8. When animals are offered more stover than they can eat, refused stover can be used as fuel material or re-fed to other livestock e.g. donkeys.

9. Variety of stover is not so important but bird-resistant varieties will give more grain.

10. When buying stover for feeding, look for a high leaf and sheath content.

11. In all feeding situations, it is important to provide water, mineral licks and, if possible, an oil seed cake.

12. Offering more stover than cattle, sheep and goats can eat can result in improved feed intake and heavier animals.

STALL-FEEDING SORGHUM STOVER

to

Cattle, sheep and goats

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1. After sorghum grain is harvested, immediately cut stover and store under cover until needed for feeding.

2. Offer the animals more than they can eat so that they refuse half of what is offered.

This means offering an amount equal to 5% of the animal’s live weight, daily.

Example,

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Weight of cow</th>
<th>200kg</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Weight of stover offered</td>
<td>10kg</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

3. The stover should be offered in at least two meals each day.

When ruminants are offered sorghum stover at this rate, it enables them to eat more and therefore maintain weight or grow.

4. The animals eat more because they select for the more digestible leaf and sheath fractions.

5. Refused stover should be removed from feed trough daily.

6. Sheep will also eat more stover if the material is chopped, but chopping needs to be fine.

7. Cattle should be fed whole stover with no chopping. Chopping stover for cattle reduces intake because it prevents selection.