



**FACULTY OF AGRICULTURE AND ANIMAL
SCIENCES**

**DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL PRODUCTION AND
SCIENCES**

FINAL YEAR PROJECT

**NUTRIENT DIGESTIBILITY OF *MORINGA OLEIFERA*
SEEDMEAL RATIONS FED TO GROWER PIGS AT ARAPAI
CAMPUS FARM.**

BY

BWIRE AUGUSTINE

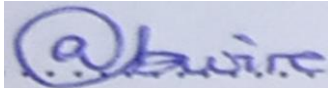
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**A DISERTATION SUBMITTED TO THE DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL SCIENCES IN
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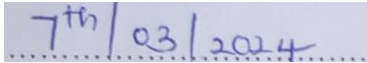
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DECLARATION

I BWIRE AUGUSTINE declare that the information presented in this dissertation is my own work and it has never been presented in this university or any other institute of higher learning for a degree award.



Signature



Date.....

APPROVAL

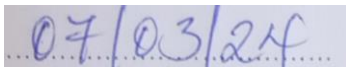
This dissertation has been submitted to the Department of Animal Production and Management, Busitema University with the approval of my supervisor.

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Date

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LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS

ADF	-	Acid detergent fiber
ADL	-	Acid detergent lignin
AOAC	-	Association of official analytical chemists
EE	-	Ether extract
FAAS	-	Faculty of Agriculture and Animal Sciences
CP	-	Crude protein
DAPM	-	Department of animal production and management
GE	-	Gross energy
MOSM	-	<i>Moringa oleifera</i> seed meal ration
NDF	-	Neutral detergent fiber
SBM	-	Soya bean meal

List of figures and tables

Table 1: Daily feed refusals for grower pigs fed on MOSM rations.....12

Table2: showing apparent digestibility of different treatments for a week.....13

Table3: Nutrient digestibility of MOSM based composites.....15

Table4: showing NDF and ADF nutrients in feed and fecal matter.....17

Figure1: Effect of different treatments on palatability (mean refusals) and digestibility..... 18

Table of Contents	
DECLARATION	ii
APPROVAL	iii
ACKNOWLEDGEMENT	iv
LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS	v
CHAPTER ONE: INTRODUCTION	1
1.1 Background	1
1.2 Problem statement.....	3
1.3 Main objective	3
1.4 Specific objectives	3
1.6 Significance of the study.....	4
1.7 Scope of the study	4
CHAPTER TWO: LITERATURE REVIEW	5
2.1 Description of <i>Moringa oleifera</i> tree	5
2.2 Ecology of moringa tree.....	5
2.3 Nutrient profile of moringa seeds	5
2.4 Anti nutritional factors.....	6
2.5 Palatability	6
2.6 Applications of <i>Moringa oleifera</i> seeds.....	6
Conclusion of literature review.....	7
CHAPTER THREE: METHODOLOGY	8
3.1 Geographical area of study	8
3.2 Research design	8
3.3 Experimental design and data collection methods.....	8
3.3.1 Experimental animals and their management	8
3.3.2 Experimental rations	9
3.3.3 Palatability testing.....	9
3.3.4 Digestibility trial	10
3.4 Chemical analysis/Proximate composition	10
3.5 Data analysis	10

3.6 Environmental consideration 10

3.7 Ethical consideration..... 11

3.8 Anticipated limitations..... 11

4.1.2 Digestibility of *Moringa oleifera* seed meal rations as fed to grower pigs..... 12

CHAPTER FIVE: CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS 21

5.1 CONCLUSIONS..... 21

5.2 RECOMMENDATIONS 21

REFERENCES 22

APPENDICES 26

ABSTRACT

Moringa oleifera is a highly valuable plant that is gaining value basing on its nutrient profile in consideration with soya bean meal a known plant protein source. However with increasing competition for plant proteins by both humans and animals, arises the need to find alternative protein sources that can substitute soya. It's upon that gap that this research aimed at finding out the nutrient digestibility of *Moringa oleifera* seed meal fed on grower pigs at Arapai farm with the objective of determining palatability and establishing nutrient digestibility of MOSM rations. An experimental design was used in conducting the research with four treatments; T1 (0%), T2 (5%), T3 (10%) and T4 (15%) MOSM inclusion rates. Three replicates were used per treatment in determination of palatability using single bowel method and it was found that there was a significant difference among treatments, one individual pig was used in establishing the nutrient digestibility of MOSM using total collection method of fecal matter from which 10% of the daily total fecal was collected and prepared for laboratory analysis,

Results from the experiment showed that palatability was highest at (0% MOSM) control feed and increase in Moringa inclusion significantly decreased palatability. On the other hand, increase in Moringa improved both apparent and nutrient digestibility compared to control treatment digestibility. Results obtained show that partial substitution of soya with a % of Moringa significantly improved pig feed in digestibility (figure1) especially at 5% MOSM inclusion which had no negative impacts on desired qualities of palatability and digestibility of soya rather than when used as a whole protein feed.

In conclusion, inclusion of MOSM reduced feed palatability however; digestibility was generally improved. It should be noted that the optimum inclusion rate was established to be 5% as it facilitated a relatively better palatability and digestibility score.

Since this study focused on one category of pigs, I recommend that further research can be conducted on other categories of pigs as well as other animal species.

CHAPTER ONE: INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background

Moringa oleifera belongs to the monogeric family of shrubs and trees known as Moringaceae. Research shows that it originated from India found in the Asian continent (Tree & Oleifera, n.d.), thereafter it spread to the rest of the world including the tropics (Mallenakuppe *et al.*, 2019). *Moringa oleifera* is the most popular of the 13 species of *Moringa* and it is known by various names; “ horseradish tree in Florida, malunggay in Philippines, nebeday in Senegal, benzolive tree in Haiti, drumstick tree in India (Raja *et al.*, 2017).

Moringa oleifera is a fast growing deciduous tree which can grow to a maximum of about 10-12m, the trunk measuring 45cm in diameter. Tropical conditions have been found ideal for the growth of *moringa oleifera* (Qaisar & Zaki, 2022). According to Liu (2018), all *moringa* parts can be utilized as food and as ethno medicine for many diseases for both humans and animals.

Moringa oleifera seeds are the reproductive part of *moringa* tree enclosed in a pod, the seeds are eaten raw, roasted, powdered and used as a water purifier. According to Saa *et al.*, (2019), Seeds contain 19% and 31% proteins and lipids respectively that are useful in the diets of animals. They also contain a high ratio of monounsaturated and saturated fatty acids (Leone *et al.*, 2016), and a polyelectrolyte which is a coagulant (Bichi, 2013). *Moringa* seeds are also used in cosmetics and the medical department

Moringa oleifera is a highly valuable tree with a remarkable nutritional profile. It is estimated to have 28.50%, 25.02%, 10.42% and 11.38% carbohydrates, proteins, fats and dietary fiber nutrients according to a study by Qaisar & Zaki (2022) that it adds in diets of animals (pigs). *Moringa* use in pig feed formulation increases daily weight gain, amino acid profile though minor contribution to the pork quality.

The tree has been also used to prevent and cure diseases that are more than 300 according to the ayurvedic traditional medicine. It has been found to have anti-inflammatory, antiasthmatic, analgesic, antipyretic (Koul, 2015), antifungal and antibacterial, wound healing, anticancer properties among others (Fidrianny *et al.*, 2021). These uses have made the tree to be called “ a

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