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**Place and date:**

Palembang, October 17<sup>th</sup>, 2019

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MUHAKKA

# Nutritional Values of Swamp Grasses as Feed for Pampangan Buffaloes in South Sumatra Indonesia

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**Abstract.** This study was aimed at determining the types and quality of vegetations in swamp area which could be used as sources of roughage for Pampangan buffaloes in South Sumatera. In this descriptive study. Results showed that, the highest crude protein and ether extract contents, 20.56 and 2.92%, respectively were found in Kemon air (*Neptunia olerancia*). The highest ash content of 25.19% was found in Kasuran (*Cyperus digitatus*). The lowest fiber content (11.01%) was found in Cecengkehan (*Ludwigia hyssopifolia*) which also had the lowest content of NDF (40.64%). Hemicellulose content was found to be highest (37.14%) in Bento rayap (*Leersia hexandra*). The lowest ADF (23.66%) and lignin (14,84%) contents were found in Telepek gajah (*Nymphaea lotus*). Kemon air (*Neptunia olerancia*) was found to have the lowest content (27.08%) of cellulose. It was concluded that the swamp vegetations found in this study consisted of 17 types of grasses (89.47%) and 2 types of legumes (10.53%). Kasuran (*Cyperus digitatus*) and Cecengkehan (*Ludwigia hyssopifolia*) were found to have the best nutritional values. Dominant and palatable vegetations with good nutritional values which were potential to be used as sources of roughage for Pampangan buffaloes were Kumpai tembaga (*Hymenachne acutigluma*), Kumpai padi (*Oryza rufipogon*), Kumpai minyak (*Hymenachne amplexicaulis*, Are bolong (*Polygonum barbatum*), and Purun tikus (*Eleocharis dulcis*).

**Key words:** Nutritional value, Swamp grass, Feed, Pampangan buffalo.

## INTRODUCTION

The availability of roughage as the main feed for ruminant animals depends considerably on seasons. During rainy season, it is abundant and during dry season the availability of grasses and legumes is lacking. Limited supply of roughage may hamper productivity including reproductive performance of ruminant animals including buffaloes.

In South Sumatera Pampangan buffalo is a potential germplasm which needs to be preserved and developed. There were 37,405 heads of Pampangan buffaloes in 2016 and this population increased by 3.97% to 38,952 heads in 2017. In 2017, of this population, 11,150 heads (28.63%) and 2,227 heads (5.72%) were found in Ogan Komering Ilir Regency and Banyuasin Regency, respectively (Statistik Peternakan Sumsel, 2017). The population and productivity of Pampangan buffaloes need to be improved and for this purpose, feed is an important factor to consider. Pampangan buffaloes feed mostly on roughage from swamp and/or grassland to meet their maintenance and reproductive needs.

In Indonesia, there are 13.27 million hectares of lowland swamp areas. Only 4 million hectares of these areas has been developed and cultivated by the community and private sectors (2.6 million hectares) and the government assistance (1.3 million hectares) (BPS, 2010, Mulyani and Sarwani, 2013). In Sumatera, the largest lowland swamp area of 2.98 million hectares is found in South Sumatera but only 298,189 hectares of it has been utilized (BPS Sumatera Selatan, 2014). In order to utilize the potential swamp area as a feed source for Pampangan buffaloes, a study on vegetations as sources of roughage in lowland swamp areas that include vegetation identification and nutritional quality determination needs to be conducted.

In the previous study, some swamp grasses including Kumpai minyak grass (*H. amplexicaulis*) (Rostini et al., 2014; Muhakka et al., 2015), *I. rugosum* and *L. hexandra* (Ali et al., 2012) were identified. However, many more swamp vegetations have not been identified. This study was conducted to identify the types and nutritional values of vegetations that could be used as sources of roughage feed for Pampangan buffaloes in South Sumatera. This information was important to support the productivity improvement of Pampangan buffaloes as a germplasm in South Sumatera.

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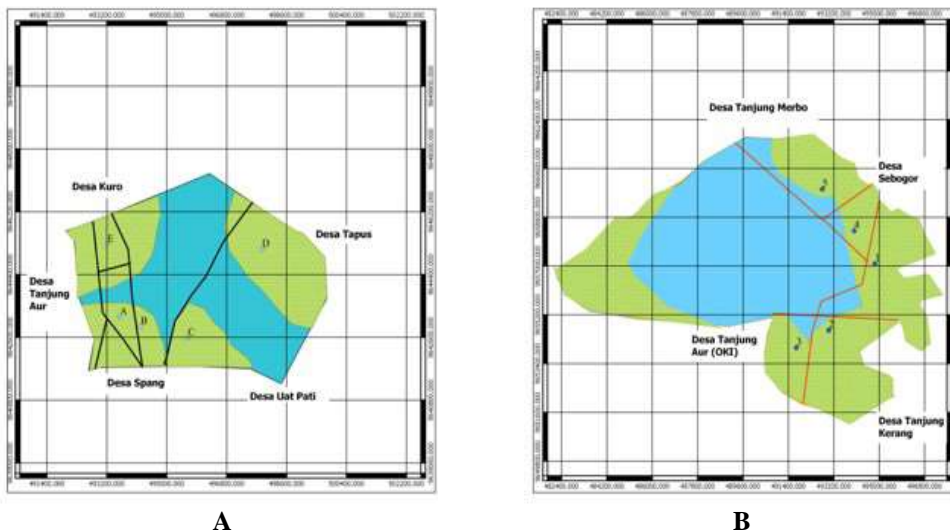
## MATERIALS AND METHODS

48 This study was a descriptive study to assess the types and nutritional values of vegetations which were the dominant  
 49 and palatable as sources of roughage feed for Pampangan buffaloes. Vegetation samples were taken from grazing areas of  
 50 Pampangan buffaloes in Rambutan Village and Pulau Layang Village, South Sumatra from April to Juni 2017. Vegetation  
 51 samples for nutrient analysis were obtained by following these procedures: (1) vegetation collection was done based on  
 52 estimated growth age (young age, medium age, and old age based on physical appearance), (2) collected samples of each  
 53 vegetation was composited, and (3) samples were chopped into small sizes, homogenized. For each vegetation, 1 kg  
 54 sample was taken by random to the laboratory for oven drying at 105°C until constant weight was obtained and dry matter  
 55 content was determined. Samples were then ground for nutrient content determination by using proximate and Van Soest  
 56 analyses (Syarifuddin and Wahdi, 2010).  
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**Figure 1.** Research location in South Sumatera, Indonesia, **A.** Pulau Layang Village, Pampangan Sub-district, Ogan Komering Ilir District, South Sumatra, **B.** Rambutan Village, Rambutan Sub-district, Banyuasin District, South Sumatra (Muhakka et al., 2019)

67 **Measured parameters**

68 **Proximate Analysis**

69 Crude protein, fiber, ether extract, and ash contents were determined based on the procedures of AOAC (1990).

- 70 1. *Crude Protein*. Nitrogen (N) content was determined by using a Kjehdahl method. In this analysis, sulphuric acid with  
 71 a catalyst and a heating process. The organic matter of samples was then oxidized by sulfuric acid and nitrogen was  
 72 changed into an ammonium sulfate form. The remaining sulfuric acid was neutralized by NaOH until the solution  
 73 became basic. Ammonium sulphate was then distilled in an acid medium to obtain the quantitative amount of N. As  
 74 the average protein contains 16% nitrogen, a factor 100% : 16% = 6.25 was used to obtain the value of crude protein  
 75 (crude protein = N% x 6.25).
- 76 2. *Fiber*. Filtered fat-free sample was used in fiber content determination. 1.25% sulfuric acid solution was added into  
 77 the sample and the mixture was heated for about 30 minutes before the residue was filtered. 1,25% NaOH solution was  
 78 added into the precipitate and the mixture was heated for about 30 minutes. The mixture was then filtered and the  
 79 precipitate was washed, dried, and weighed. This precipitate was burnt and the ash was weighed. The difference  
 80 between the weight of precipitate before it was burnt and the weight of the ass was referred to as fiber content.
- 81 3. *Ether Extract*. Dry matter sample was extracted with diethyl ether for 5 hours. In the end of the extraction process,  
 82 ether evaporated and the remaining material was referred to as fat.
- 83 4. *Ash*. The third part of dry matter sample was weighed and burnt in a crucible at 550°C for 8 hours.

84 **Van Soest Analysis**

85 NDF, ADF, hemicellulose, cellulose, and lignin contents were determined by using a Van Soest method (1982).

- 86 1. Neutral Detergent Fiber (NDF). *a* gram of sample was put in a beaker glass. 50 ml NDS solution was added into the  
 87 beaker before the mixture was heated for an hour. The mixture was then filtered by using a vacuum pump and a filter  
 88 glass which was previously weighed (*b* gram). The mixture was then washed with hot water and acetone before it was  
 89 dried in an oven and let cool in a desiccator. Finally, it was weighed as *c* gram. NDF content was calculated by using  
 90 the following formula:

$$\% \text{ NDF} = \frac{c - b}{a} \times 100\%$$

- 91 2. Acid Detergent Fiber (ADF). *a* gram of sample was put in a beaker glass. 50 ml ADS solution was added into the  
 92 beaker before the mixture was heated for an hour. The mixture was then filtered by using a vacuum pump and a  
 93 sintered glass filter which was previously weighed (*b* gram). The mixture was then washed with hot water and acetone  
 94 before it was dried in an oven and let cool in a desiccator. Finally, it was weighed as *c* gram. Cellulose content was  
 95 calculated by using the following formula:

$$\% \text{ cellulose} = \frac{c - d}{a} \times 100\%$$

- 96 4. Hemicellulose. Hemicellulose content was calculated as a difference between NDF and ADF contents as follows.

$$\% \text{ Hemicellulose} = \% \text{ NDF} - \% \text{ ADF}$$

- 97 5. Lignin. Cellulose residue (*d* gram) was burnt in a furnace at 500-600°C for 3 hours. After that, it was left to cool and  
 98 weighed (*e* gram). Lignin content was calculated by using the following formula:

$$\% \text{ Lignin} = \frac{d - e}{a} \times 100\%$$

99 **Data Analysis**

100 The data obtained were used directly to describe the nutritional value of the swamp vegetations that could be used  
 101 as a roughage source. These data were then combined with those of *in vitro* digestibility as the basis for drawing the  
 102 conclusion (Syarifuddin and Wahdi, 2010).

103 **RESULTS AND DISCUSSION**

104 **Results**

105 Results of soil analysis showed that soil at the study site had low fertility level and was highly acidic. It also had  
 106 very high organic C and total N contents, medium level of exchangeable-K and N contents, very low Ca and Mg contents,  
 107 medium P content, and very high CEC level (Table 1).



122 Table 1. Properties of soil at the study site

Parameter	Pulau Layang		Rambutan	
	Value	Remark	Value	Remark
pH H <sub>2</sub> O (1 : 1)	5.10	Low	4.41	Very low
pH KCl (1 : 1)	4.39	Very acidic	3.99	Very acidic
Organic C (g/kg)	57.66	Very high	36.14	Very high
Total N (g/kg)	3.64	Very high	2.19	Very high
Available P/Bray I (mg/kg)	11.70	Medium	2.25	Very low
Exchangeable K (cmol/kg)	0.63	Medium	0.45	Medium
Na (cmol/kg)	0.65	Medium	0.65	Medium
Ca (cmol/kg)	1.95	Very low	0.73	Very low
Mg (cmol/kg)	0.45	Very low	0.32	Very low
CEC (cmol/kg)	65.25	Very high	43.50	Very high
Exchangeable Al (cmol/kg)	1.84		2.37	
Exchangeable H (cmol/kg)	0.74		0.88	
Texture:				
Sand (%)	47.08		46.64	
Ash (%)	31.11		27.18	
Clay (%)	21.81		26.18	

123 Source: Laboratory of Soil Chemistry, Biology, and Fertility, Soil Department, Faculty of Agriculture, Sriwijaya University (2017).

124

### 125 Nutrient Contents of Lowland Swamp

126 Crude protein, fiber, ether extract, and ash nutrient contents of lowland swamp vegetations found in this study are  
127 listed in (Table 2).

128 Table 2. Crude protein, fiber, ether extract, and ash contents (%) of lowland swamp vegetations

Latin Name	Local Name	Crude Protein	Fiber	Ether Extract	Ash
<i>Catharanthus roseus</i>	Tapak dara	15.20	11.18	1.29	12.53
<i>Cyperus digitatus</i>	Kasuran	15.31	14.76	1.42	25.19
<i>Digitaria fuscescens</i>	Kerak Maling/Pasiran	12.00	15.64	1.24	16.26
<i>Eichhornia crassipes</i>	Eceng gondok	8.61	20.66	0.84	14.22
<i>Eleocharis dulcis</i> <sup>P</sup>	Purun tikus	8.22	25.72	0.48	15.13
<i>Eleocharis dulcis</i> <sup>R</sup>	Purun tikus	6.63	24.52	1.69	10.24
<i>Hymenachne acutigluma</i> <sup>P</sup>	Kumpai Tembaga	6.86	30.26	2.22	7.88
<i>Hymenachne acutigluma</i> <sup>R</sup>	Kumpai Tembaga	10.96	23.73	1.77	10.30
<i>Hymenachne amplexicaulis</i> <sup>P</sup>	Kumpai Minyak	9.21	21.91	2.82	13.96
<i>Hymenachne amplexicaulis</i> <sup>R</sup>	Kumpai Minyak	12.00	15.64	1.24	16.26
<i>Hymenachne sp</i>	Kumpai Merah	8.52	21.20	1.30	12.88
<i>Ipomoea aquatica</i>	Kangkung merah	8.95	14.34	2.24	10.39
<i>Leersia hexandra</i>	Bento rayap	5.35	27.57	2.06	5.63
<i>Ludwigia hyssopifolia</i>	Cecengkehan	12.07	11.01	1.66	9.09
<i>Neptunia olerancia</i>	Kemon air	20.56	15.03	2.92	7.31
<i>Nymphaea lotus</i>	Telepuk Gajah	13.22	11.45	2.84	10.30
<i>Oryza rufifogon</i> <sup>P</sup>	Kumpai Padi	7.93	23.30	1.60	16.25
<i>Oryza rufifogon</i> <sup>R</sup>	Kumpai Padi	10.41	21.59	2.49	11.92
<i>Polygonum barbatum</i>	Are Bolong	7.53	16.60	1.57	8.40
<i>Rhynchospora corymbosa</i>	Berondong	5.26	22.27	1.48	14.84
<i>Sesbania exasperata</i>	Mutiara	18.27	11.22	1.86	19.47

129 Source: Laboratory of Dairy Nutrition, Department of Nutrition and Feed Technology, IPB (2017).

130 Notes: <sup>P</sup> : Grass in Pulau Layang Village; <sup>R</sup> : Grass in Rambutan Village.

131 The NDF and ADF contents of vegetations found in this study were about 40.65–79.47% and 23.66–60.33%,  
132 respectively. Lowland swamp vegetations were found to have hemicellulose and cellulose contents ranging from 7.73 to  
133 37.14% and 5.24 to 27.08%, respectively. Lignin contents of lowland swamp vegetations ranged from 14.84 to 43.09%  
134 (Table 3).

135 Table 3. Composition of fiber fractions of green vegetations in lowland swamp: NDF, ADF, Hemicellulose, Cellulose, and Lignin (%).

Latin Name	NDF	ADF	Hemicellulose	Cellulose	Lignin
<i>Catharanthus roseus</i>	47.79	39.67	8.12	16.96	22.71
<i>Cyperus digitatus</i>	58.90	36.93	21.97	5.24	31.68
<i>Digitaria fuscescens</i>	65.43	33.56	31.87	12.11	21.45
<i>Eichhornia crassipes</i>	62.77	41.83	20.94	10.22	31.60

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<i>Eleocharis dulcis</i> <sup>P</sup>	69.57	49.83	19.74	21.80	28.04
<i>Eleocharis dulcis</i> <sup>R</sup>	75.73	54.91	20.82	19.71	35.20
<i>Hymenachne acutigluma</i> <sup>P</sup>	75.89	50.60	25.29	12.25	38.34
<i>Hymenachne acutigluma</i> <sup>R</sup>	64.72	46.38	18.34	16.01	30.37
<i>Hymenachne amplexicaulis</i>	65.31	38.92	26.39	8.29	30.63
<i>Hymenachne sp</i>	60.14	28.40	31.74	8.64	19.76
<i>Ipomoea aquatica</i>	41.40	26.17	15.23	6.32	19.85
<i>Leersia hexandra</i>	79.47	42.33	37.14	25.88	33.92
<i>Ludwigia hyssopifolia</i>	40.64	32.91	7.73	8.39	24.52
<i>Neptunia olerancia</i>	62.31	45.44	16.87	27.08	18.36
<i>Nymphaea lotus</i>	46.05	23.66	22.39	8.82	14.84
<i>Oryza rupifogon</i> <sup>P</sup>	71.13	60.33	10.80	17.23	43.09
<i>Oryza rupifogon</i> <sup>R</sup>	65.49	46.19	19.30	14.96	31.24
<i>Polygonum barbatum</i>	61.27	48.46	12.81	20.28	28.18
<i>Rhynchospora corymbosa</i>	65.29	44.64	20.65	16.08	28.56

Source: Biotechnology Assessment Laboratory, Center for Biotechnology Research, Indonesian Institute of Sciences (LIPI), Cibinong, Bogor (2017).

Notes: <sup>P</sup> : Grass in Pulau Layang Village; <sup>R</sup> : Grass in Rambutan Village.



**Figure 2.** Dominant and palatable swamp roughages with good nutrient contents included. **A.** *Hymenachne acutigluma*, **B.** *Oryza rupifogon* **C.** *Hymenachne amplexicaulis*, **D.** *Polygonum barbatum*, and **E.** *Eleocharis dulcis*.

## Discussion

### Crude Protein Content

Results showed that the crude protein contents of swamp green vegetations ranged from 5.26% to 20.56% with the lowest value (5.26%) was found in Berondong grass (*R. corymbosa*) and the highest (20.56%) was found in Kemon air

151 legume (*N. olerancia*). Kasuran grass (*C. digitatus*) had the highest crude protein content (15.31%) (Table 2). This high  
152 nutritional value of Kasuran grass was suspected as caused by the fact that most of this grass was found to grow in the area  
153 of buffalo pens where the soil was rich in organic matter. However, the growth of this grass was not dominant as it mostly  
154 occurred in rainy seasons.

155 Kumpai minyak (*H. amplexicaulis*), Kumpai padi (*O. rufifogon*), Kumpai tembaga (*H. acutigluma*), and Purun tikus  
156 (*E. dulcis*) were found as the dominant palatable grasses containing 12.00, 10.41, 10.96, and 8.22% crude protein,  
157 respectively. Results of this study were not too different from those obtained by Rostini et al. (2014) who reported that  
158 Kumpai minyak and Pipisangan had protein contents of 10.88 and 15.92%, respectively. Crude protein (CP) contents of  
159 these swamp grasses in Pulau Layang and Rambutan Villages were closed to those of prime grasses including 9.11-12.8%  
160 CP of elephant grass (*P. purpureum*) (Santos et al., 2013; Dahlan and Iskandar, 2013; Rahman et al., 2014), 12.4% CP of  
161 elephant grass hay, 11.1% CP of elephant grass silage, 11.4% CP of king grass hay, and 10.2% CP of king grass silage  
162 (Santoso and Hariadi, 2008). Other vegetations even had higher CP contents including Kumpai tembaga (*H. acutigluma*)  
163 with 10.96% CP, Tapak dara (*C. roseus*) 15.20%, Telepuk gajah (*N. lotus*) 13.22%, Cecengkehan (*L. hyssopifolia*)  
164 12.07%, Kasuran (*C. digitatus*) 15.31%, and Kumpai minyak (*H. amplexicaulis*)<sup>R</sup> 12.0% (Table 2). CP contents of  
165 vegetations in this study were also higher than those of nature grasses found in coffee plantation areas (6.95%) and  
166 pastoral areas (6.65%) in Wulanggitang District, East Flores Regency as reported by Kleden et al. (2015). Meanwhile, CP  
167 content of grasses in lowlands was 8.41% (Rochana et al., 2016; Maswada and Elzaawely, 2013).

168 This high protein content was suspected to be caused by the fact that soil organic C and total N contents in the study  
169 site were also high, namely 36.14-57.66 and 2.19-3.64 g.kg<sup>-1</sup>, respectively (Table 1). Soil organic C and total N contents  
170 affected protein content in plants. Four swamp grasses including Kasuran (*C. digitatus*), Tapak dara (*C. roseus*), Telepuk  
171 gajah (*N. lotus*), and Cecengkehan (*L. hyssopifolia*) and a legume, Kemon air (*N. olerancia*) were found to be the lowland  
172 swamp vegetations having the highest N contents of 15.31, 15.20, 13.22, 12.07, and 20.56%, respectively.

#### 173 174 **Fiber Contents**

175 Fiber contents of lowland swamp green vegetations ranged from 11.01 to 30.26% with the lowest content found in  
176 Cecengkehan (*L. hyssopifolia*) and the highest in Kumpai tembaga (*H. acutigluma*)<sup>P</sup>. Four vegetations including  
177 *Cecengkehan* (*L. hyssopifolia*), Tapak dara (*C. roseus*), Mutiara legume (*S. exasperata*), and Telepuk gajah (*N. lotus*) were  
178 found to have the lowest fiber contents of 11.01, 11.18, 11.22, and 11.45%, respectively (Table 2). These results were  
179 almost similar to those found by Ali et al. (2012) who reported that the fiber contents of roughage in a pasture ranged from  
180 7.20 to 34.98%. These researchers found that the fiber content of Bento rayap (*Leersia hexandra*) was 27.40% which was  
181 very close to that (27.57%) of the same vegetation in this study. Meanwhile, Rostini et al. (2014) reported that the fiber  
182 contents of swamp vegetation in South Kalimantan ranged from 14.84 to 29.35% with the lowest content found in  
183 Hadangan (*Paspalum* sp) and the highest in Dadangsit (*L. adscendens*). These figures were lower than those found by  
184 Kleden et al. (2015) who revealed that nature grasses in a coffee plantation area and a pasture in Wulanggitang, East Flores  
185 contained 34.57 and 35.59% of fiber. They also found that the lowest fiber content was found in *L. peploides* and the  
186 highest in *I. rugosum*. Fiber contents reported by Kleden et al. (2015) were higher than the results reported by Ahmed et  
187 al. (2013) with a fiber content of 29.32% in *D. aegyptium* plants. A previous study showed that fermented *I. rugosum*, *H.*  
188 *amplexicaulis*, and *O. rufifogon* had fiber contents of 29.27, 29.57, and 33.07%, respectively (Muhakka et al., 2015).

189 The fiber content of Eceng gondok (*E. crassipes*) in this study (20.66%) was lower than those found by Hossain et al.  
190 (2015), Tham and Uder (2015), and Make et al. (2016). In addition, the fiber content of Eceng gondok (*E. crassipes*) in  
191 this study was lower than those of *Azolla*, another water plant, ranging from 13.19 to 16.54% (Kathirvelan et al., 2015;  
192 Anitha et al., 2016) and 9.25 to 13.25% (Ahmed et al., 2016). These fiber contents of *Azolla* equalled to those of  
193 Cecengkehan (*L. hyssopifolia*) (11.01%), Tapak dara (*C. roseus*) (11.18%), Mutiara legume (*S. exasperata*) (11.22%),  
194 Telepuk gajah (*N. lotus*) 11.45%, and Kangkung merah (*I. aquatica*) (14.34%) found in this study. Fiber contents of  
195 swamp green vegetations found in this study indicated that they were potential to be used as feed for Pampangan buffaloes.

#### 196 197 **Ether extract contents**

198 Lowland swamp vegetations in this study were found to have ether extract (EE) contents of about 0.48-2.92%. The  
199 lowest EE content was found in Purun tikus (*E. dulcis*) while the highest was found in Kemon air legume (*N. olerancia*).  
200 Four vegetations of lowland swamp including Telepuk gajah (*N. lotus*) (2.84% EE), Kumpai minyak (*H. amplexicaulis*)  
201 (2.82% EE), Kumpai padi (*O. rufifogon*) (2.49% EE), and Kangkung merah (*I. aquatica* Forsk) (2.24% EE) were  
202 revealed to have the highest ether extract contents (Table 2). Results of this study were lower than those found by Rostini  
203 et al. (2014) reporting about 0.61–3.67% of EE contents in swamp vegetations in South Kalimantan with the lowest found  
204 in Pipisangan (*L. hyssopifolia*) and the highest in Padi hiang (*O. rufifogon* *spotanea*). EE contents of lowland swamp  
205 vegetations were 1.40–1.91% for grasses and 1.36–2.95% for legumes (Asep et al., 2012) and those of grasses in a pasture  
206 for buffaloes in Pulau Moa were 1.95–2.41% (Eoh, 2014). In other studies, grasses in a natural pasture in North Lore,  
207 Poso Regency had EE contents of 2.12–2.34% (Damry, 2009) and those in Sabana Timur Barat pasture in rainy season to  
208 the end of dry season had an average EE content of 1.91% (Manu, 2013). A study by Se'u et al. (2015) revealed an EE  
209 content of 1.07% in grasses in a pasture in Timor Tengah Selatan Regency. Another work by Kleden et al. (2015) showed  
210 that vegetations in a natural pasture and a coffee plantation area had EE contents of 1.23 and 1.35%, respectively.

211 Vegetations found in this study had EE contents equaled to those of prime grasses including *elephant* grass (*P.*  
212 *purpureum*) and *king* grass (*P. purpureophoides*) preserved in the form of hay and silage. *Elephant* grass hay and silage  
213 had EE contents of 1.9 and 2.6%, respectively while those of *king* grass had EE contents of 1.6 and 2.4%, respectively  
214 (Santoso and Hariadi, 2008; Ukpabi et al., 2015). EE contents of some species of ruminant roughages were found to be  
215 about 1.2–4.1% (Ahmed et al., 2013). Dominant swamp roughages including Kumpai minyak (*H. amplexicaulis*) and  
216 Kumpai padi (*O. rupifogon*) had EE contents of 2.82 and 2.49%, respectively and they were palatable and potential to be  
217 used as feed for Pampangan buffaloes.

#### 218 219 **Ash Contents**

220 Ash contents of green vegetations in lowland swamp ranged from 5.63 to 25.19%. Four types of vegetations with the  
221 highest ash contents included Kasuran (*C. digitatus*) (25.19%), Mutiara legume (*S. exasperata*) (19.47%), Kumpai minyak  
222 (*H. amplexicaulis*) (16.26%), and Kumpai padi (*O. rupifogon*<sup>P</sup>) (16.25%). Meanwhile, Bento rayap (*L. hexandra*) was  
223 found to have the lowest ash content of 5.63% (Table 2). Ash contents of vegetations found in this study were higher than  
224 those of swamp vegetations in South Kalimantan of 2.18- 3.28% during high tidal season and 3.23-9.83% during low tidal  
225 season (Rostini et al., 2014). *Elephant* grass (*P. purpureum*) was indicated to have varied ash contents of 4.4% (Dahlan  
226 and Iskandar, 2013), 0.95-1.1% (Ukpabi et al., 2015), 9.59% (Nuhuyanan, 2010), and 18% (Araica et al., 2009).  
227 Meanwhile, the ash content of grasses in lowland areas ranged from 6.32 to 8.91% (Richmond et al., 2015; Mako et al.,  
228 2016; Norman et al., 2013; Maswada et al., 2013). Alam et al. (2015) found that *B. mutica* had an ash content of 4.20-  
229 4.89% and rice straw had 6.63%.

