

NUTRIENT POTENTIAL OF *Coix Lachryma-Jobi* L. AS RUMINANT FEED SOURCE IN EAST KALIMANTAN

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ABSTRACT--Increasing population and productivity are alternative policies that must be implemented comprehensively in East Kalimantan by applying the concept of feed forage budgeting. Utilization of superior forage through exploration of local resource to find new feed source is a necessity. The objective of this research was to determine the nutrient composition, dry matter digestibility (DMD) and organic matter digestibility (OMD) of *Coix lachryma-jobi*. This research was conducted at Laboratory of Animal Nutrient Science, Faculty of Animal Science and Agriculture, Diponegoro University, Semarang by using proximate analysis and in vitro method. The result showed that *Coix lachryma-jobi* contained of MC (13.27%); DM (86.73%); CP (8.10%); EE (0.89%); CF (21.29%) and ash (12.08%). The stem contained of MC (12.95%); DW (87.05%); CP (7.94%); EE (0.96%); CF (24.11%) and ash (11.26%). The bran contained of MC (11.53%); DM (88.47%); CP (12.55%); EE (6.40%); CF (60.78%) and ash (8.74%). The DMD of leaves was 59.56%; OMD of leaves was 38.22%; DMD of stem was 51.77% and OMD of stem was 34.41%. This showed that *Coix lacryma-jobi* L. is potential to be used for ruminant feed source especially for ration combined with other feed sources through the application of feed processing technology (hay, silage, amofer, complete feed). Effective biomass utilization could provide continue and sustainable feed source thus it can meet the needs of ruminant and give additional economic advantages.

Keywords--Potency, nutrient, *Coix lachryma-jobi*, feed, ruminant

ABSTRAK--Peningkatan populasi dan produktivitas merupakan alternatif kebijakan yang harus dilaksanakan secara komprehensif di Kalimantan Timur dengan menerapkan konsep feed forage budgeting. Pemanfaatan hijauan unggul dengan upaya eksplorasi bahan pakan baru yang menjadi sumberdaya lokal merupakan keniscayaan. Penelitian bertujuan mengetahui komposisi nutrisi, kecernaan bahan kering (KcBK), dan bahan organik (KcBO) *Coix lachryma-jobi*. Penelitian dilaksanakan di Laboratorium Ilmu Nutrisi Ternak Fakultas Peternakan dan Pertanian Universitas Diponegoro Semarang, menggunakan metode analisis proksimat, dan in vitro. Hasil penelitian *Coix lacryma-jobi* L. menunjukkan bahwa daun memiliki KA (13,27%); BK (86,73%); PK (8,10%); LK (0,89%); SK (21,29%) dan abu (12,08%). Batang KA (12,95%); BK (87,05%); PK (7,94%); LK (0,96%); SK (24,11%) dan abu (11,26%). Dedak KA (11,53%); BK (88,47%); PK (12,55%); LK (6,40%); SK (60,78%) dan abu (8,74%). Kecernaan bahan kering daun 59,56%; KcBO daun 38,22%; KcBK batang 51,77% dan KcBO batang 34,41%. *Coix lacryma-jobi* L. memiliki potensi menjadi pakan ruminansia terutama sebagai pakan penyusun ransum dengan dikombinasi bahan pakan lain melalui aplikasi teknologi pengolahan (hay, silase, amofer, complete

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feed). Pemanfaatan biomassa secara efektif mampu menyediakan bahan pakan yang kontinu, dan berkelanjutan sehingga kebutuhan pakan ruminansia dapat terpenuhi serta mampu memberikan tambahan manfaat secara ekonomi.

