

The Evaluation of Substitution of *Acacia villosa* in Ruminants Ration

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Abstract : *Acacia villosa* is thornless shrub legume which contents high crude protein. However, the utilization of *A. villosa* as ruminant feed is limited by its secondary compounds. The aim of this article is to find out the maximum of substitution *A. villosa* in sheep ration. The nutritional evaluation consisted of in vitro two stages, in vivo, and in vitro gas production trials. The secondary compounds of *A. villosa* also were analyzed. Evaluating digestibility of increasing level of substitution *A. villosa* replacing *Pennisetum purpureum* was using in vitro two stages. The substitution of 30% *A. villosa* was compared to 100% *P. purpureum* by in vitro gas production technique and in vivo digestibility. The results of two stages in vitro showed that total phenol, condensed tannin, and non-protein amino acid (NPAA) were high. Substitution 15% *A. villosa* reached the highest digestibility for both dry matter (DM) and crude protein (CP) which were 67% and 86% respectively, but it was shown that DM and CP digestibility of substitution 30% of *A. villosa* was still high which were 61.82% and 75-67% respectively. The pattern of gas production showed that first 8 hours total gas production substitution of 30% *A. villosa* was higher than 100% *P. purpureum* and declined after 10 hours incubation. In vivo trials showed that substitution of 30% *A. villosa* significantly increased CP intake, CP digestibility, and nitrogen retention. It can be concluded that substitution *A. villosa* until 30% still gave the good impact even though it has high secondary compounds.

Keywords : *Acacia villosa*, digestibility, gas production, secondary compounds

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