

## SHEEP FEED PREFERENCE FOR THE AERIAL PART OF CASSAVA PRESERVED BY DIFFERENT METHODS

## INTRODUCTION

MATERIALS AND METHODS

Hay

(DM = 930.5 g/kg)

**Control** 

**Elephant-grass** 

(DM = 277.9 g/kg)

The aerial part of cassava (APC) is a viable alternative for feeding ruminants in tropical regions, but its use in its natural state is limited by antinutritional compounds such as hydrocyanic acid.

Silage

(DM = 359.8 g/kg) (DM = 533.5 g/kg)

Cassava (Pretinha genotype)

Haylage

The silage and haylage were stored for 40 days.

Preserving APC through silage, hay, or hay can reduce the effects of toxic compounds and facilitate its acceptance by animals.

This study aimed to assess sheep preference for APC in different forms of preservation.

Two treatments per day/animal Administered at 8 a.m. in separate troughs Weighings:

P1 = start

P2 = 30 min after

P3 = 3 hours after

Total intake (TI) for fresh matter Preference for fresh matter (PFM) and Dry (males, 9 months old, 26.2 matter (PDM) = P1 - P2 Total intake (TI) for fresh matter

TI for fresh matter (FMI) and Dry matter (PDM) = P1 - P3

> 6 days for sample collection Finish

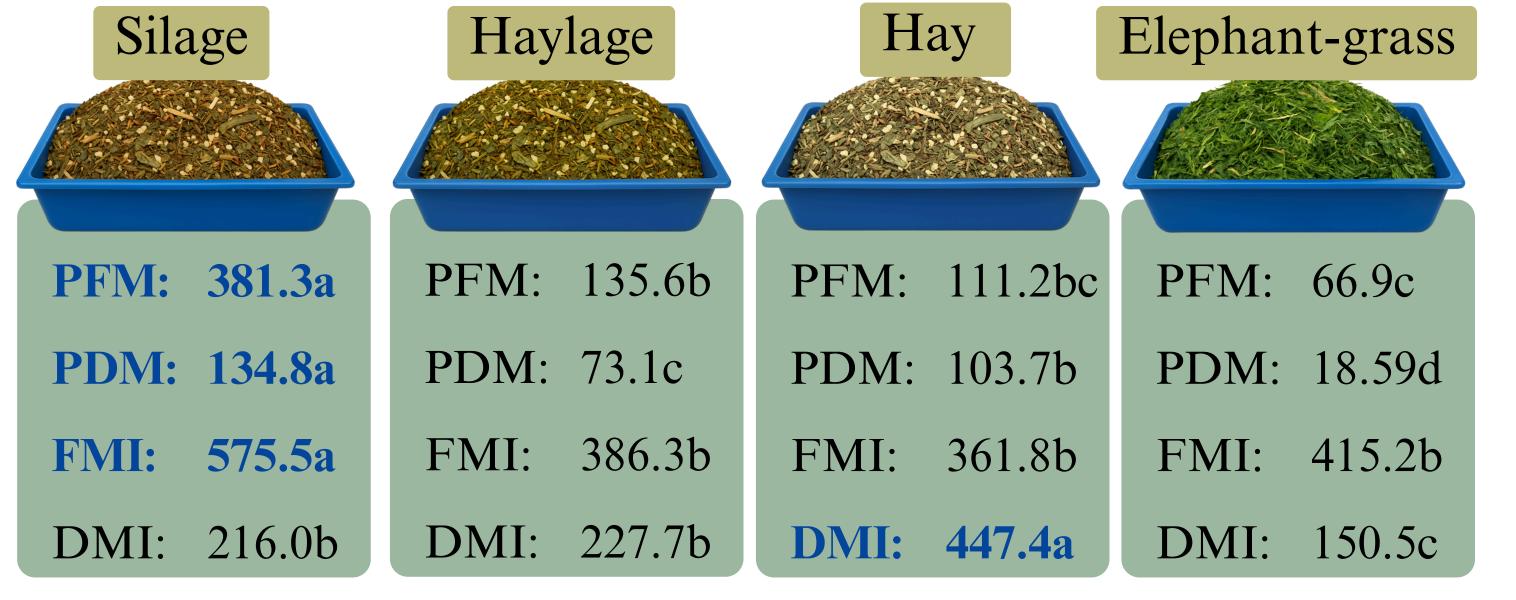
14 Morada Nova sheep

 $\pm 4.24 \text{ kg}$ 

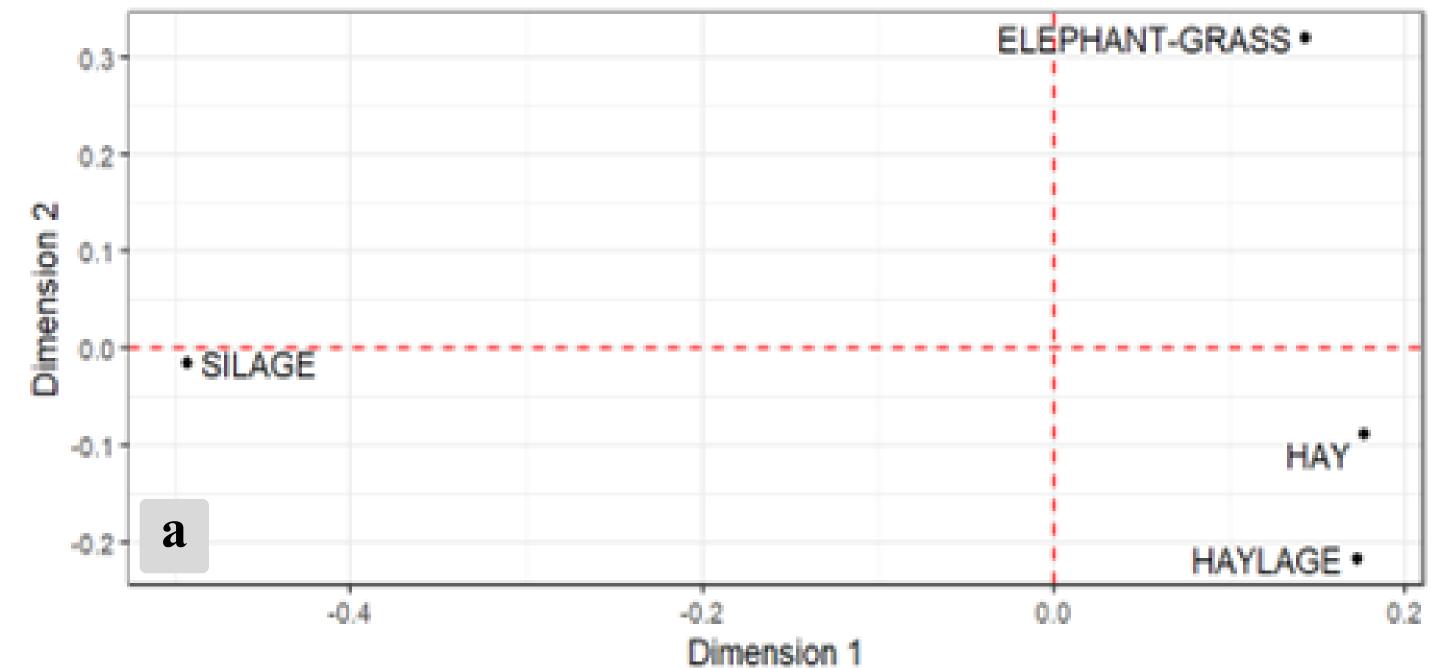
Start

RESULTS





PFM: preference for fresh matter; PDM: preference for dry matter; FMI: fresh matter intake; DMI: dry matter intake.



The preference for silage was higher (P<0.001) for both FM and DM than for other treatments. The PFM and PDM of elephant-grass were lower (P<0.001) than those of the other feeds (Figure 1). The FMI of the APC silage was higher! (P<0.001) in comparison to the other feeds. The DMI was higher (P<0.001) when the sheep were fed with hay than in the other treatments.