230 Roughages were found to have average ash contents of 7.28% in a pasture for buffaloes in Pulau Moa (Eoh, 2014),  
231 9.82–10.14% in Lore Utara, Poso Regency (Damry, 2009), 11.51% in a pasture during the rainy season until the end of dry  
232 season in Sabana Timur Barat (Manu, 2013), and 8.11 and 8.22% in a natural pasture and a coffee plantation area,  
233 respectively (Kleden et al., 2015). Differences in these ash contents were suspected to be caused by differences in plant  
234 species (internal factor) and environmental differences, particularly seasonal differences (external factor). In a dry season,  
235 pH levels in lowland swamp areas were found to be 3.9-4.8 causing a decreased supply of nutrients, especially total N and  
236 K, to the soil. This decreased supply of nutrients led to lowered nutrients contained in plants (Rostini et al., 2014). This  
237 was in line with what was stated by Gutteridge and Shelton (1994) that nutrient content in plants was affected by soil  
238 nutrient content. In addition, in acidic soil condition, activities of Fe, Al, and Mn increased which might cause in toxicity  
239 in plants (Tjondronegoro and Gunawan).

#### 240 241 **NDF and ADF Contents**

242 Neutral Detergent Fiber (NDF) depicts plant cell walls consisting of hemicellulose, cellulose, and lignin. NDF is part  
243 of fiber which is not dissolved in neutral detergent representing the component of fiber undissolved in plant cell wall  
244 materials. NDF content of a feed affects the ability of ruminant animals to consume feed. Acid Detergent Fiber (ADF)  
245 represents parts of plant cell wall bond to cellulose and lignin. ADF content is related to energy content and higher ADF  
246 content results in lowered digestible energy content (Van Soest, 1982).

247 The NDF and ADF contents of vegetations found in this study were about 40.65–79.47% and 23.66–60.33%,  
248 respectively. Lowest NDF contents were found in Cecengkehan (*L. hyssopifolia*) (40.65%), Kangkung merah (*I.*  
249 *aquatica*) (41.40%), Telepuk gajah (*N. lotus*) (46.05%), and Tapak dara (*C. roseus*) (47.79%). In contrast, highest NDF  
250 content of 79.47% was found in Bento rayap (*L. hexandra*). Lowest ADF contents were found in Telepuk gajah (*N. lotus*)  
251 (46.05%), Kangkung merah (*I. aquatica*) (26.17%), Kumpai merah (*Hymenachne sp*) (28.40%), Cecengkehan (*L.*  
252 *hyssopifolia*) (32.91%). Meanwhile, the highest ADF content of 60.33% was found in Kumpai padi (*O. rupifogon*<sup>P</sup>)  
253 (Table 3). NDF and ADF contents of vegetations found in this study were lower than those of Asep et al. (2012) who  
254 reported that the NDF contents of swamp green vegetations in a pasture for buffaloes were about 91.73–93.45% in grasses  
255 and 68.11–90.93% in legumes and the ADF content of grasses was 51.6-86.8%. It was shown in other studies that NDF  
256 and ADF contents of roughages in a pasture during the rainy season to the end of the dry season in Sabana Timur Barat  
257 were on average 65.9 and 43.29%, respectively (Manu, 2013). Vegetations in a natural pasture and a coffee plantation  
258 area had NDF contents of 74.89 and 72.37% and ADF contents of 57.22 and 55.15%, respectively (Kleden et al., 2015).  
259 Meanwhile, swamp vegetations in South Kalimantan had average NDF and ADF contents of 55.97 and 37.87%,  
260 respectively, during high tidal season and 81.44 and 60.86% respectively, during low tidal season (Rostini et al., 2014).

261 NDF and ADF contents of roughages in BPTU-HPT Padang Mengatas area were found to be 75.62 and 45.96%,  
262 respectively in rain season and 69.35 and 38.66%, respectively in dry season (Muhajirin et al., 2017). NDF and ADF  
263 contents of Eceng gondok (*E. crassipes*) in this study were 62.77 and 41.83%, respectively. These figures were close to  
264 those of *water hyacinth* (*E. crassipes*) plants studied by Tham (2015) with NDF and ADF contents of 63.9 and 34.68% and  
265 by Tham and Uden (2015) with NDF and ADF contents of 52.1 and 30.7%, respectively. Other studies conducted by  
266 Ahmed et al. (2016), Anitha et al. (2016), and Nampoothiri (2017) showed that *Azolla sp* had NDF and ADF contents of  
267 53.8-54.85% and 36.57-37.0%, respectively. Meanwhile, NDF and ADF contents of *elephant* grass (*P. purpureum*) were  
268 found to be 55.8 and 46.5% (Dahlan and Iskandar, 2013) and 84.25 and 64.07% (Nuhuyanan, 2010), respectively. These  
269 figures equaled to the NDF and ADF contents of Kumpai tembaga (64.72 and 46.38%), Kumpai minyak (65.31 and

270 38.92), and Are bolong (61.27 and 48.46%). This indicated that, lowland swamp vegetations had fiber fraction nutritional  
271 quality which was not less than that of prime grasses including *elephant* grass and *king* grass.

272 In this study, NDF and ADF contents of lowland swamp vegetations were 40.65– 79.47% and 23.66%–60.33%,  
273 respectively. These figures were still within the ranges of NDF and ADF contents of prime grasses such as *elephant* grass  
274 (*P. purpureum*) which had NDF and ADF contents of 55.8 and 46.5% (Dahlan and Iskandar, 2013) and 84.25 and 64.07%  
275 (Nuhayanan, 2010), respectively. In rumen, NDF degradation is higher than that of ADF as NDF contains hemicellulose  
276 fraction which is more soluble (Church and Pond, 1986). NDF content has a negative correlation with its degradation rate  
277 (Varga et al., 1983) and higher NDF content decreases dry matter digestibility of feed (NRC, 1988). Cellulose is an ADF  
278 component which is easy to digest while lignin is hard to digest as it contains double bonds. Higher lignin content  
279 decreases feed digestibility (Sutardi et al., 1980).

### 281 Hemicellulose and Cellulose Contents

282 Lowland swamp vegetations were found to have hemicellulose and cellulose contents ranging from 7.73 to 37.14%  
283 and 5.24 to 27.08%, respectively. Four green vegetations with highest hemicellulose contents were Bento rayap (*L.*  
284 *hexandra*) (37.14%), Kerak maling (*D. fuscescens*) (31.87%), Kumpai merah (*Hymenachne* sp.) (31.74%), and Kumpai  
285 minyak (*H. amplexicaulis*) (26.39%). In contrast, lowest hemicellulose content was found in Cecengkehan (*L.*  
286 *hyssopifolia*) (7.73%). Highest cellulose contents were found in Kemon air (*N. olerancia*) (27.08%), Bento rayap (*L.*  
287 *hexandra*) (25.88%), Purun tikus (*E. dulcis*) (21.80%), and Are bolong (*P. barbatum*) (20,28%). Meanwhile, Kasuran  
288 (*C. digitatus*) had the lowest cellulose content of 5.24% (Table 3). Results of this study were in line with those of a study  
289 conducted by Asep et al. (2012) who reported the hemicellulose and cellulose contents of lowland swamp green  
290 vegetations ranging from 7.89 to 31.55% and 30.85 to 63.35%, respectively. They also found that Kumpai padi  
291 (*O.rupifogon*) had 31.55% hemicellulose content which was higher than those of Kumpai padi (10.80- 19.30%) found in  
292 this study (Table 4). Swamp vegetations in South Kalimantan had hemicellulose contents of 0.65-25.85% in high tidal  
293 season and 5.37-40.09% in low tidal season. Cellulose contents in high and low tidal seasons were about 20.07-34.03%  
294 and 7.90- 38.31%, respectively (Rostini et al., 2014). Various water plants including *Azolla*, which was used as animal  
295 feed, had hemicellulose and cellulose contents of 10.20 and 12.76% (Nampoothiri, 2017), 1.15-10.20% and 12.76%  
296 (Nampoothiri, 2017), respectively. Roughages in BPTU-HPT Padang Mengatas had hemicellulose and cellulose contents  
297 of 29.79 and 33.62% in rain season and 30.69 and 31.64% in dry season, respectively (Muhajirin et al., 2017). *Elephant*  
298 grass (*P. perpureum*) was found to contain 21.18% hemicellulose and 43.32% cellulose (Nuhayanan, 2010) and 35.3%  
299 cellulose (Dahlan and Iskandar, 2013). In a study conducted by Archimede et al. (2010), hay was found to have 37.7%  
300 hemicellulose and 35.7% cellulose. Based on the above findings, it was suggested that hemicellulose (7.73– 37.14%) and  
301 cellulose (5.24–27.08%) contents of lowland swamp vegetations in this study were within normal ranges and these  
302 vegetations were potential to be used as feed for Pampangan buffaloes.

### 303 Lignin Contents

304 Lignin contents of lowland swamp vegetations ranged from 14.84 to 43.09%. Four vegetations including Telepuk  
305 gajah (*N. lotus*), Kemon air (*N. olerancia*), Kumpai merah (*Hymenachne* sp.), and Kangkung merah (*I. aquatica*) were  
306 found to have the lowest lignin contents of 14.84, 18.36, 19.76, and 19.85%, respectively, while the highest lignin content  
307 of 43.09% was found in Kumpai padi (*O. rupifogon*<sup>P</sup>) (Table 3). Lignin contents in this study were higher than that  
308 obtained by Rostini et al. (2014) who reported the lignin contents of swamp vegetations in South Kalimantan were about  
309 2.8-17.59% in high tidal season with that of Kumpai minyak as the lowest and that of *Beberasan* as the highest and 10.06-  
310 61.12% in low tidal season with that of *Beberasan* as the lowest and that of Kumpai minyak as the highest. Lignin  
311 contents of Kumpai padi (*O. rupifogon*<sup>R</sup>) (31.24%) and Kumpai padi (*O. rupifogon*<sup>P</sup>) (43.09%), Bento rayap (*L. hexandra*)  
312 (33.92%), and Eceng gondok (*E. crassipes*) (31.60%) (Table 3) found in this study were higher those of Kumpai padi  
313 (18.27%) and Bento rayap (*L. hexandra*) (17.96%) found by Asep et al. (2012) and Eceng gondok (*E. crassipes*) (8.17%)  
314 found by Tham (2015). In other studies *Azolla* was found to have lignin contents of 5.7% (Ahmed et al., 2016) and 28.24%  
315 (Nampoothiri, 2017). Meanwhile, lignin contents of *elephant* grass were found to be 15.37% (Nuhayanan, 2010) and  
316 11.2% (Dahlan and Iskandar, 2013).

317 Differences in lignin contents in green vegetations are suspected to be caused by differences in plant species, plant  
318 ages, and environmental factors including seasons (rain or dry season), tidal seasons, and fertility levels of the soil where  
319 the vegetations grow. In cell walls, cellulose is bond with hemicellulose and lignin. Lignin cannot be digested by the  
320 animals and its atomic proportion is different from other carbohydrates as it contains carbon and nitrogen of only 1-5%.  
321 Hemicellulose consists of pentose, hexose, uronic acid, and pectin substance. Pectin is a carbohydrate which is composed  
322 of aronic acid, galactose, arabinose, xylose, and methanol. Cellulose is degradable by microorganisms and functions as the  
323 source of volatile fatty acids. Young grasses (roughages) contain less than 5% lignin and 80% of their cellulose is  
324 degradable. On the contrary, in old roughages, lignin content may reach up to 10% causing a decrease in cellulose  
325 digestibility by up to 50% (Prawirokusumo, 1994).

326 Based on the results of the study, it was concluded that:

- 327 1. The highest protein (20.56%) and crude fat (2.92%) contents were found in Kemon air (*Neptunia olerancia*). The  
328 highest ash content (25.19%) was found in Kasuran (*C. digitatus*) while the lowest (11.01%) was found in  
329



330 Cecengkehan (*L. hyssopifolia*). The lowest NDF content (40.64%) was found in Cecengkehan (*L. hyssopifolia*) and the  
331 highest hemicellulose content (37.14%) was found in Bento rayap. Telepuk gajah had the lowest ADF (23.66%) and  
332 lignin (14,84%) contents. Kemon air contained the highest cellulose level of 27.08%.  
333 2. The best nutritional values were found in Kasuran (*C. digitatus*) and Cecengkehan (*L. hyssopifolia*).  
334 3. Dominant and palatable swamp roughages with good nutrient contents included Kumpai tembaga (*H. acutigluma*),  
335 Kumpai minyak (*H. amplexicaulis*), Kumpai padi (*O. rupifogon*), Are bolong (*P. barbatum*), and Purun tikus (*E.*  
336 *dulcis*).

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# Nutritional Values of Swamp Grasses as Feed for Pampangan Buffaloes in South Sumatra Indonesia

**Abstract.** This study was aimed at determining the types and quality of vegetations in swamp area which could be used as sources of roughage for Pampangan buffaloes in South Sumatra. In this descriptive study. Results showed that, the highest crude protein and ether extract contents, 20.56 and 2.92%, respectively were found in Kemon air (*Neptunia olerancia*). The highest ash content of 25.19% was found in Kasuran (*Cyperus digitatus*). The lowest fiber content (11.01%) was found in Cecengkehan (*Ludwigia hyssopifolia*) which also had the lowest content of NDF (40.64%). Hemicellulose content was found to be highest (37.14%) in Bento rayap (*Leersia hexandra*). The lowest ADF (23.66%) and lignin (14,84%) contents were found in Telepuk gajah (*Nymphaea lotus*). Kemon air (*Neptunia olerancia*) was found to have the lowest content (27.08%) of cellulose. It was concluded that the swamp vegetations found in this study consisted of 17 types of grasses (89.47%) and 2 types of legumes (10.53%). Kasuran (*Cyperus digitatus*) and Cecengkehan (*Ludwigia hyssopifolia*) were found to have the best nutritional values. Dominant and palatable vegetations with good nutritional values which were potential to be used as sources of roughage for Pampangan buffaloes were Kumpai tembaga (*Hymenachne acutigluma*), Kumpai padi (*Oryza rupifogon*), Kumpai minyak (*Hymenachne amplexicaulis*, Are bolong (*Polygonum barbatum*), and Purun tikus (*Eleocharis dulcis*).

**Key words:** Nutritional value, Swamp grass, Feed, Pampangan buffalo.

## INTRODUCTION

The availability of roughage as the main feed for ruminant animals depends considerably on seasons. During rainy season, it is abundant and during dry season the availability of grasses and legumes is lacking. Limited supply of roughage may hamper productivity including reproductive performance of ruminant animals including buffaloes.

In South Sumatra Pampangan buffalo is a potential germplasm which needs to be preserved and developed. There were 37,405 heads of Pampangan buffaloes in 2016 and this population increased by 3.97% to 38,952 heads in 2017. In 2017, of this population, 11,150 heads (28.63%) and 2,227 heads (5.72%) were found in Ogan Komering Ilir Regency and Banyuasin Regency, respectively (Statistik Peternakan Sumsel, 2017). The population and productivity of Pampangan buffaloes need to be improved and for this purpose, feed is an important factor to consider. Pampangan buffaloes feed mostly on roughage from swamp and/or grassland to meet their maintenance and reproductive needs.

In Indonesia, there are 13.27 million hectares of lowland swamp areas. Only 4 million hectares of these areas has been developed and cultivated by the community and private sectors (2.6 million hectares) and the government assistance (1.3 million hectares) (BPS, 2010, Mulyani and Sarwani, 2013). In Sumatera, the largest lowland swamp area of 2.98 million hectares is found in South Sumatera but only 298,189 hectares of it has been utilized (BPS Sumatera Selatan, 2014). In order to utilize the potential swamp area as a feed source for Pampangan buffaloes, a study on vegetations as sources of roughage in lowland swamp areas that include vegetation identification and nutritional quality determination needs to be conducted.

In the previous study, some swamp grasses including Kumpai minyak grass (*H. amplexicaulis*) (Rostini et al., 2014; Muhakka et al., 2015), *I. rugosum* and *L. hexandra* (Ali et al., 2012) were identified. However, many more swamp vegetations have not been identified. This study was conducted to identify the types and nutritional values of vegetations that could be used as sources of roughage feed for Pampangan buffaloes in South Sumatera. This information was important to support the productivity improvement of Pampangan buffaloes as a germplasm in South Sumatera.

## MATERIALS AND METHODS

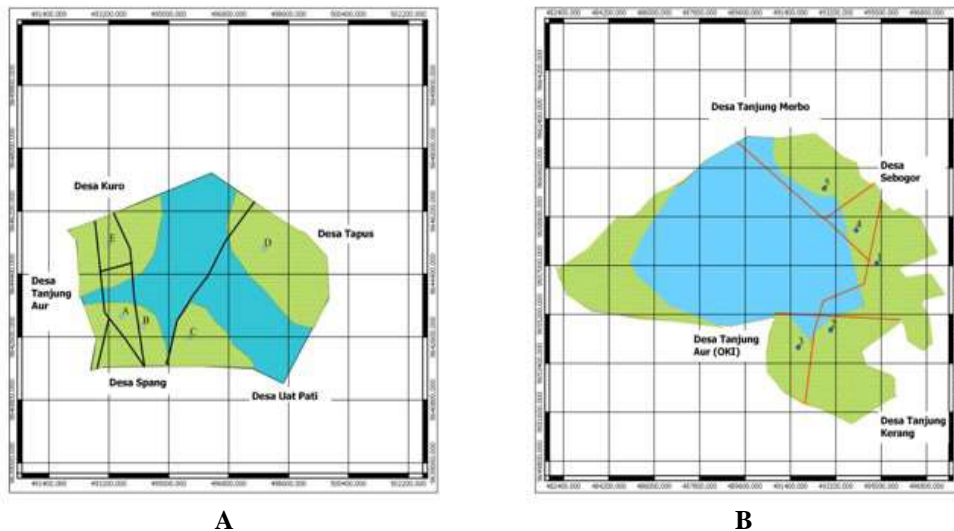
This study was a descriptive study to assess the types and nutritional values of vegetations which were the dominant and palatable as sources of roughage feed for Pampangan buffaloes. Vegetation samples were taken from grazing areas of

50 Pampangan buffaloes in Rambutan Village and Pulau Layang Village, South Sumatra from April to Juni 2017. Vegetation  
51 samples for nutrient analysis were obtained by following these procedures: (1) vegetation collection was done based on  
52 estimated growth age (young age, medium age, and old age based on physical appearance), (2) collected samples of each  
53 vegetation was composited, and (3) samples were chopped into small sizes, homogenized. For each vegetation, 1 kg  
54 sample was taken by random to the laboratory for oven drying at 105°C until constant weight was obtained and dry matter  
55 content was determined. Samples were then ground for nutrient content determination by using proximate and Van Soest  
56 analyses (Syarifuddin and Wahdi, 2010).  
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63 **Figure 1.** Research location in South Sumatra, Indonesia, **A.** Pulau Layang Village, Pampangan Sub-district, Ogan Komering Ilir  
64 District, South Sumatra, **B.** Rambutan Village, Rambutan Sub-district, Banyuasin District, South Sumatra (Muhakka et al., 2019)

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### Measured parameters

68

#### Proximate Analysis

69

Crude protein, fiber, ether extract, and ash contents were determined based on the procedures of AOAC (1990).

- 70 1. *Crude Protein*. Nitrogen (N) content was determined by using a Kjehdahl method. In this analysis, sulphuric acid with  
 71 a catalyst and a heating process. The organic matter of samples was then oxidized by sulfuric acid and nitrogen was  
 72 changed into an ammonium sulfate form. The remaining sulfuric acid was neutralized by NaOH until the solution  
 73 became basic. Ammonium sulphate was then distilled in an acid medium to obtain the quantitative amount of N. As  
 74 the average protein contains 16% nitrogen, a factor 100% : 16% = 6.25 was used to obtain the value of crude protein  
 75 (crude protein = N% x 6.25).  
 76 2. *Fiber*. Filtered fat-free sample was used in fiber content determination. 1.25% sulfuric acid solution was added into  
 77 the sample and the mixture was heated for about 30 minutes before the residue was filtered. 1,25% NaOH solution was  
 78 added into the precipitate and the mixture was heated for about 30 minutes. The mixture was then filtered and the  
 79 precipitate was washed, dried, and weighed. This precipitate was burnt and the ash was weighed. The difference  
 80 between the weight of precipitate before it was burnt and the weight of the ass was referred to as fiber content.  
 81 3. *Ether Extract*. Dry matter sample was extracted with diethyl ether for 5 hours. In the end of the extraction process,  
 82 ether evaporated and the remaining material was referred to as fat.  
 83 4. *Ash*. The third part of dry matter sample was weighed and burnt in a crucible at 550°C for 8 hours.  
 84  
 85

### Van Soest Analysis

86 NDF, ADF, hemicellulose, cellulose, and lignin contents were determined by using a Van Soest method (1982).

- 87 1. Neutral Detergent Fiber (NDF). *a* gram of sample was put in a beaker glass. 50 ml NDS solution was added into the  
 88 beaker before the mixture was heated for an hour. The mixture was then filtered by using a vacuum pump and a filter  
 89 glass which was previously weighed (*b* gram). The mixture was then washed with hot water and acetone before it was  
 90 dried in an oven and let cool in a desiccator. Finally, it was weighed as *c* gram. NDF content was calculated by using  
 91 the following formula:

$$\% \text{ NDF} = \frac{c - b}{a} \times 100\%$$

- 92  
 93  
 94 2. Acid Detergent Fiber (ADF). *a* gram of sample was put in a beaker glass. 50 ml ADS solution was added into the  
 95 beaker before the mixture was heated for an hour. The mixture was then filtered by using a vacuum pump and a  
 96 sintered glass filter which was previously weighed (*b* gram). The mixture was then washed with hot water and acetone  
 97 before it was dried in an oven and let cool in a desiccator. Finally, it was weighed as *c* gram. Cellulose content was  
 98 calculated by using the following formula:  
 99

$$\% \text{ cellulose} = \frac{c - d}{a} \times 100\%$$

- 100  
 101  
 102 4. Hemicellulose. Hemicellulose content was calculated as a difference between NDF and ADF contents as follows.

$$\% \text{ Hemicellulose} = \% \text{ NDF} - \% \text{ ADF}$$

- 103  
 104 5. Lignin. Cellulose residue (*d* gram) was burnt in a furnace at 500-600°C for 3 hours. After that, it was left to cool and  
 105 weighed (*e* gram). Lignin content was calculated by using the following formula:

$$\% \text{ Lignin} = \frac{d - e}{a} \times 100\%$$

### Data Analysis

110 The data obtained were used directly to describe the nutritional value of the swamp vegetations that could be used  
 111 as a roughage source. These data were then combined with those of *in vitro* digestibility as the basis for drawing the  
 112 conclusion (Syarifuddin and Wahdi, 2010).  
 113

## RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

### Results

114  
 115 Results of soil analysis showed that soil at the study site had low fertility level and was highly acidic. It also had  
 116 very high organic C and total N contents, medium level of exchangeable-K and N contents, very low Ca and Mg contents,  
 117 medium P content, and very high CEC level (Table 1).  
 118  
 119  
 120  
 121

122 Table 1. Properties of soil at the study site

Parameter	Pulau Layang		Rambutan	
	Value	Remark	Value	Remark
pH H <sub>2</sub> O (1 : 1)	5.10	Low	4.41	Very low

pH KCl (1 : 1)	4.39	Very acidic	3.99	Very acidic
Organic C (g/kg)	57.66	Very high	36.14	Very high
Total N (g/kg)	3.64	Very high	2.19	Very high
Available P/Bray I (mg/kg)	11.70	Medium	2.25	Very low
Exchangeable K (cmol/kg)	0.63	Medium	0.45	Medium
Na (cmol/kg)	0.65	Medium	0.65	Medium
Ca (cmol/kg)	1.95	Very low	0.73	Very low
Mg (cmol/kg)	0.45	Very low	0.32	Very low
CEC (cmol/kg)	65.25	Very high	43.50	Very high
Exchangeable Al (cmol/kg)	1.84		2.37	
Exchangeable H (cmol/kg)	0.74		0.88	
Texture:				
Sand (%)	47.08		46.64	
Ash (%)	31.11		27.18	
Clay (%)	21.81		26.18	

123 Source: Laboratory of Soil Chemistry, Biology, and Fertility, Soil Department, Faculty of Agriculture, Sriwijaya University (2017).  
124

## 125 Nutrient Contents of Lowland Swamp

126 Crude protein, fiber, ether extract, and ash nutrient contents of lowland swamp vegetations found in this study are  
127 listed in (Table 2).

128 Table 2. Crude protein, fiber, ether extract, and ash contents (%) of lowland swamp vegetations

Latin Name	Local Name	Crude Protein	Fiber	Ether Extract	Ash
<i>Catharanthus roseus</i>	Tapak dara	15.20	11.18	1.29	12.53
<i>Cyperus digitatus</i>	Kasuran	15.31	14.76	1.42	25.19
<i>Digitaria fuscescens</i>	Kerak Maling/Pasiran	12.00	15.64	1.24	16.26
<i>Eichhornia crassipes</i>	Eceng gondok	8.61	20.66	0.84	14.22
<i>Eleocharis dulcis</i> <sup>P</sup>	Purun tikus	8.22	25.72	0.48	15.13
<i>Eleocharis dulcis</i> <sup>R</sup>	Purun tikus	6.63	24.52	1.69	10.24
<i>Hymenachne acutigluma</i> <sup>P</sup>	Kumpai Tembaga	6.86	30.26	2.22	7.88
<i>Hymenachne acutigluma</i> <sup>R</sup>	Kumpai Tembaga	10.96	23.73	1.77	10.30
<i>Hymenachne amplexicaulis</i> <sup>P</sup>	Kumpai Minyak	9.21	21.91	2.82	13.96
<i>Hymenachne amplexicaulis</i> <sup>R</sup>	Kumpai Minyak	12.00	15.64	1.24	16.26
<i>Hymenachne sp</i>	Kumpai Merah	8.52	21.20	1.30	12.88
<i>Ipomoea aquatica</i>	Kangkung merah	8.95	14.34	2.24	10.39
<i>Leersia hexandra</i>	Bento rayap	5.35	27.57	2.06	5.63
<i>Ludwigia hyssopifolia</i>	Cecengkehan	12.07	11.01	1.66	9.09
<i>Neptunia olerancia</i>	Kemon air	20.56	15.03	2.92	7.31
<i>Nymphaea lotus</i>	Telepuk Gajah	13.22	11.45	2.84	10.30
<i>Oryza rupifogon</i> <sup>P</sup>	Kumpai Padi	7.93	23.30	1.60	16.25
<i>Oryza rupifogon</i> <sup>R</sup>	Kumpai Padi	10.41	21.59	2.49	11.92
<i>Polygonum barbatum</i>	Are Bolong	7.53	16.60	1.57	8.40
<i>Rhynchospora corymbosa</i>	Berondong	5.26	22.27	1.48	14.84
<i>Sesbania exasperata</i>	Mutiara	18.27	11.22	1.86	19.47

129 Source: Laboratory of Dairy Nutrition, Department of Nutrition and Feed Technology, IPB (2017).

130 Notes: <sup>P</sup> : Grass in Pulau Layang Village; <sup>R</sup> : Grass in Rambutan Village.

131 The NDF and ADF contents of vegetations found in this study were about 40.65–79.47% and 23.66–60.33%,  
132 respectively. Lowland swamp vegetations were found to have hemicellulose and cellulose contents ranging from 7.73 to  
133 37.14% and 5.24 to 27.08%, respectively. Lignin contents of lowland swamp vegetations ranged from 14.84 to 43.09%  
134 (Table 3).

