

# Summary

An experiment to evaluate the chemical composition, apparent digestibility and voluntary intake of hay from the legume "orelha de onça" (*Macroptilium martii*) was conducted in Pernambuco, Brazil. The experiment, with five replications, was conducted with 18-month-old goats, each weighing about 26 kg. The conventional method of total feces collection was used. "Orelha de onça" was harvested from areas in which it occurs spontaneously, as part of the normal haymaking process. Results from chemical analyses were: dry matter 94.63% (contents by volume) and 56.93% (digestibility coefficient); organic matter 90.53 and 58.14%; crude protein, 14.59 and 69.98%; crude fiber, 29.76 and 41.83%; ether extract, 2.67 and 41.43%; and, nitrogen-free extract, 43.51 and 66.32%. The TDN value was 53.99% on dry-matter basis. The voluntary intake (g/kg of  $W^{0.75}$ ) of dry matter was 61.16; crude protein, 8.79; and total digestible nutrients 33.11.