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Utilization of shea nut cake in livestock feeding

The cost of feed ingredients in livestock is an upward trend year after year, due forever increasing demand and reduced supply because of increased competition from other species and human beings. Meeting nutrient requirements of animals is now recognized as the major constraints for sustaining positive growth in livestock sector, hence forth there is need to utilize agro industrial by products to narrow down the gap between availability and requirement of feed stuffs for livestock. This livestock feeding has become very expensive. In an effort to alleviate this problem, several unconventional feed ingredients have been incorporated in livestock diets. In recent times, to minimize the cost of feeding, the most promising one among them is shea nut extract. Shea tree (*Vitellaria paradoxa*) is a native of savannah regions across Africa from Senegal to Ethiopia. It was called by different names in different countries viz., Lulu (Arabic), Bambouk butter tree (English), karate (French), okwuma (Igbo) Tango (Spanish). *Vitellaria paradoxa* is a small to medium size tree grows in areas where mean annual temperature is 24-32° C, mean annual rainfall 600-1400 mm and dry and sandy clay soils. Yield of shea nuts from each shea tree is above 80 kg/year and is grown to an extent of 20 lakhs km² from Gambia in the West to Uganda in the east and from Sahara in north to the rain forests and oil palm belt in South. A total of 1.5 lakh tonnes are being exported every year to various countries. Shea nut extract is the byproduct obtained during extraction of shea butter from shea nuts. These studies indicate that shea nut cake can be used as alternate feed ingredient for livestock feeding. Shea nut cake could be better utilized by incorporating in complete diets of lactating buffaloes and growing buffalo calves, sheep and rabbits. It can be concluded that shea nut cake can be used as energy supplement to replace high cost low energy supplements like deoiled rice bran and as protein supplement to replace the Groundnut Cake and Cottonseed cake etc., Shea nut cake is available at cheaper rate so it can be used in the concentrate mixture as one of the unconventional feed ingredient and to minimize the cost of feeding.

Biography

M Kishan Kumar has completed his MVSc (Dairy Production) from ANGRAU, Hyderabad and PhD (LPM) from SVVU, Tirupati. He is presently the Professor and Head at Instructional Livestock Farm Complex, College of Veterinary Science, Korutla, Sri P.V. Narasimha Rao Telangana State University for Veterinary, Animal and Fishery Sciences, Karimnagar District of Telangana State, India. He has published 30 research papers in reputed journals and 100 popular articles. He has awarded with the Best Research Paper Presentation Award during National seminar held at Aizawl, Mizoram India in January 2015, Best Research Paper Poster Presentation Award during the International Buffalo conference held at New Delhi, India in February 2010 and the Rythu Nestham Award in September 2014 and Rythu Bandhu Award at Hyderabad, India in June 2013. He guided more than 20,000 livestock farmers.

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