135 Table 3. Composition of fiber fractions of green vegetations in lowland swamp: NDF, ADF, Hemicellulose, Cellulose, and Lignin (%).  
136

Latin Name	NDF	ADF	Hemicellulose	Cellulose	Lignin
<i>Catharanthus roseus</i>	47.79	39.67	8.12	16.96	22.71
<i>Cyperus digitatus</i>	58.90	36.93	21.97	5.24	31.68
<i>Digitaria fuscescens</i>	65.43	33.56	31.87	12.11	21.45
<i>Eichhornia crassipes</i>	62.77	41.83	20.94	10.22	31.60
<i>Eleocharis dulcis</i> <sup>P</sup>	69.57	49.83	19.74	21.80	28.04
<i>Eleocharis dulcis</i> <sup>R</sup>	75.73	54.91	20.82	19.71	35.20
<i>Hymenachne acutigluma</i> <sup>P</sup>	75.89	50.60	25.29	12.25	38.34
<i>Hymenachne acutigluma</i> <sup>R</sup>	64.72	46.38	18.34	16.01	30.37

<i>Hymenachne amplexicaulis</i>	65.31	38.92	26.39	8.29	30.63
<i>Hymenachne sp</i>	60.14	28.40	31.74	8.64	19.76
<i>Ipomoea aquatica</i>	41.40	26.17	15.23	6.32	19.85
<i>Leersia hexandra</i>	79.47	42.33	37.14	25.88	33.92
<i>Ludwigia hyssopifolia</i>	40.64	32.91	7.73	8.39	24.52
<i>Neptunia olerancia</i>	62.31	45.44	16.87	27.08	18.36
<i>Nymphaea lotus</i>	46.05	23.66	22.39	8.82	14.84
<i>Oryza rupifogon</i> <sup>P</sup>	71.13	60.33	10.80	17.23	43.09
<i>Oryza rupifogon</i> <sup>R</sup>	65.49	46.19	19.30	14.96	31.24
<i>Polygonum barbatum</i>	61.27	48.46	12.81	20.28	28.18
<i>Rhynchospora corymbosa</i>	65.29	44.64	20.65	16.08	28.56

Source: Biotechnology Assessment Laboratory, Center for Biotechnology Research, Indonesian Institute of Sciences (LIPI), Cibinong, Bogor (2017).

Notes: <sup>P</sup> : Grass in Pulau Layang Village; <sup>R</sup> : Grass in Rambutan Village.



**Figure 2.** Dominant and palatable swamp roughages with good nutrient contents included. **A.** *Hymenachne acutigluma*, **B.** *Oryza rupifogon* **C.** *Hymenachne amplexicaulis*, **D.** *Polygonum barbatum*, and **E.** *Eleocharis dulcis*.

## Discussion

### Crude Protein Content

Results showed that the crude protein contents of swamp green vegetations ranged from 5.26% to 20.56% with the lowest value (5.26%) was found in Berondong grass (*R. corymbosa*) and the highest (20.56%) was found in Kemon air legume (*N. olerancia*). Kasuran grass (*C. digitatus*) had the highest crude protein content (15.31%) (Table 2). This high nutritional value of Kasuran grass was suspected as caused by the fact that most of this grass was found to grow in the area



153 of buffalo pens where the soil was rich in organic matter. However, the growth of this grass was not dominant as it mostly  
154 occurred in rainy seasons.

155 Kumpai minyak (*H. amplexicaulis*), Kumpai padi (*O. rupifogon*), Kumpai tembaga (*H. acutigluma*), and Purun tikus  
156 (*E. dulcis*) were found as the dominant palatable grasses containing 12.00, 10.41, 10.96, and 8.22% crude protein,  
157 respectively. Results of this study were not too different from those obtained by Rostini et al. (2014) who reported that  
158 Kumpai minyak and Pipisangan had protein contents of 10.88 and 15.92%, respectively. Crude protein (CP) contents of  
159 these swamp grasses in Pulau Layang and Rambutan Villages were closed to those of prime grasses including 9.11-12.8%  
160 CP of elephant grass (*P. purpureum*) (Santos et al., 2013; Dahlan and Iskandar, 2013; Rahman et al., 2014), 12.4% CP of  
161 elephant grass hay, 11.1% CP of elephant grass silage, 11.4% CP of king grass hay, and 10.2% CP of king grass silage  
162 (Santoso and Hariadi, 2008). Other vegetations even had higher CP contents including Kumpai tembaga (*H. acutigluma*)  
163 with 10.96% CP, Tapak dara (*C. roseus*) 15.20%, Telepuk gajah (*N. lotus*) 13.22%, Cecengkehan (*L. hyssopifolia*)  
164 12.07%, Kasuran (*C. digitatus*) 15.31%, and Kumpai minyak (*H. amplexicaulis*)<sup>R</sup> 12.0% (Table 2). CP contents of  
165 vegetations in this study were also higher than those of nature grasses found in coffee plantation areas (6.95%) and  
166 pastoral areas (6.65%) in Wulanggitang District, East Flores Regency as reported by Kleden et al. (2015). Meanwhile, CP  
167 content of grasses in lowlands was 8.41% (Rochana et al., 2016; Maswada and Elzaawely, 2013).

168 This high protein content was suspected to be caused by the fact that soil organic C and total N contents in the study  
169 site were also high, namely 36.14-57.66 and 2.19-3.64 g.kg<sup>-1</sup>, respectively (Table 1). Soil organic C and total N contents  
170 affected protein content in plants. Four swamp grasses including Kasuran (*C. digitatus*), Tapak dara (*C. roseus*), Telepuk  
171 gajah (*N. lotus*), and Cecengkehan (*L. hyssopifolia*) and a legume, Kemon air (*N. olerancia*) were found to be the lowland  
172 swamp vegetations having the highest N contents of 15.31, 15.20, 13.22, 12.07, and 20.56%, respectively.

### 173 174 **Fiber Contents**

175 Fiber contents of lowland swamp green vegetations ranged from 11.01 to 30.26% with the lowest content found in  
176 Cecengkehan (*L. hyssopifolia*) and the highest in Kumpai tembaga (*H. acutigluma* <sup>P</sup>). Four vegetations including  
177 *Cecengkehan* (*L. hyssopifolia*), Tapak dara (*C. roseus*), Mutiara legume (*S. exasperata*), and Telepuk gajah (*N. lotus*) were  
178 found to have the lowest fiber contents of 11.01, 11.18, 11.22, and 11.45%, respectively (Table 2). These results were  
179 almost similar to those found by Ali et al. (2012) who reported that the fiber contents of roughage in a pasture ranged from  
180 7.20 to 34.98%. These researchers found that the fiber content of Bento rayap (*Leersia hexandra*) was 27.40% which was  
181 very close to that (27.57%) of the same vegetation in this study. Meanwhile, Rostini et al. (2014) reported that the fiber  
182 contents of swamp vegetation in South Kalimantan ranged from 14.84 to 29.35% with the lowest content found in  
183 Hadangan (*Paspalum* sp) and the highest in Dadangsit (*L. adscendens*). These figures were lower than those found by  
184 Kleden et al. (2015) who revealed that nature grasses in a coffee plantation area and a pasture in Wulanggitang, East Flores  
185 contained 34.57 and 35.59% of fiber. They also found that the lowest fiber content was found in *L. peploides* and the  
186 highest in *I. rugosum*. Fiber contents reported by Kleden et al. (2015) were higher than the results reported by Ahmed et  
187 al. (2013) with a fiber content of 29.32% in *D. aegyptium* plants. A previous study showed that fermented *I. rugosum*, *H.*  
188 *amplexicaulis*, and *O. rufipogon* had fiber contents of 29.27, 29.57, and 33.07%, respectively (Muhakka et al., 2015).

189 The fiber content of Eceng gondok (*E. crassipes*) in this study (20.66%) was lower than those found by Hossain et al.  
190 (2015), Tham and Uder (2015), and Make et al. (2016). In addition, the fiber content of Eceng gondok (*E. crassipes*) in  
191 this study was lower than those of *Azolla*, another water plant, ranging from 13.19 to 16.54% (Kathirvelan et al., 2015;  
192 Anitha et al., 2016) and 9.25 to 13.25% (Ahmed et al., 2016). These fiber contents of *Azolla* equalled to those of  
193 Cecengkehan (*L. hyssopifolia*) (11.01%), Tapak dara (*C. roseus*) (11.18%), Mutiara legume (*S. exasperata*) (11.22%),  
194 Telepuk gajah (*N. lotus*) 11.45%, and Kangkung merah (*I. aquatica*) (14.34%) found in this study. Fiber contents of  
195 swamp green vegetations found in this study indicated that they were potential to be used as feed for Pampangan buffaloes.

### 196 197 **Ether extract contents**

198 Lowland swamp vegetations in this study were found to have ether extract (EE) contents of about 0.48-2.92%. The  
199 lowest EE content was found in Purun tikus (*E. dulcis*) while the highest was found in Kemon air legume (*N. olerancia*).  
200 Four vegetations of lowland swamp including Telepuk gajah (*N. lotus*) (2.84% EE), Kumpai minyak (*H. amplexicaulis*)  
201 (2.82% EE), Kumpai padi (*O. rupifogon*) (2.49% EE), and Kangkung merah (*I. aquatica* Forsk) (2.24% EE) were  
202 revealed to have the highest ether extract contents (Table 2). Results of this study were lower than those found by Rostini  
203 et al. (2014) reporting about 0.61–3.67% of EE contents in swamp vegetations in South Kalimantan with the lowest found  
204 in Pipisangan (*L. hyssopifolia*) and the highest in Padi hiang (*O. rufipogon* *spotanea*). EE contents of lowland swamp  
205 vegetations were 1.40–1.91% for grasses and 1.36–2.95% for legumes (Asep et al., 2012) and those of grasses in a pasture  
206 for buffaloes in Pulau Moa were 1.95–2.41% (Eoh, 2014). In other studies, grasses in a natural pasture in North Lore,  
207 Poso Regency had EE contents of 2.12–2.34% (Damry, 2009) and those in Sabana Timur Barat pasture in rainy season to  
208 the end of dry season had an average EE content of 1.91% (Manu, 2013). A study by Se'u et al. (2015) revealed an EE  
209 content of 1.07% in grasses in a pasture in Timor Tengah Selatan Regency. Another work by Kleden et al. (2015) showed  
210 that vegetations in a natural pasture and a coffee plantation area had EE contents of 1.23 and 1.35%, respectively.

211 Vegetations found in this study had EE contents equalled to those of prime grasses including elephant grass (*P.*  
212 *purpureum*) and king grass (*P. purpureophoides*) preserved in the form of hay and silage. Elephant grass hay and silage

213 had EE contents of 1.9 and 2.6%, respectively while those of king grass had EE contents of 1.6 and 2.4%, respectively  
214 (Santoso and Hariadi, 2008; Ukpabi et al., 2015). EE contents of some species of ruminant roughages were found to be  
215 about 1.2–4.1% (Ahmed et al., 2013). Dominant swamp roughages including Kumpai minyak (*H. amplexicaulis*) and  
216 Kumpai padi (*O. rupifogon*) had EE contents of 2.82 and 2.49%, respectively and they were palatable and potential to be  
217 used as feed for Pampangan buffaloes.

#### 218 Ash Contents

219 Ash contents of green vegetations in lowland swamp ranged from 5.63 to 25.19%. Four types of vegetations with the  
220 highest ash contents included Kasuran (*C. digitatus*) (25.19%), Mutiara legume (*S. exasperata*) (19.47%), Kumpai minyak  
221 (*H. amplexicaulis*) (16.26%), and Kumpai padi (*O. rupifogon*<sup>P</sup>) (16.25%). Meanwhile, Bento rayap (*L. hexandra*) was  
222 found to have the lowest ash content of 5.63% (Table 2). Ash contents of vegetations found in this study were higher than  
223 those of swamp vegetations in South Kalimantan of 2.18- 3.28% during high tidal season and 3.23-9.83% during low tidal  
224 season (Rostini et al., 2014). *Elephant* grass (*P. purpureum*) was indicated to have varied ash contents of 4.4% (Dahlan  
225 and Iskandar, 2013), 0.95-1.1% (Ukpabi et al., 2015), 9.59% (Nuhayanan, 2010), and 18% (Araica et al., 2009).  
226 Meanwhile, the ash content of grasses in lowland areas ranged from 6.32 to 8.91% (Richmond et al., 2015; Mako et al.,  
227 2016; Norman et al., 2013; Maswada et al., 2013). Alam et al. (2015) found that *B. mutica* had an ash content of 4.20-  
228 4.89% and rice straw had 6.63%.

229 Roughages were found to have average ash contents of 7.28% in a pasture for buffaloes in Pulau Moa (Eoh, 2014),  
230 9.82–10.14% in Lore Utara, Poso Regency (Damry, 2009), 11.51% in a pasture during the rainy season until the end of dry  
231 season in Sabana Timur Barat (Manu, 2013), and 8.11 and 8.22% in a natural pasture and a coffee plantation area,  
232 respectively (Kleden et al., 2015). Differences in these ash contents were suspected to be caused by differences in plant  
233 species (internal factor) and environmental differences, particularly seasonal differences (external factor). In a dry season,  
234 pH levels in lowland swamp areas were found to be 3.9-4.8 causing a decreased supply of nutrients, especially total N and  
235 K, to the soil. This decreased supply of nutrients led to lowered nutrients contained in plants (Rostini et al., 2014). This  
236 was in line with what was stated by Gutteridge and Shelton (1994) that nutrient content in plants was affected by soil  
237 nutrient content. In addition, in acidic soil condition, activities of Fe, Al, and Mn increased which might cause in toxicity  
238 in plants (Tjondronegoro and Gunawan).

#### 239 NDF and ADF Contents

240 Neutral Detergent Fiber (NDF) depicts plant cell walls consisting of hemicellulose, cellulose, and lignin. NDF is part  
241 of fiber which is not dissolved in neutral detergent representing the component of fiber undissolved in plant cell wall  
242 materials. NDF content of a feed affects the ability of ruminant animals to consume feed. Acid Detergent Fiber (ADF)  
243 represents parts of plant cell wall bond to cellulose and lignin. ADF content is related to energy content and higher ADF  
244 content results in lowered digestible energy content (Van Soest, 1982).

245 The NDF and ADF contents of vegetations found in this study were about 40.65–79.47% and 23.66–60.33%,  
246 respectively. Lowest NDF contents were found in Cecengkehan (*L. hyssopifolia*) (40.65%), Kangkung merah (*I.*  
247 *aquatica*) (41.40%), Telepuk gajah (*N. lotus*) (46.05%), and Tapak dara (*C. roseus*) (47.79%). In contrast, highest NDF  
248 content of 79.47% was found in Bento rayap (*L. hexandra*). Lowest ADF contents were found in Telepuk gajah (*N. lotus*)  
249 (46.05%), Kangkung merah (*I. aquatica*) (26.17%), Kumpai merah (*Hymenachne sp*) (28.40%), Cecengkehan (*L.*  
250 *hyssopifolia*) (32.91%). Meanwhile, the highest ADF content of 60.33% was found in Kumpai padi (*O. rupifogon*<sup>P</sup>)  
251 (Table 3). NDF and ADF contents of vegetations found in this study were lower than those of Asep et al. (2012) who  
252 reported that the NDF contents of swamp green vegetations in a pasture for buffaloes were about 91.73–93.45% in grasses  
253 and 68.11–90.93% in legumes and the ADF content of grasses was 51.6-86.8%. it was shown in other studies that NDF  
254 and ADF contents of roughages in a pasture during the rainy season to the end of the dry season in Sabana Timur Barat  
255 were on average 65.9 and 43.29%, respectively (Manu, 2013). Vegetations in a natural pasture and a coffee plantation  
256 area had NDF contents of 74.89 and 72.37% and ADF contents of 57.22 and 55.15%, respectively (Kleden et al., 2015).  
257 Meanwhile, swamp vegetations in South Kalimantan had average NDF and ADF contents of 55.97 and 37.87%,  
258 respectively, during high tidal season and 81.44 and 60.86% respectively, during low tidal season (Rostini et al., 2014).

259 NDF and ADF contents of roughages in BPTU-HPT Padang Mengatas area were found to be 75.62 and 45.96%,  
260 respectively in rain season and 69.35 and 38.66%, respectively in dry season (Muhajirin et al., 2017). NDF and ADF  
261 contents of Eceng gondok (*E. crassipes*) in this study were 62.77 and 41.83%, respectively. These figures were close to  
262 those of *water hyacinth* (*E. crassipes*) plants studied by Tham (2015) with NDF and ADF contents of 63.9 and 34.68% and  
263 by Tham and Uden (2015) with NDF and ADF contents of 52.1 and 30.7%, respectively. Other studies conducted by  
264 Ahmed et al. (2016), Anitha et al. (2016), and Nampoothiri (2017) showed that *Azolla sp* had NDF and ADF contents of  
265 53.8-54.85% and 36.57-37.0%, respectively. Meanwhile, NDF and ADF contents of *elephant* grass (*P. purpureum*) were  
266 found to be 55.8 and 46.5% (Dahlan and Iskandar, 2013) and 84.25 and 64.07% (Nuhayanan, 2010), respectively. These  
267 figures equaled to the NDF and ADF contents of Kumpai tembaga (64.72 and 46.38%), Kumpai minyak (65.31 and  
268 38.92), and Are bolong (61.27 and 48.46%). This indicated that, lowland swamp vegetations had fiber fraction nutritional  
269 quality which was not less than that of prime grasses including *elephant* grass and *king* grass.

272 In this study, NDF and ADF contents of lowland swamp vegetations were 40.65– 79.47% and 23.66%–60.33%,  
273 respectively. These figures were still within the ranges of NDF and ADF contents of prime grasses such as *elephant* grass  
274 (*P. purpureum*) which had NDF and ADF contents of 55.8 and 46.5% (Dahlan and Iskandar, 2013) and 84.25 and 64.07%  
275 (Nuhayanan, 2010), respectively. In rumen, NDF degradation is higher than that of ADF as NDF contains hemicellulose  
276 fraction which is more soluble (Church and Pond, 1986). NDF content has a negative correlation with its degradation rate  
277 (Varga et al., 1983) and higher NDF content decreases dry matter digestibility of feed (NRC, 1988). Cellulose is an ADF  
278 component which is easy to digest while lignin is hard to digest as it contains double bonds. Higher lignin content  
279 decreases feed digestibility (Sutardi et al., 1980).

### 280 281 **Hemicellulose and Cellulose Contents**

282 Lowland swamp vegetations were found to have hemicellulose and cellulose contents ranging from 7.73 to 37.14%  
283 and 5.24 to 27.08%, respectively. Four green vegetations with highest hemicellulose contents were Bento rayap (*L.*  
284 *hexandra*) (37.14%), Kerak maling (*D. fuscescens*) (31.87%), Kumpai merah (*Hymenachne sp.*) (31.74%), and Kumpai  
285 minyak (*H. amplexicaulis*) (26.39%). In contrast, lowest hemicellulose content was found in Cecengkehan (*L.*  
286 *hyssopifolia*) (7.73%). Highest cellulose contents were found in Kemon air (*N. olerancia*) (27.08%), Bento rayap (*L.*  
287 *hexandra*) (25.88%), Purun tikus (*E. dulcis*) (21.80%), and Are bolong (*P. barbatum*) (20,28%). Meanwhile, Kasuran  
288 (*C. digitatus*) had the lowest cellulose content of 5.24% (Table 3). Results of this study were in line with those of a study  
289 conducted by Asep et al. (2012) who reported the hemicellulose and cellulose contents of lowland swamp green  
290 vegetations ranging from 7.89 to 31.55% and 30.85 to 63.35%, respectively. They also found that Kumpai padi  
291 (*O.rupifogon*) had 31.55% hemicellulose content which was higher than those of Kumpai padi (10.80- 19.30%) found in  
292 this study (Table 4). Swamp vegetations in South Kalimantan had hemicellulose contents of 0.65-25.85% in high tidal  
293 season and 5.37-40.09% in low tidal season. Cellulose contents in high and low tidal seasons were about 20.07-34.03%  
294 and 7.90- 38.31%, respectively (Rostini et al., 2014). Various water plants including Azolla, which was used as animal  
295 feed, had hemicellulose and cellulose contents of 10.20 and 12.76% (Nampoothiri, 2017), 1.15-10.20% and 12.76%  
296 (Nampoothiri, 2017), respectively. Roughages in BPTU-HPT Padang Mengatas had hemicellulose and cellulose contents  
297 of 29.79 and 33.62% in rain season and 30.69 and 31.64% in dry season, respectively (Muhajirin et al., 2017). *Elephant*  
298 grass (*P. perpureum*) was found to contain 21.18% hemicellulose and 43.32% cellulose (Nuhayanan, 2010) and 35.3%  
299 cellulose (Dahlan and Iskandar, 2013). In a study conducted by Archimede et al. (2010), hay was found to have 37.7%  
300 hemicellulose and 35.7% cellulose. Based on the above findings, it was suggested that hemicellulose (7.73– 37.14%) and  
301 cellulose (5.24–27.08%) contents of lowland swamp vegetations in this study were within normal ranges and these  
302 vegetations were potential to be used as feed for Pampangan buffaloes.

### 303 304 **Lignin Contents**

305 Lignin contents of lowland swamp vegetations ranged from 14.84 to 43.09%. Four vegetations including Telepuk  
306 gajah (*N. lotus*), Kemon air (*N. olerancia*), Kumpai merah (*Hymenachne sp.*), and Kangkung merah (*I. aquatica*) were  
307 found to have the lowest lignin contents of 14.84, 18.36, 19.76, and 19.85%, respectively, while the highest lignin content  
308 of 43.09% was found in Kumpai padi (*O. rupifogon*<sup>P</sup>) (Table 3). Lignin contents in this study were higher than that  
309 obtained by Rostini et al. (2014) who reported the lignin contents of swamp vegetations in South Kalimantan were about  
310 2.8-17.59% in high tidal season with that of Kumpai minyak as the lowest and that of *Beberasan* as the highest and 10.06-  
311 61.12% in low tidal season with that of *Beberasan* as the lowest and that of Kumpai minyak as the highest. Lignin  
312 contents of Kumpai padi (*O. rupifogon*<sup>R</sup>) (31.24%) and Kumpai padi (*O. rupifogon*<sup>P</sup>) (43.09%), Bento rayap (*L. hexandra*)  
313 (33.92%), and Eceng gondok (*E. crassipes*) (31.60%) (Table 3) found in this study were higher than those of Kumpai padi  
314 (18.27%) and Bento rayap (*L. hexandra*) (17.96%) found by Asep et al. (2012) and Eceng gondok (*E. crassipes*) (8.17%)  
315 found by Tham (2015). In other studies *Azolla* was found to have lignin contents of 5.7% (Ahmed et al., 2016) and 28.24%  
316 (Nampoothiri, 2017). Meanwhile, lignin contents of *elephant* grass were found to be 15.37% (Nuhayanan, 2010) and  
317 11.2% (Dahlan and Iskandar, 2013).

318 Differences in lignin contents in green vegetations are suspected to be caused by differences in plant species, plant  
319 ages, and environmental factors including seasons (rain or dry season), tidal seasons, and fertility levels of the soil where  
320 the vegetations grow. In cell walls, cellulose is bond with hemicellulose and lignin. Lignin cannot be digested by the  
321 animals and its atomic proportion is different from other carbohydrates as it contains carbon and nitrogen of only 1-5%.  
322 Hemicellulose consists of pentose, hexose, uronic acid, and pectin substance. Pectin is a carbohydrate which is composed  
323 of aronic acid, galactose, arabinose, xylose, and methanol. Cellulose is degradable by microorganisms and functions as the  
324 source of volatile fatty acids. Young grasses (roughages) contain less than 5% lignin and 80% of their cellulose is  
325 degradable. On the contrary, in old roughages, lignin content may reach up to 10% causing a decrease in cellulose  
326 digestibility by up to 50% (Prawirokusumo, 1994).

327 Based on the results of the study, it was concluded that:

- 328 1. The highest protein (20.56%) and crude fat (2.92%) contents were found in Kemon air (*Neptunia olerancia*). The  
329 highest ash content (25.19%) was found in Kasuran (*C. digitatus*) while the lowest (11.01%) was found in  
330 Cecengkehan (*L. hyssopifolia*). The lowest NDF content (40.64%) was found in Cecengkehan (*L. hyssopifolia*) and the



- 331 highest hemicellulose content (37.14%) was found in Bento rayap. Telepuk gajah had the lowest ADF (23.66%) and  
 332 lignin (14,84%) contents. Kemon air contained the highest cellulose level of 27.08%.
- 333 2. The best nutritional values were found in Kasuran (*C. digitatus*) and Cecengkehan (*L. hyssopifolia*).
- 334 3. Dominant and palatable swamp roughages with good nutrient contents included Kumpai tembaga (*H. acutigluma*),  
 335 Kumpai minyak (*H. amplexicaulis*), Kumpai padi (*O. rupifogon*), Are bolong (*P. barbatum*), and Purun tikus (*E.*  
 336 *dulcis*).

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## **2. Bukti konfirmasi review dan hasil review pertama (17 Desember 2019)**



## [biodiv] Editor Decision

2019-12-17 11:19 PM

Muhakka Muhakka Muhakka:

We have reached a decision regarding your submission to Biodiversitas Journal of Biological Diversity, "Nutritional Values of Swamp Grasses as Feed for Pampangan Buffaloes in South Sumatra Indonesia".

Our decision is: Revisions Required

Smujo Editors  
editors@smujo.id

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Reviewer A:

Line 16. **Abbreviations** (if any): All important abbreviations must be defined at their first mention there. Ensure consistency of abbreviations throughout the article.

Line 30. Is heads the common terms ?

Line 42. From which swamp ? since on the next sentence you said there are more swamp to be characterized, you should add more information for the audience and to build an argument that further study need to be conducted

Line 43. ?? species name ?

