

# **PRODUCTION, GROWTH AND NUTRITIVE VALUE OF SIX FORAGE SPECIES GROWN AT SURANAREE UNIVERSITY OF TECHNOLOGY. II. REGROWTH**

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## **Abstract**

Production, growth and nutritive value of 6 forage species, i.e. Superdan, Jumbo, Nutrifeed, Nectar, Sugargraze and Ruzi, were determined at weekly intervals from 7 to 35 days regrowth. The results show that Nutrifeed and Ruzi were the most productive species for regrowth while Jumbo Superdan and Sugargraze were intermediate and Nectar was less productive. In terms of crude protein content in forage dry matter, all species showed a high percentage of crude protein, ranging from 13.7 to 23.3%, during day 7 and day 14 regrowth. The crude protein percentage then slightly declined at day 21 and a marked dropped was noted beyond day 28. However, after 35 day regrowth, the crude protein contents were in the range of 7.5 to 10.6% which were in the range of a common practice.

In terms of species sown, Ruzi and Nutrifeed exhibited the greater dry matter and crude protein yield, reflecting a high rate of regrowth and a reasonable crude protein concentration. Nutrifeed, therefore, has good potential for use as forage for the stock, particularly when the forage is in urgent need. However, for long-term advantage, a perennial grass such as Ruzi should be taken into account when a selection of forage for pasture is made.

**Keywords :** forage crop, forage sorghum, forage pennisetum, forage yield, growth rate.

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