

The Diurnal Cycling of Carbohydrates in Pasture: The Australian Experience. (C06-mayland220710-Poster)

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Abstract:

Diurnal change in the concentration of water soluble carbohydrates (WSC) in forage has been documented. Herbivores show a preference for afternoon-cut hay when WSC concentrations are often highest. Grazing behaviour may change when animals are given access to new pasture in late afternoon vs in morning. We discuss changes in WSC or nonstructural carbohydrate in pasture species, and the selection by livestock based on AM versus PM-harvested hay or silage production. This technology has important implications for Australia forage production.

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Presentation Information:

Presentation Date: Wednesday, November 13, 2002

Presentation Time: 10:30 am-12:30 pm

Poster Board Number: 928

Keywords:

TNC, Diurnal cycling, Forage quality, Herbivores