Line 43. However, many more swamp : Many more swamp area or many more swamp vegetation ? (related to the previous comment)

Line 44. Also related with the previous comment, you have to give information what differentiate this study to the previous study

Line 54. Weighed daily ? hourly ? to check the constant weight

Line 71. acidtwo ?

Line 87. All important abbreviations must be defined at their first mention

Line 95. and all the formula, Be consistent, a or *a*

*Line 117. Analysis of soil in the study site didn't mention in the method part*

*Line 124. For the results follow the flow of the methods, first you should describe the vegetation of the study area you have sampled, how many type of vegetation, etc*

*Line 128. Source here is the laboratory conducting the analysis ? in that case you should have mentioned on the method part that for the analysis of ..... conducted at laboratory .....*

*Line 143. figure 2 and the description of the vegetation sampled should be placed at the beginning of results*

*Line 167. This is where you should add the soil analysis (if you not going to put anything on the methods)*

*Line 321. Atomic proportion ? or molecule structure ?*

*Line 342. Names of journals should be abbreviated. Always use the standard abbreviation of a journal's name according to the ISSN List of Title Word Abbreviations ([www.issn.org/2-22661-LTWA-online.php](http://www.issn.org/2-22661-LTWA-online.php)).*

Recommendation: Revisions Required

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# Nutritional values of swamp grasses as feed for Pampangan Buffaloes in South Sumatra Indonesia

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**Abstract.** This study was aimed at determining the types and quality of vegetations in the swamp area, which could be used as sources of roughage for Pampangan buffaloes in South Sumatera. In this descriptive study. Results showed that, the highest crude protein and ether extract contents, 20.56 and 2.92%, respectively, were found in Kemon air (*N.olerancia*). The highest ash content of 25.19% was found in Kasuran (*C.digitatus*). The lowest fiber content (11.01%) was found in Cecengkehan (*L.hyssopifolia*), which also had the lowest content of NDF (40.64%). Hemicellulose content was found to be highest (37.14%) in Bento rayap (*L.hexandra*). The lowest ADF (23.66%) and lignin (14.84%) contents were found in Telepuk gajah (*N.lotus*). Kemon air (*N.olerancia*) was found to have the lowest content (27.08%) of cellulose. It was concluded that the swamp vegetations found in this study consisted of 17 types of grasses (89.47%) and 2-two types of legumes (10.53%). Kasuran (*C.digitatus*) and Cecengkehan (*L.hyssopifolia*) were found to have the best nutritional values. Dominant and palatable vegetations with good nutritional values, which were potential to be used as sources of roughage for Pampangan buffaloes, were Kumpai tembaga (*H.acutigluma*), Kumpai padi (*O.rupifogon*), Kumpai minyak (*H.amplexicaulis*, Are bolong (*P.barbatum*), and Purun tikus (*E.dulcis*).

**Key words:** Nutritional value, Swamp grass, Feed, Pampangan buffalo.

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Commented [A1]: Abbreviation

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## INTRODUCTION

The availability of roughage as the main feed for ruminant animals depends considerably on seasons. During the rainy season, it is abundant, and during the dry season, the availability of grasses and legumes is lacking. Limited-The supply of roughage may hamper productivity including the reproductive performance of ruminant animals including buffaloes.

In South Sumatera, Pampangan buffalo is a potential germplasm which needs to be preserved and developed. There were 37,405 heads of Pampangan buffaloes in 2016, and this population increased by 3.97% to 38,952 heads in 2017. In 2017, of this population, 11,150 heads (28.63%) and 2,227 heads (5.72%) were found in Ogan Komering Ilir Regency and Banyuasin Regency, respectively (Statistik Peternakan Sumsel, 2017). The population and productivity of Pampangan buffaloes need to be improved, and for this purpose, feed is an important factor to consider. Pampangan buffaloes feed mostly on roughage from the swamp and/or grassland to meet their maintenance and reproductive needs.

In Indonesia, there are 13.27 million hectares of lowland swamp areas. Only 4 million hectares of these areas has have been developed and cultivated by the community and private sectors (2.6 million hectares) and the government assistance (1.3 million hectares) (BPS, 2010, Mulyani and Sarwani, 2013). In Sumatera, the largest lowland swamp area of 2.98 million hectares is found in South Sumatera, but only 298,189 hectares of it has have been utilized (BPS Sumatera Selatan, 2014). In order to utilize the potential swamp area as a feed source for Pampangan buffaloes, a study on vegetations as sources of roughage in lowland swamp areas that include vegetation identification and nutritional quality determination needs to be conducted.

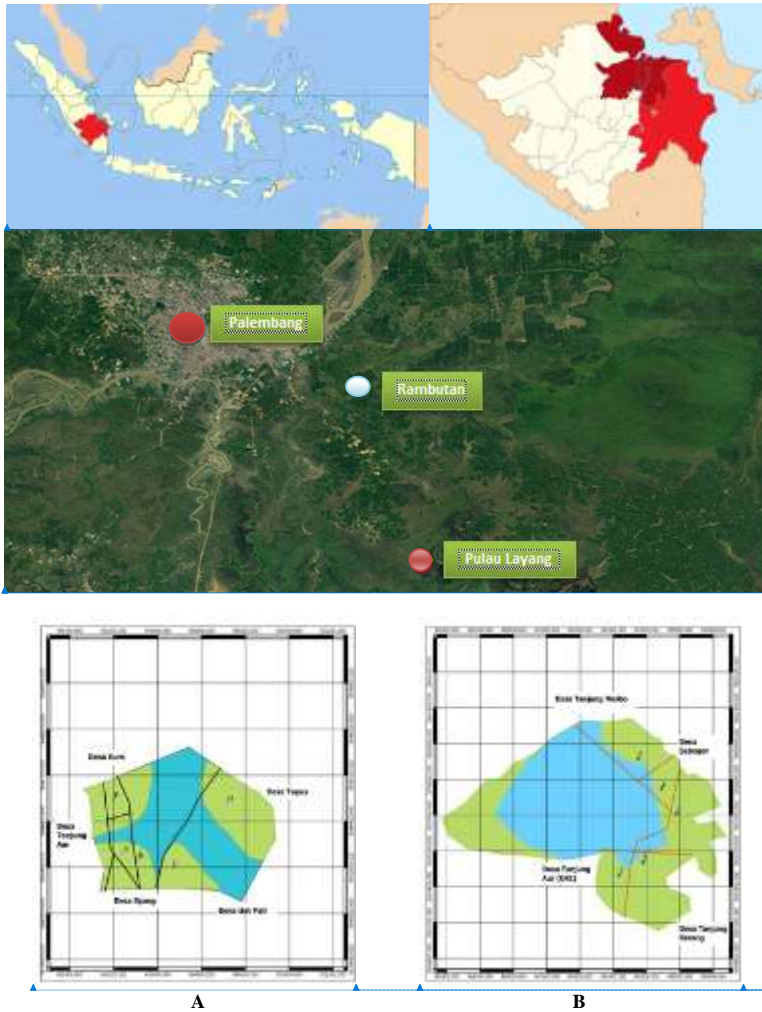
In the previous study, some swamp grasses, including Kumpai minyak grass (*H. amplexicaulis*) (Rostini et al., 2014; Muhakka et al., 2015), *L. rugosum*, and *L. hexandra* (Ali et al., 2012) were identified. However, many more swamp vegetations have not been identified. This study was conducted to identify the types and nutritional values of vegetations that could be used as sources of roughage feed for Pampangan buffaloes in South Sumatera. This information was important to support the productivity improvement of Pampangan buffaloes as a germplasm in South Sumatera.

## MATERIALS AND METHODS

This study was a descriptive study to assess the types and nutritional values of vegetations, which were the dominant and palatable as sources of roughage feed for Pampangan buffaloes. Vegetation samples were taken from grazing areas of

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50 Pampangan buffaloes in Rambutan Village and Pulau Layang Village, South Sumatra, from April to Juni 2017.  
 51 Vegetation samples for nutrient analysis were obtained by following these procedures: (1) vegetation collection was done  
 52 based on estimated growth age (young age, medium age, and old age based on physical appearance), (2) collected samples  
 53 of each vegetation was composited, and (3) samples were chopped into small sizes, homogenized. For each vegetation, 1  
 54 kg sample was taken by randomrandomly and sent to the laboratory for oven drying at 105°C until a constant weight was  
 55 obtained and dry matter content was determined. Samples were then ground for nutrient content determination by using  
 56 proximate and Van Soest analyses (Syarifuddin and Wahdi, 2010).  
 57



61 **Figure 1.** Research location in South Sumatra, Indonesia. **A.** Pulau Layang Village, Pampangan Sub-district, Ogan Komering Ilir  
 62 District, South Sumatra, **B.** Rambutan Village, Rambutan Sub-district, Banyuasin District, South Sumatra (Muhakka et al., 2019)  
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67 **Measured parameters**

68 **Proximate Analysis**

69 Crude protein, fiber, ether extract, and ash contents were determined based on the procedures of AOAC (1990).

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- 70 1. *Crude Protein*. Nitrogen (N) content was determined by using a ~~Kjeldahl-Kjeldahl~~ method. In this analysis, sulphuric  
 71 acid with a catalyst and a heating process. The organic matter of samples was then oxidized by sulfuric acid~~two~~ and  
 72 nitrogen was changed into an ammonium sulfate form. The remaining sulfuric acid was neutralized by NaOH until the  
 73 solution became basic. Ammonium ~~sulphate-sulfate~~ was then distilled in an acid medium to obtain the quantitative  
 74 amount of N. As the average protein contains 16% nitrogen, a factor 100%~~- %~~: 16% = 6.25 was used to obtain the  
 75 value of crude protein (crude protein = N% x 6.25).
- 76 2. *Fiber*. ~~Filtered-The filtered~~ fat-free sample was used in fiber content determination. 1.25% sulfuric acid solution was  
 77 added into the sample, and the mixture was heated for about 30 minutes before the residue was filtered. 1.25% NaOH  
 78 solution was added into the precipitate, and the mixture was heated for about 30 minutes. The mixture was then  
 79 filtered, and the precipitate was washed, dried, and weighed. This precipitate was burnt, and the ash was weighed. The  
 80 difference between the weight of precipitate before it was burnt and the weight of the ash was referred to as fiber  
 81 content.
- 82 3. *Ether Extract*. ~~Dry-The dry~~ matter sample was extracted with diethyl ether for 5 hours. ~~In-At~~ the end of the extraction  
 83 process, ether evaporated and the remaining material was referred to as fat.
- 84 4. *Ash*. The third part of ~~the~~ dry matter sample was weighed and burnt in a crucible at 550°C for 8 hours.

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### Van Soest Analysis

NDF, ADF, hemicellulose, cellulose, and lignin contents were determined by using a Van Soest method (1982).

- 88 1. Neutral Detergent Fiber (NDF). *a* gram of sample was put in a beaker glass. 50 ml NDS solution was added into the  
 89 beaker before the mixture was heated for an hour. The mixture was then filtered by using a vacuum pump and a filter  
 90 glass which was previously weighed (*b* gram). The mixture was then washed with hot water and acetone before it was  
 91 dried in an oven and let cool in a desiccator. Finally, it was weighed as *c* gram. NDF content was calculated by using  
 92 the following formula:

$$\% \text{ NDF} = \frac{c - b}{a} \times 100\%$$

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- 96 2. Acid Detergent Fiber (ADF). *a* gram of sample was put in a beaker glass. 50 ml ADS solution was added into the  
 97 beaker before the mixture was heated for an hour. The mixture was then filtered by using a vacuum pump and a  
 98 sintered glass filter which was previously weighed (*b* gram). The mixture was then washed with hot water and acetone  
 99 before it was dried in an oven and let cool in a desiccator. Finally, it was weighed as *c* gram. Cellulose content was  
 100 calculated by using the following formula:

$$\% \text{ cellulose} = \frac{c - d}{a} \times 100\%$$

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- 104 4. Hemicellulose. Hemicellulose content was calculated as a difference between NDF and ADF contents as follows.

$$\% \text{ Hemicellulose} = \% \text{ NDF} - \% \text{ ADF}$$

- 106 5. Lignin. Cellulose residue (*d* gram) was burnt in a furnace at 500-600°C for 3 hours. After that, it was left to cool and  
 107 weighed (*e* gram). Lignin content was calculated by using the following formula:

$$\% \text{ Lignin} = \frac{d - e}{a} \times 100\%$$

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### Data Analysis

112 The data obtained were used directly to describe the nutritional value of the swamp vegetations that could be used  
 113 as a roughage source. These data were then combined with those of *in vitro* digestibility as the basis for ~~drawing the~~  
 114 ~~conclusion~~concluding (Syarifuddin and Wahdi, 2010).

## RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

### Results

117 Results of soil analysis showed that soil at the study site had a low fertility level and was highly acidic. It also had  
 118 very high organic C and total N contents, medium level of exchangeable-K and N contents, very low Ca and Mg contents,  
 119 medium P content, and very high CEC level (Table 1).

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123 Table 1. Properties of soil at the study site

Parameter	Pulau Layang		Rambutan	
	Value	Remark	Value	Remark

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pH H <sub>2</sub> O (1 : 1)	5.10	Low	4.41	Very low
pH KCl (1 : 1)	4.39	Very acidic	3.99	Very acidic
Organic C (g/kg)	57.66	Very high	36.14	Very high
Total N (g/kg)	3.64	Very high	2.19	Very high
Available P/Bray I (mg/kg)	11.70	Medium	2.25	Very low
Exchangeable K (cmol/kg)	0.63	Medium	0.45	Medium
Na (cmol/kg)	0.65	Medium	0.65	Medium
Ca (cmol/kg)	1.95	Very low	0.73	Very low
Mg (cmol/kg)	0.45	Very low	0.32	Very low
CEC (cmol/kg)	65.25	Very high	43.50	Very high
Exchangeable Al (cmol/kg)	1.84		2.37	
Exchangeable H (cmol/kg)	0.74		0.88	
Texture:				
Sand (%)	47.08		46.64	
Ash (%)	31.11		27.18	
Clay (%)	21.81		26.18	

Source: Laboratory of Soil Chemistry, Biology, and Fertility, Soil Department, Faculty of Agriculture, Sriwijaya University (2017).

### Nutrient Contents of Lowland Swamp

Crude protein, fiber, ether extract, and ash nutrient contents of lowland swamp vegetations found in this study are listed in (Table 2).

Table 2. Crude protein, fiber, ether extract, and ash contents (%) of lowland swamp vegetations

Latin Name	Local Name	Crude Protein	Fiber	Ether Extract	Ash
<i>Catharanthus roseus</i>	Tapak dara	15.20	11.18	1.29	12.53
<i>Cyperus digitatus</i>	Kasuran	15.31	14.76	1.42	25.19
<i>Digitaria fuscescens</i>	Kerak Maling/Pasiran	12.00	15.64	1.24	16.26
<i>Eichhornia crassipes</i>	Eceng gondok	8.61	20.66	0.84	14.22
<i>Eleocharis dulcis</i> <sup>P</sup>	Purun tikus	8.22	25.72	0.48	15.13
<i>Eleocharis dulcis</i> <sup>R</sup>	Purun tikus	6.63	24.52	1.69	10.24
<i>Hymenachne acutigluma</i> <sup>P</sup>	Kumpai Tembaga	6.86	30.26	2.22	7.88
<i>Hymenachne acutigluma</i> <sup>R</sup>	Kumpai Tembaga	10.96	23.73	1.77	10.30
<i>Hymenachne amplexicaulis</i> <sup>P</sup>	Kumpai Minyak	9.21	21.91	2.82	13.96
<i>Hymenachne amplexicaulis</i> <sup>R</sup>	Kumpai Minyak	12.00	15.64	1.24	16.26
<i>Hymenachne sp</i>	Kumpai Merah	8.52	21.20	1.30	12.88
<i>Ipomoea aquatica</i>	Kangkung merah	8.95	14.34	2.24	10.39
<i>Leersia hexandra</i>	Bento rayap	5.35	27.57	2.06	5.63
<i>Ludwigia hyssopifolia</i>	Cecengkehan	12.07	11.01	1.66	9.09
<i>Neptunia olerancia</i>	Kemon air	20.56	15.03	2.92	7.31
<i>Nymphaea lotus</i>	Telepuk Gajah	13.22	11.45	2.84	10.30
<i>Oryza rufipogon</i> <sup>P</sup>	Kumpai Padi	7.93	23.30	1.60	16.25
<i>Oryza rufipogon</i> <sup>R</sup>	Kumpai Padi	10.41	21.59	2.49	11.92
<i>Polygonum barbatum</i>	Are Bolong	7.53	16.60	1.57	8.40
<i>Rhynchospora corymbosa</i>	Berondong	5.26	22.27	1.48	14.84
<i>Sesbania exasperata</i>	Mutiara	18.27	11.22	1.86	19.47

Source: Laboratory of Dairy Nutrition, Department of Nutrition and Feed Technology, IPB (2017).

Notes: <sup>P</sup> : Grass in Pulau Layang Village; <sup>R</sup> : Grass in Rambutan Village.

The NDF and ADF contents of vegetations found in this study were about 40.65–79.47% and 23.66–60.33%, respectively. Lowland swamp vegetations were found to have hemicellulose and cellulose contents ranging from 7.73 to 37.14% and 5.24 to 27.08%, respectively. Lignin contents of lowland swamp vegetations ranged from 14.84 to 43.09% (Table 3).

Table 3. Composition of fiber fractions of green vegetations in lowland swamp: NDF, ADF, Hemicellulose, Cellulose, and Lignin (%).

Latin Name	NDF	ADF	Hemicellulose	Cellulose	Lignin
<i>Catharanthus roseus</i>	47.79	39.67	8.12	16.96	22.71
<i>Cyperus digitatus</i>	58.90	36.93	21.97	5.24	31.68
<i>Digitaria fuscescens</i>	65.43	33.56	31.87	12.11	21.45
<i>Eichhornia crassipes</i>	62.77	41.83	20.94	10.22	31.60
<i>Eleocharis dulcis</i> <sup>P</sup>	69.57	49.83	19.74	21.80	28.04
<i>Eleocharis dulcis</i> <sup>R</sup>	75.73	54.91	20.82	19.71	35.20
<i>Hymenachne acutigluma</i> <sup>P</sup>	75.89	50.60	25.29	12.25	38.34

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<i>Hymenachne acutigluma</i> <sup>R</sup>	64.72	46.38	18.34	16.01	30.37
<i>Hymenachne amplexicaulis</i>	65.31	38.92	26.39	8.29	30.63
<i>Hymenachne sp</i>	60.14	28.40	31.74	8.64	19.76
<i>Ipomoea aquatica</i>	41.40	26.17	15.23	6.32	19.85
<i>Leersia hexandra</i>	79.47	42.33	37.14	25.88	33.92
<i>Ludwigia hyssopifolia</i>	40.64	32.91	7.73	8.39	24.52
<i>Nepunia olerancia</i>	62.31	45.44	16.87	27.08	18.36
<i>Nymphaea lotus</i>	46.05	23.66	22.39	8.82	14.84
<i>Oryza rufifogon</i> <sup>P</sup>	71.13	60.33	10.80	17.23	43.09
<i>Oryza rufifogon</i> <sup>R</sup>	65.49	46.19	19.30	14.96	31.24
<i>Polygonum barbatum</i>	61.27	48.46	12.81	20.28	28.18
<i>Rhynchospora corymbosa</i>	65.29	44.64	20.65	16.08	28.56

Source: Biotechnology Assessment Laboratory, Center for Biotechnology Research, Indonesian Institute of Sciences (LIPI), Cibinong, Bogor (2017).

Notes: <sup>P</sup>: Grass in Pulau Layang Village; <sup>R</sup>: Grass in Rambutan Village.



**Figure 2.** Dominant and palatable swamp roughages with good nutrient contents included. **A.** *Hymenachne acutigluma*, **B.** *Oryza rufifogon* **C.** *Hymenachne amplexicaulis*, **D.** *Polygonum barbatum*, and **E.** *Eleocharis dulcis*.

## Discussion

### Crude Protein Content

Results showed that the crude protein contents of swamp green vegetations ranged from 5.26% to 20.56% with the lowest value (5.26%) was found in Berondong grass (*R. corymbosa*) and the highest (20.56%) was found in Kemon air legume (*N. olerancia*). Kasuran grass (*C. digitatus*) had the highest crude protein content (15.31%) (Table 2). This high nutritional value of Kasuran grass was suspected as caused by the fact that most of this grass was found to grow in the area

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of buffalo pens where the soil was rich in organic matter. However, the growth of this grass was not dominant as it mostly occurred in rainy seasons.

Kumpai minyak (*H. amplexicaulis*), Kumpai padi (*O. rupifogon*), Kumpai tembaga (*H. acutigluma*), and Purun tikus (*E. dulcis*) were found as the dominant palatable grasses containing 12.00, 10.41, 10.96, and 8.22% crude protein, respectively. Results of this study were not too different from those obtained by Rostini et al. (2014), who reported that Kumpai minyak and Pipisangan had protein contents of 10.88 and 15.92%, respectively. Crude protein (CP) contents of these swamp grasses in Pulau Layang and Rambutan Villages were closed to those of prime grasses including 9.11-12.8% CP of elephant grass (*P. purpureum*) (Santos et al., 2013; Dahlan and Iskandar, 2013; Rahman et al., 2014), 12.4% CP of elephant grass hay, 11.1% CP of elephant grass silage, 11.4% CP of king grass hay, and 10.2% CP of king grass silage (Santoso and Hariadi, 2008). Other vegetations even had higher CP contents including Kumpai tembaga (*H. acutigluma*) with 10.96% CP, Tapak dara (*C. roseus*) 15.20%, Telepuk gajah (*N. lotus*) 13.22%, Cecengkehan (*L. hyssopifolia*) 12.07%, Kasuran (*C. digitatus*) 15.31%, and Kumpai minyak (*H. amplexicaulis*)<sup>R</sup> 12.0% (Table 2). CP contents of vegetations in this study were also higher than those of nature grasses found in coffee plantation areas (6.95%) and pastoral areas (6.65%) in Wulanggintang District, East Flores Regency as reported by Kleden et al. (2015). Meanwhile, CP content of grasses in lowlands was 8.41% (Rochana et al., 2016; Maswada and Elzaawely, 2013).

This high protein content was suspected to be caused by the fact that soil organic C and total N contents in the study site were also high, namely 36.14-57.66 and 2.19-3.64 g.kg<sup>-1</sup>, respectively (Table 1). Soil organic C and total N contents affected protein content in plants. Four swamp grasses including Kasuran (*C. digitatus*), Tapak dara (*C. roseus*), Telepuk gajah (*N. lotus*), and Cecengkehan (*L. hyssopifolia*) and a legume, Kemon air (*N. olerancia*) were found to be the lowland swamp vegetations having the highest N contents of 15.31, 15.20, 13.22, 12.07, and 20.56%, respectively.

#### Fiber Contents

Fiber contents of lowland swamp green vegetations ranged from 11.01 to 30.26%, with the lowest content found in Cecengkehan (*L. hyssopifolia*) and the highest in Kumpai tembaga (*H. acutigluma*<sup>P</sup>). Four vegetations including Cecengkehan (*L. hyssopifolia*), Tapak dara (*C. roseus*), Mutiara legume (*S. exasperata*), and Telepuk gajah (*N. lotus*) were found to have the lowest fiber contents of 11.01, 11.18, 11.22, and 11.45%, respectively (Table 2). These results were almost similar to those found by Ali et al. (2012) who reported that the fiber contents of roughage in a pasture ranged from 7.20 to 34.98%. These researchers found that the fiber content of Bento rayap (*Leersia hexandra*) was 27.40% which was very close to that (27.57%) of the same vegetation in this study. Meanwhile, Rostini et al. (2014) reported that the fiber contents of swamp vegetation in South Kalimantan ranged from 14.84 to 29.35% with the lowest content found in Hadangan (*Paspalum* sp) and the highest in Dadangsit (*L. ascendens*). These figures were lower than those found by Kleden et al. (2015) who revealed that nature grasses in a coffee plantation area and a pasture in Wulanggintang, East Flores contained 34.57 and 35.59% of fiber. They also found that the lowest fiber content was found in *L. peplodes* and the highest in *I. rugosum*. Fiber contents reported by Kleden et al. (2015) were higher than the results reported by Ahmed et al. (2013) with a fiber content of 29.32% in *D. aegyptium* plants. A previous study showed that fermented *I. rugosum*, *H. amplexicaulis*, and *O. rufipogon* had fiber contents of 29.27, 29.57, and 33.07%, respectively (Muhakka et al., 2015).

The fiber content of Eceng gondok (*E. crassipes*) in this study (20.66%) was lower than those found by Hossain et al. (2015), Tham and Uder (2015), and Make et al. (2016). In addition, the fiber content of Eceng gondok (*E. crassipes*) in this study was lower than those of *Azolla*, another water plant, ranging from 13.19 to 16.54% (Kathirvelan et al., 2015; Anitha et al., 2016) and 9.25 to 13.25% (Ahmed et al., 2016). These fiber contents of *Azolla* equalled to those of Cecengkehan (*L. hyssopifolia*) (11.01%), Tapak dara (*C. roseus*) (11.18%), Mutiara legume (*S. exasperata*) (11.22%), Telepuk gajah (*N. lotus*) 11.45%, and Kangkung merah (*I. aquatica*) (14.34%) found in this study. Fiber contents of swamp green vegetations found in this study indicated that they were potential to be used as feed for Pampangan buffaloes.

#### Ether extract contents

Lowland swamp vegetations in this study were found to have ether extract (EE) contents of about 0.48-2.92%. The lowest EE content was found in Purun tikus (*E. dulcis*) while the highest was found in Kemon air legume (*N. olerancia*). Four vegetations of lowland swamp including Telepuk gajah (*N. lotus*) (2.84% EE), Kumpai minyak (*H. amplexicaulis*) (2.82% EE), Kumpai padi (*O. rupifogon*) (2.49% EE), and Kangkung merah (*I. aquatica* Forsk) (2.24% EE) were revealed to have the highest ether extract contents (Table 2). Results of this study were lower than those found by Rostini et al. (2014), reporting about 0.61-3.67% of EE contents in swamp vegetations in South Kalimantan with the lowest found in Pipisangan (*L. hyssopifolia*) and the highest in Padi hiang (*O. rufipogon spotanea*). EE contents of lowland swamp vegetations were 1.40-1.91% for grasses and 1.36-2.95% for legumes (Asep et al., 2012) and those of grasses in a pasture for buffaloes in Pulau Moa were 1.95-2.41% (Eoh, 2014). In other studies, grasses in a natural pasture in North Lore, Poso Regency had EE contents of 2.12-2.34% (Damry, 2009) and those in Sabana Timur Barat pasture in the rainy season to the end of dry season had an average EE content of 1.91% (Manu, 2013). A study by Se'u et al. (2015) revealed an EE content of 1.07% in grasses in a pasture in Timor Tengah Selatan Regency. Another work by Kleden et al. (2015) showed that vegetations in a natural pasture and a coffee plantation area had EE contents of 1.23 and 1.35%, respectively.

