

Effect of using different fertilizers sources on forage sorghum yield, digestibility and energy parameters by In vitro Gas Test production

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Abstract

The effect of using different rates of organic and mineral fertilization on forage sorghum was studied. An experiment was conducted at the Agricultural Research and Experimental Station, Cairo University in 2013 and 2014 summer seasons. The experiment was performed in a randomized complete design with three replicates. The experiment included five treatments; the T₁ (control)= 100% mineralization, T₂ (C₆M₀)=100% compost, T₃ (C_{4.5}M_{25%}) = 25% minerals + 75% compost, T₄ (C₃M_{50%})= 50% minerals+50% compost and T₅ (C₁₅M_{75%}) = 75% minerals+25% compost. The results showed significant increases in plant height, stem thickness, fresh weight and dry weight for the T₃ compared with the other treatments, while means value were 152.4 cm, 1.047 cm, 22.96 ton./fed and 6 ton/fed, respectively. Moreover, T₃ (C_{4.5}M_{25%}) led to increasing the content of CP and NFE and did not affect the EE and ash. While this treatment led to increasing the content of NDF%, ADF% and decreasing the content of hemi cellulose and higher content of cellulose compared to the other treatments. The results of gas parameters correct (GP ml /200 mg DM), gas production structure fraction (GPSF %) and gas production non-structure fraction (GPNSF %) recorded the best values with the T₂ (C₆M₀). The highest values of each of (GP ml / 200 mg. DM), (GPSF %) and (GPNSF %) was recorded in the 1st and 2nd cut, while the T₄ (C₃M_{50%}) gave the highest value in the 3rd cut. The T₂ recorded the highest values of ME (MJ / Kg. DM) in the 1st cut and the net energy lactation (NEL_{MJ/kg·DM}) in the 2nd cut. The short-chain fatty acids (SCFA, s m mol / ml. gas) showed the highest values in the 1st and 2nd cut, while for the T₄ (C₃M_{50%}) showed the highest values in the 3rd cut. The T₂ recorded a significant increase in dry matter and organic matter digestibility in the 1st cut followed by the T₄ which recorded the highest value in the 1st cut. The economic study proved that the T₃ (C_{4.5}M_{25%}) has the highest profit (2.29 L.E.), the T₄ = (2.46 L.E.) and the lowest return of the T₂ = 100% organic gave a profit of (1.90 L. E.). The T₂ gave the highest digestive value for the 1st and 2nd cut, followed by the T₄ which gave the highest digestive value in the 3rd cut. Finally, we can conclude that the T₂ is the best treatment in terms of feeding animal and the size of the crop in the 2nd cut is like the size of the crop in the 3rd cut of the T₄, which gave the best economic feasibility using the 2nd cut of the T₂ to provide the time of cultivation for another crop. In addition, necessary work of the digestion and feeding trails on the animal on these 2nd cut of T₂ which gave positive results in order to link the amount of yield in the 1st and 2nd cut and digestion factors and measure the amount of meat produced to determine the economic efficiency in obtaining a good crop in arms of quantity and quality and reduce the crop duration to provide land for cultivation another crop as well as reducing the mineral contamination of the fertilizer-producing soil.

Key words: Forage Sorghum, organic and mineral fertilization, plant growth, chemical composition, In- vitro gas test and Economic evaluation.

Introduction

Forage Sorghum is one of the most widely adapted forage crops and grown extensively during summer season and has a significant role in livestock production (Amandeep, 2012). Nitrogen is the essential element required for plant growth in relatively large amounts. N deficiency can result in reduced dry matter, crude protein and grain yield (Ashiono *et al.*, 2005). The nitrogen is important component of proteins, enzymes, vitamins, chlorophyll and essential photosynthetic molecule (Basak 2006).

Compost had positive effect on plant growth and yield due to its high organic matter content which improved soil physical and biological properties

(Gupta and Pradhan 1995). Feeding of green forage to livestock is essential for the maintenance of normal health and reproduction (Roy and Khandaker 2010).

Recently in vitro gas production technique with chemical composition have been widely used to evaluate the potential nutritive value of previously uninvestigated forages since in vitro gas production technique is quick, cheap and less time consuming (Kamalak and Canbolat 2010, Getachew *et al.*, 2004; Chumpawadee *et al.*, 2005 and Maheri-Sis *et al.*, 2007, 2008). In vitro rumen degradability and gas production (GP) techniques have been used for estimating quality of feed sorghum for ruminants. This method also predicts gas production correct, gas production structure fraction, gas production non-

structure fraction, dry matter digestibility, organic matter digestibility and amount for short chain fatty acids of ruminants feed and energy parameters energy. **Babayemi, (2007) and Maheri-Sis et al., (2008)** who reported highly significant ($p < 0.01$) variations on DM content among the three fodders in the first and third cuts and the highest values (58.35, 59.97 and 61.92%) of IVDMD were found in German grass compared to those of para and dhal grasses in all stages of maturity. The gas production of different classes of feed incubated in vitro in buffered rumen fluid was closely related to the production of SCFA, s which was based on carbohydrates fermentation (**Sallam et al., 2007, Kanak et al., 2012** and **Blummel and Oraskov 1993**).

