

**B-85 : NUTRITIVE VALUE OF TREE AND SHRUB FODDERS
AVAILABLE FOR FEEDING GOATS UNDER TRADITIONAL
MANAGEMENT SYSTEMS IN SRI LANKA**

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Twenty nine leguminous and non leguminous plant species commonly fed to goats under traditional management systems in Sri Lanka were collected and identified. Samples from edible parts (leaves and twigs) were analysed for proximate

component and cell wall constituents. Their *in vitro* dry matter and organic matter digestibilities were also determined. The mean dry matter, total ash, ether extract and crude protein values of the fodder were 268, 111, 31 and 163 g/kg respectively. Acid detergent lignin contents were 173 and 113 g/kg, and *in vitro* dry matter digestibility and organic matter digestibility values were 523, 503, g/kg, respectively. Despite the higher crude protein and mineral contents, high lignin content in most of the leaves may be a limiting factor in feeding goats and other ruminants.