Vegetations found in this study had EE contents equalled to those of prime grasses including elephant grass (*P. purpureum*) and king grass (*P. purpureophoides*) preserved in the form of hay and silage. Elephant grass hay and silage

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had EE contents of 1.9 and 2.6%, respectively, while those of king grass had EE contents of 1.6 and 2.4%, respectively (Santoso and Hariadi, 2008; Ukpabi et al., 2015). EE contents of some species of ruminant roughages were found to be about 1.2–4.1% (Ahmed et al., 2013). Dominant swamp roughages including Kumpai minyak (*H. amplexicaulis*) and Kumpai padi (*O. rupifogon*) had EE contents of 2.82 and 2.49%, respectively and they were palatable and potential to be used as feed for Pampangan buffaloes.

#### Ash Contents

Ash contents of green vegetations in lowland swamp ranged from 5.63 to 25.19%. Four types of vegetations with the highest ash contents included Kasuran (*C. digitatus*) (25.19%), Mutiara legume (*S. exasperata*) (19.47%), Kumpai minyak (*H. amplexicaulis*) (16.26%), and Kumpai padi (*O. rupifogon*) (16.25%). Meanwhile, Bento rayap (*L. hexandra*) was found to have the lowest ash content of 5.63% (Table 2). Ash contents of vegetations found in this study were higher than those of swamp vegetations in South Kalimantan of 2.18–3.28% during the high tidal season and 3.23–9.83% during the low tidal season (Rostini et al., 2014). Elephant grass (*P. purpureum*) was indicated to have varied ash contents of 4.4% (Dahlan and Iskandar, 2013), 0.95–1.1% (Ukpabi et al., 2015), 9.59% (Nuhuyanan, 2010), and 18% (Araica et al., 2009). Meanwhile, the ash content of grasses in lowland areas ranged from 6.32 to 8.91% (Richmond et al., 2015; Mako et al., 2016; Norman et al., 2013; Maswada et al., 2013). Alam et al. (2015) found that *B. mutica* had an ash content of 4.20–4.89% and rice straw had 6.63%.

Roughages were found to have average ash contents of 7.28% in a pasture for buffaloes in Pulau Moa (Eoh, 2014), 9.82–10.14% in Lore Utara, Poso Regency (Damry, 2009), 11.51% in a pasture during the rainy season until the end of dry season in Sabana Timur Barat (Manu, 2013), and 8.11 and 8.22% in a natural pasture and a coffee plantation area, respectively (Kleden et al., 2015). Differences in these ash contents were suspected to be caused by differences in plant species (internal factor) and environmental differences, particularly seasonal differences (external factor). In a dry season, pH levels in lowland swamp areas were found to be 3.9–4.8, causing a decreased supply of nutrients, especially total N and K, to the soil. This decreased supply of nutrients led to lowered nutrients contained in plants (Rostini et al., 2014). This was in line with what was stated by Gutteridge and Shelton (1994) that nutrient content in plants was affected by soil nutrient content. In addition, in acidic soil conditions, activities of Fe, Al, and Mn increased which might cause toxicity in plants (Tjondronegoro and Gunawan).

#### NDF and ADF Contents

Neutral Detergent Fiber (NDF) depicts plant cell walls consisting of hemicellulose, cellulose, and lignin. NDF is part of fiber which is not dissolved in neutral detergent representing the component of fiber undissolved in plant cell wall materials. NDF content of a feed affects the ability of ruminant animals to consume the feed. Acid Detergent Fiber (ADF) represents parts of the plant cell wall bond to cellulose and lignin. ADF content is related to energy content and higher ADF content results in lowered digestible energy content (Van Soest, 1982).

The NDF and ADF contents of vegetations found in this study were about 40.65–79.47% and 23.66–60.33%, respectively. Lowest NDF contents were found in Cecengkehan (*L. hyssopifolia*) (40.65%), Kangkung merah (*I. aquatica*) (41.40%), Telepek gajah (*N. lotus*) (46.05%), and Tapak dara (*C. roseus*) (47.79%). In contrast, highest NDF content of 79.47% was found in Bento rayap (*L. hexandra*). Lowest ADF contents were found in Telepek gajah (*N. lotus*) (46.05%), Kangkung merah (*I. aquatica*) (26.17%), Kumpai merah (*Hymenachne* sp) (28.40%), Cecengkehan (*L. hyssopifolia*) (32.91%). Meanwhile, the highest ADF content of 60.33% was found in Kumpai padi (*O. rupifogon*) (Table 3). NDF and ADF contents of vegetations found in this study were lower than those of Asep et al. (2012) who reported that the NDF contents of swamp green vegetations in a pasture for buffaloes were about 91.73–93.45% in grasses and 68.11–90.93% in legumes and the ADF content of grasses was 51.6–86.8%. It was shown in other studies that NDF and ADF contents of roughages in a pasture during the rainy season to the end of the dry season in Sabana Timur Barat were on average 65.9 and 43.29%, respectively (Manu, 2013). Vegetations in a natural pasture and a coffee plantation area had NDF contents of 74.89 and 72.37% and ADF contents of 57.22 and 55.15%, respectively (Kleden et al., 2015). Meanwhile, swamp vegetations in South Kalimantan had average NDF and ADF contents of 55.97 and 37.87%, respectively, during the high tidal season and 81.44 and 60.86% respectively, during the low tidal season (Rostini et al., 2014).

NDF and ADF contents of roughages in the BPTU-HPT Padang Mengatas area were found to be 75.62 and 45.96%, respectively in the rain season and 69.35 and 38.66%, respectively in the dry season (Muhajirin et al., 2017). NDF and ADF contents of Eceng gondok (*E. crassipes*) in this study were 62.77 and 41.83%, respectively. These figures were close to those of water hyacinth (*E. crassipes*) plants studied by Tham (2015) with NDF and ADF contents of 63.9 and 34.68% and by Tham and Uden (2015) with NDF and ADF contents of 52.1 and 30.7%, respectively. Other studies conducted by Ahmed et al. (2016), Anitha et al. (2016), and Nampoothiri (2017) showed that *Azolla* sp had NDF and ADF contents of 53.8–54.85% and 36.57–37.0%, respectively. Meanwhile, NDF and ADF contents of elephant grass (*P. purpureum*) were found to be 55.8 and 46.5% (Dahlan and Iskandar, 2013) and 84.25 and 64.07% (Nuhuyanan, 2010), respectively. These figures equaled to the NDF and ADF contents of Kumpai tembaga (64.72 and 46.38%), Kumpai minyak (65.31 and 38.92), and Are bolong (61.27 and 48.46%). This indicated that lowland swamp vegetations had fiber fraction nutritional quality which was not less than that of prime grasses including elephant grass and king grass.



In this study, NDF and ADF contents of lowland swamp vegetations were 40.65– 79.47% and 23.66%–60.33%, respectively. These figures were still within the ranges of NDF and ADF contents of prime grasses such as *elephant grass* (*P. purpureum*), which had NDF and ADF contents of 55.8 and 46.5% (Dahlan and Iskandar, 2013) and 84.25 and 64.07% (Nuhuyanan, 2010), respectively. In *the rumen*, NDF degradation is higher than that of ADF as NDF contains hemicellulose fraction which is more soluble (Church and Pond, 1986). NDF content has a negative correlation with its degradation rate (Varga et al., 1983) and higher NDF content decreases dry matter digestibility of feed (NRC, 1988). Cellulose is an ADF component ~~which-that~~ is easy to digest while lignin is hard to digest as it contains double bonds. Higher lignin content decreases feed digestibility (Sutardi et al., 1980).

### Hemicellulose and Cellulose Contents

Lowland swamp vegetations were found to have hemicellulose and cellulose contents ranging from 7.73 to 37.14% and 5.24 to 27.08%, respectively. Four green vegetations with *the highest* hemicellulose contents were Bento rayap (*L. hexandra*) (37.14%), Kerak maling (*D. fuscescens*) (31.87%), Kumpai merah (*Hymenachne sp.*) (31.74%), and Kumpai minyak (*H. amplexicaulis*) (26.39%). In contrast, *the lowest* hemicellulose content was found in Cecengkehan (*L. hyssopifolia*) (7.73%). Highest cellulose contents were found in Kemon air (*N. olerancia*) (27.08%), Bento rayap (*L. hexandra*) (25.88%), Purun tikus (*E. dulcis*) (21.80%), and Are bolong (*P. barbatum*) (20.28%). Meanwhile, Kasuran (*C. digitatus*) had the lowest cellulose content of 5.24% (Table 3). Results of this study were in line with those of a study conducted by Asep et al. (2012) who reported the hemicellulose and cellulose contents of lowland swamp green vegetations ranging from 7.89 to 31.55% and 30.85 to 63.35%, respectively. They also found that Kumpai padi (*O. rupifogon*) had 31.55% hemicellulose content which was higher than those of Kumpai padi (10.80- 19.30%) found in this study (Table 4). Swamp vegetations in South Kalimantan had hemicellulose contents of 0.65-25.85% in high tidal season and 5.37-40.09% in low tidal season. Cellulose contents in high and low tidal seasons were about 20.07-34.03% and 7.90- 38.31%, respectively (Rostini et al., 2014). Various water plants including *Azolla*, which was used as animal feed, had hemicellulose and cellulose contents of 10.20 and 12.76% (Nampoothiri, 2017), 1.15-10.20% and 12.76% (Nampoothiri, 2017), respectively. Roughages in BPTU-HPT Padang Mengatas had hemicellulose and cellulose contents of 29.79 and 33.62% in *the rain* season and 30.69 and 31.64% in *the dry* season, respectively (Muhajirin et al., 2017). *Elephant grass* (*P. purpureum*) was found to contain 21.18% hemicellulose and 43.32% cellulose (Nuhuyanan, 2010) and 35.3% cellulose (Dahlan and Iskandar, 2013). In a study conducted by Archimede et al. (2010), hay was found to have 37.7% hemicellulose and 35.7% cellulose. Based on the above findings, it was suggested that hemicellulose (7.73– 37.14%) and cellulose (5.24–27.08%) contents of lowland swamp vegetations in this study were within normal ranges and these vegetations were potential to be used as feed for Pampangan buffaloes.

### Lignin Contents

Lignin contents of lowland swamp vegetations ranged from 14.84 to 43.09%. Four vegetations including Telepuk gajah (*N. lotus*), Kemon air (*N. olerancia*), Kumpai merah (*Hymenachne sp.*), and Kangkung merah (*I. aquatica*) were found to have the lowest lignin contents of 14.84, 18.36, 19.76, and 19.85%, respectively, while the highest lignin content of 43.09% was found in Kumpai padi (*O. rupifogon*) (Table 3). Lignin contents in this study were higher than that obtained by Rostini et al. (2014) who reported the lignin contents of swamp vegetations in South Kalimantan were about 2.8-17.59% in high tidal season with that of Kumpai minyak as the lowest and that of *Beberasan* as the highest and 10.06-61.12% in low tidal season with that of *Beberasan* as the lowest and that of Kumpai minyak as the highest. Lignin contents of Kumpai padi (*O. rupifogon*) (31.24%) and Kumpai padi (*O. rupifogon*) (43.09%), Bento rayap (*L. hexandra*) (33.92%), and Eceng gondok (*E. crassipes*) (31.60%) (Table 3) found in this study were higher those of Kumpai padi (18.27%) and Bento rayap (*L. hexandra*) (17.96%) found by Asep et al. (2012) and Eceng gondok (*E. crassipes*) (8.17%) found by Tham (2015). In other studies *Azolla* was found to have lignin contents of 5.7% (Ahmed et al., 2016) and 28.24% (Nampoothiri, 2017). Meanwhile, lignin contents of *elephant grass* were found to be 15.37% (Nuhuyanan, 2010) and 11.2% (Dahlan and Iskandar, 2013).

Differences in lignin contents in green vegetations are suspected to be caused by differences in plant species, plant ages, and environmental factors including seasons (rain or dry season), tidal seasons, and fertility levels of the soil where the vegetations grow. In cell walls, cellulose is *a bond* with hemicellulose and lignin. ~~Lignin cannot be digested by the animals~~ *The animals cannot digest lignin* and its atomic proportion is different from other carbohydrates as it contains carbon and nitrogen of only 1-5%. Hemicellulose consists of pentose, hexose, uronic acid, and pectin substance. Pectin is a carbohydrate ~~which-that~~ is composed of *aronic acid*, galactose, arabinose, xylose, and methanol. Cellulose is degradable by microorganisms and functions as the source of volatile fatty acids. Young grasses (roughages) contain less than 5% lignin and 80% of their cellulose is degradable. On the contrary, in old roughages, lignin content may reach up to 10% causing a decrease in cellulose digestibility by up to 50% (Prawirokusumo, 1994).

Based on the results of the study, it was concluded that:

1. The highest protein (20.56%) and crude fat (2.92%) contents were found in Kemon air (*Neptunia olerancia*). The highest ash content (25.19%) was found in Kasuran (*C. digitatus*), while the lowest (11.01%) was found in Cecengkehan (*L. hyssopifolia*). The lowest NDF content (40.64%) was found in Cecengkehan (*L. hyssopifolia*) and the

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333 highest hemicellulose content (37.14%) was found in Bento rayap. Telepuk gajah had the lowest ADF (23.66%) and  
334 lignin (14.84%) contents. Kemon air contained the highest cellulose level of 27.08%.  
335 2. The best nutritional values were found in Kasuran (*C. digitatus*) and Cecengkehan (*L. hyssopifolia*).  
336 3. Dominant and palatable swamp roughages with good nutrient contents included Kumpai tembaga (*H. acutigluma*),  
337 Kumpai minyak (*H. amplexicaulis*), Kumpai padi (*O. rupifogon*), Are bolong (*P. barbatum*), and Purun tikus (*E.*  
338 *dulcis*).

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**3. Bukti konfirmasi submit revisi pertama,  
respon kepada reviewer, dan artikel  
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# Nutritional values of swamp grasses as feed for Pampangan Buffaloes in South Sumatra Indonesia

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**Abstract.** This study was aimed at determining the types and quality of vegetations in the swamp area, which could be used as sources of roughage for Pampangan buffaloes in South Sumatra. In this descriptive study. Results showed that, the highest crude protein and ether extract contents, 20.56 and 2.92%, respectively, were found in Kemon air (*N.olerancia*). The highest ash content of 25.19% was found in Kasuran (*C.digitatus*). The lowest fiber content (11.01%) was found in Cecengkehan (*L.hyssopifolia*), which also had the lowest content of Neutral Detergent Fiber (NDF) (40.64%). Hemicellulose content was found to be highest (37.14%) in Bento rayap (*L.hexandra*). The lowest ADF (23.66%) and lignin (14,84%) contents were found in Telepuk gajah (*N.lotus*). Kemon air (*N.olerancia*) was found to have the lowest content (27.08%) of cellulose. It was concluded that the swamp vegetations found in this study consisted of 17 types of grasses (89.47%) and 2-two types of legumes (10.53%). Kasuran (*C.digitatus*) and Cecengkehan (*L.hyssopifolia*) were found to have the best nutritional values. Dominant and palatable vegetations with good nutritional values, which were potential to be used as sources of roughage for Pampangan buffaloes, were Kumpai tembaga (*H.acutigluma*), Kumpai padi (*O.rupifogon*), Kumpai minyak (*H.amplexicaulis*), Are bolong (*P.barbatum*), and Purun tikus (*E.dulcis*).

**Key words:** Nutritional value, Swamp grass, Feed, Pampangan buffalo.

## INTRODUCTION

The availability of roughage as the main feed for ruminant animals depends considerably on seasons. During the rainy season, it is abundant, and during the dry season, the availability of grasses and legumes is lacking. Limited The limited supply of roughage may hamper productivity including the reproductive performance of ruminant animals including buffaloes.

In South Sumatra, Pampangan buffalo is a potential germplasm which needs to be preserved and developed. There were 37,405 heads of Pampangan buffaloes in 2016, and this population increased by 3.97% to 38,952 heads in 2017. In 2017, of this population, 11,150 heads (28.63%) and 2,227 heads (5.72%) were found in Ogan Komering Ilir Regency and Banyuasin Regency, respectively (Statistik Peternakan Sumsel, 2017). The population and productivity of Pampangan buffaloes need to be improved, and for this purpose, feed is an important factor to consider. Pampangan buffaloes feed mostly on roughage from the swamp and/or grassland to meet their maintenance and reproductive needs.

In Indonesia, there are 13.27 million hectares of lowland swamp areas. Only 4 million hectares of these areas have been developed and cultivated by the community and private sectors (2.6 million hectares) and the government assistance (1.3 million hectares) (BPS, 2010, Mulyani and Sarwani, 2013). In Sumatera, the largest lowland swamp area of 2.98 million hectares is found in South Sumatera, but only 298,189 hectares of it has have been utilized (BPS Sumatera Selatan, 2014). In order to utilize the potential swamp area as a feed source for Pampangan buffaloes, a study on vegetations as sources of roughage in lowland swamp areas that include vegetation identification and nutritional quality determination needs to be conducted.

In the previous study, some swamp grasses, including Kumpai minyak grass (*H.amplexicaulis*) (Rostini et al., 2014; Muhakka et al., 2015), *I.rugosum-rugosum*, and *L.hexandra* (Ali et al., 2012) were identified. However, many more swamp vegetations have not been identified. For example, *P.barbatum*, *C.digitatus*, *R.corymbosa*. This study was conducted to identify the types and nutritional values of vegetations that could be used as sources of roughage feed for Pampangan buffaloes in South Sumatera. This information was important to support the productivity improvement of Pampangan buffaloes as a germplasm in South Sumatera. In this study, some new swamp found where in the previous study it's not found yet.

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### MATERIALS AND METHODS

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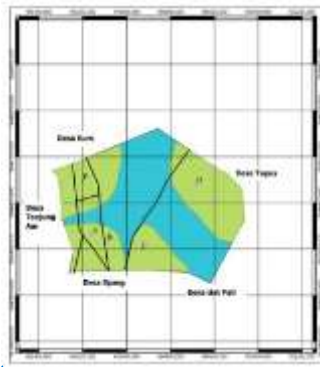
This study was a descriptive study to assess the types and nutritional values of vegetations, which were the dominant and palatable as sources of roughage feed for Pampangan buffaloes. Vegetation samples were taken from grazing areas of Pampangan buffaloes in Rambutan Village and Pulau Layang Village, South Sumatra, from April to Juni 2017. Vegetation samples for nutrient analysis were obtained by following these procedures: (1) vegetation collection was done based on estimated growth age (young age, medium age, and old age based on physical appearance), (2) collected samples of each vegetation was composited, and (3) samples were chopped into small sizes, homogenized. For each vegetation, 1 kg sample was taken ~~by random~~ randomly and sent to the laboratory for oven drying at 105°C until a constant weight was obtained and dry matter content was determined. Samples were then ground for nutrient content determination by using proximate and Van Soest analyses (Syarifuddin and Wahdi, 2010). Analyses of sample conducted in Laboratory of Dairy Nutrition, Department of Nutrition and Feed Technology, Institut Pertanian Bogor (IPB). And analysis of soil conducted in Laboratory of Soil Chemistry, Biology, and Fertility, Soil Department, Faculty of Agriculture, Sriwijaya University.

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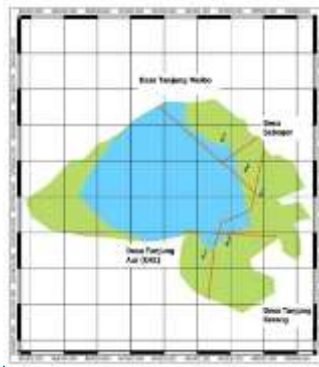


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70 **Figure 1.** Research location in South Sumatera, Indonesia. **A.** Pulau Layang Village, Pampangan Sub-district, Ogan Komering Ilir  
 71 District, South Sumatra, **B.** Rambutan Village, Rambutan Sub-district, Banyuasin District, South Sumatra (Muhakka et al., 2019)

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73  
74 **Measured parameters**

75 Soil Analysis

76 Soil sampling is done in a composite manner at a depth of 0-20 cm. Taking the soil sample points is done by  
 77 making a diagonal line in each zone and determining 5 soil sampling points to analyze chemical fertility (N, P, K)  
 78 and physical fertility (texture, structure and pH).

79  
80 **Proximate Analysis**

81 Crude protein, fiber, ether extract, and ash contents were determined based on the procedures of AOAC (1990).

- 82 1. *Crude Protein.* Nitrogen (N) content was determined by using a ~~Kjeldahl~~-Kjeldahl method. In this analysis, sulphuric  
 83 acid with a catalyst and a heating process. The organic matter of samples was then oxidized by sulfuric acid~~two~~, and  
 84 nitrogen was changed into an ammonium sulfate form. The remaining sulfuric acid was neutralized by NaOH until the  
 85 solution became basic. Ammonium ~~sulphate-sulfate~~ was then distilled in an acid medium to obtain the quantitative  
 86 amount of N. As the average protein contains 16% nitrogen, a factor  $100\% - \% : 16\% = 6.25$  was used to obtain the  
 87 value of crude protein (crude protein =  $N\% \times 6.25$ ).
- 88 2. *Fiber.* ~~Filtered-The filtered~~ fat-free sample was used in fiber content determination. 1.25% sulfuric acid solution was  
 89 added into the sample, and the mixture was heated for about 30 minutes before the residue was filtered. 1.25% NaOH  
 90 solution was added into the precipitate, and the mixture was heated for about 30 minutes. The mixture was then  
 91 filtered, and the precipitate was washed, dried, and weighed. This precipitate was burnt, and the ash was weighed. The  
 92 difference between the weight of precipitate before it was burnt and the weight of the ash was referred to as fiber  
 93 content.
- 94 3. *Ether Extract.* ~~Dry-The dry~~ matter sample was extracted with diethyl ether for 5 hours. ~~In-At~~ the end of the extraction  
 95 process, ether evaporated and the remaining material was referred to as fat.
- 96 4. *Ash.* The third part of ~~the~~ dry matter sample was weighed and burnt in a crucible at 550°C for 8 hours.

97  
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99 **Van Soest Analysis**

100 Neutral Detergent Fiber (NDF), Acid Detergent Fiber (ADF), NDF, ADF, hemicellulose, cellulose, and lignin  
 contents were determined by using a Van Soest method (1982).

- 101 1. Neutral Detergent Fiber (NDF). a gram of sample was put in a beaker glass. 50 ml NDS solution was added into the  
 102 beaker before the mixture was heated for an hour. The mixture was then filtered by using a vacuum pump and a filter  
 103 glass which was previously weighed (b gram). The mixture was then washed with hot water and acetone before it was  
 104 dried in an oven and let cool in a desiccator. Finally, it was weighed as c gram. NDF content was calculated by using  
 105 the following formula:

$$\% \text{ NDF} = \frac{c - b}{a} \times 100\%$$

- 109 2. Acid Detergent Fiber (ADF). a gram of sample was put in a beaker glass. 50 ml ADS solution was added into the  
 110 beaker before the mixture was heated for an hour. The mixture was then filtered by using a vacuum pump and a  
 111 sintered glass filter which was previously weighed (b gram). The mixture was then washed with hot water and acetone  
 112 before it was dried in an oven and let cool in a desiccator. Finally, it was weighed as c gram. Cellulose content was  
 113 calculated by using the following formula:

$$\% \text{ cellulose} = \frac{c - d}{a} \times 100\%$$

- 117 4. Hemicellulose. Hemicellulose content was calculated as a difference between NDF and ADF contents as follows.  
 118  $\% \text{ Hemicellulose} = \% \text{ NDF} - \% \text{ ADF}$
- 119 5. Lignin. Cellulose residue (d gram) was burnt in a furnace at 500-600°C for 3 hours. After that, it was left to cool and  
 120 weighed (e gram). Lignin content was calculated by using the following formula:

$$\% \text{ Lignin} = \frac{d - e}{a} \times 100\%$$

124 **Data Analysis**

125 The data obtained were used directly to describe the nutritional value of the swamp vegetations that could be used  
 126 as a roughage source. These data were then combined with those of *in vitro* digestibility as the basis for drawing the  
 127 conclusionconcluding (Syarifuddin and Wahdi, 2010).

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## RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

## Results

Results of soil analysis showed that soil at the study site had a low fertility level and was highly acidic. It also had very high organic C and total N contents, medium level of exchangeable-K and N contents, very low Ca and Mg contents, medium P content, and very high CEC level (Table 1).

Table 1. Properties of soil at the study site

Parameter	Pulau Layang		Rambutan	
	Value	Remark	Value	Remark
pH H <sub>2</sub> O (1 : 1)	5.10	Low	4.41	Very low
pH KCl (1 : 1)	4.39	Very acidic	3.99	Very acidic
Organic C (g/kg)	57.66	Very high	36.14	Very high
Total N (g/kg)	3.64	Very high	2.19	Very high
Available P/Bray I (mg/kg)	11.70	Medium	2.25	Very low
Exchangeable K (cmol/kg)	0.63	Medium	0.45	Medium
Na (cmol/kg)	0.65	Medium	0.65	Medium
Ca (cmol/kg)	1.95	Very low	0.73	Very low
Mg (cmol/kg)	0.45	Very low	0.32	Very low
CEC (cmol/kg)	65.25	Very high	43.50	Very high
Exchangeable Al (cmol/kg)	1.84		2.37	
Exchangeable H (cmol/kg)	0.74		0.88	
Texture:				
Sand (%)	47.08		46.64	
Ash (%)	31.11		27.18	
Clay (%)	21.81		26.18	

Source: Laboratory of Soil Chemistry, Biology, and Fertility, Soil Department, Faculty of Agriculture, Sriwijaya University (2017).

## Nutrient Contents of Lowland Swamp

Crude protein, fiber, ether extract, and ash nutrient contents of lowland swamp vegetations found in this study are listed in (Table 2).

