant Konkan Krishi Vidyapeeth, Dapoli, Dist. Ratnagiri-415712, Maharashtra (India)

Abstract—An experiment was conducted to evaluate Bhend leaves (*Thespesia populnea*) and paddy straw (*Oryza sativa*) as a goat feed stuff. Twelve male crossbred kids were randomly divided into 3 groups with four goats in each group. Bucks of in T_1 were given Bhend leaves + paddy straw in 15:85 proportions, in treatment T_2 in 30:70 proportion whereas treatment T_3 received in 45:55 proportion. In addition to this 200 g/day concentrates were commonly offered to all three treatments to ascertain the effect on body weight, live weight changes, dry matter intake, digestibility coefficient, nutritive value in respect to digestible crude protein and total digestible nutrients and feed conversion ratio of kids. The daily dry matter intake (g/d) was found significantly higher ($P<0.05$) in T_2 in comparison with T_3 . However, it is at par with T_1 . Treatment T_1 found to be at par with T_2 and T_3 . The average digestibility coefficients of DM in T_2 (56.24 ± 0.13 %) was significantly higher ($P<0.05$) than in T_3 (52.94 ± 0.50 %) and treatment T_1 (52.16 ± 0.42 %). The nutritive value in respect to DCP and TDN varied significantly ($P<0.05$). It was significantly higher ($P<0.05$) in T_2 than in treatment T_3 and followed by treatment T_1 . It may be concluded that incorporation of Bhend leaves and paddy straw in 30:70 proportion to growing kids significantly improved the performance of kids in respect to body weight gain, dry matter intake, digestibility coefficient, nutritive value and feed conversion ratio.