The objectives of the present study were to determine the effect of inorganic nitrogen (in form of ammonium nitrate 33.5 %) and organic nitrogen (in form of compost of residual of plants mixed with animal manure) with different combination between them on yield and quality of forage Sorghum. The final product was determining the chemical composition, *In-Vitro* rumen degradability, parameters gas production and volatile fatty acid production to elucidate the relationships between chemical composition and energy parameters of *In-Vitro* rumen degradability.

Materials and Methods

The field experiment was carried out at the Experimental West Farm of Research Station of Faculty of Agriculture, Cairo University, Egypt during summer seasons 2013 and 2014, to study the effect of inorganic nitrogen (in form of ammonium nitrate 33.5 %) and organic nitrogen in form of compost with different combinations between them on yield and quality of forage sorghum.

Plot size was 12 m² (4 X 3 m) compressing five ridges 60 cm apart and 25 cm between hills. Phosphorus fertilizer (15.5 % P₂O₅) in the form of super phosphate was applied at the rate of 100kg/fed during soil preparation. Nitrogen of ammonium nitrate (33.5%N) (90 kg N / fed) was added in three equal doses i.e. 30 kg just after the 1st irrigation plus 30 kg after 1st cut and 30 kg after 2nd cut. Three cuts were taken from each experiment; the 1st cut was taken after 55 days from seeding, date the 2nd cut at 35 days from the 1st cut, the 3rd cut after 35 day from the 2nd cut. Potassium sulphate (48 % K₂O) was applied at rate of 75 kg/fed on two equal doses after 20 and 40 days from planting. The experiment was laid out in Complete Randomized Block Design (RCBD), using three replications.

The soil of the experimental field was clay loam, neutral (pH 7.97); EC 0.98dSm-1, Organic matter (0.65 %), available N 38.96, P 4.28 and K 189 mg/kg soil. The chemical properties of the cultivated soil

were determined before sowing according methods described by **Cottenie, et al. (1982)** and **Page et al (1982)**. Compost was prepared according to (**Nasef et al., 2009**). The final product was chemically analyzed by **Brunner and Wasmer (1978)**. The chemical analysis of compost is recorded in five treatments was applied as followed: T1= C0 M 100% (control); T2= Compost 100% (C6 M0); T3 = C4.5 M25%; T4 = C3 M50% and T5 = C1.5 M 75%.

2.1- Preparing the samples:

The same time freshly collected leaves samples from each plot were cut into small pieces and dried for determining chemical analysis and feeding value. The chemical composition of compost is recorded in Table (1).

2.2-Chemical analysis: Samples were sieved after dried and milled through a 1 mm sieve for chemical analysis and in vitro gas production procedure. Dry matter (DM) was determined by drying the samples at 105°C overnight and ash by igniting the samples in muffle furnace at 525°C for 8 h. Nitrogen (N) content was measured by the kjeldahl method. Crude protein (CP) was calculated as $N \times 6.25$, crude fiber (CF) and ether extract (EE) was determined according to **AOAC (2000)**. Neutral Detergent Fiber (NDF), Acid detergent fiber (ADF) and acid detergent lignin (ADL) were determined according to the producers outlined by **Van- Soest et al., (1991)**.

2.3-Parameters In-vitro rumen gas test production:

In-Vitro rumen gas production parameters were carried out in the Laboratory of Total nutrient digestibility, Regional Center for Food and Feed, Agriculture Research Center, Giza, Egypt. Rumen fluid was obtained from three fistulae Rahmani rams fed twice daily at the maintenance level with a diet containing alfalfa (60%) and concentrate (40%). The samples were incubated in vitro with rumen fluid in calibrated glass syringes following the procedures of **Menke et al., (1979)**. Two hundred Milligram dried samples were weighed in triplicate into calibrated glass syringes of 100 ml. The syringe were prewarmed at 39°C before the injection of 30 ml rumen fluid-buffer mixture into each syringe followed by incubation in a water bath at 39°C. Readings of gas production were recorded. Total gas values were corrected for blank incubation. Digestible Dry Matter (DDM), Digestible Organic Matter (DOM), Short Chain Fatty Acids SCFA,s, Gas Production Soluble Fraction (GPSF) and Gas Production Non- Soluble Fraction (GPNSF) were calculated according to **van Gelder et al. (2005)**, Metabolizable Energy (ME), Net Energy Lactation (NEL), Digestible Organic Matter (DOM) and Digestible Dry Matter (DDM) values were calculated using equations below according to **Menke and steingass. (1988)**.

$SCFA = 0.0239 * gas - 0.00425$.