Table 2. Crude protein, fiber, ether extract, and ash contents (%) of lowland swamp vegetations

Latin Name	Local Name	Crude Protein	Fiber	Ether Extract	Ash
<i>Catharanthus roseus</i>	Tapak dara	15.20	11.18	1.29	12.53
<i>Cyperus digitatus</i>	Kasuran	15.31	14.76	1.42	25.19
<i>Digitaria fuscescens</i>	Kerak Maling/Pasiran	12.00	15.64	1.24	16.26
<i>Eichhornia crassipes</i>	Eceng gondok	8.61	20.66	0.84	14.22
<i>Eleocharis dulcis</i> <sup>P</sup>	Purun tikus	8.22	25.72	0.48	15.13
<i>Eleocharis dulcis</i> <sup>R</sup>	Purun tikus	6.63	24.52	1.69	10.24
<i>Hymenachne acutigluma</i> <sup>P</sup>	Kumpai Tembaga	6.86	30.26	2.22	7.88
<i>Hymenachne acutigluma</i> <sup>R</sup>	Kumpai Tembaga	10.96	23.73	1.77	10.30
<i>Hymenachne amplexicaulis</i> <sup>P</sup>	Kumpai Minyak	9.21	21.91	2.82	13.96
<i>Hymenachne amplexicaulis</i> <sup>R</sup>	Kumpai Minyak	12.00	15.64	1.24	16.26
<i>Hymenachne sp</i>	Kumpai Merah	8.52	21.20	1.30	12.88
<i>Ipomoea aquatica</i>	Kangkung merah	8.95	14.34	2.24	10.39
<i>Leersia hexandra</i>	Bento rayap	5.35	27.57	2.06	5.63
<i>Ludwigia hyssopifolia</i>	Cecengkehan	12.07	11.01	1.66	9.09
<i>Neptunia olerancia</i>	Kemon air	20.56	15.03	2.92	7.31
<i>Nymphaea lotus</i>	Telepuk Gajah	13.22	11.45	2.84	10.30
<i>Oryza rufifogon</i> <sup>P</sup>	Kumpai Padi	7.93	23.30	1.60	16.25
<i>Oryza rufifogon</i> <sup>R</sup>	Kumpai Padi	10.41	21.59	2.49	11.92
<i>Polygonum barbatum</i>	Are Bolong	7.53	16.60	1.57	8.40
<i>Rhynchospora corymbosa</i>	Berondong	5.26	22.27	1.48	14.84
<i>Sesbania exasperata</i>	Mutiara	18.27	11.22	1.86	19.47

Source: Laboratory of Dairy Nutrition, Department of Nutrition and Feed Technology, IPB (2017).

Notes: <sup>P</sup> : Grass in Pulau Layang Village; <sup>R</sup> : Grass in Rambutan Village.

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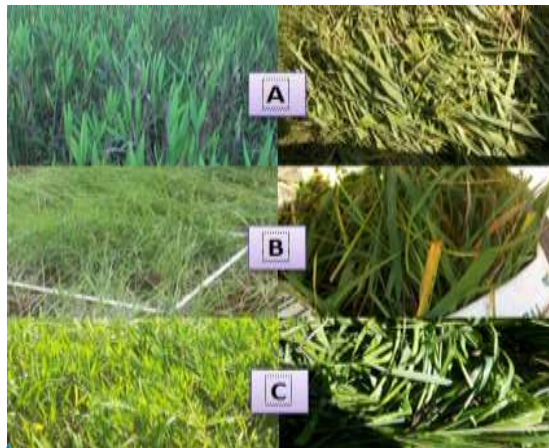
145 The NDF and ADF contents of vegetations found in this study were about 40.65–79.47% and 23.66–60.33%,  
 146 respectively. Lowland swamp vegetations were found to have hemicellulose and cellulose contents ranging from 7.73 to  
 147 37.14% and 5.24 to 27.08%, respectively. Lignin contents of lowland swamp vegetations ranged from 14.84 to 43.09%  
 148 (Table 3).

149 Table 3. Composition of fiber fractions of green vegetations in lowland swamp: NDF, ADF, Hemicellulose, Cellulose, and Lignin (%).  
 150

Latin Name	NDF	ADF	Hemicellulose	Cellulose	Lignin
<i>Catharanthus roseus</i>	47.79	39.67	8.12	16.96	22.71
<i>Cyperus digitatus</i>	58.90	36.93	21.97	5.24	31.68
<i>Digitaria fuscescens</i>	65.43	33.56	31.87	12.11	21.45
<i>Eichhornia crassipes</i>	62.77	41.83	20.94	10.22	31.60
<i>Eleocharis dulcis</i> <sup>P</sup>	69.57	49.83	19.74	21.80	28.04
<i>Eleocharis dulcis</i> <sup>R</sup>	75.73	54.91	20.82	19.71	35.20
<i>Hymenachne acutigluma</i> <sup>P</sup>	75.89	50.60	25.29	12.25	38.34
<i>Hymenachne acutigluma</i> <sup>R</sup>	64.72	46.38	18.34	16.01	30.37
<i>Hymenachne amplexicaulis</i>	65.31	38.92	26.39	8.29	30.63
<i>Hymenachne sp</i>	60.14	28.40	31.74	8.64	19.76
<i>Ipomoea aquatica</i>	41.40	26.17	15.23	6.32	19.85
<i>Leersia hexandra</i>	79.47	42.33	37.14	25.88	33.92
<i>Ludwigia hyssopifolia</i>	40.64	32.91	7.73	8.39	24.52
<i>Neptunia olerancia</i>	62.31	45.44	16.87	27.08	18.36
<i>Nymphaea lotus</i>	46.05	23.66	22.39	8.82	14.84
<i>Oryza rufifogon</i> <sup>P</sup>	71.13	60.33	10.80	17.23	43.09
<i>Oryza rufifogon</i> <sup>R</sup>	65.49	46.19	19.30	14.96	31.24
<i>Polygonum barbatum</i>	61.27	48.46	12.81	20.28	28.18
<i>Rhynchospora corymbosa</i>	65.29	44.64	20.65	16.08	28.56

151 Source: Biotechnology Assessment Laboratory, Center for Biotechnology Research, Indonesian Institute of Sciences (LIPI), Cibinong,  
 152 Bogor (2017).

153 Notes: <sup>P</sup> : Grass in Pulau Layang Village; <sup>R</sup> : Grass in Rambutan Village.  
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**Figure 2.** Dominant and palatable swamp roughages with good nutrient contents included. **A.** *Hymenachne acutigluma*, **B.** *Oryza rupifogon* **C.** *Hymenachne amplexicaulis*, **D.** *Polygonum barbatum*, and **E.** *Eleocharis dulcis*.

## Discussion

### Crude Protein Content

Results showed that the crude protein contents of swamp green vegetations ranged from 5.26% to 20.56% with the lowest value (5.26%) was found in Berondong grass (*R. corymbosa*) and the highest (20.56%) was found in Kemon air legume (*N. olerancia*). Kasuran grass (*C. digitatus*) had the highest crude protein content (15.31%) (Table 2). This high nutritional value of Kasuran grass was suspected as caused by the fact that most of this grass was found to grow in the area of buffalo pens where the soil was rich in organic matter. However, the growth of this grass was not dominant as it mostly occurred in rainy seasons.

Kumpai minyak (*H. amplexicaulis*), Kumpai padi (*O. rupifogon*), Kumpai tembaga (*H. acutigluma*), and Purun tikus (*E. dulcis*) were found as the dominant palatable grasses containing 12.00, 10.41, 10.96, and 8.22% crude protein, respectively. Results of this study were not too different from those obtained by Rostini et al. (2014), who reported that Kumpai minyak and Pipsisangan had protein contents of 10.88 and 15.92%, respectively. Crude protein (CP) contents of these swamp grasses in Pulau Layang and Rambutan Villages were closed to those of prime grasses including 9.11-12.8% CP of elephant grass (*P. purpureum*) (Santos et al., 2013; Dahlan and Iskandar, 2013; Rahman et al., 2014), 12.4% CP of elephant grass hay, 11.1% CP of elephant grass silage, 11.4% CP of king grass hay, and 10.2% CP of king grass silage (Santoso and Hariadi, 2008). Other vegetations even had higher CP contents including Kumpai tembaga (*H. acutigluma*) with 10.96% CP, Tapak dara (*C. roseus*) 15.20%, Telepuk gajah (*N. lotus*) 13.22%, Cecengkehan (*L. hyssopifolia*) 12.07%, Kasuran (*C. digitatus*) 15.31%, and Kumpai minyak (*H. amplexicaulis*)<sup>R</sup> 12.0% (Table 2). CP contents of vegetations in this study were also higher than those of nature grasses found in coffee plantation areas (6.95%) and pastoral areas (6.65%) in Wulanggintang District, East Flores Regency as reported by Kleden et al. (2015). Meanwhile, CP content of grasses in lowlands was 8.41% (Rochana et al., 2016; Maswada and Elzaawely, 2013).

This high protein content was suspected to be caused by the fact that soil organic C and total N contents in the study site were also high, namely 36.14-57.66 and 2.19-3.64 g.kg<sup>-1</sup>, respectively (Table 1). Soil organic C and total N contents affected protein content in plants. Four swamp grasses including Kasuran (*C. digitatus*), Tapak dara (*C. roseus*), Telepuk gajah (*N. lotus*), and Cecengkehan (*L. hyssopifolia*) and a legume, Kemon air (*N. olerancia*) were found to be the lowland swamp vegetations having the highest N contents of 15.31, 15.20, 13.22, 12.07, and 20.56%, respectively.

### Fiber Contents

Fiber contents of lowland swamp green vegetations ranged from 11.01 to 30.26%, with the lowest content found in Cecengkehan (*L. hyssopifolia*) and the highest in Kumpai tembaga (*H. acutigluma*)<sup>P</sup>. Four vegetations including Cecengkehan (*L. hyssopifolia*), Tapak dara (*C. roseus*), Mutiara legume (*S. exasperata*), and Telepuk gajah (*N. lotus*) were found to have the lowest fiber contents of 11.01, 11.18, 11.22, and 11.45%, respectively (Table 2). These results were almost similar to those found by Ali et al. (2012) who reported that the fiber contents of roughage in a pasture ranged from 7.20 to 34.98%. These researchers found that the fiber content of Bento rayap (*Leersia hexandra*) was 27.40% which was very close to that (27.57%) of the same vegetation in this study. Meanwhile, Rostini et al. (2014) reported that the fiber contents of swamp vegetation in South Kalimantan ranged from 14.84 to 29.35% with the lowest content found in Hadangan (*Paspalum* sp) and the highest in Dadangsit (*L. adscendens*). These figures were lower than those found by Kleden et al. (2015) who revealed that nature grasses in a coffee plantation area and a pasture in Wulanggintang, East Flores contained 34.57 and 35.59% of fiber. They also found that the lowest fiber content was found in *L. peploides* and the highest in *I. rugosum*. Fiber contents reported by Kleden et al. (2015) were higher than the results reported by Ahmed

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201 *et al.* (2013) with a fiber content of 29.32% in *D. aegyptium* plants. A previous study showed that fermented *I. rugosum*,  
202 *H. amplexicaulis*, and *O. rufipogon* had fiber contents of 29.27, 29.57, and 33.07%, respectively (Muhakka *et al.*, 2015).

203 The fiber content of Eceng gondok (*E. crassipes*) in this study (20.66%) was lower than those found by Hossain *et al.*  
204 (2015), Tham and Uder (2015), and Make *et al.* (2016). In addition, the fiber content of Eceng gondok (*E. crassipes*) in  
205 this study was lower than those of *Azolla*, another water plant, ranging from 13.19 to 16.54% (Kathirvelan *et al.*, 2015;  
206 Anitha *et al.*, 2016) and 9.25 to 13.25% (Ahmed *et al.*, 2016). These fiber contents of *Azolla* equalled to those of  
207 Cecengkehan (*L. hyssopifolia*) (11.01%), Tapak dara (*C. roseus*) (11.18%), Mutiara legume (*S. exasperata*) (11.22%),  
208 Telepuk gajah (*N. lotus*) 11.45%, and Kangkung merah (*I. aquatica*) (14.34%) found in this study. Fiber contents of  
209 swamp green vegetations found in this study indicated that they were potential to be used as feed for Pampangan buffaloes.  
210

#### 211 **Ether extract contents**

212 Lowland swamp vegetations in this study were found to have ether extract (EE) contents of about 0.48-2.92%. The  
213 lowest EE content was found in Purun tikus (*E. dulcis*) while the highest was found in Kemon air legume (*N. olerancia*).  
214 Four vegetations of lowland swamp including Telepuk gajah (*N. lotus*) (2.84% EE), Kumpai minyak (*H. amplexicaulis*)  
215 (2.82% EE), Kumpai padi (*O. rufipogon*) (2.49% EE), and Kangkung merah (*I. aquatica* Forsk.) (2.24% EE) were  
216 revealed to have the highest ether extract contents (Table 2). Results of this study were lower than those found by Rostini  
217 *et al.* (2014), reporting about 0.61–3.67% of EE contents in swamp vegetations in South Kalimantan with the lowest found  
218 in Pipisangan (*L. hyssopifolia*) and the highest in Padi hiang (*O. rufipogon spontanea*). EE contents of lowland swamp  
219 vegetations were 1.40–1.91% for grasses and 1.36–2.95% for legumes (Asep *et al.*, 2012) and those of grasses in a pasture  
220 for buffaloes in Pulau Moa were 1.95–2.41% (Eoh, 2014). In other studies, grasses in a natural pasture in North Lore,  
221 Poso Regency had EE contents of 2.12–2.34% (Damry, 2009) and those in Sabana Timur Barat pasture in the rainy season  
222 to the end of dry season had an average EE content of 1.91% (Manu, 2013). A study by Se'u *et al.* (2015) revealed an EE  
223 content of 1.07% in grasses in a pasture in Timor Tengah Selatan Regency. Another work by Kleden *et al.* (2015) showed  
224 that vegetations in a natural pasture and a coffee plantation area had EE contents of 1.23 and 1.35%, respectively.

225 Vegetations found in this study had EE contents equalled to those of prime grasses including elephant grass (*P.*  
226 *purpureum*) and king grass (*P. purpureophoides*) preserved in the form of hay and silage. Elephant grass hay and silage  
227 had EE contents of 1.9 and 2.6%, respectively, while those of king grass had EE contents of 1.6 and 2.4%, respectively  
228 (Santoso and Hariadi, 2008; Ukpabi *et al.*, 2015). EE contents of some species of ruminant roughages were found to be  
229 about 1.2–4.1% (Ahmed *et al.*, 2013). Dominant swamp roughages including Kumpai minyak (*H. amplexicaulis*) and  
230 Kumpai padi (*O. rufipogon*) had EE contents of 2.82 and 2.49%, respectively and they were palatable and potential to be  
231 used as feed for Pampangan buffaloes.  
232

#### 233 **Ash Contents**

234 Ash contents of green vegetations in lowland swamp ranged from 5.63 to 25.19%. Four types of vegetations with the  
235 highest ash contents included Kasuran (*C. digitatus*) (25.19%), Mutiara legume (*S. exasperata*) (19.47%), Kumpai minyak  
236 (*H. amplexicaulis*) (16.26%), and Kumpai padi (*O. rufipogon*) (16.25%). Meanwhile, Bento rayap (*L. hexandra*) was  
237 found to have the lowest ash content of 5.63% (Table 2). Ash contents of vegetations found in this study were higher than  
238 those of swamp vegetations in South Kalimantan of 2.18–3.28% during the high tidal season and 3.23–9.83% during the  
239 low tidal season (Rostini *et al.*, 2014). Elephant grass (*P. purpureum*) was indicated to have varied ash contents of 4.4%  
240 (Dahlan and Iskandar, 2013), 0.95–1.1% (Ukpabi *et al.*, 2015), 9.59% (Nuhayanan, 2010), and 18% (Araica *et al.*, 2009).  
241 Meanwhile, the ash content of grasses in lowland areas ranged from 6.32 to 8.91% (Richmond *et al.*, 2015; Mako *et al.*,  
242 2016; Norman *et al.*, 2013; Maswada *et al.*, 2013). Alam *et al.* (2015) found that *B. mutica* had an ash content of 4.20–  
243 4.89% and rice straw had 6.63%.

244 Roughages were found to have average ash contents of 7.28% in a pasture for buffaloes in Pulau Moa (Eoh, 2014),  
245 9.82–10.14% in Lore Utara, Poso Regency (Damry, 2009), 11.51% in a pasture during the rainy season until the end of dry  
246 season in Sabana Timur Barat (Manu, 2013), and 8.11 and 8.22% in a natural pasture and a coffee plantation area,  
247 respectively (Kleden *et al.*, 2015). Differences in these ash contents were suspected to be caused by differences in plant  
248 species (internal factor) and environmental differences, particularly seasonal differences (external factor). In a dry season,  
249 pH levels in lowland swamp areas were found to be 3.9–4.8, causing a decreased supply of nutrients, especially total N and  
250 K, to the soil. This decreased supply of nutrients led to lowered nutrients contained in plants (Rostini *et al.*, 2014). This  
251 was in line with what was stated by Gutteridge and Shelton (1994) that nutrient content in plants was affected by soil  
252 nutrient content. In addition, in acidic soil conditions, activities of Fe, Al, and Mn increased which might cause in-toxicity  
253 in plants (Tjondronegoro and Gunawan).  
254

#### 255 **NDF and ADF Contents**

256 Neutral Detergent Fiber (NDF) depicts plant cell walls consisting of hemicellulose, cellulose, and lignin. NDF is part  
257 of fiber which is not dissolved in neutral detergent representing the component of fiber undissolved in plant cell wall  
258 materials. NDF content of a feed affects the ability of ruminant animals to consume the feed. Acid Detergent Fiber (ADF)  
259 represents parts of the plant cell wall bond to cellulose and lignin. ADF content is related to energy content and higher  
260 ADF content results in lowered digestible energy content (Van Soest, 1982).



261 The NDF and ADF contents of vegetations found in this study were about 40.65–79.47% and 23.66–60.33%,  
262 respectively. Lowest NDF contents were found in Cecengkehan (*L. hyssopifolia*) (40.65%), Kangkung merah (*I.*  
263 *aquatica*) (41.40%), Telepuk gajah (*N. lotus*) (46.05%), and Tapak dara (*C. roseus*) (47.79%). In contrast, highest NDF  
264 content of 79.47% was found in Bento rayap (*L. hexandra*). Lowest ADF contents were found in Telepuk gajah (*N. lotus*)  
265 (46.05%), Kangkung merah (*I. aquatica*) (26.17%), Kumpai merah (*Hymenachne sp.*) (28.40%), Cecengkehan (*L.*  
266 *hyssopifolia*) (32.91%). Meanwhile, the highest ADF content of 60.33% was found in Kumpai padi (*O. rupifogon*<sup>p</sup>)  
267 (Table 3). NDF and ADF contents of vegetations found in this study were lower than those of Asep et al. (2012) who  
268 reported that the NDF contents of swamp green vegetations in a pasture for buffaloes were about 91.73–93.45% in grasses  
269 and 68.11–90.93% in legumes and the ADF content of grasses was 51.6–86.8%. It was shown in other studies that NDF  
270 and ADF contents of roughages in a pasture during the rainy season to the end of the dry season in Sabana Timur Barat  
271 were on average 65.9 and 43.29%, respectively (Manu, 2013). Vegetations in a natural pasture and a coffee plantation  
272 area had NDF contents of 74.89 and 72.37% and ADF contents of 57.22 and 55.15%, respectively (Kleden et al., 2015).  
273 Meanwhile, swamp vegetations in South Kalimantan had average NDF and ADF contents of 55.97 and 37.87%,  
274 respectively, during the high tidal season and 81.44 and 60.86% respectively, during the low tidal season (Rostini et al.,  
275 2014).

276 NDF and ADF contents of roughages in the BPTU-HPT Padang Mengatas area were found to be 75.62 and 45.96%,  
277 respectively in the rain season and 69.35 and 38.66%, respectively in the dry season (Muhajirin et al., 2017). NDF and  
278 ADF contents of Eceng gondok (*E. crassipes*) in this study were 62.77 and 41.83%, respectively. These figures were close  
279 to those of water hyacinth (*E. crassipes*) plants studied by Tham (2015) with NDF and ADF contents of 63.9 and 34.68%  
280 and by Tham and Uden (2015) with NDF and ADF contents of 52.1 and 30.7%, respectively. Other studies conducted by  
281 Ahmed et al. (2016), Anitha et al. (2016), and Nampoothiri (2017) showed that *Azolla sp.* had NDF and ADF contents of  
282 53.8–54.85% and 36.57–37.0%, respectively. Meanwhile, NDF and ADF contents of elephant grass (*P. purpureum*) were  
283 found to be 55.8 and 46.5% (Dahlan and Iskandar, 2013) and 84.25 and 64.07% (Nuhayanan, 2010), respectively. These  
284 figures equaled to the NDF and ADF contents of Kumpai tembaga (64.72 and 46.38%), Kumpai minyak (65.31 and  
285 38.92), and Are bolong (61.27 and 48.46%). This indicated that lowland swamp vegetations had fiber fraction nutritional  
286 quality which was not less than that of prime grasses including elephant grass and king grass.

287 In this study, NDF and ADF contents of lowland swamp vegetations were 40.65–79.47% and 23.66–60.33%,  
288 respectively. These figures were still within the ranges of NDF and ADF contents of prime grasses such as elephant grass  
289 (*P. purpureum*), which had NDF and ADF contents of 55.8 and 46.5% (Dahlan and Iskandar, 2013) and 84.25 and 64.07%  
290 (Nuhayanan, 2010), respectively. In the rumen, NDF degradation is higher than that of ADF as NDF contains  
291 hemicellulose fraction which is more soluble (Church and Pond, 1986). NDF content has a negative correlation with its  
292 degradation rate (Varga et al., 1983) and higher NDF content decreases dry matter digestibility of feed (NRC, 1988).  
293 Cellulose is an ADF component which is easy to digest while lignin is hard to digest as it contains double bonds.  
294 Higher lignin content decreases feed digestibility (Sutardi et al., 1980).

#### 295 Hemicellulose and Cellulose Contents

296 Lowland swamp vegetations were found to have hemicellulose and cellulose contents ranging from 7.73 to 37.14%  
297 and 5.24 to 27.08%, respectively. Four green vegetations with the highest hemicellulose contents were Bento rayap (*L.*  
298 *hexandra*) (37.14%), Kerak maling (*D. fuscescens*) (31.87%), Kumpai merah (*Hymenachne sp.*) (31.74%), and Kumpai  
299 minyak (*H. amplexicaulis*) (26.39%). In contrast, the lowest hemicellulose content was found in Cecengkehan (*L.*  
300 *hyssopifolia*) (7.73%). Highest cellulose contents were found in Kemon air (*N. olerancia*) (27.08%), Bento rayap (*L.*  
301 *hexandra*) (25.88%), Purun tikus (*E. dulcis*) (21.80%), and Are bolong (*P. barbatum*) (20.28%). Meanwhile, Kasuran  
302 (*C. digitatus*) had the lowest cellulose content of 5.24% (Table 3). Results of this study were in line with those of a study  
303 conducted by Asep et al. (2012) who reported the hemicellulose and cellulose contents of lowland swamp green  
304 vegetations ranging from 7.89 to 31.55% and 30.85 to 63.35%, respectively. They also found that Kumpai padi  
305 (*O. rupifogon*) had 31.55% hemicellulose content which was higher than those of Kumpai padi (10.80–19.30%) found in  
306 this study (Table 4). Swamp vegetations in South Kalimantan had hemicellulose contents of 0.65–25.85% in high tidal  
307 season and 5.37–40.09% in low tidal season. Cellulose contents in high and low tidal seasons were about 20.07–34.03%  
308 and 7.90–38.31%, respectively (Rostini et al., 2014). Various water plants including *Azolla*, which was used as animal  
309 feed, had hemicellulose and cellulose contents of 10.20 and 12.76% (Nampoothiri, 2017), 1.15–10.20% and 12.76%  
310 (Nampoothiri, 2017), respectively. Roughages in BPTU-HPT Padang Mengatas had hemicellulose and cellulose contents  
311 of 29.79 and 33.62% in the rain season and 30.69 and 31.64% in the dry season, respectively (Muhajirin et al., 2017).  
312 Elephant grass (*P. purpureum*) was found to contain 21.18% hemicellulose and 43.32% cellulose (Nuhayanan, 2010) and  
313 35.3% cellulose (Dahlan and Iskandar, 2013). In a study conducted by Archimede et al. (2010), hay was found to have  
314 37.7% hemicellulose and 35.7% cellulose. Based on the above findings, it was suggested that hemicellulose (7.73–  
315 37.14%) and cellulose (5.24–27.08%) contents of lowland swamp vegetations in this study were within normal ranges and  
316 these vegetations were potential to be used as feed for Pampangan buffaloes.

#### 317 Lignin Contents

Lignin contents of lowland swamp vegetation<sup>s</sup> ranged from 14.84 to 43.09%. Four vegetations including Telepuk gajah (*N. lotus*), Kemon air (*N. olerancia*), Kumpai merah (*Hymenachne sp.*), and Kangkung merah (*I. aquatica*) were found to have the lowest lignin contents of 14.84, 18.36, 19.76, and 19.85%, respectively, while the highest lignin content of 43.09% was found in Kumpai padi (*O. rupifogon*<sup>P</sup>) (Table 3). Lignin contents in this study were higher than that obtained by Rostini et al. (2014) who reported the lignin contents of swamp vegetations in South Kalimantan were about 2.8-17.59% in high tidal season with that of Kumpai minyak as the lowest and that of *Beberasan* as the highest and 10.06-61.12% in low tidal season with that of *Beberasan* as the lowest and that of Kumpai minyak as the highest. Lignin contents of Kumpai padi (*O. rupifogon*<sup>B</sup>) (31.24%) and Kumpai padi (*O. rupifogon*<sup>P</sup>) (43.09%), Bento rayap (*L. hexandra*) (33.92%), and Eceng gondok (*E. crassipes*) (31.60%) (Table 3) found in this study were higher those of Kumpai padi (18.27%) and Bento rayap (*L. hexandra*) (17.96%) found by Asep et al. (2012) and Eceng gondok (*E. crassipes*) (8.17%) found by Tham (2015). In other studies *Azolla* was found to have lignin contents of 5.7% (Ahmed et al., 2016) and 28.24% (Nampoothiri, 2017). Meanwhile, lignin contents of *elephant grass* were found to be 15.37% (Nuhuyanan, 2010) and 11.2% (Dahlan and Iskandar, 2013).

Differences in lignin contents in green vegetations are suspected to be caused by differences in plant species, plant ages, and environmental factors including seasons (rain or dry season), tidal seasons, and fertility levels of the soil where the vegetations grow. In cell walls, cellulose is a bond with hemicellulose and lignin. Lignin cannot be digested by the animals. The animals cannot digest lignin and its—molecule structure atomic proportion—is different from other carbohydrates as it contains carbon and nitrogen of only 1-5%. Hemicellulose consists of pentose, hexose, uronic acid, and pectin substance. Pectin is a carbohydrate which that is composed of uronic acid, galactose, arabinose, xylose, and methanol. Cellulose is degradable by microorganisms and functions as the source of volatile fatty acids. Young grasses (roughages) contain less than 5% lignin and 80% of their cellulose is degradable. On the contrary, in old roughages, lignin content may reach up to 10% causing a decrease in cellulose digestibility by up to 50% (Prawirokusumo, 1994).

Based on the results of the study, it was concluded that:

1. The highest protein (20.56%) and crude fat (2.92%) contents were found in Kemon air (*Neptunia olerancia*). The highest ash content (25.19%) was found in Kasuran (*C. digitatus*), while the lowest (11.01%) was found in Cecengkehan (*L. hyssopifolia*). The lowest NDF content (40.64%) was found in Cecengkehan (*L. hyssopifolia*) and the highest hemicellulose content (37.14%) was found in Bento rayap. Telepuk gajah had the lowest ADF (23.66%) and lignin (14.84%) contents. Kemon air contained the highest cellulose level of 27.08%.
2. The best nutritional values were found in Kasuran (*C. digitatus*) and Cecengkehan (*L. hyssopifolia*).
3. Dominant and palatable swamp roughages with good nutrient contents included Kumpai tembaga (*H. acutigluma*), Kumpai minyak (*H. amplexicaulis*), Kumpai padi (*O. rupifogon*), Are bolong (*P. barbatum*), and Purun tikus (*E. dulcis*).

