

Performance of Mashona doelings supplemented with different levels of velvet bean (*Mucuna pruriens* L. DC. var. utilis) seed meal

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Abstract

The objective of the current study was to evaluate the effects of feeding increasing levels of velvet bean seed meal (VBM; 0, 12, 24, and 36 %) on the performance of Mashona doelings. Dry matter intake was lower ($P < 0.05$) for the control diet compared to VBM diets, but linearly declined ($P < 0.05$) with increasing levels of VBM. Average daily weight gain was significantly different between experimental groups. Doelings' final live weights and average daily gains were slightly higher in control group than other three supplemented groups where they linearly declined ($P < 0.05$) with increasing levels of VBM. The cost per kilogram of feed, however, decreased with high inclusion level of VBM. Result suggested that high inclusion level of VBM negatively influenced the growth of young goats probably due to the presence of some anti-nutritional factors which needs further investigation.