Comments on: Excess feeding of stovers from sorghum and maize... by E.I.K. Osafo *et al*.

From Jean S. Zoundi < zoundi@burkina.coraf.bf> Comments on seventeenth paper "Excess feeding of stovers from sorghum and maize..."

Crop residues are of primary importance for animal feeding in the tropics. Several research works carried out in Burkina Faso (Zoundi, 1994) show that the post-harvest period is similar to the rainy season (July to September, when good quality green fodder is available) in terms of Average Daily Live weight Gains. In the integrated livestock-agriculture production systems of the central plateau of Burkina Faso, the post-harvest period is generally chosen by the producers for finishing the long-term fattening of cattle and small ruminants.

The strategy of excess feeding of straw is not investigated at the moment in Burkina Faso. Nevertheless, there are many on-going research works on optimizing the use of crop residues. Sorghum and millet straws are the most commonly used.

Refusals are generally used for producing compost. In the integrated livestock-agriculture production systems, the producers have the objective of taking benefit from the organic fertilization. Because of this context, the quantitative and qualitative changes of the organic fertilization are always taken into account and carefully measured during the experiments related to animal production.

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