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#### **4. Bukti konfirmasi review dan hasil review kedua (7 Februari 2020)**



## [biodiv] Editor Decision

2020-02-07 04:29 AM

Muhakka Muhakka Muhakka:

We have reached a decision regarding your submission to Biodiversitas Journal of Biological Diversity, "Nutritional Values of Swamp Grasses as Feed for Pampangan Buffaloes in South Sumatra Indonesia".

Our decision is: Revisions Required

Smujo Editors  
editors@smujo.id

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Reviewer A:  
Recommendation: Revisions Required

## Nutritional values of swamp grasses as feed for Pampangan Buffaloes in South Sumatra, Indonesia

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**Abstract.** Muhakka, Suwignyo RA, Budianta D, Yakup. 2020. Nutritional values of swamp grasses as feed for Pampangan Buffaloes in South Sumatra, Indonesia. *Biodiversitas* 21: xxxx. This study was aimed at determining the types and quality of vegetations in the swamp area, which could be used as sources of roughage for Pampangan buffaloes in South Sumatra. In this descriptive study. Results showed that the highest crude protein and ether extract contents, 20.56 and 2.92%, respectively, were found in Kemon air (*Neptunia olerancia*). The highest ash content of 25.19% was found in Kasuran (*Cyperus digitatus*). The lowest fiber content (11.01%) was found in Cecengekhan (*Ludwigia hyssopifolia*), which also had the lowest content of Neutral Detergent Fiber (NDF) (40.64%). Hemicellulose content was found to be highest (37.14%) in Bento rayap (*Leersia hexandra*). The lowest ADF (23.66%) and lignin (14.84%) contents were found in Telepek gajah (*Nymphaea lotus*). Kemon air (*N. olerancia*) was found to have the lowest content (27.08%) of cellulose. It was concluded that the swamp vegetation found in this study consisted of 17 types of grasses (89.47%) and two types of legumes (10.53%). Kasuran (*C. digitatus*) and Cecengekhan (*L. hyssopifolia*) were found to have the best nutritional values. Dominant and palatable vegetations with good nutritional values, which were potential to be used as sources of roughage for Pampangan buffaloes, were Kumpai tembaga (*Hymenachne acutigluma*), Kumpai padi (*Oryza rufipogon*), Kumpai minyak (*Hymenachne amplexicaulis*), Are bolong (*Polygonum barbatum*), and Purun tikus (*Eleocharis dulcis*).

**Key words:** Nutritional value, Swamp grass, Feed, Pampangan buffalo.

### INTRODUCTION

The availability of roughage as the main feed for ruminant animals depends considerably on seasons. During the rainy season, it is abundant, and during the dry season, the availability of grasses and legumes is lacking. The limited supply of roughage may hamper productivity including the reproductive performance of ruminant animals including buffaloes.

In South Sumatra, Pampangan buffalo is a potential germplasm which needs to be preserved and developed. There were 37,405 heads of Pampangan buffaloes in 2016, and this population increased by 3.97% to 38,952 heads in 2017. In 2017, of this population, 11,150 heads (28.63%) and 2,227 heads (5.72%) were found in Ogan Komering Ilir Regency and Banyuasin Regency, respectively (Statistik Peternakan Sumsel 2017). The population and productivity of Pampangan buffaloes need to be improved, and for this purpose, feed is an important factor to consider. Pampangan buffaloes feed mostly on roughage from the swamp, grassland to meet their maintenance and reproductive needs.

In Indonesia, there are 13.27 million hectares of lowland swamp areas. Only 4 million hectares of these areas have been developed and cultivated by the community and private sectors (2.6 million hectares) and the government assistance (1.3 million hectares) (BPS

2010, Mulyani and Sarwani 2013). In Sumatera, the largest lowland swamp area of 2.98 million hectares is found in South Sumatera, but only 298,189 hectares of it have been utilized (BPS Sumatera Selatan 2014). In order to utilize the potential swamp area as a feed source for Pampangan buffaloes, a study on vegetations as sources of roughage in lowland swamp areas that include vegetation identification and nutritional quality determination needs to be conducted.

In the previous study, some swamp grasses, including Kumpai minyak grass (*H. amplexicaulis*) (Rostini et al. 2014; Muhakka et al. 2015), *I. rugosum* and *L. hexandra* (Ali et al. 2012) were identified. However, many more swamp has not been identified. For example, *P. barbatum*, *C. digitatus*, *R. corymbosa*. This study was conducted to identify the types and nutritional values of vegetations that could be used as sources of roughage feed for Pampangan buffaloes in South Sumatera. This information was important to support the productivity improvement of Pampangan buffaloes as germplasm in South Sumatera. In this study, some new swamp found where in the previous study it's not found yet.

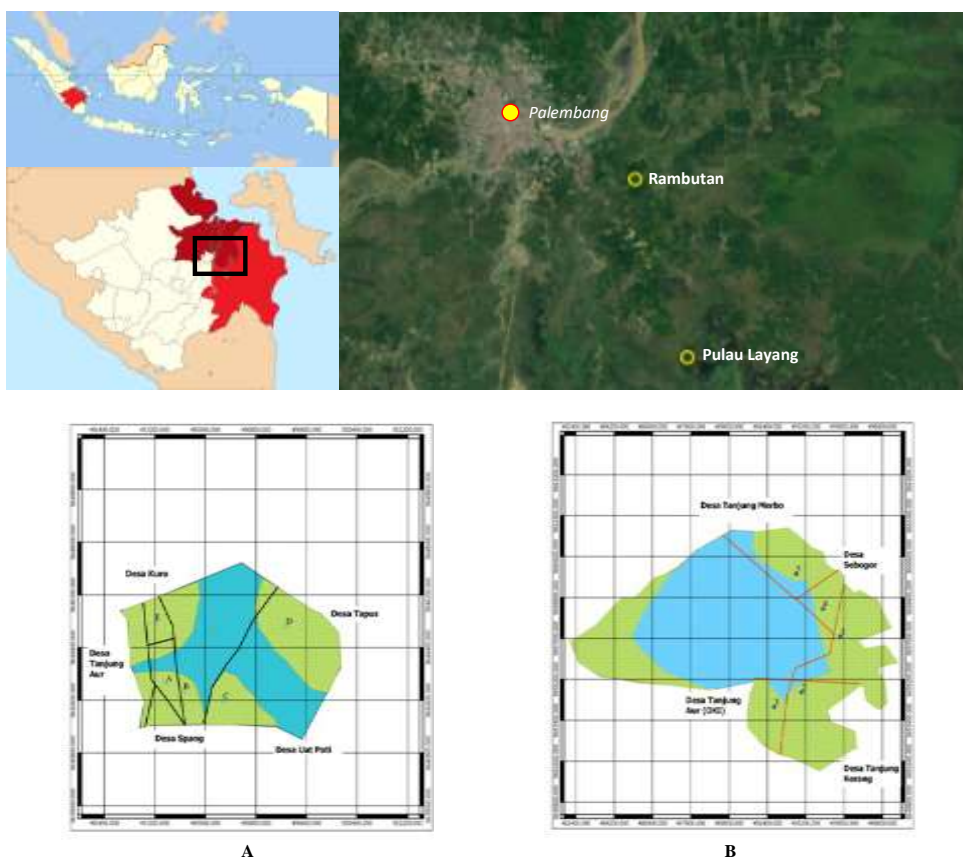
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## MATERIALS AND METHODS

### Area study

This study was a descriptive study to assess the types and nutritional values of vegetations, which were the dominant and palatable as sources of roughage feed for Pampangan buffaloes. Vegetation samples were taken from grazing areas of Pampangan buffaloes in Rambutan Village and Pulau Layang Village, South Sumatra, Indonesia (Figure 1) from April to Juni 2017. Vegetation samples for nutrient analysis were obtained by following these procedures: (i) vegetation collection was done based on estimated growth age (young age, medium age, and old age based on physical appearance), (ii) collected samples of each vegetation was composited, and (iii) samples were chopped into small sizes, homogenized.

For each vegetation, 1 kg sample was taken randomly and sent to the laboratory for oven drying at 105°C until a constant weight was obtained and dry matter content was determined. Samples were then ground for nutrient content determination by using proximate and Van Soest analyses (Syarifuddin and Wahdi 2010). Sample analyses of Crude protein, fiber, ether extract, and ash contents conducted in Laboratory of Dairy Nutrition, Department of Nutrition and Feed Technology, Institut Pertanian Bogor (IPB), Bogor, Indonesia, while analyses of NDF, ADF, hemicellulose, cellulose, and lignin conducted in Biotechnology Assessment Laboratory, Center for Biotechnology Research, Indonesian Institute of Sciences (LIPI), Cibinong, Bogor; and analysis of soil conducted in Laboratory of Soil Chemistry, Biology, and Fertility, Soil Department, Faculty of Agriculture, Sriwijaya University, Ogan Ilir, Indonesia.



**Figure 1.** Research location in South Sumatra, Indonesia. A. Pulau Layang Village, Pampangan Sub-district, Ogan Komering Ilir District, South Sumatra. B. Rambutan Village, Rambutan Sub-district, Banyuasin District, South Sumatra, Indonesia (Muhakka et al. 2019)



## Measured parameters

### Soil analysis

Soil sampling is done in a composite manner at a depth of 0-20 cm. Taking the soil sample points is done by making a diagonal line in each zone and determining 5 soil sampling points to analyze chemical fertility (N, P, K) and physical fertility (texture, structure and pH).

### Proximate analysis

Crude protein, fiber, ether extract, and ash contents were determined based on the procedures of AOAC (1990). **Crude protein.** Nitrogen (N) content was determined by using a Kjeldahl method. In this analysis, sulphuric acid with a catalyst and a heating process. The organic matter of samples was then oxidized by sulfuric acid, and nitrogen was changed into an ammonium sulfate form. The remaining sulfuric acid was neutralized by NaOH until the solution became basic. Ammonium sulfate was then distilled in an acid medium to obtain the quantitative amount of N. As the average protein contains 16% nitrogen, a factor  $100\% : 16\% = 6.25$  was used to obtain the value of crude protein (crude protein =  $N\% \times 6.25$ ). **Fiber.** The filtered fat-free sample was used in fiber content determination. 1.25% sulfuric acid solution was added into the sample, and the mixture was heated for about 30 minutes before the residue was filtered. 1.25% NaOH solution was added into the precipitate, and the mixture was heated for about 30 minutes. The mixture was then filtered, and the precipitate was washed, dried, and weighed. This precipitate was burnt, and the ash was weighed. The difference between the weight of precipitate before it was burnt and the weight of the ash was referred to as fiber content. **Ether extract.** The dry matter sample was extracted with diethyl ether for 5 hours. At the end of the extraction process, ether evaporated and the remaining material was referred to as fat. **Ash.** The third part of the dry matter sample was weighed and burnt in a crucible at 550°C for 8 hours.

### Van Soest analysis

Neutral Detergent Fiber (NDF), Acid Detergent Fiber (ADF), hemicellulose, cellulose, and lignin contents were determined by using a Van Soest method (1982).

**Neutral Detergent Fiber (NDF).** One gram of sample was put in a beaker glass. 50 ml NDS solution was added into the beaker before the mixture was heated for an hour. The mixture was then filtered by using a vacuum pump and a filter glass which was previously weighed (b gram). The mixture was then washed with hot water and acetone before it was dried in an oven and let cool in a desiccator. Finally, it was weighed as c gram. NDF content was calculated by using the following formula:

$$\% \text{ NDF} = \frac{c-b}{a} \times 100\%$$

**Acid Detergent Fiber (ADF).** One gram of sample was put in a beaker glass. 50 ml ADS solution was added into

the beaker before the mixture was heated for an hour. The mixture was then filtered by using a vacuum pump and a sintered glass filter which was previously weighed (b gram). The mixture was then washed with hot water and acetone before it was dried in an oven and let cool in a desiccator. Finally, it was weighed as c gram. Cellulose content was calculated by using the following formula:

$$\% \text{ cellulose} = \frac{c-d}{a} \times 100\%$$

**Hemicellulose.** Hemicellulose content was calculated as a difference between NDF and ADF contents as follows.

$$\% \text{ Hemicellulose} = \% \text{ NDF} - \% \text{ ADF}$$

**Lignin.** Cellulose residue (d gram) was burnt in a furnace at 500-600°C for 3 hours. After that, it was left to cool and weighed (e gram). Lignin content was calculated by using the following formula:

$$\% \text{ Lignin} = \frac{d-e}{a} \times 100\%$$

### Data analysis

The data obtained were used directly to describe the nutritional value of the swamp vegetation that could be used as a roughage source. These data were then combined with those of *in vitro* digestibility as the basis for concluding (Syarifuddin and Wahdi 2010).

## RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

### Soil analysis

Results of soil analysis showed that soil at the study site had a low fertility level and was highly acidic. It also had very high organic C and total N contents, medium level of exchangeable-K and N contents, very low Ca and Mg contents, medium P content, and very high CEC level (Table 1).

### Nutrient contents of lowland swamp

Crude protein, fiber, ether extract, and ash nutrient contents of lowland swamp vegetations found in this study are listed in (Table 2).

The NDF and ADF contents of vegetations found in this study were about 40.65-79.47% and 23.66-60.33%, respectively. Lowland swamp vegetations were found to have hemicellulose and cellulose contents ranging from 7.73 to 37.14% and 5.24 to 27.08%, respectively. Lignin contents of lowland swamp vegetation ranged from 14.84 to 43.09% (Table 3).

### Discussion

#### Crude protein content

Results showed that the crude protein contents of swamp green vegetations ranged from 5.26% to 20.56% with the lowest value (5.26%) was found in Berdong grass (*R. corymbosa*) and the highest (20.56%) was found in Kemon air legume (*N. olerancia*). Kasuran grass (*C. digitatus*) had the highest crude protein content (15.31%)

(Table 2). This high nutritional value of Kasuran grass was suspected as caused by the fact that most of this grass was found to grow in the area of buffalo pens where the soil was rich in organic matter. However, the growth of this grass was not dominant as it mostly occurred in rainy seasons.

Kumpai minyak (*H. amplexicaulis*), Kumpai padi (*O. rupifogon*), Kumpai tembaga (*H. acutigluma*), and Purun tikus (*E. dulcis*) were found as the dominant palatable grasses containing 12.00, 10.41, 10.96, and 8.22% crude protein, respectively. Results of this study were not too different from those obtained by Rostini et al. (2014), who reported that Kumpai minyak and Pipisangan had protein contents of 10.88 and 15.92%, respectively. Crude protein (CP) contents of these swamp grasses in Pulau Layang and Rambutan Villages were closed to those of prime grasses including 9.11-12.8% CP of *elephant grass* (*P. purpureum*)

(Santos et al. 2013; Dahlan and Iskandar 2013; Rahman et al. 2014), 12.4% CP of *elephant grass* hay, 11.1% CP of *elephant grass* silage, 11.4% CP of king grass hay, and 10.2% CP of king grass silage (Santoso and Hariadi 2008). Other vegetations even had higher CP contents including Kumpai tembaga (*H. acutigluma*) with 10.96% CP, Tapak dara (*C. roseus*) 15.20%, Telepuk gajah (*N. lotus*) 13.22%, Cecengkehan (*L. hyssopifolia*) 12.07%, Kasuran (*C. digitatus*) 15.31%, and Kumpai minyak (*H. amplexicaulis*)<sup>R</sup> 12.0% (Table 2). CP contents of vegetations in this study were also higher than those of nature grasses found in coffee plantation areas (6.95%) and pastoral areas (6.65%) in Wulanggintang District, East Flores Regency as reported by Kleden et al. (2015). Meanwhile, CP content of grasses in lowlands was 8.41% (Rochana et al. 2016; Maswada and Elzaawely 2013).

**Table 1.** Properties of soil at the study site

Parameter	Pulau Layang		Rambutan	
	Value	Remark	Value	Remark
pH H <sub>2</sub> O (1 : 1)	5.10	Low	4.41	Very low
pH KCl (1 : 1)	4.39	Very acidic	3.99	Very acidic
Organic C (g/kg)	57.66	Very high	36.14	Very high
Total N (g/kg)	3.64	Very high	2.19	Very high
Available P/Bray I (mg/kg)	11.70	Medium	2.25	Very low
Exchangeable K (cmol/kg)	0.63	Medium	0.45	Medium
Na (cmol/kg)	0.65	Medium	0.65	Medium
Ca (cmol/kg)	1.95	Very low	0.73	Very low
Mg (cmol/kg)	0.45	Very low	0.32	Very low
CEC (cmol/kg)	65.25	Very high	43.50	Very high
Exchangeable Al (cmol/kg)	1.84		2.37	
Exchangeable H (cmol/kg)	0.74		0.88	
Texture:				
Sand (%)	47.08		46.64	
Ash (%)	31.11		27.18	
Clay (%)	21.81		26.18	

**Table 2.** Crude protein, fiber, ether extract, and ash contents (%) of lowland swamp vegetations

Latin name	Local name	Crude protein	Fiber	Ether extract	Ash
<i>Catharanthus roseus</i>	Tapak dara	15.20	11.18	1.29	12.53
<i>Cyperus digitatus</i>	Kasuran	15.31	14.76	1.42	25.19
<i>Digitaria fuscescens</i>	Kerak Maling/Pasiran	12.00	15.64	1.24	16.26
<i>Eichhornia crassipes</i>	Eceng gondok	8.61	20.66	0.84	14.22
<i>Eleocharis dulcis</i> <sup>P</sup>	Purun tikus	8.22	25.72	0.48	15.13
<i>Eleocharis dulcis</i> <sup>R</sup>	Purun tikus	6.63	24.52	1.69	10.24
<i>Hymenachne acutigluma</i> <sup>P</sup>	Kumpai Tembaga	6.86	30.26	2.22	7.88
<i>Hymenachne acutigluma</i> <sup>R</sup>	Kumpai Tembaga	10.96	23.73	1.77	10.30
<i>Hymenachne amplexicaulis</i> <sup>P</sup>	Kumpai Minyak	9.21	21.91	2.82	13.96
<i>Hymenachne amplexicaulis</i> <sup>R</sup>	Kumpai Minyak	12.00	15.64	1.24	16.26
<i>Hymenachne sp</i>	Kumpai Merah	8.52	21.20	1.30	12.88
<i>Ipomoea aquatica</i>	Kangkung merah	8.95	14.34	2.24	10.39
<i>Leersia hexandra</i>	Bento rayap	5.35	27.57	2.06	5.63
<i>Ludwigia hyssopifolia</i>	Cecengkehan	12.07	11.01	1.66	9.09
<i>Neptunia olerancia</i>	Kemon air	20.56	15.03	2.92	7.31
<i>Nymphaea lotus</i>	Telepuk Gajah	13.22	11.45	2.84	10.30
<i>Oryza rupifogon</i> <sup>P</sup>	Kumpai Padi	7.93	23.30	1.60	16.25
<i>Oryza rupifogon</i> <sup>R</sup>	Kumpai Padi	10.41	21.59	2.49	11.92
<i>Polygonum barbatum</i>	Are Bolong	7.53	16.60	1.57	8.40
<i>Rhynchospora corymbosa</i>	Berondong	5.26	22.27	1.48	14.84

*Sesbania exasperata* Mutiara 18.27 11.22 1.86 19.47

Notes: <sup>P</sup>: Grass in Pulau Layang Village; <sup>R</sup>: Grass in Rambutan Village.

**Table 3.** Composition of fiber fractions of green vegetations in lowland swamp: NDF, ADF, hemicellulose, cellulose, and lignin (%).

Latin name	NDF	ADF	Hemi-cellulose	Cellulose	Lignin
<i>Catharanthus roseus</i>	47.79	39.67	8.12	16.96	22.71
<i>Cyperus digitatus</i>	58.90	36.93	21.97	5.24	31.68
<i>Digitaria fuscescens</i>	65.43	33.56	31.87	12.11	21.45
<i>Eichhornia crassipes</i>	62.77	41.83	20.94	10.22	31.60
<i>Eleocharis dulcis</i> <sup>P</sup>	69.57	49.83	19.74	21.80	28.04
<i>Eleocharis dulcis</i> <sup>R</sup>	75.73	54.91	20.82	19.71	35.20
<i>Hymenachne acutigluma</i> <sup>P</sup>	75.89	50.60	25.29	12.25	38.34
<i>Hymenachne acutigluma</i> <sup>R</sup>	64.72	46.38	18.34	16.01	30.37
<i>Hymenachne amplexicaulis</i>	65.31	38.92	26.39	8.29	30.63
<i>Hymenachne sp</i>	60.14	28.40	31.74	8.64	19.76
<i>Ipomoea aquatica</i>	41.40	26.17	15.23	6.32	19.85
<i>Leersia hexandra</i>	79.47	42.33	37.14	25.88	33.92
<i>Ludwigia hyssopifolia</i>	40.64	32.91	7.73	8.39	24.52
<i>Neptunia olerancia</i>	62.31	45.44	16.87	27.08	18.36
<i>Nymphaea lotus</i>	46.05	23.66	22.39	8.82	14.84
<i>Oryza rufifogon</i> <sup>P</sup>	71.13	60.33	10.80	17.23	43.09
<i>Oryza rufifogon</i> <sup>R</sup>	65.49	46.19	19.30	14.96	31.24
<i>Polygonum barbatum</i>	61.27	48.46	12.81	20.28	28.18
<i>Rhynchospora corymbosa</i>	65.29	44.64	20.65	16.08	28.56

Note: <sup>P</sup>: Grass in Pulau Layang Village; <sup>R</sup>: Grass in Rambutan Village.



**Figure 2.** Dominant and palatable swamp roughages with good nutrient contents included. A. *Hymenachne acutigluma*, B. *Oryza rufifogon* C. *Hymenachne amplexicaulis*, D. *Polygonum barbatum*, and E. *Eleocharis dulcis*.

This high protein content was suspected to be caused by the fact that soil organic C and total N contents in the study site were also high, namely 36.14-57.66 and 2.19-3.64 g.kg<sup>-1</sup>, respectively (Table 1). Soil organic C and total N contents affected protein content in plants. Four swamp grasses including Kasuran (*C. digitatus*), Tapak dara (*C. roseus*), Telepuk gajah (*N. lotus*), and Cecengkehan (*L. hyssopifolia*) and a legume, Kemon air (*N. olerancia*) were found to be the lowland swamp vegetations having the highest N contents of 15.31,15.20, 13.22, 12.07, and 20.56%, respectively.

**Fiber contents**

Fiber contents of lowland swamp green vegetations ranged from 11.01 to 30.26%, with the lowest content found in Cecengkehan (*L. hyssopifolia*) and the highest in Kumpai tembaga (*H. acutigluma*<sup>P</sup>). Four vegetations including *Cecengkehan* (*L. hyssopifolia*), Tapak dara (*C. roseus*), Mutiara legume (*S. exasperata*), and Telepuk gajah (*N. lotus*) were found to have the lowest fiber contents of 11.01, 11.18, 11.22, and 11.45%, respectively (Table 2). These results were almost similar to those found by Ali et al. (2012) who reported that the fiber contents of roughage in a pasture ranged from 7.20 to 34.98%. These researchers found that the fiber content of Bento rayap (*Leersia hexandra*) was 27.40% which was very close to that (27.57%) of the same vegetation in this study. Meanwhile, Rostini et al. (2014) reported that the fiber contents of swamp vegetation in South Kalimantan ranged from 14.84 to 29.35% with the lowest content found in Hadangan (*Paspalum sp*) and the highest in Dadangsit (*L. adscendens*). These figures were lower than those found by Kleden et al. (2015) who revealed that nature grasses in a

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coffee plantation area and pasture in Wulanggitang, East Flores contained 34.57 and 35.59% of fiber. They also found that the lowest fiber content was found in *L. peploides* and the highest in *I. rugosum*. Fiber contents reported by Kleden et al. (2015) were higher than the results reported by Ahmed et al. (2013) with a fiber content of 29.32% in *D. aegyptium* plants. A previous study showed that fermented *I. rugosum*, *H. amplexicaulis*, and *O. rufipogon* had fiber contents of 29.27, 29.57, and 33.07%, respectively (Muhakka et al. 2015).

The fiber content of Eceng gondok (*E. crassipes*) in this study (20.66%) was lower than those found by Hossain et al. (2015), Tham and Uder (2015), and Make et al. (2016). In addition, the fiber content of Eceng gondok (*E. crassipes*) in this study was lower than those of *Azolla*, another water plant, ranging from 13.19 to 16.54% (Kathirvelan et al. 2015; Anitha et al. 2016) and 9.25 to 13.25% (Ahmed et al. 2016). These fiber contents of *Azolla* equaled to those of Cecengkehan (*L. hyssopifolia*) (11.01%), Tapak dara (*C. roseus*) (11.18%), Mutiara legume (*S. exasperata*) (11.22%), Telepuk gajah (*N. lotus*) 11.45%, and Kangkung merah (*I. aquatica*) (14.34%) found in this study. Fiber contents of swamp green vegetations found in this study indicated that they were potential to be used as feed for Pampangan buffaloes.

#### Ether extract contents

Lowland swamp vegetations in this study were found to have ether extract (EE) contents of about 0.48-2.92%. The lowest EE content was found in Purun tikus (*E. dulcis*) while the highest was found in Kemon air legume (*N. olerancia*). Four vegetations of lowland swamp including Telepuk gajah (*N. lotus*) (2.84% EE), Kumpai minyak (*H. amplexicaulis*) (2.82% EE), Kumpai padi (*O. rufipogon*) (2.49% EE), and Kangkung merah (*I. aquatica* Forsk) (2.24% EE) were revealed to have the highest ether extract contents (Table 2). Results of this study were lower than those found by Rostini et al. (2014), reporting about 0.61-3.67% of EE contents in swamp vegetations in South Kalimantan with the lowest found in Pipisangan (*L. hyssopifolia*) and the highest in Padi hiang (*O. rufipogon spontanea*). EE contents of lowland swamp vegetations were 1.40-1.91% for grasses and 1.36-2.95% for legumes (Asep et al. 2012) and those of grasses in a pasture for buffaloes in Pulau Moa were 1.95-2.41% (Eoh 2014). In other studies, grasses in a natural pasture in North Lore, Poso Regency had EE contents of 2.12-2.34% (Damry 2009) and those in Sabana Timur Barat pasture in the rainy season to the end of dry season had an average EE content of 1.91% (Manu 2013). A study by Se'u et al. (2015) revealed an EE content of 1.07% in grasses in a pasture in Timor Tengah Selatan Regency. Another work by Kleden et al. (2015) showed that vegetations in a natural pasture and a coffee plantation area had EE contents of 1.23 and 1.35%, respectively.