Kata kunci: Potensi, nutrisi, *Coix lachryma-jobi*, pakan, ruminansia

I. INTRODUCTION

World ruminant growth increases followed by the increasing demand of livestock product due to increasing population, increasing income and increasing urbanization (Getabalew and Alemneh, 2019). Ruminant has great potency in providing animal protein (beef) worldwide, about 75.5% contributes for global livestock biomass (Mayulu, 2019). A complex digestive system causes ruminant requires a variety of nutrients to support their productivity (Mikkelson, 2017). Feed is the basic factor in livestock business because it has large influence on livestock productivity (Mayulu, 2015) and an increasing population needs to be balanced with the availability of adequate and high-quality feed (Mayulu, 2019). Fluctuating seasons may impact on the sustainability of animal feed (Malalantang et al., 2019; Mayulu and Daru, 2019) especially in the dry season, so that the availability of forage fiber is expected to support ruminant production.

The carrying capacity of animal husbandry development area has an important role in providing feed resources (forages) which is in accordance with the direction of the development (Mayulu and Daru, 2019). Forage plants are considered as the main aspect of agroforestry because they are not only providing food security but also having impact on the increasing economic aspect (Dey and Mukherjee, 2015). Forage plants that are resistant to drought become an alternative choice in providing forages such as *Coix lachryma-jobi* L.

Jelai (*Coix lachryma-jobi* L.) is a tropical plant that has many seeds from Poaceae family (Nurmala, 2010; Jampeetong et al., 2013) and it is able to adapt in warm areas such as Asia, Africa and Asia - Mediterranean belt (Lu et al., 2013). This plant is cultivated as a small seed crop (Irawanto et al., 2017; Fu et al., 2019). Other names for *Coix lachryma-jobi* L. in Indonesia are Hajeli; Jali (Nurmala, 2010), Japen, Jaten while in other countries it is called Adlay (Philippines), Job's tears (Australia), Mayuen (China) and Sila (Fiji) (Ruminta et al., 2017). The main product is seeds that can be consumed by humans as food and medicine (Yu et al., 2008; Lu et al., 2013) and by-products (leaves, stems) are used for animal feed (Irawanto et al., 2017). Utilization of *Coix lachryma-jobi* seeds is supported by complete nutritional content such as protein (16.2%), fat (4.65%) (Kim et al., 2004; Yang et al., 2013), carbohydrate (79.17%), amino acid, vitamin(B₁ 330 mg %) (Kim et al., 2004), inorganic salt, diuretic, anti-inflammatory drug, anti-allergy (Chen et al., 2012) anti-cancer drug, analgesic (Li et al., 2013), containing large amount of lipopolysaccharide (palmitic acid, stearic acid, octadecadienoic acid, oleic acid and linoleic acid) (Yu et al., 2008), oligosaccharides (free radical prevention) and antioxidant (Lu et al., 2013).

Compared to other cereals, *Coix lachryma-jobi* L. has an advantage in terms of harvesting which can be harvested 2-3 times (Irawanto et al., 2017), thus by-products (bran) are higher. Sustainability in livestock production requires exploration of new locally available feed source because of the composition of the nutritional superiority (Malik et al., 2018), however the information reference is still limited. Exploration of feed source (*Coix lachryma-jobi* L.) that is less well known for ruminants is important to be studied so that research is expected to

be able to promote and open opportunities for wider utilization by considering the potential for nutrition, anti-nutrition, pharmacology and nutraceuticals aspect.

II. MATERIAL AND METHOD

This research was conducted at Laboratory of Animal Husbandry Nutrient Science, Faculty of Animal Husbandry and Agriculture, Diponegoro University, Semarang. Material used in this research were: a) Coix lachryma-jobi L. plant; b) in vitro material such as: cattle rumen liquid, Mc Dougall solution (artificial saliva), pepsin-HCL solution as protein degradable enzyme, ice liquid (to stop fermentation process), whatman 41 filter paper and CO₂ gas.

Sample Preparation

Sample preparation (Coix lachryma-jobi L.) was conducted by physical treatment consisting of cutting, drying and milling to make sample in mesh size. Plant samples of Coix lachryma-jobi L., was obtained from agriculture field located in Samarinda City, East Kalimantan Province.

