

GRASS SILAGE CHEMICAL COMPOSITION, NUTRITION VALUE AND DIGESTIBILITY

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Summary. In the article are presented data of 94 grass silages made during the 1999-2001. The chemical composition and nutrition value of fodder are presented of individual farms and joint companies of Lithuanian republic. Fodders are grouped by kind of cultural plants – cereal whole-plant silage, perennial grasses silage, withered grass silage and maize silage. The chemical analyses are carried out at the “Tempus” laboratory of agronomy and zootechnical researches and Research station of Lithuanian University of Agriculture, laboratory and agrochemical research centre of Lithuanian Institute of Agriculture, joint company “Labtarna”.

The silage of maize quantity by its quality is appraised as very good – 12%, good – 76% and poor – 12%. Quantity of grass and withered grass silage by its quality is appraised as good and very good – 73% and as poor – 27%. Silage of perennial grasses by its quality is appraised 63% as very good and 37% as good.

Keywords: silage, chemical composition, digestibility, fodder value, energetic value, protein value.