$GPSF \text{ (ml/g DM)} = (\text{Gas3h} - 5.5) * 0.99 - 3.$

$GPNSF \text{ (ml/g DM)} = (1.02 * (\text{Gas24h} - 5.5) - (\text{Gas3h} - 5.5) + 2).$

$DOM = 33.71 + (0.7464 * \text{gas}).$

$ME = 2.2 + 0.1357 * \text{gas} + 0.057 * CP + 0.002859 * CP^2.$

$NEL = 0.54 + 0.0959 * \text{Gas} + 0.0038 * CP +$

$0.0001733 * CP$

2.4-Economic evaluation: In the present study, the economic evaluations are based on the official and actual market prices determined by Muhamed

Abd El – Halim Ministry of Agriculture and the Agricultural Credit and Development Bank in Giza.

2.5-Statistical analysis:

The statistical analysis was done using MSTAT-C program in a Completely Randomized Block Design (CRBD), and differences among the treatment means were determined by the Least Significant Difference (LSD) for comparing means at 5% level according to Gomez, and Gomez, (1984).

Table 1. Chemical analysis of the compost

EC (DS/m)	pH (paste extract)	Moisture (%)	O.M. (%)	O.C. (%)	C/N (%)	Macronutrients (%)		
						N	P	K
4.68	8.33	14.40	55.34	32.10	19.38	1.70	0.21	1.89

O.M. = organic matter, O.C. = organic carbon, C/N = ratio of carbon in nitrogen

Table 2. Plant height and Stem diameter of forage sweet Sorghum as affected by organic and mineral fertilizers for grand mean for two seasons:

Treatments	Plant height (cm ²)			Means	Stem diameter (cm ²)			Means
	1 st Cut	2 nd Cut	3 rd Cut		1 st Cut	2 nd Cut	3 rd Cut	
T ₁ (C0M100%)	154.5	157.5	118.6	143.5	0.897	1.033	0.89	0.94
T ₂ = (C6M0)	166.7	170.7	132.5	156.6	0.883	0.983	0.857	0.907
T ₃ (C4.5M25%)	168.0	173.6	152.4	164.7	1.007	1.167	0.967	1.047
T ₄ = C3M50%	150.2	160.9	137.7	149.6	0.883	1.047	0.763	0.898
T ₅ = (C1.5M75%)	154.3	166.2	141.7	154.1	0.903	1.033	0.867	0.934
L.S.D. at 0.05 levels	Treatments (T) = 1.901 Cuts (C) = 1.473 Interaction (T×C) = 3.293				Treatments (T) = 0.048 Cuts (C) = 0.0374 Interaction (T×C) = 0.1803			

Results and Discussion

3.1- Compost and the mineral additions effects on yield properties of sorghum cultivars:

3.1.1- Plant height and stem diameter: We observed that the compost and mineral fertilizers were affected plant height and stem diameter, where it was ranged from 118.6 to 173.6 cm. and 0.763 to 1.167 cm. for both of plant height and stem diameter, respectively. The T₃ gave the highest values of plant height and stem diameter where it recorded 173.6 and 1.167 (cm) compared with the other treatments. The statistical analysis it was observed that T₃ rates at 2nd Cut gave highest value of plant height. The interaction between rates and cuts gave highly significant values for stem diameter. These results are in consistence with Ahmad *et al.*, (2009), El-Sabbagh, N. (2001), Farhad *et al.*, (2009), Khaled *et al.*, (2011). Muhammad *et al.*, (2014) in one T₃ treatment at 2nd Cut better than other treatments. These results also agree with that obtained by Mahmoud *et al.*, (2013). On the other hand, Jaime and Viola (2011) found that stem diameter was not affected by the different basal rates applied in this

trial with combinations of inorganic fertilizers and composts.

3.1.2- Fresh and dry weight. Data in Table (3) showed that fresh and dry weight values of forage sorghum plants were affected by different application rates of organic and inorganic fertilizers, where the addition rate of 4.5ton compost + 25% NPK/fed mineral fertilizer (T₃ at 2nd Cut) gave the highest values of both fresh and dry weight compared with the other treatments, it was ranged 17.68 to 30.77 and 4.07 to 7.52 ton/fed respectively. The interaction between application rates and cuts revealed that there was significant effect. These results almost agree with that obtained by Hanan Siam *et al.*, (2014) and Iqbal *et al.*, (2014), who reported that the use of compost at the rate of 20 m³/fed (O.M) in combination with the high rate of nitrogen fertilizer had significantly affected the dry matter content. Generally, the fresh and dry weight values were increased when T₃ compared with the control where the per-cent was 9.14% and 9.88% respectively. Ghosh *et al.*, (2004), Khan *et al.*, (2008) and Aspasia *et al.*, (2010).