10 days of adaptation

In figure 2a, dimension 1 shows the preference for silage over elephant grass, hay, and haylage. This shows that the animals preferred silage. In dimension 2, the animals showed a greater preference for hay and haylage over elephantgrass. Figure 2b exhibits a lower preference for elephant-grass than for the other feedstuffs. For dimension two, silage was preferred over hay and haylage.

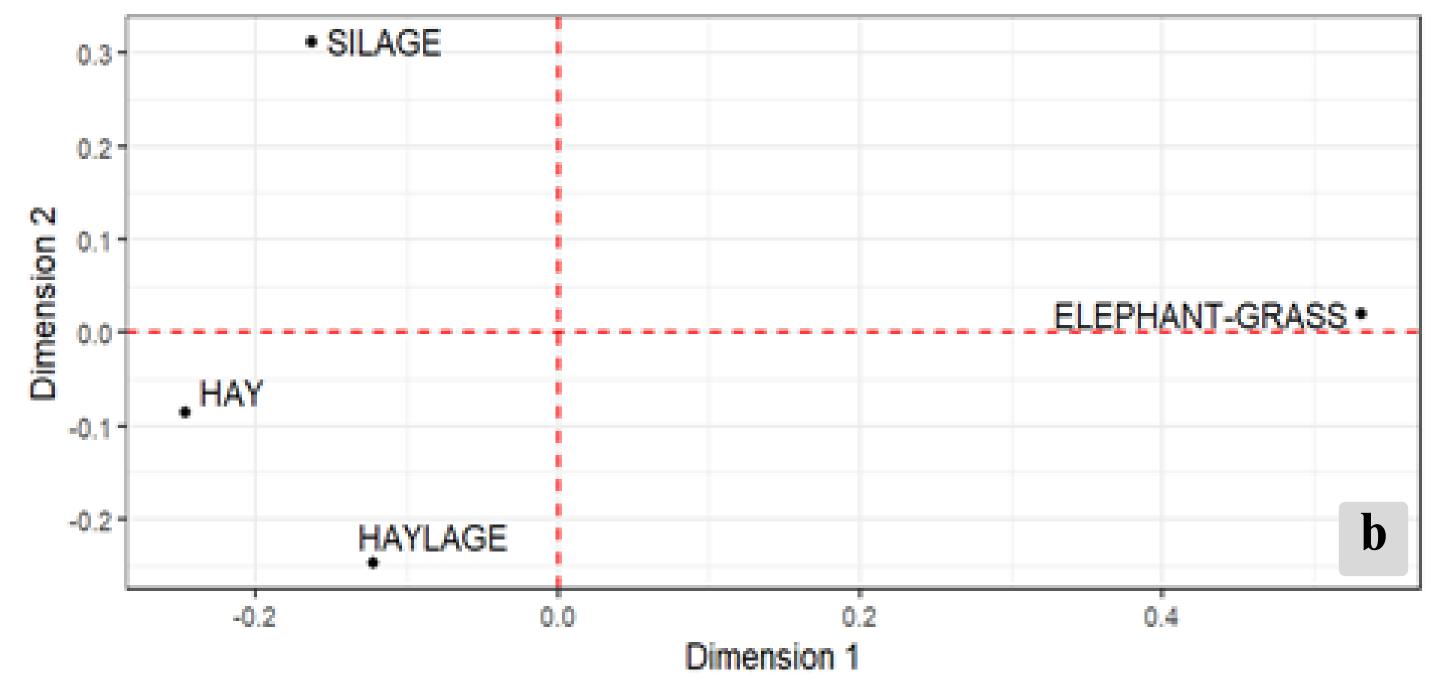


Figure 2 - Preference of silage, haylage and hay APC by sheep in FM (a) and DM (b)

CONCLUSION

The preserved feed was accepted by all animals. The APC silage was preferred, suggesting that preserving forage in the form of silage is recommended for inclusion in sheep diets.

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