Proximate Analysis

Nutrient content of Coix lachryma-jobi L., was determined by using proximate analysis (AOAC, 1990). This analysis classifies the component of feed source based on chemical composition which contained of moisture content (MC), dry matter (DM), crude protein (CP), eter extract (EE), crude fiber (CF) and ash.

In vitro Analysis

In vitro analysis is one of biological analysis method which is used to determine the nutrient intake of feed source by livestock. This analysis was developed by Tilley and Terry, (1963). Parameters that can be obtained from this analysis were dry matter digestibility (DMD) and organic matter digestibility (OMD). In vitro method divides the analytical process into two stages i.e. fermentative digestion for 48 hours and enzymatic digestion for 48 hours (Tilley and Terry, 1963; Mabjeeshh et al., 2000; Makkar, 2004).

Calculation and Statistic Analysis

In vitro analysis of dry matter digestibility and organic matter digestibility was calculated with this following equation (Mayulu et al., 2018):

1. DMD equation:

$$\text{DMD (\%)} = \frac{\text{DM weight of the sample} - (\text{DM contained in residue} - \text{blanco})}{\text{DM weight of the sample}} \times 100 \dots \dots \dots (1)$$

2. OMD equation:

$$\text{OMD (\%)} = \frac{\text{OM weight of the sample} - (\text{OM residue} - \text{blanco})}{\text{OM weight of the sample}} \times 100 \dots \dots \dots (2)$$

Remarks:

DM sample = sample weight x % DM

DM residue = weight after oven-CP-filter paper

OM sample	= weight of DM sample x % OM
% OM	= 100% DM -(% ash contained in DM)
OM residue	= weight after oven – weight after kiln – filter paper
Blanco	= weight after oven – CP - filter paper

III. RESULT AND DISCUSSION

Characteristic of Coix lacryma-jobi L.

Coix lacryma-jobi L., is a grain plant (cereals), classified as monocotyledonae (Nurmala, 2010), tolerant to fungi and pest (insect) and can be grown on marginal land (Jampeetong et al., 2013). The cultivation of Coix lacryma-jobi L., in Indonesia is majorly done sporadically as a secondary crop with polyculture system on the house yard (Nurmala, 2010). Indonesia has four varieties of Jelai including 1) Agrotis or stone jelay (hard seeds and used as handicraft materials) such as stenocarpa stapf and monilifer Watt; 2) ma-yuen (Rom.) is widely used as food, 3) Palustris; and 4) Aquatica (growing in wet places such as lakes and swamps) (Nurmala, 2010; Khongjeamsiri et al., 2011). This following is the taxonomy of jelay (Nurmala, 2010).

Kingdom	: Plantae
Division	: Spermatophyta
Subdivision	: Angiospermae
Class	: Monocotyledoneae
Ordo	: Poales
Family	: Poaceae
Genus	: Coix
Species	: C. lacryma-jobi

Based on theseed characteristic,there are two types of Coix lacryma-jobi L., namely hard-shell Jelai (Coix lacryma-jobi var. stenocarpa stapf and Coix lacryma-jobi var. monilifer Watt) and soft-shell Jelai (Coix lacryma-jobi var. ma-yuen) (Chen et al., 2012). The hard-shell seed makes Coix lacryma-jobi var. stenocarpa stapf and Coix lacryma-jobi var. monilifer Watt is utilized for handicraft such as beads (ECHO Asia Seed Fact Sheet, 2013) while soft-shell seed is cultivated and utilized for crops, medicine (Li et al., 2013; Lu et al.,2013) and livestock feeds (Yang et al., 2013) including the leaves, stems and milling by-products (barn). The tree is 1-2 meters tall, male and female flower is located in different tree and female flower produces yellow, purple or brown grain (Nurmala, 2010).



Figure 1: Plant of *Coix lacryma-jobi* L., (Source: Yu et al., 2008).



Figure 2: Seed of *Coix lacryma-jobi* L., (Source: Liao et al., 2019).

