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Can sweet potato residues be used as feed for livestock?

Sweet potato residues (roots and veins) can be transformed into silage before being given to animals as feeds.

The silage can be made with only chopped vines or combined chopped vines with roots (at a ratio of 70:30).

The use of a ferment starter, like molasses, improves the process of fermentation and nutrient content.

Use of sweet potato silage can significantly reduce feeding costs.

However, sweet potato silage is underutilised in

sub-Saharan Africa because it is largely unknown.

The best use of sweet potato silage is during periods of feed scarcity.

Vines and roots can be chopped either manually with a panga or with a motorised forage chopper.

The panga is recommended for small scale producers while a motorised chopper (costing about Shs2 to 3 million depending on the capacity) is more suitable for large scale producers or farmers' groups.

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