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Nutritive composition of green and ripe pods of honey mesquite (*Prosopis glandulosa*, fabaceae)

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Abstract

Pods from *Prosopis glandulosa* (honey mesquite) were harvested at seven different growth stages. Protein content ($N \times 6.25$) of the whole pod decreased with maturation with small differences occurring after stage 3. Seed contained about 82% of the total pod protein. Carbohydrate accumulated primarily in the pericarp, and ripe pods (stage 7) contained about 80% total carbohydrate. Fat content of the pod increased slightly with maturation while total ash and fiber (ADF) decreased. Small differences existed between stages 4 and 7 in the essential amino acid pattern of whole pods. The total sulfur-containing amino-acids were the most limiting in both growth stages; the pericarp protein had a relatively better amino-acid pattern than did the seed protein. Both green and ripe honey mesquite pods provide similar amounts of micro- and macro-minerals.

Keywords: Economic Botany Phytic Acid Acid Detergent Fiber Trypsin Inhibitor Activity Phytic Acid Content

Reference

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