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Multi-strata production of leguminous forages for livestock production in northern Philippines

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The performance of four-legume strata composed of *Gliricidia sepium*, *Leucaena leucocephala*, *Desmodium rensonii* and *Cajanus cajan* was determined in Northern Philippines to address the seasonality of feeds and the availability of quality forages on a year-round basis using the RCBD design. Results revealed that the germination rates of the four forages during the rainy season were significantly higher than those planted during the dry season, however; the survival rates were comparable for both seasons. *Cajanus cajan* was significantly taller than the other species of forages for both planting seasons, followed by *Leucaena leucocephala*. The results of the cutting intervals of 30 days during the rainy season and 45 days during the dry season reveal that *Leucaena leucocephala* had significantly the highest re-growths while *Cajanus cajan* had significantly the shortest. The leaf:stem ratio of the different forages were comparable during the dry and rainy seasons. The pooled chemical analyses of the four forages were comparable at the different cutting intervals. *Gliricidia sepium*, *Leucaena leucocephala*, *Desmodium* rensonii performed well if planted in a multi-strata scheme while Cajanus cajan is not suited under this forage establishment.

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