Table 3. Grand mean of fresh and dry weights of forage Sorghum as affected by organic and mineral fertilizers during two seasons

Treatments	Fresh weight (ton. /fed)			Means	Dry weight (ton. /fed)			Means
	1 st. Cut	2 nd Cut	3 rd Cut		1 st. Cut	2 nd Cut	3 rd Cut	
T ₁ (C0M100%)	24.92	27.3	19.92	24.05	5.20	5.95	4.73	5.29
T ₂ =(C6M0)	25.69	28.63	17.68	24.00	5.38	6.85	4.09	5.44
T ₃ (C4.5M25%)	28.95	30.77	22.96	27.56	5.58	7.52	4.9	6.00
T ₄ = C3M50%	28.84	28.91	19.71	25.82	5.19	5.91	4.45	5.18
T ₅ =(C1.5M75%)	26.39	28.25	21.98	25.54	5.49	6.69	4.07	5.42
L.S.D. at 0.05 levels	Treatments	(T) = 0.479			Treatments	(T) = 0.354		
	Cuts	(C) = 0.371			Cuts	(C) = 0.274		
	Interaction	(T×C) = 0.831			Interaction	(T×C) = 0.615		

3.1.3- Effect of organic and inorganic fertilizers on chemical composition of Sorghum cultivars:

Chemical composition was affected by application of organic and inorganic fertilizers are shown in Table (4), the values were ranged from 8.28 to 8.88% for protein content. The ash and fiber contents were ranged significantly from 10.24 to 10.66 % for ash, while the values of crude fiber were between 31.32 to 32.78%. T₂ has given high value of both ash and fiber content in sorghum plants compared with other treatments. While in case of ether extract was ranged from 2.00 to 1.78 %. The results appeared that nitrogen free extracts value increased, its range was from 46.65% to 47.42%. The calculated total digestible nutrients values ranged from 58.86 to 59.29 %.

The results showed that the total digestible nutrients values were affected by different application rates, where the T₃ addition rate led to significant increase in plants compared with the other rats. These results almost agree with that obtained by **Amandeep Saini, (2012)** **Amin et al., (2012)**,

Abou-Amer and Kewan, (2014) and **Almodares and Hadi (2009)**.

Mahmud et.al., (2003) reported that application of nitrogen led to increasing the crude protein and dry matter yield in forage sorghum. They also mentioned that good plant nutrition may not only affect the forage production but also improve the quality of forage from view point of its protein contents. **Stevens, et.al, (1996)** and **McDonald et.al., (1991)** reported that fiber content was decreased due to the application of nitrogen fertilizer. Application of nitrogen fertilizer led to decreasing soluble carbohydrates content in sorghum (**Sumner, et.al., 1995**). The nitrogen free extracts value in forage sorghum plants was significantly increased by using T₅ than the other treatments. These results almost agree with that obtained by **Khan et.al., (2008)** and **Amendeep Siani (2012)**. The integrated use of organic nutrient sources with inorganic fertilizer showed on increase and the potential of organic fertilizer (**Heluf, 2002**). Nitrogen fertilization plays an important role in improving the quality of fodder.

Table 4. Grand mean for chemical composition of forage Sorghum as affected by organic and mineral fertilizers on different levels during two seasons

Treatment/ Chemical %	CP	CF	EE	ASH	NFE	TDN
T ₁ (C0M100%)	8.48	31.63	1.85	10.24	47.37	58.86
T ₂ (C6M0)	8.34	32.78	1.98	10.66	46.65	59.10
T ₃ (C4.5M25%)	8.88	31.32	1.88	10.58	47.42	59.29
T ₄ (C3M50%)	8.28	32.34	1.78	10.53	47.04	58.99
T ₅ (C1.5M75%)	8.39	32.05	2.00	10.49	47.07	59.05
L.S.D. at 0.05 levels	0.13	0.06	0.05	0.32	0.31	0.14

3.1.4-Effect of organic and inorganic fertilizers on fiber fraction of sorghum cultivars:

Table (5) illustrate that the fiber fractions were significantly affected by using organic and inorganic fertilizers alone or combined. The results showed that the T₂ addition rate led to non-significant increase values of NDF and ADF than the other treatments. The chemical fertilizer plus organic amendment have no-significant effect on Neutral

Detergent Fiber (NDF), Acid Detergent Fiber (ADF), and Acid Detergent Lignin (ADL), these results agreements with **Pholson and Suksri (2004)**. **Chaugool et. al. (2013)** observed the results contents of neutral detergent fiber (NDF) ranged from 531 to 750 g Kg⁻¹ DM, acid detergent fiber (ADF) ranged from 250-411 g Kg⁻¹ DM, and acid detergent lignin (ADL) ranged from 41.8 to 75.4 g Kg⁻¹ DM. **Amin et al., (2012)** reported that ADF was significantly

affected by soil fertilizing systems ($p < 0.01$) and has a reverse relation with chemical fertilizer. **Muir (2002)**

reported that the application of compost led to increasing the NDF values.

