

Short Communications

Mineral composition of poultry manure in South Africa with reference to the Farm Feed Act

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The mineral composition of poultry manure and litter from poultry enterprises throughout South Africa was determined. The manure contained high concentrations of macro and micro minerals. Ash content levels in more than 40% of the Breeder and Pullet litter and 80% of the Layer samples were higher than levels stipulated as acceptable for the Farm Feed Act of South Africa (Act 36 of 1947). More than 54% of the Pullet and Layer samples and 80% of the Broiler and Breeder samples contained less P than stipulated by law. The Cu concentration of most of the samples was below the legal limit of < 50 mg/kg. Only 3.8% of the Broiler, 17.8% of the Pullet, 4.5% of the Layer and 1.5% of the Breeder samples contained an acceptable concentration of minerals to qualify for registration as an animal feed. It is suggested that the minimum legal levels for P should be reduced and the maximum limits for Na should be increased.

Die mineraalinhoud van hoendermismonsters vanaf pluimvee-ondernemings regdeur Suid-Afrika is bepaal. Die hoendermis het hoë konsentrasies makro- en mikrominerale bevat. Die asinhoud van meer as 40% van die Jonghen- en Teelhenmis en 80% van die Lêhenmis was te hoog om te kwalifiseer vir registrasie as 'n veevoer in Suid-Afrika (Wet 36 van 1947). Meer as 54% van die Jonghen- en Lêhenmis en 80% van die Braaikuiken- en Teelhenmis het minder P as die wetlike minimum bevat. Die Cu-vlakke van die meeste van die monsters was laer as die wetlike vereiste van < 50 mg/kg. Slegs 3.8% van die Braaikuiken-, 17.8% van die Jonghen-, 4.5% van die Lêhen- en 1.5% van die Teelhenmis het die korrekte konsentrasies van al die voorgeskrewe minerale bevat om as veevoer te registreer. Daar word voorgestel dat die minimum wetlike vlakke vir P verlaag kan word, terwyl die maksimum vlakke van Na verhoog kan word.

Keywords: Legal requirements, mineral composition, poultry excreta, ruminants.

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