Effect of Fertilizer and Cutting Intervals on Yields and Chemical Composition of CORI Grass (*Brachiaria miliiformis*) under Coconut Plantation

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Abstract

This study was conducted to investigate the effect of mixed fertilizer (15-15-15) and cutting intervals on dry matter yields and chemical composition of CORI grass (*Brachiaria miliiformis*) under coconut plantation, Tumbon Talaysab, Amphoe Fatue, in Chumpon from May 1986 to July 1987. Design were a factorial (4x2) in Randomized Complete Block with 4 replication. The treatments consisted of 4 rates of fertilizer e.g. 0 (control), 40, 80 and 120 kg/rai and 2 cutting intervals e.g. 50 and 70 days. The main findings showed that the different rates of fertilizer supply did not affect the dry matter yields (mean 3,172 kg /rai) and increasing fertilizer from 0-120 kg/rai did not affect the crude protein content (mean 10.07%), potassium concentrations (mean 2.83%) NDS (mean 37.07%) and NDF (mean 62.99%) of CORI grass in the whole period of experiment. Lowest protein, phosphorus and photassium yield of CORI

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grass were found in the control plots, but at the rate of fertilizer 40, 80 and 120 kg/rai had no significant difference. The concentration of phosphorus was found to be lowest at control treatment, as contrasted to the rate of 120 kg/rai which was the highest (2.20%) concentration.

Cutting interval at 70 days resulted in the increase of dry matter yields (3,420 kg/rai), protein yield (341.12 kg/rai) and NDF (63.50%). In contrast, phosphorus concentrations (0.18%), potassium concentrations (2.98%) and NDS (37.58%) were increased with 50 days of cutting intervals did not affect the protein content (mean 10.07%), phosphorus yield (mean 5.61 kg/rai) and potassium yield (mean 89.34 kg/rai).