

# Proximate Analysis of Shevari (*Sesbania aegyptica*) Leaves in Konkan Region

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**Abstract**—This study was conducted in Department of Animal Husbandry and Dairy Science, Dapoli to evaluate the proximate composition of Shevari (*Sesbania aegyptica*). *Sesbania aegyptica* is the multipurpose tree widely distributed in tropics and subtropics; and usually grown at nearby areas of the farm. The objective of the present study was to assess the nutritional aspects (with emphasis on its importance in animal diet as a feed) of *S. aegyptica* and generate comprehensive technical information for scholars who wish to study the plant in detail as a feed ingredient in small ruminants. Different parts of *S. aegyptica* is reputed for various purposes such as weed control, phytoremediation, anti-inflammation and antioxidant effect, abortion and antifertility agent, antimicrobial activity, firewood source, livestock feed and pasture improvement, green manure, mosquito repellent, live support and *Schistosoma* control. Having these and other multiple uses, *S. aegyptica* can contribute to sustainable livelihoods by improving household food, nutrition and health security. The samples of the *Sesbania aegyptica* were analyzed for the proximate principles viz., Dry matter, Crude protein, Crude fibre, Ether extract, Nitrogen free extract, Total ash and Acid insoluble ash (AOAC, 1995). The mean values showed that *Sesbania aegyptica* had high moisture (71.04 %), whereas the figures for organic matter, dry matter, crude protein, ether extract, crude fibre, nitrogen free extract, total ash, acid insoluble ash, tannin, calcium and phosphorus were recorded as 93.66, 28.96, 18.57, 3.06, 28.91, 43.12, 6.34, 2.54, 0.62, 1.36 and 1.02 per cent, respectively. It is concluded that *S. aegyptica* is good source of nutrients for the livestock as feed supplement.