

Study of dust content in wheat straw harvested by wheat straw combines

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■ **ABSTRACT :** Mechanical harvesting of wheat has gained popularity over the years. To collect and bruise the wheat straw and stubbles, left after wheat harvesting with grain combines, another locally developed machine is used known as wheat straw combine. The straw harvested by straw combines contains dust that is harmful for animal health. Views of about 100 farmers were collected regarding the quality of wheat straw harvested by straw combines and 78 % of the farmers stated that straw produced by straw combine is inferior in contrast to that obtained using harambha thresher due to high dust content. Another survey was conducted to investigate the bruising system. Samples from five randomly selected harambha thresher and straw combines were collected and were given chemical treatments to determine ash content and acid insoluble ash present in the wheat straw.

■ **KEY WORDS :** Wheat straw, Wheat straw combine, Ash content, Acid insoluble ash (AIA).

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