Coix lacryma-jobi L., is classified as a short-day plant (Irawanto et al., 2017) quantitative, requires high temperature, abundant rainfall, fertile soil (ECHO Asia Seed Fact Sheet, 2013) and its growth is indeterminate (Nurmala, 2010) and can be harvested 2-3 times in one planting (Irawanto et al., 2017). *Coix lacryma-jobi* L., can be grown in highland and upland habitat, tolerant to cold temperature and acidic or basic soils (Irawanto et al., 2017). Optimum growth of *Coix lacryma-jobi* L., can occur when planted at the beginning of the rainy season (ECHO Asia Seed Fact Sheet, 2013). Plant can be harvested at 7-8 months of age with extensive and 5-6 months with intensive planting system (Irawanto et al., 2017).

According to Juhaeti (2015), the growth phases are divided into four stages which include 1) germination (continued with the growing of leaves); 2) offspring formation (vegetative); 3) flower and seed formation (reproductive); and 4) seed maturation (harvest). The germination stage takes place within 1-2 weeks (Irawanto et al., 2017) and the vegetative stage occurs for four months prior to flowering and pollination. Pollination occurs monoeciously, namely individual flowers are male or female, but both sexes can be found on the same plant and pollinated by the wind, then the process of seed formation occurs for two months and the stalk starts to dry when most of the seeds are ripe (ECHO Asia Seed Fact Sheet, 2013).

The morphology of *Coix lacryma-jobi* L. includes solid rounded rods with a pile, corkscrew, segmented, branched at the top, yellowish green and smooth (shiny) (Irawanto et al., 2017). Leaf is single type, downy leaf sheath, rough leaf surface, narrow lanceolate leaf blade with 20-50 cm length size and 1.5-4 cm wide, and prominent leaf midribs. Monoecious flowers namely male and female flowers can be found in the same plant. Fruit shape is a water droplet with size of 8 mm x 1.1 cm and glossy. The grains gather at the base of the leaves which are located on the stem of 3-6 cm long and consist of separated male and female. Male flower is oblong shaped with 6-10 mm in size, has three yellow stamens while female flower is rounded-shape, greenish in color and has a small hole at the top with two stigmas (ECHO Asia Seed Fact Sheet, 2013; Irawanto et al., 2017). The fruit is shaped like a water droplet, smooth, with size of 5-15 mm x 6-10 mm and shiny and turns brown or black when ripe (based on its variety). The planting distance of *Coix lacryma-jobi* L., is about 30 cm (12 inches), and separated in rows of 40-80 cm (16-32 inches) The most common pest attack is smut (*Ustilago coicis*), which can destroy the ovaries (ECHO Asia Seed Fact Sheet, 2013).

Potency of Coix Lacryma-jobi L., as Ruminant Feed

1. The Result of Proximate Analysis

The supply of quality feed throughout the year needs to be in place in order to increase ruminant population and productivity through comprehensive implementation of feed forage budgeting, utilization of superior forage and exploration of local feed potency (Mayulu et al., 2010). Forage acts as the major component of feed originating from grazing land (Mayulu et al., 2013; Dey and Mukherjee, 2015) or other sources (agricultural waste). Grass is used as the main feed of ruminants but can not be used to provide all nutrient needs of the ruminant (Mikkelsen, 2017). Utilization of biomass such as Coix lacryma-jobi L., provides a good opportunity to supply feed at a lower price and is supported by innovation and technology (Mayulu and Suhardi, 2015) to increase its nutritional value (Mayulu et al., 2013)

