

Pig feeding in upland Vietnam

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Evaluation of uncultivated vegetables for pigs kept in upland households

Abstract

Formal and informal interviews and survey activities were conducted to compile data on what kind of uncultivated vegetables the farmers used for pigs in 4 upland communes in two mountainous districts in Thua Thien Hue province. Information was obtained on their seasonal availability and adoptability, the parts used as pig feed, and variation of adopted uncultivated vegetables according to wealth ranking between pig raisers. Their chemical composition was also analysed to see differences during the dry and wet seasons

There are 14 kinds of uncultivated vegetables used as pig feed resources in upland areas. Three of them were adopted all the year round such as Taro, Banana stem, and natural sweet potato leaves. The poorer farmers were the more intensive users of these feeds compared to medium and better-off pig raisers. Use of the vegetables led to lower production cost and higher net income achieved from pig production.

Key words:

income, interviews, pig feed resources, taro, uncultivated vegetables

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