Table 5. Grand mean for fiber fraction of forage Sorghum as affected by organic and mineral fertilizers on different levels during two seasons

Treatments	NDF %	ADF%	ADL %	hemicellulose	cellulose
T ₁ (C0M100%)	61.06	39.04	5.65	22.82	34.45
T ₂ = (C6M0)	61.61	39.23	5.94	22.29	33.59
T ₃ (C4.5M25%)	62.54	41.10	6.35	20.29	34.94
T ₄ = C3M50%	61.63	40.67	6.12	20.33	35.78
T ₅ (C1.5M75%)	61.68	39.91	5.83	22.04	34.17
L.S.D. at 0.05 levels	0.185	0.150	0.116	0.243	0.212

Neutral Detergent Fiber (NDF %), Acid Detergent Fiber (ADF %), Acid Detergent Lignin (ADF%)

3.1.5- Effect of organic and inorganic fertilizers on In-vitro ruminal gas production of sorghum cultivar:

Data in table (6) indicated that different addition rates of compost and mineral fertilizers affected the content of Gas production insoluble fraction (GPNSF), Gas production soluble fraction (GPSF) and Gas production correct (GP) during incubation period, where it ranged from 44.55 to 60.99 % for (GPNSF) and from 8.14 to 15.65% in for (GPSF), while in case of (GP) it ranged from 20.20 to 32.18 ml/200mg. Regarding to the cuts of sorghum plant, it was found that 1st Cut of both (GPISF) and (GP) was more than other cuts, while in case of (GPSF) the 3rd Cut was the best. As for the interaction between addition rates and cutes, it was found that the T₂ application rates at 1st Cut gave highest values of both (GPNSF) and (GP) compared with other treatments, while the (GPSF) values was increased with using T₄ at 3rd Cut better than others. Indicating that different addition rates of compost and mineral fertilizers affected the content of (GPISF), (GPSF) and (GP) during incubation period. It is clear from the gas parameters values increased with using deferent rates of organic only or combined with

minerals compared with control. It was found that using of T₂ application rate gave high values compared with the other treatments of (GPNSF), (GPSF) and (GP) during incubation period. The results showed that the (GPNSF) values of forage Sorghum plant significantly increased by using organic alone or combined with mineral fertilizers.

The integrated use of organic nutrient sources with inorganic fertilizer was shown to increase the potential of organic fertilizer (**Heluf, 2002**). Application of mineral nutrient becomes essential to satisfy nutrient uptake. It is universally accepted that the use of mineral fertilizers is an integral part of practices for increasing the agricultural production (**Poudel et al., 2001**). Nitrogen fertilization plays an important role in improving the quality of fodder. Being an exhaustive crop, quality of sorghum fodder suffers heavily if proper amount of fertilizer is not applied (**Muldoon, 1985**). While **El-Sherief et al (2013)** found that the applications of the compost +75 kg N/ fed led to increasing vegetative and forage yield parameters of Sudan grass during the two seasons.

Table 6. Gas production parameters of different cuts of forage Sorghum Cultivars as affected by organic and mineral treatments

Treatments	GP (ml/200mg)				GPSF (%)				GPNSF (%)			
	1 st Cut	2 nd Cut	3 rd Cut	Means	1 st Cut	2 nd Cut	3 rd Cut	Means	1 st Cut	2 nd Cut	3 rd Cut	Means
T ₁ (C0M100%)	21.70	25.32	24.13	23.72	10.01	8.80	9.953	9.597	53.10	54.91	52.16	53.39
T ₂ = (C6M0)	32.18	26.07	25.52	27.923	15.65	12.51	8.88	12.35	60.99	55.91	56.00	57.63
T ₃ (C4.5M25%)	20.20	21.21	21.28	20.89	13.83	8.88	11.19	11.30	44.55	45.32	50.50	46.79
T ₄ = C3M50%	27.14	22.63	27.49	25.75	11.85	8.14	16.82	12.27	57.55	54.71	56.51	56.25
T ₅ =(C1.5M75%)	26.71	25.24	21.79	24.58	8.88	8.39	13.91	10.39	50.28	50.75	45.44	48.82
L.S.D. at 0.05 levels	Treatments (T) = 0.815				Treatments (T) = 1.234				Treatments (T) = 1.546			
	Cuts (C) = 1.052				Cuts (C) = 0.956				Cuts (C) = 1.198			
	Interaction (T×C) = 1.821				Interaction (T×C) = 2.138				Interaction (T×C) = 2.678			

GP=Correct Gas Production, GPSF=Gas Production Structure Fiber, GPNSF=Gas Production Non-Structure Fiber

The effect of organic and inorganic fertilizer on metabolic energy (ME), net energy lactation (NEL)

and short chain fatty acid SCFA,s was recorded in Table (7). Concerning the effect of treatments on

metabolic energy; net energy lactation and short chain fatty values ranged from 4.99 to 6.13, 2.47 to 4.36 MJ /Kg DM and 0.53 to 0.79 m mol/ml gas respectively. It was found that using of T₂ application rate gave significant high values compared with the other treatments of metabolic energy, net energy lactation and short chain fatty acid during incubation period.

