

Ensuring green fodder availability for cattle

Background / Problem Statement:

Bhavnagar is well known for its Gir breed of cows. Animal husbandry is gaining the status of next reliable enterprise after agriculture in the district for the farmers. Being a water scarcity and draught prone area, availability of green fodder is a major problem for animal keepers of the district.

Intervention of KVK:

- KVK discussed cultivation of various fodder crops like maize, sorghum, lucern with various farmers' groups and demonstrated newly release varieties of sorghum. However, the limitation of the fodder crops was limited yield from unit area over a longer period of growth. Moreover, the crops are season specific. Hence, in every season farmers have to grow a new crop
- KVK tested a variety of napier grass, popularly known as super napier
- The sample of this variety was tested in the animal nutrition laboratory of Kamdhenu University of Gujarat for its nutritional content. Surprisingly, the results revealed that it contains 13 to 15 per cent of crude protein
- KVK raised mother plot for planting material and recorded 125 T yield of green fodder / year
- Distributed more than 2 lakh setts to farmers for cultivation
- Popularized its cultivation through trainings and demonstrations

Output:

- Laid out demonstrations in convergence with ATMA, Bhavnagar and distributed 1.00 Lakh setts to 100 farmers covering all the tehsils of the district
- Super napier once planted in field can thrive for more than 7 years and can yield 15 to 20 T / 1600 sq mt area/ year in four subsequent cuttings
- Farmers preferred the crop as it reduced the sowing and inter culturing operations in every season, thus reduced cost of cultivation
- The ratoon crop becomes ready to harvest in 50 to 65 days, depending on availability of irrigation, soil fertility and inputs

Outcome of the intervention:

- Gradually, the demand for planting material increased
- KVK provided total 4.00 lakh setts to the farmers
- The initial adopters also provided planting material from their fields to their neighbours and relatives
- The variety spread over the district as well as in nearby districts
- Farmers opined reduction in cost of cultivation of green fodder as well as easy and increased availability of green fodder per unit area.

Large Scale Impact/ Horizontal Dissemination:

- It is estimated that the variety is now easily available in the district as most of the animal keepers have established the crop at least in 800 sq mt to 1 ha area, as per their requirement
- Most of the cattle farms where more than 20 cattles are kept, have established this crop in large farm land
- Farmers also opined that the variety of napier is performing well even in salinity affected areas, hence it is widely adopted in coastal belt of the district also

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Date: 2019/02/27

By: [Signature]
 Lecturer of Animal Nutrition
 Lecturer of Veterinary Medicine
 Lecturer of Animal Husbandry
 Lecturer of Animal Health
 Lecturer of Animal Welfare
 Lecturer of Animal Nutrition

FEED AND FOOD ANALYSIS REPORT

Feed Code: 2019/02/27 **ANALYSIS**

Nutrient Content	Nutrient Content		Nutrient Content	
	Actual	Target	Actual	Target
1. Chemical Composition (GMS basis)				
Moisture (%)	82.42	80.00	83.94	80.00
Crude protein (%)	16.98	16.00	16.88	16.00
Crude fat (%)	12.55	12.00	12.49	12.00
Neutral detergent fiber (%)	21.11	21.00	21.00	21.00
Acid detergent fiber (%)	33.47	33.00	33.43	33.00
Water-soluble (%)	42.63	42.00	42.63	42.00
Cellulose (%)	30.77	30.00	30.77	30.00


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Signature of Analyst: [Signature] Date: 2019/02/27

Forwarded to next step by: [Signature]

Approved by: [Signature]
 Principal officer

Note: This report will not be valid in case of: [Signature]

 NDDC CAF		TEST REPORT	
Issued For: <u>Goldsmith's Commodities International</u> <u>Goldsmith's Commodities</u> <u>London, U.K.</u> <u>Telephone: 020 7553 1000</u> <u>Telex: 330633</u> <u>Fax: 020 7553 1001</u> <u>E-mail: info@nndc.co.uk / gold@nndc.co.uk</u> <u>Gold Refiners: 020 7553 1002</u> <u>Gold Suppliers: 020 7553 1003</u>		Lab Ref. No.: <u>AF190471</u> Running ID: <u>TR1 6104303</u> Report number: <u>TR1 6104303</u> Report Issue Date: <u>29.04.2023</u> Report Issue Date: <u>29.04.2023</u> Customer Purchased Information:	
Customer Purchased Information			
Name of the Sample: <u>Lot 1</u>		Customer Sample Code: <u>16</u>	
Ref. Name: <u>Lot 1</u>		Ref. Name: <u>Lot 1</u>	
Sample description of origin: <u>Lot 1</u>		Sample description of origin: <u>Lot 1</u>	
Labmaster Purchased Information			
Sample Receipt Date: <u>22-01-2023</u>		Analysis Completion Date: <u>24-01-2023</u>	
TR17 61003175			
1. Elements			
1.1. Actual Purity & Purity			
	Grade	Test	100%
1	Grade 1A	40% Tests	14.645
2	Grade 1A	40% Tests	85.411
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