

The nutrient digestibility of pastures for rabbits ⁽¹⁾

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Abstract

A total of 48 male growing rabbits, 8 wks of age, were allocated into 6 groups. Control diet was formulated to contain crude protein 16.9%, crude fiber 11.3%. Taking 80% of control diet mixed with ground pastures and pelleted then fed the rabbit for nutrients digestibility measurement. A time to time total feces collection method was used. The result showed that the digestibility of crude fiber for locally produced alfalfa reached 17%, crude protein 79.5%, gross energy digestibility 79.5%. The crude protein digestibility of sweet potato vine was 81.9% and for crude fiber, 25.6%. The crude fiber digestibility of peanut vine reached 31.2%. The crude protein digestibility of pangola and napier grass was 78.2% and 41.2% respectively. Nevertheless, for crude fiber digestibility, were 14.5% and 18.5%. Although lower crude fiber digestibilities of pastures for rabbit, it still had high nutrients digestibility in those pastures possibly due to the coprophagous function.

Key words: Rabbit, Pasture, Nutrients digestibilities.

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