Regarding to the cuts of sorghum plant, it was noticed that 1st Cut of both NEL and SCFA, s was better than the other cuts, while in case of ME the 2nd Cut was the best. With respect to the interaction between addition rates and cuts, the results showed that the ME, NEL and SCFA, s of sorghum plant significantly increased, it was found that the T₂ application rates at 1st Cut gave the highest values of both NEL and SCFA, s compared with the other treatments, while the ME values were increased with using T₂ (C6M0) at 3rd Cut better than the others. Similar results were reported by **Peyraud et al., (1997) and Kumar et al., (2015)**. The effect of organic and inorganic manure on DMD_{iv} and OMD_{iv} was recorded in Table (8). Concerning the effect of treatments on dry matter digestibility and organic matter digestibility the values ranged from 54.70 to 74.46 and 48.63 to 56.98%, respectively. It was found that using of T₄ application rate gave significant high values compared with the other treatments in both DMD and OMD in 3rd cut, while the highest value in 2nd cut of DMD on COM100% and OMD on T₂. As for the rate, the results appeared that nutritional values increased with using different rates of organic only or combined with minerals compared with control. It was found that using of T₃ application rate gave significant high values of dry matter digestibility compared with other treatments, while in case organic matter digestibility T₂ addition rate was the best by **Chaugool et al. (2013) and Kumar et al., (2015)**. On the other hand, **Pholson and Suksri (2004)** showed that the application of chemical fertilizer plus organic amendment have no-significant effect on dry matter digestibility.

Regarding to the cuts of sorghum plant, it was noticed that 1st Cut of both DMD and OMD were better than other cuts. With respect to the interaction between of addition rates and cuts, the results showed that the DMD and OMD values of sorghum plant significantly increased by using organic alone or combined with mineral fertilizers, it was found that the T₂ application rates at 1st Cut gave the highest values of DMD and OMD compared with the other treatments. Similar results were reached by **Chaugool et al., (2013), Kumar et al., (2015)**. On the other hand, **Pholson and Suksri (2004)** showed that the application of chemical fertilizer plus organic amendment have no-significant effect dry matter digestibility. Reading metabolic energy, it has been observed from data that there was no significant (p>0.05) differences among the treatments. However, increasing rate of IVOMD resulted due to the nitrogen treatment. Out of five levels showed higher IVOMD in all stages of maturity. Similar results were also observed by **Malak (2005) and Pervin (2004)** working on German grass. **Johnson et al., (2001)** reported that applying different doses of N fertilizer on Star grass and Bermuda grass linearly led to increasing IVOMD of both grasses. Finally, we could conclude that the T₂ = 100% organic fertilizer is considered the best treatment in terms of feeding the animal and the size of the crop in the second cut is like the size of the crop in the third cut of the T₄, which gave the best economic feasibility of fourth treatment but using the second cut of the second treatment to provide the time of cultivation for another crop. In addition, necessary work of the digestion and feeding trails on the animal on these second cut of T₂, which gave positive results in order to link the amount of yield in the first and second cut and digestion factors and measure the amount of meat produced to determine the economic efficiency in obtaining a good crop of quantity and quality and reduce the crop period to provide more land for cultivation with another crop as well as reducing the mineral contamination of the water- table.

Table 7. Energy parameters and Short chain fatty acid of forage Sorghum as Affected by organic and mineral treatments in the tested soil

Treatments	(ME) MJ/Kg				(NEL) JM/ kg				(SCFA) m mol/ml			
	DM			Means	DM			Means	gas			Means
	1 st. Cut	2 nd Cut	3 rd Cut		1 st. Cut	2 nd Cut	3 rd Cut		1 st. Cut	2 nd Cut	3 rd Cut	
T ₁ (C0M100%)	5.26	5.58	5.39	5.41	2.68	2.95	2.78	2.80	0.583	0.633	0.610	0.609
T ₂ =(C6M0)	6.13	5.76	5.45	5.78	3.34	3.05	2.82	3.07	0.787	0.667	0.620	0.691
T ₃ (C4.5M25%)	4.99	5.02	5.15	4.98	2.49	2.47	2.61	2.52	0.533	0.547	0.563	0.548
T ₄ =C3M50%	5.70	5.33	5.85	5.62	3.11	2.78	3.10	2.99	0.663	0.603	0.690	0.652
T ₅ =(C1.5M75%)	5.26	5.23	5.10	5.20	4.36	2.67	2.70	3.24	0.617	0.583	0.560	0.587
L.S.D. at 0.05 levels	Treatments (T) = 0.183				Treatments (T) = 0.167				Treatments (T) = 0.0300			
	Cuts (C) = 0.142				Cuts (C) = 0.129				Cuts (C) = 0.0233			
	Interaction (T×C) =0.317				Interaction (T×C) =0.289				Interaction (T×C) = 0.0520			

ME (MJ/Kg DM) = Metabolic energy, NEL (MJ/Kg DM) = Net Energy Lactation, SCFA (m mol /ml gas) = Short Chain Fatty Acid

Table 8. Dry matter Digestibility and Organic Matter Digestibility of forage Sorghum as affected by organic and mineral treatments in the tested soil.

