

Effect of harvesting cycles in biomass production of drumstick (*Moringa oleifera* Lam.)

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Moringa tree has been of great use not only to the human beings in terms of their health in one form or the other but also for their livestock as moringa makes nutritious fodder for cattles. Further, while the wood had the potential use in pulp industry, pods are used as vegetable and even the roots have potentially used in pharmacy apart from enriching the soil fertility when composted. The harvesting cycles had also effect on leaf biomass production. While, 4 months cycle had produced highest fresh leaf biomass (2810.00 g/plant) as well as dry leaf biomass (713.78 g/plant). Harvesting at 8months cycle had produced highest fresh wood biomass (9289.75 g/plant) followed by harvesting at 4 months cycle (5698.33 g/plant fresh wood). 8 month cycle had produced highest fresh pod biomass (4671.66 g/plant) as well as dry pod biomass (1957.20 g/plant). The 8 months cycle had produced highest total fresh biomass (13712.50 g/plant) as well as total dry biomass (8993.66 g/plant) compared to other cycles of harvesting. 8 months cycle had produced highest fresh root biomass (7452.50 g/plant) as well as dry root biomass (1686.20 g/plant).

Key words : Drumstick, Biomass, Leaf, Pod, Root, Wood

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