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Banana (*Musa* sp.) wastes as ruminant feed

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Banana is a traditional plant cultivated for its fruit. After harvesting, the remaining plant parts, i.e. pseudo-stem, leaf and fruit peel constituting around 80% can be used as feed for ruminants, as they contain high amounts of nutrients. The highest crude protein content of banana wastes is found in the leaf, followed by fruit peel and pseudo-stem. Both banana pseudo-stem and leaf contain moderate amounts of fiber but are higher than that of banana peel. The high contents of tannin in the leaf and fruit peel reduced their protein and dry matter digestibility and their value as ruminants. The low crude protein and high moisture contents of pseudo-stem reduced dry matter intake potential by ruminants. Due to the low digestibility of leaf and fruit peel and the low dry matter and crude protein contents of stem, to obtain high animal production from ruminants fed banana wastes, it should be supplemented with proteinaceous and carbonaceous concentrate feeds.

Biography

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