Treatments	DMD %			Means	OMD %			Means
	1 st . Cut	2 nd Cut	3 rd Cut		1 st . Cut	2 nd Cut	3 rd Cut	
T ₁ (C0M100%)	63.59	70.80	66.10	66.83	52.28	52.46	50.90	51.88
T ₂ (C6M0)	74.46	59.56	61.31	65.11	56.98	53.88	52.41	54.41
T ₃ (C4.5M25%)	74.16	63.50	63.32	66.99	54.45	48.63	49.24	50.77
T ₄ = C3M50%	65.27	54.70	69.21	63.06	52.53	50.55	53.43	52.17
T ₅ =(C1.5M75%)	66.42	61.15	63.39	63.65	50.28	51.66	50.14	51.05
L.S.D. at 0.05 levels	Treatments	(T) = 1.483			Treatments	(T) = 0.9951		
	Cuts	(C) = 1.49			Cuts	(C) = 0.7708		
	Interaction	(T×C) =2.569			Interaction	(T×C) =1.724		

DMD = Dry matter digestibility OMD =Organic matter digestibility

3.1.6-Economic evaluation:

3.1.6.1- Costs: Total costs including values of production tools and requirements such as seeds, fertilizers, irrigation, man power, machinery and other general or miscellaneous costs without land rent average during summer seasons 2013 and 2014 are shown in **Table (9)**.The price of 50 kilogram ammonium nitrate (33.5%N) was 70 L.E., the price of 50 kilogram calcium super phosphate (15.5% P₂O₅) was 55 L.E., and the price of 50 kilogram potassium Sulphate (48% K₂O) was 200 L.E., the price of one kilogram seeds was 15 L.E. the total cost

of soil tillage included the cost for first and second plowing by chisel plow was 200 L.E. are present in **Table (9)**.Data in **Table (9)** show the total costs of forage sorghum production per feddan as affected by applying different treatments (average of 2013 and 2014 seasons). From such data, the minimum total costs were those of application of control (nitrogen fertilizer 100% N), being 2820 L.E. and the maximum total costs were those of the plants received the recommended compost rate (100%).which was 3380 L.E. Average over all treatments of total costs were 3350 L.E.

Table 9. Estimated net return L.E.fed⁻¹ of forage Sorghum treated with mineral and organic under different nitrogen levels over the two seasons of 2014-2015.

Treatments	T ₁	T ₂	T ₃	T ₄	T ₅
Cost of production inputs	(100 % N)	(compost 100%)	(25 % N and compost 75%)	(50% and compost 50%)	(75 % N and compost 25%)
land preparation					
Tillage	200	200	200	200	200
Planting	300	300	300	300	300
Seeds	300	300	300	300	300
Irrigation	600	600	600	600	600
Mineral fertilization					
Ammonium nitrate (33.5% N) Compost	140	-	35	70	105
Super phosphate (15.5% P ₂ O)	-	1200	900	600	300
Potassium sulphate (48% K ₂ O)	400	400	400	400	400
	200	200	200	200	200
	80	80	80	80	80
HoeingHarvesting	600	600	600	600	600
Total variable cost	2820	3880	3615	3350	3085
Yield ton fed⁻¹	72.14	75.26	79.42	77.46	76.60
Price ton⁻¹	150	150	150	150	150
Total revenue	10521	11289	11913	11619	1490
Net return	7701	7409	8298	8269	8405
Return of investedL.E.	3.73	2.90	3.29	3.46	3.72
Net return of invested L.E.	2.73	1.90	2.29	2.46	2.72

Net return (L.E.fed⁻¹) = Total revenue-Total variable cost

Return of invested L.E. =

Net return of invested L.E. = Return of invested L.E - 1

Total revenue
Total (variable) cost

3.1.6.2-Net return: Results in Table (9) reveal that the highest net farm return was achieved from treatment C1.5M75% combined with 75% organic +25% N fertilization (8405 L.E.fed-1) followed by the compost rate 75% with N25% (8298 L.E.fed-1) and the recommended N 50% with C3 100% (8268 L.E. fed. -1). On the other hand, the lowest net farm return was (7409 L.E.fed-1) recorded by nitrogen fertilizer (100 % organic). But, the highest net return per one invested L.E. was achieved from 100% N fertilization (2.73 L.E.) and application C1.5 N 75 % (2.72 L.E.) Followed by application C 3 + 50% N fertilization (2.29 L.E.fed-1) and the recommended nitrogen rate 25% and compost 75% (2.29 L.E.), followed by the lowest net return of investment (1.90 L.E.) which recorded for compost 100%.

Conclusion

This study aimed to study the effect of organic manure alone, chemical composition and plant digestibility. Generally, most yield components like, plant height, fresh weight, dry weight and protein contents here been increased with applying fertilizer. The effect of interaction between compost and nitrogen fertilizers showed a significant effect on all characters and its components under study, it is obvious from the result that forage sweet Sorghum cultivar fertilized with compost and nitrogen fertilizer gave the highest values for most characters under study especially compost and M25% treatment.

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تأثير استخدام مصادر من الأسمدة المختلفة على محصول سورجم العلف وتقدير القيمة الهضمية وقياسات الطاقة بواسطة الكرش الصناعي.

