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Assessment of Proximate Composition of Tulsi (*Ocimum sanctum*) Tree Leaves in Konkan Geographical Region

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Abstract—*Plant nutrients are important as protective and which help the body to prevent or fight against malnutrition and so are required by the animal's body to sustain life. The aim of present research was to record out the nutritional evaluation of Ocimum sanctum fodder tree leaves. Tulsi is identified by (Rama and Krishna Tulsi varieties) or more recently Ocimum tenuiflorum, and Ocimum gratissimum (Vana Tulsi variety). Belonging to the Lamiaceae/Labiatae mint family, these and other closely related species and varieties (e.g., Ocimum canum) are cousins of the familiar sweet basil cooking herb Ocimum sanctum and Ocimum basilicum. In parts of India, all of the basils are honoured as Tulsi. The samples of the Ocimum sanctum were analyzed for the proximate principles viz., Dry matter, Crude protein, Crude fibre, Ether extract, Nitrogen free extract, Total ash and Acid insoluble ash, Tannin, Calcium and Phosphorus (AOAC, 1995). The mean values showed that Ocimum sanctum had moisture (13.26 %), 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 91.54, 86.74, 6.36, 12.73, 3.86, 55.33, 8.46, 4.26, 0.62, 0.90 and 0.37 per cent, respectively. It was concluded that Ocimum sanctum is good source of nutrients for the livestock as feed additive.*