Coix lacryma-jobi L., becomes an important minor cereal as feed material before corn becoming popular in South Asia (Fu et al., 2019). The production of Coix lacryma-jobi L., reaches to 3500 kg/ha (Liao et al., 2019) and produces green forage up to 34.6 ton/ha and dry material 6.9 ton/ha (ECHO Asia Seed Fact Sheet, 2013) while the green forage production of sorghum is 15-20 tone/ha (Sirappa, 2003). The production will keep continue to increasing so that it will also increasing of biomass, on the other hand it will also increases the economic sector of livestock farmers where they can earn more incomes by utilizing the biomass for livestock feed. The planting area is 73.000 ha to produce grain (whole seeds with shell) 0.22 Million tone (Fu et al., 2019). Physiologically, ruminant can consume feed derived from agricultural waste (Mayulu, 2019). The nutritional value of Coix lacryma-jobi L., by products varies greatly (Table 1). Based on the nutritional potency, it is considered that its crop can be utilized widely for ruminants in East Kalimantan Province.

The wide range of nutritional value contained in the crop offers more flexibility for livestock farmers and more complexity for nutritionist to utilize the biomass efficiently as it contains high crude fiber particularly on the grain (71.81%) and the barn (60.78%). The stems and the leaves of Coix lacryma-jobi L., tend to have similar characteristic with other crop`s by-products. The by-products of agricultural crops especially from cereals tend to have low nutrient, because the nutrient contained in stem and leaf transfers to the grain (Mayulu, 2019). The utilization of by-products derived from Coix lacryma-jobi L., can be given directly to livestock in fresh form similarly with utilization of corn by-products (Umiyasih and Wina, 2008).

One of efforts to optimize the utilization of leaves and stems of Coix lacryma-jobi L., is to process into preserved feed such as hay, silage (Umiyasih and Wina, 2008), ammoniation fermentation (amofer) (Mayulu and Suhardi, 2015), and complete feed (Mayulu et al., 2009). Those processing technologies can extend the shelf life of feed. Processing is very necessary in an effort to ensure continuity of feed (Umiyasih and Wina, 2008). Grain given to livestock roles as energy, protein, vitamin and mineral (Alijosius et al., 2016) so that they can be used as ingredients for concentrate compound (energy sources) (Amanzougarene et al., 2020). Based on the nutrient content (Table 1), Coix lacryma-jobi L., can be used for concentrate feed compound as an effort to optimally fulfill ruminants nutrition both for breeding and fattening (Mayulu et al., 2009). Proper processing of grains can increase the nutrients digestibility in the digestive tract of ruminants (Garcia et al., 2018).

Table 1: Nutrient Composition of *Coix lacryma-jobi* L., on Each Plant Part

Nutrient	Plant Part			
	Grain*	Leaf	Stem	Barn
Moisture Content	11.04	13.27	12.95	11.53
Dry Matter	88.96	86.73	87.05	88.47
Crude Protein	16.20	8.10	7.94	12.55
Eter Extract	5.18	0.89	0.96	6.40
Ash	1.38	12.08	11.26	8.74
Crude Fiber	71.81	21.29	24.11	60.78

Source: Proximate analysis result in Laboratory of Animal Husbandry Nutrient Science Laboratory, Faculty of

Animal Husbandry and Agriculture, Diponegoro University, Semarang (2020).

*Kim et al. (2004); Nurmala, (2010).

Compared with others cereals crops which widely used for livestock (corn and sorghum), nutrient content of *Coix lacryma-jobi* L. shows variable result (Table 2). The grain of *Coix lacryma-jobi* L., contained DM (88.96%) which was almost equal to DM content of corn (89.00%) and sorghum (87.38%), but the leaves of *Coixlacryma-jobi* L., contained higher DM (86.73%) than corn (80.00%) and sorghum (30.42%). In term of CP, the leaves contained higher content than corn and sorghum i.e. 8.10%, 7.00% and 7.82%, respectively. Thus shows that barn of *Coixlacryma-jobi* L., can supply protein for ruminants (Fu et al., 2019). The stem of *Coix lacryma-jobi* L. had higher CP i.e. 7.94% and the stem of corn was 5.00%. The total nutrient content (DM, CP, EE, CF, Ash) of *Coixlacryma-jobi* L., had higher nutrient content compared with corn.