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تم دراسة تأثير استخدام المعدلات المختلفة من التسميد العضوى والمعدنى على علف السورجم. تم اجراء تجربة بمزرعة البحوث عن الفترة من 2013 حتى 2014 فى كلية الزراعة جامعة القاهرة. تم تنفيذ التجربة بنظام القطع العشوائية بثلاث مكررات واشتملت التجربة على خمس معاملات سمادية هي T1 = (الكنترول) = 100% معدنى و T2 = 100% سماد عضوى T3 = 25% معدنى + 75% عضوى و T4 = 50% معدنى + 50% عضوى و T5 = 75% معدنى + 25% عضوى. اظهرت النتائج عند مقارنة تأثير المعدلات المختلفة التسميد المعدنى والعضوى زيادة معنوية على كل من طول النبات ؛ سمك الساق ؛ الوزن الغض والوزن الجاف وذلك بالمعاملة T3 بالمقارنة بالمعاملات الاخرى وبالنسبة للتركيب الكميائى للنبات سجلت المعاملة T3 ارتفاع معنوى فى محتوى البروتين والنيتروجين خالى الازوت ولم يتاثر الدهن والرماد، اما بالنسبة الى تأثير هذه المعاملة على مشتقات الالياف فقد زاد المحتوى من ADF (%), NDF (%)) وانخفض المحتوى من الهيمسيليولوز وارتفاع محتوى السليلوز بالمقارنة بالمعاملات الاخرى. وبدراسة تأثير المعدلات المختلفة من التسميد على خصائص التخمر الميكروبي بطريقة الكرش الصناعي In-vitro gas test production فقد سجلت T2 = 100% عضوى اعلى القيم لكل من (GP ml/200mg_{DM}) والغاز الناتج من (الجزئيات الذائبة (GPSF) وغير الذائبة (GPNSF) بالنبات ، وذلك للحشة الاولى والثانية بينما معاملة T4 اعطت اعلى قيمة فى الحشة الثالثة لقياسات الغاز الناتجة (GP ml/200mg_{DM}) ، (GPSF (%), (GPNSF (%). ادى التسميد الى ارتفاع القيمة الغذائية للنبات فقد سجلت T2 اعلى قيم فى طاقة التمثيل الغذائى (MJ ME/kg DM) بالحشة الاولى والثانية والطاقة الصافية للحليب (NEL MJ/kg DM) بالحشة الثانية وسجلت الاحماض الدهنية الطيارة قصيرة السلسلة CFA mmol/mg gas اعلى قيم بالحشة الاولى والثانية اما بالنسبة T4 اظهرت اعلى قيم لهم فى الحشة الثالثة. سجلت T2 ارتفاعا معنويا فى نسبة المادة الجافة والعضوية المهضومة التى تحتوى على 100% سماد عضوى فى الحشة الاولى يليها T4 التى تحتوى على 50% معدنى + 50% عضوى والتي سجلت اعلى قيمة لهم فى الحشة الثالثة. وفى النهاية اثبتت الدراسة الاقتصادية ان T3 = 25% معدنى + 75% عضوى اعطت اعلى والمقدر بـ 2.29 جنية يلية T4 يصل الى 2.46 جنية واقلهم عائد ربح = T2 = 100% عضوى التى اعطت عائد 1.90 جنية وهذا بالنسبة لكمية المحصول والحشات . بالنسبة للقياسات الهضمية بطريقة الكرش الصناعي (In-vitro gas test) اثبتت الدراسة ان T2 التى تحتوى على 100% سماد عضوى اعطت اعلى قيمة هضمية للحشة الاولى والثانية يليها T4 التى اعطت اعلى قيمة هضمية بالحشة الثالثة والتي تحتوى على 50% معدنى + 50% عضوى ومن هذه الدراسة يتضح ان المعاملة T2 التى تحتوى على 100% افضل المعاملات من ناحية تغذية الحيوان عليها وان حجم المحصول فى الحشة الثانية اعطى محصول متقارب فى الحشة الثالثة T4 والتي اعطت افضل جدوى اقتصادية . من الممكن استخدام الحشة الثانية T2 والتي اعطت نفس محصول الحشة الثالثة T4 وفى هذه الحالة يكون وقت الزراعقل ويعطى فرصة لاستخدام الارض فى زراعة محصول اخر بالاضافة الى انة يؤدى الى دخل اقتصادى . من الضرورى مستقبليا عمل تجربة هضم وتجربة تغذية على الحيوان على هذه المعاملات التى اعطت نتائج ايجابية وذلك لعمل ربط بين كمية المحصول الناتجة فى الحشة الاولى والثانية ومعاملات هضمها وقياس كمية اللحم الناتج لتحديد الكفاءة الاقتصادية فى الحصول على محصول كبير عالى الجودة وتقليل فترة الزراعة لتوفير الارض لزراعتها بمحصول اخر بالاضافة الى تقليل التلوث المعدنى للمياة الجوفية والتي مصدره السماد.