

Summary

Delayed cutting of *Centrosema brasilianum* CIAT 5824, 5234, and 5523; *C. macrocarpum* CPAC 2201 and CIAT 5065; and *C. acutifolium* CIAT 5277 and 5568 was evaluated for its effect on forage production and chemical composition in a Latosol of the Centro de Pesquisa Agroflorestral de Rondônia, Brazil.

Treatments were laid out in randomized blocks with subdivided plots. The main plots contained the legumes and the subplots had the deferral periods (June 30, July 30, August 30, and September 30). The initial cut was made on April 30, during the rainy period.

Results showed that cutting the legumes in April and using them later, in August and September, is an appropriate management system for supplementing animals in the dry period in Rondônia. The most productive legumes were *C. macrocarpum* CPAC 2201 and CIAT 5065 and *C. acutifolium* CIAT 5568. The periods when the forage was used did not affect its crude protein content.