Table 2: Nutrient Composition of *Coix lacryma-jobi* L. Compared with Other Cereals

Nutrient	<i>Coixlacryma-jobi</i> L.				Corn				Sorghum			
	Grai n	Leaf	Ste m	Barn	Gra in	Leaf	Ste m	Barn	Ste m	Le af	Str aw	Bar n
Moisture Content	11.04	13.27	12.95	11.53	11.00	20.00	7.00	20.00	12.62	69.58	-	-
Dry Matter	88.96	86.73	87.05	88.47	89.00	80.00	30.00	80.00	87.38	30.42	-	-
Crude Protein	16.20	8.10	7.94	12.55	9.00	7.00	5.00	9.00	8.70	7.82	4.40	19.00
Crude Fiber	71.81	21.29	24.11	60.78	2.00	21.70	35.00	25.00	3.00	28.94	32.30	8.60

Eter Extract	5.18	0.89	0.96	6.40	4.2	2.32	1.3	2.40	2.5	2.6	1.6	4.9
					0		0		0	0	0	0
Ash	1.38	12.0	11.2	8.74	2.0	13.7	7.0	7.00	2.8	11.	8.9	2.0
		8	6		0	7	0			43	0	2

Source: Proximate analysis result carried out in Animal Husbandry Nutrient Science Laboratory, Faculty of

Animal Husbandry and Agriculture, Diponegoro University, Semarang (2020);

Sirappa, (2003); Umiyasih and Wina, (2008); Kulamarva et al. (2009); Sariubang and Herniwati, (2011); Animal Nutrition, (2012); Suarni and Firmansyah, (2016); Wulandari et al. (2019); Amanzougarene et al. (2020).

2. Dry Matter and Organic Matter Digestibility

The nutrient quality of a feed stock is determined by nutrient composition and the utilization level by ruminant (digestibility) (Wild et al., 2019). Digestibility is the percentage of nutrient which can be digested by digestive track (Mayulu, 2014) and nutrient utilization by ruminants is greatly determined by the activity of microbe fermentation inside rumen (Wild et al., 2019).

Table 3: In Vitro Digestibility of Leaves and Stems of Coix lacryma-jobi L.

Plant Part	Digestibility	
	Dry Matter	Organic Matter
	-----%-----	
Leaves	59.56	38.22
Stems	51.77	34.41

The evaluation of in vitro digestibility on leaves and stems of Coix lacryma-jobi L., showed varied results (Table 3). Dry matter digestibility (DMD) of Coix lacryma-jobi L., stem produced a higher value (59.56%) compared to DMD of cornstalk (51%) (Umiyasih and Wina, 2008), but equivalent to DMD sorghum (49.5%-70%) (Kulamarva et al., 2009). High digestibility values indicate that more nutrients are absorbed by livestock (Mayulu, 2014). The organic matter digestibility (OMD) of Coix lacryma-jobi L., stem was 38.22%, but lower compared to OMD of sorghum which ranged between 74-81% (Heuze et al., 2015). The in vitro DMD of Coix lacryma-jobi L., leaves produced 51.77%, and this value was higher compared to DMD of sorghum leaves (39.80%) but lower compared to corn leaves (58%) (Umiyasih and Wina, 2008). Coix lacryma-jobi L. had lower DMD. The OMD of Coix lacryma-jobi L., leaves reached 34.41%, thus based on these overall results Coix lacryma-jobi L., had relatively good digestibility so it is effectively used for ruminants (Alijosius et al., 2016) to be composed for feed ration.

IV. CONCLUSION

Based on the nutrient content, biomass that can be derived from Coix lacryma-jobi L., have a potential to be used for ruminant feed source in East Kalimantan especially for ration feed stock which combined with other feed

stocks and supported with application of processing technology (hay, silage, amofer, complete feed). Biomass utilization can effectively supply continue and sustainable feed stock to meet with the ruminant's feed needs and able to generate additional economic benefits.

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