Vegetations found in this study had EE contents equaled to those of prime grasses including elephant grass (*P. purpureum*) and king grass (*P. purpureophoides*) preserved in the form of hay and silage. Elephant grass hay and silage had EE contents of 1.9 and 2.6%, respectively,

while those of king grass had EE contents of 1.6 and 2.4%, respectively (Santoso and Hariadi 2008; Ukpabi et al. 2015). EE contents of some species of ruminant roughages were found to be about 1.2-4.1% (Ahmed et al. 2013). Dominant swamp roughages including Kumpai minyak (*H. amplexicaulis*) and Kumpai padi (*O. rufipogon*) had EE contents of 2.82 and 2.49%, respectively and they were palatable and potential to be used as feed for Pampangan buffaloes.

#### Ash contents

Ash contents of green vegetations in lowland swamp ranged from 5.63 to 25.19%. Four types of vegetations with the highest ash contents included Kasuran (*C. digitatus*) (25.19%), Mutiara legume (*S. exasperata*) (19.47%), Kumpai minyak (*H. amplexicaulis*) (16.26%), and Kumpai padi (*O. rufipogon*) (16.25%). Meanwhile, Bento rayap (*L. hexandra*) was found to have the lowest ash content of 5.63% (Table 2). Ash contents of vegetations found in this study were higher than those of swamp vegetations in South Kalimantan of 2.18-3.28% during the high tidal season and 3.23-9.83% during the low tidal season (Rostini et al. 2014). Elephant grass (*P. purpureum*) was indicated to have varied ash contents of 4.4% (Dahlan and Iskandar 2013), 0.95-1.1% (Ukpabi et al. 2015), 9.59% (Nuhayanan 2010), and 18% (Araica et al. 2009). Meanwhile, the ash content of grasses in lowland areas ranged from 6.32 to 8.91% (Richmond et al. 2015; Mako et al. 2016; Norman et al. 2013; Maswada et al. 2013). Alam et al. (2015) found that *B. mutica* had an ash content of 4.20-4.89% and rice straw had 6.63%.

Roughages were found to have average ash contents of 7.28% in a pasture for buffaloes in Pulau Moa (Eoh 2014), 9.82-10.14% in Lore Utara, Poso Regency (Damry 2009), 11.51% in a pasture during the rainy season until the end of dry season in Sabana Timur Barat (Manu 2013), and 8.11 and 8.22% in a natural pasture and a coffee plantation area, respectively (Kleden et al. 2015). Differences in these ash contents were suspected to be caused by differences in plant species (internal factor) and environmental differences, particularly seasonal differences (external factor). In a dry season, pH levels in lowland swamp areas were found to be 3.9-4.8, causing a decreased supply of nutrients, especially total N and K, to the soil. This decreased supply of nutrients led to lowered nutrients contained in plants (Rostini et al. 2014). This was in line with what was stated by Gutteridge and Shelton (1994) that nutrient content in plants was affected by soil nutrient content. In addition, in acidic soil conditions, activities of Fe, Al, and Mn increased which might cause toxicity in plants (Tjondronegoro and Gunawan).

#### NDF and ADF contents

Neutral Detergent Fiber (NDF) depicts plant cell walls consisting of hemicellulose, cellulose, and lignin. NDF is part of fiber which is not dissolved in neutral detergent representing the component of fiber undissolved in plant cell wall materials. NDF content of a feed affects the ability of ruminant animals to consume the feed. Acid Detergent Fiber (ADF) represents parts of the plant cell

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wall bond to cellulose and lignin. ADF content is related to energy content and higher ADF content results in lowered digestible energy content (Van Soest 1982).

The NDF and ADF contents of vegetations found in this study were about 40.65-79.47% and 23.66-60.33%, respectively. Lowest NDF contents were found in Cecengkehan (*L. hyssopifolia*) (40.65%), Kangkung merah (*I. aquatica*) (41.40%), Telepuk gajah (*N. lotus*) (46.05%), and Tapak dara (*C. roseus*) (47.79%). In contrast, highest NDF content of 79.47% was found in Bento rayap (*L. hexandra*). Lowest ADF contents were found in Telepuk gajah (*N. lotus*) (46.05%), Kangkung merah (*I. aquatica*) (26.17%), Kumpai merah (*Hymenachne sp*) (28.40%), Cecengkehan (*L. hyssopifolia*) (32.91%). Meanwhile, the highest ADF content of 60.33% was found in Kumpai padi (*O. rupifogon*<sup>p</sup>) (Table 3). NDF and ADF contents of vegetations found in this study were lower than those of Asep et al. (2012) who reported that the NDF contents of swamp green vegetations in a pasture for buffaloes were about 91.73-93.45% in grasses and 68.11-90.93% in legumes and the ADF content of grasses was 51.6-86.8%. It was shown in other studies that NDF and ADF contents of roughages in a pasture during the rainy season to the end of the dry season in Sabana Timur Barat were on average 65.9 and 43.29%, respectively (Manu 2013). Vegetations in a natural pasture and a coffee plantation area had NDF contents of 74.89 and 72.37% and ADF contents of 57.22 and 55.15%, respectively (Kleden et al. 2015). Meanwhile, swamp vegetations in South Kalimantan had average NDF and ADF contents of 55.97 and 37.87%, respectively, during the high tidal season and 81.44 and 60.86% respectively, during the low tidal season (Rostini et al. 2014).

NDF and ADF contents of roughages in the BPTU-HPT Padang Mengatas area were found to be 75.62 and 45.96%, respectively in the rain season and 69.35 and 38.66%, respectively in the dry season (Muhajirin et al. 2017). NDF and ADF contents of Eceng gondok (*E. crassipes*) in this study were 62.77 and 41.83%, respectively. These figures were close to those of *water hyacinth* (*E. crassipes*) plants studied by Tham (2015) with NDF and ADF contents of 63.9 and 34.68% and by Tham and Uden (2015) with NDF and ADF contents of 52.1 and 30.7%, respectively. Other studies conducted by Ahmed et al. (2016), Anitha et al. (2016), and Nampoothiri (2017) showed that *Azolla sp* had NDF and ADF contents of 53.8-54.85% and 36.57-37.0%, respectively. Meanwhile, NDF and ADF contents of *elephant grass* (*P. purpureum*) were found to be 55.8 and 46.5% (Dahlan and Iskandar 2013) and 84.25 and 64.07% (Nuhuyanan 2010), respectively. These figures equaled to the NDF and ADF contents of Kumpai tembaga (64.72 and 46.38%), Kumpai minyak (65.31 and 38.92%), and Are bolong (61.27 and 48.46%). This indicated that lowland swamp vegetations had fiber fraction nutritional quality which was not less than that of prime grasses including *elephant grass* and *king grass*.

In this study, NDF and ADF contents of lowland swamp vegetations were 40.65-79.47% and 23.66%-60.33%, respectively. These figures were still within the ranges of NDF and ADF contents of prime grasses such as

*elephant grass* (*P. purpureum*), which had NDF and ADF contents of 55.8 and 46.5% (Dahlan and Iskandar 2013) and 84.25 and 64.07% (Nuhuyanan 2010), respectively. In the rumen, NDF degradation is higher than that of ADF as NDF contains hemicellulose fraction which is more soluble (Church and Pond 1986). NDF content has a negative correlation with its degradation rate (Varga et al. 1983) and higher NDF content decreases dry matter digestibility of feed (NRC 1988). Cellulose is an ADF component that is easy to digest while lignin is hard to digest as it contains double bonds. Higher lignin content decreases feed digestibility (Sutardi et al. 1980).

#### Hemicellulose and cellulose contents

Lowland swamp vegetations were found to have hemicellulose and cellulose contents ranging from 7.73 to 37.14% and 5.24 to 27.08%, respectively. Four green vegetations with the highest hemicellulose contents were Bento rayap (*L. hexandra*) (37.14%), Kerak maling (*D. fuscescens*) (31.87%), Kumpai merah (*Hymenachne sp.*) (31.74%), and Kumpai minyak (*H. amplexicaulis*) (26.39%). In contrast, the lowest hemicellulose content was found in Cecengkehan (*L. hyssopifolia*) (7.73%). Highest cellulose contents were found in Kemon air (*N. olerancia*) (27.08%), Bento rayap (*L. hexandra*) (25.88%), Purun tikus (*E. dulcis*) (21.80%), and Are bolong (*P. barbatum*) (20.28%). Meanwhile, Kasuran (*C. digitatus*) had the lowest cellulose content of 5.24% (Table 3). Results of this study were in line with those of a study conducted by Asep et al. (2012) who reported the hemicellulose and cellulose contents of lowland swamp green vegetations ranging from 7.89 to 31.55% and 30.85 to 63.35%, respectively. They also found that Kumpai padi (*O. rupifogon*) had 31.55% hemicellulose content which was higher than those of Kumpai padi (10.80-19.30%) found in this study (Table 4). Swamp vegetations in South Kalimantan had hemicellulose contents of 0.65-25.85% in high tidal season and 5.37-40.09% in low tidal season. Cellulose contents in high and low tidal seasons were about 20.07-34.03% and 7.90-38.31%, respectively (Rostini et al. 2014). Various water plants including *Azolla*, which was used as animal feed, had hemicellulose and cellulose contents of 10.20 and 12.76% (Nampoothiri 2017), 1.15-10.20% and 12.76% (Nampoothiri 2017), respectively. Roughages in BPTU-HPT Padang Mengatas had hemicellulose and cellulose contents of 29.79 and 33.62% in the rain season and 30.69 and 31.64% in the dry season, respectively (Muhajirin et al. 2017). *Elephant grass* (*P. purpureum*) was found to contain 21.18% hemicellulose and 43.32% cellulose (Nuhuyanan 2010) and 35.3% cellulose (Dahlan and Iskandar 2013). In a study conducted by Archimede et al. (2010), hay was found to have 37.7% hemicellulose and 35.7% cellulose. Based on the above findings, it was suggested that hemicellulose (7.73-37.14%) and cellulose (5.24-27.08%) contents of lowland swamp vegetations in this study were within normal ranges and these vegetations were potential to be used as feed for Pampangan buffaloes.

#### Lignin contents

Lignin contents of lowland swamp vegetation ranged from 14.84 to 43.09%. Four vegetations including Telepek gajah (*N. lotus*), Kemon air (*N. olerancia*), Kumpai merah (*Hymenachne* sp.), and Kangkung merah (*I. aquatica*) were found to have the lowest lignin contents of 14.84, 18.36, 19.76, and 19.85%, respectively, while the highest lignin content of 43.09% was found in Kumpai padi (*O. rupifogon*<sup>P</sup>) (Table 3). Lignin contents in this study were higher than that obtained by Rostini et al. (2014) who reported the lignin contents of swamp vegetations in South Kalimantan were about 2.8-17.59% in high tidal season with that of Kumpai minyak as the lowest and that of *Beberasan* as the highest and 10.06-61.12% in low tidal season with that of *Beberasan* as the lowest and that of Kumpai minyak as the highest. Lignin contents of Kumpai padi (*O. rupifogon*<sup>R</sup>) (31.24%) and Kumpai padi (*O. rupifogon*<sup>P</sup>) (43.09%), Bento rayap (*L. hexandra*) (33.92%), and Eceng gondok (*E. crassipes*) (31.60%) (Table 3) found in this study were higher those of Kumpai padi (18.27%) and Bento rayap (*L. hexandra*) (17.96%) found by Asep et al. (2012) and Eceng gondok (*E. crassipes*) (8.17%) found by Tham (2015). In other studies *Azolla* was found to have lignin contents of 5.7% (Ahmed et al. 2016) and 28.24% (Nampoothiri 2017). Meanwhile, lignin contents of elephant grass were found to be 15.37% (Nuhuyanan 2010) and 11.2% (Dahlan and Iskandar 2013).

Differences in lignin contents in green vegetation are suspected to be caused by differences in plant species, plant ages, and environmental factors including seasons (rain or dry season), tidal seasons, and fertility levels of the soil where the vegetations grow. In cell walls, cellulose is a bond with hemicellulose and lignin. The animals cannot digest lignin and its molecule structure is different from other carbohydrates as it contains carbon and nitrogen of only 1-5%. Hemicellulose consists of pentose, hexose, uronic acid, and pectin substance. Pectin is a carbohydrate that is composed of uronic acid, galactose, arabinose, xylose, and methanol. Cellulose is degradable by microorganisms and functions as the source of volatile fatty acids. Young grasses (roughages) contain less than 5% lignin and 80% of their cellulose is degradable. On the contrary, in old roughages, lignin content may reach up to 10% causing a decrease in cellulose digestibility by up to 50% (Prawirokusumo 1994).

Based on the results of the study, it was concluded that: (i) The highest protein (20.56%) and crude fat (2.92%) contents were found in Kemon air (*Neptunia olerancia*). The highest ash content (25.19%) was found in Kasuran (*C. digitatus*), while the lowest (11.01%) was found in Cecengkehan (*L. hyssopifolia*). The lowest NDF content (40.64%) was found in Cecengkehan (*L. hyssopifolia*) and the highest hemicellulose content (37.14%) was found in Bento rayap. Telepek gajah had the lowest ADF (23.66%) and lignin (14.84%) contents. Kemon air contained the highest cellulose level of 27.08%. (ii) The best nutritional values were found in Kasuran (*C. digitatus*) and Cecengkehan (*L. hyssopifolia*). (iii) Dominant and palatable swamp roughages with good nutrient contents included Kumpai tembaga (*H. acutigluma*), Kumpai

minyak (*H. amplexicaulis*), Kumpai padi (*O. rupifogon*), Are bolong (*P. barbatum*), and Purun tikus (*E. dulcis*).

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## Nutritional values of swamp grasses as feed for Pampangan Buffaloes in South Sumatra, Indonesia

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**Abstract.** Muhakka, Suwignyo RA, Budianta D, Yakup. 2020. Nutritional values of swamp grasses as feed for Pampangan Buffaloes in South Sumatra, Indonesia. *Biodiversitas* 21: xxxx. This study was aimed at determining the types and quality of vegetations in the swamp area, which could be used as sources of roughage for Pampangan buffaloes in South Sumatra. In this descriptive study. Results showed that the highest crude protein and ether extract contents, 20.56 and 2.92%, respectively, were found in Kemon air (*Neptunia olerancia*). The highest ash content of 25.19% was found in Kasuran (*Cyperus digitatus*). The lowest fiber content (11.01%) was found in Cecengekhan (*Ludwigia hyssopifolia*), which also had the lowest content of Neutral Detergent Fiber (NDF) (40.64%). Hemicellulose content was found to be highest (37.14%) in Bento rayap (*Leersia hexandra*). The lowest ADF (23.66%) and lignin (14.84%) contents were found in Telepek gajah (*Nymphaea lotus*). Kemon air (*N. olerancia*) was found to have the lowest content (27.08%) of cellulose. It was concluded that the swamp vegetation found in this study consisted of 17 types of grasses (89.47%) and two types of legumes (10.53%). Kasuran (*C. digitatus*) and Cecengekhan (*L. hyssopifolia*) were found to have the best nutritional values. Dominant and palatable vegetations with good nutritional values, which were potential to be used as sources of roughage for Pampangan buffaloes, were Kumpai tembaga (*Hymenachne acutigluma*), Kumpai padi (*Oryza rufipogon*), Kumpai minyak (*Hymenachne amplexicaulis*), Are bolong (*Polygonum barbatum*), and Purun tikus (*Eleocharis dulcis*).

**Key words:** Nutritional value, Swamp grass, Feed, Pampangan buffalo.

### INTRODUCTION

The availability of roughage as the main feed for ruminant animals depends considerably on seasons. During the rainy season, it is abundant, and during the dry season, the availability of grasses and legumes is lacking. The limited supply of roughage may hamper productivity including the reproductive performance of ruminant animals including buffaloes.

In South Sumatra, Pampangan buffalo is a potential germplasm which needs to be preserved and developed. There were 37,405 heads of Pampangan buffaloes in 2016, and this population increased by 3.97% to 38,952 heads in 2017. In 2017, of this population, 11,150 heads (28.63%) and 2,227 heads (5.72%) were found in Ogan Komering Ilir Regency and Banyuasin Regency, respectively (Statistik Peternakan Sumsel 2017). The population and productivity of Pampangan buffaloes need to be improved, and for this purpose, feed is an important factor to consider. Pampangan buffaloes feed mostly on roughage from the swamp, grassland to meet their maintenance and reproductive needs.

In Indonesia, there are 13.27 million hectares of lowland swamp areas. Only 4 million hectares of these areas have been developed and cultivated by the community and private sectors (2.6 million hectares) and the government assistance (1.3 million hectares) (BPS

2010, Mulyani and Sarwani 2013). In Sumatera, the largest lowland swamp area of 2.98 million hectares is found in South Sumatera, but only 298,189 hectares of it have been utilized (BPS Sumatera Selatan 2014). In order to utilize the potential swamp area as a feed source for Pampangan buffaloes, a study on vegetations as sources of roughage in lowland swamp areas that include vegetation identification and nutritional quality determination needs to be conducted.

In the previous study, some swamp grasses, including Kumpai minyak grass (*H. amplexicaulis*) (Rostini et al. 2014; Muhakka et al. 2015), *I. rugosum* and *L. hexandra* (Ali et al. 2012) were identified. However, many more swamp has not been identified. For example, *P. barbatum*, *C. digitatus*, *R. corymbosa*. This study was conducted to identify the types and nutritional values of vegetations that could be used as sources of roughage feed for Pampangan buffaloes in South Sumatera. This information was important to support the productivity improvement of Pampangan buffaloes as germplasm in South Sumatera. In this study, some new swamp found where in the previous study it's not found yet.

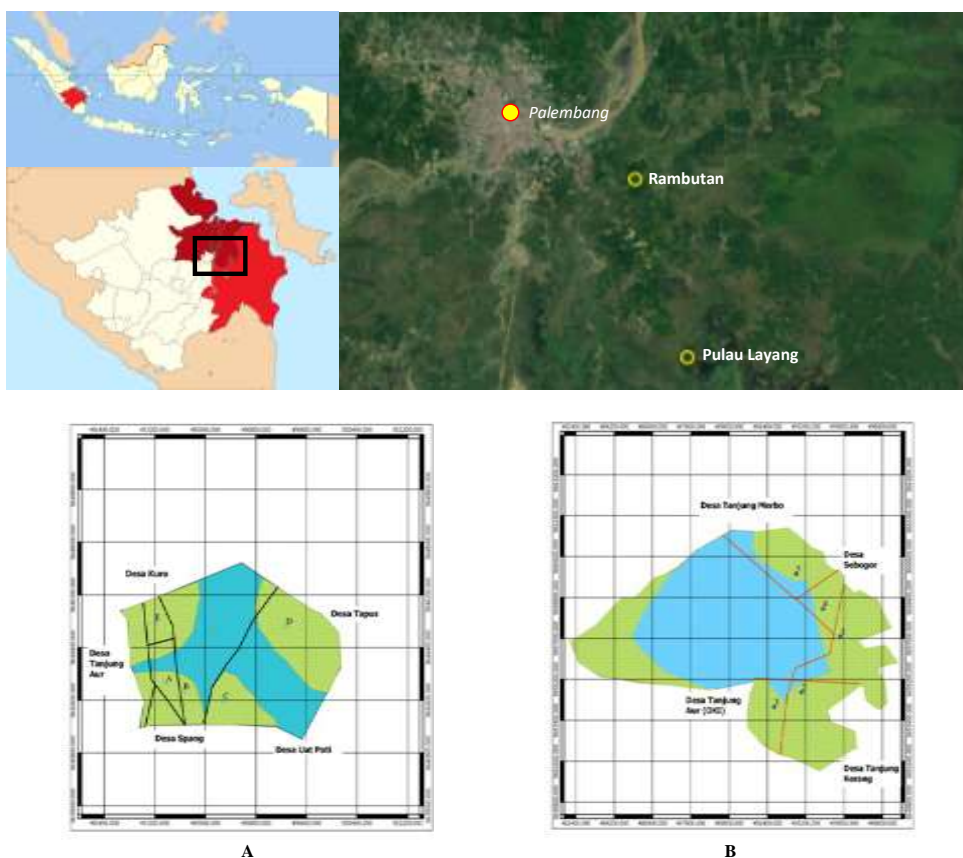
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## MATERIALS AND METHODS

### Area study

This study was a descriptive study to assess the types and nutritional values of vegetations, which were the dominant and palatable as sources of roughage feed for Pampangan buffaloes. Vegetation samples were taken from grazing areas of Pampangan buffaloes in Rambutan Village and Pulau Layang Village, South Sumatra, Indonesia (Figure 1) from April to Juni 2017. Vegetation samples for nutrient analysis were obtained by following these procedures: (i) vegetation collection was done based on estimated growth age (young age, medium age, and old age based on physical appearance), (ii) collected samples of each vegetation was composited, and (iii) samples were chopped into small sizes, homogenized.

For each vegetation, 1 kg sample was taken randomly and sent to the laboratory for oven drying at 105°C until a constant weight was obtained and dry matter content was determined. Samples were then ground for nutrient content determination by using proximate and Van Soest analyses (Syarifuddin and Wahdi 2010). Sample analyses of Crude protein, fiber, ether extract, and ash contents conducted in Laboratory of Dairy Nutrition, Department of Nutrition and Feed Technology, Institut Pertanian Bogor (IPB), Bogor, Indonesia, while analyses of NDF, ADF, hemicellulose, cellulose, and lignin conducted in Biotechnology Assessment Laboratory, Center for Biotechnology Research, Indonesian Institute of Sciences (LIPI), Cibinong, Bogor; and analysis of soil conducted in Laboratory of Soil Chemistry, Biology, and Fertility, Soil Department, Faculty of Agriculture, Sriwijaya University, Ogan Ilir, Indonesia.



**Figure 1.** Research location in South Sumatra, Indonesia. A. Pulau Layang Village, Pampangan Sub-district, Ogan Komering Ilir District, South Sumatra. B. Rambutan Village, Rambutan Sub-district, Banyuasin District, South Sumatra, Indonesia (Muhakka et al. 2019)

**Measured parameters**

*Soil analysis*

Soil sampling is done in a composite manner at a depth of 0-20 cm. Taking the soil sample points is done by making a diagonal line in each zone and determining 5 soil sampling points to analyze chemical fertility (N, P, K) and physical fertility (texture, structure and pH).

*Proximate analysis*

Crude protein, fiber, ether extract, and ash contents were determined based on the procedures of AOAC (1990). *Crude protein.* Nitrogen (N) content was determined by using a Kjeldahl method. In this analysis, sulphuric acid with a catalyst and a heating process. The organic matter of samples was then oxidized by sulfuric acid, and nitrogen was changed into an ammonium sulfate form. The remaining sulfuric acid was neutralized by NaOH until the solution became basic. Ammonium sulfate was then distilled in an acid medium to obtain the quantitative amount of N. As the average protein contains 16% nitrogen, a factor 100 % : 16% = 6.25 was used to obtain the value of crude protein (crude protein = N% x 6.25). *Fiber.* The filtered fat-free sample was used in fiber content determination. 1.25% sulfuric acid solution was added into the sample, and the mixture was heated for about 30 minutes before the residue was filtered. 1,25% NaOH solution was added into the precipitate, and the mixture was heated for about 30 minutes. The mixture was then filtered, and the precipitate was washed, dried, and weighed. This precipitate was burnt, and the ash was weighed. The difference between the weight of precipitate before it was burnt and the weight of the ash was referred to as fiber content. *Ether extract.* The dry matter sample was extracted with diethyl ether for 5 hours. At the end of the extraction process, ether evaporated and the remaining material was referred to as fat. *Ash.* The third part of the dry matter sample was weighed and burnt in a crucible at 550°C for 8 hours.

*Van Soest analysis*

Neutral Detergent Fiber (NDF), Acid Detergent Fiber (ADF), hemicellulose, cellulose, and lignin contents were determined by using a Van Soest method (1982).

*Neutral Detergent Fiber (NDF).* One gram of sample was put in a beaker glass. 50 ml NDS solution was added into the beaker before the mixture was heated for an hour. The mixture was then filtered by using a vacuum pump and a filter glass which was previously weighed (b gram). The mixture was then washed with hot water and acetone before it was dried in an oven and let cool in a desiccator. Finally, it was weighed as c gram. NDF content was calculated by using the following formula:

$$\% \text{ NDF} = \frac{c-b}{a} \times 100\%$$

*Acid Detergent Fiber (ADF).* One gram of sample was put in a beaker glass. 50 ml ADS solution was added into

the beaker before the mixture was heated for an hour. The mixture was then filtered by using a vacuum pump and a sintered glass filter which was previously weighed (b gram). The mixture was then washed with hot water and acetone before it was dried in an oven and let cool in a desiccator. Finally, it was weighed as c gram. Cellulose content was calculated by using the following formula:

$$\% \text{ cellulose} = \frac{c-d}{a} \times 100\%$$

*Hemicellulose.* Hemicellulose content was calculated as a difference between NDF and ADF contents as follows.

$$\% \text{ Hemicellulose} = \% \text{ NDF} - \% \text{ ADF}$$

*Lignin.* Cellulose residue (d gram) was burnt in a furnace at 500-600°C for 3 hours. After that, it was left to cool and weighed (e gram). Lignin content was calculated by using the following formula:

$$\% \text{ Lignin} = \frac{d-e}{a} \times 100\%$$

**Data analysis**

The data obtained were used directly to describe the nutritional value of the swamp vegetation that could be used as a roughage source. These data were then combined with those of *in vitro* digestibility as the basis for concluding (Syarifuddin and Wahdi 2010).

**RESULTS AND DISCUSSION**

**Soil analysis**

Results of soil analysis showed that soil at the study site had a low fertility level and was highly acidic. It also had very high organic C and total N contents, medium level of exchangeable-K and N contents, very low Ca and Mg contents, medium P content, and very high CEC level (Table 1).

**Nutrient contents of lowland swamp**

Crude protein, fiber, ether extract, and ash nutrient contents of lowland swamp vegetations found in this study are listed in (Table 2).

The NDF and ADF contents of vegetations found in this study were about 40.65-79.47% and 23.66-60.33%, respectively. Lowland swamp vegetations were found to have hemicellulose and cellulose contents ranging from 7.73 to 37.14% and 5.24 to 27.08%, respectively. Lignin contents of lowland swamp vegetation ranged from 14.84 to 43.09% (Table 3).

There are 19 types of forage found in Pampangan buffalo pasture that have potential that can be used as food for Pampangan buffalo, consisting of 17 types of grass (gramineae) and 2 types of legumes (legumes). Types of forage swamp forage plants, there are dominant and palatable species (Figure 2) of swamp lowland forage vegetation having potential as buffalo feed, namely Kumpai padi (*O. rupifogon*), Kumpai tembaga (*H. acutigluma*), and Kumpai minyak (*H. amplexicaulis*), not

dominant and palatable such as Kumpai merah (*Hymenachne sp*) and Kemon air (*N. olerancia*); dominant and non palatable grass species (buffalo doesn't like it) namely Are bolong (*P. Barbatum*. L). this grass species would be eaten by the buffaloes if there were no other species to be eaten (Muhakka et al., 2019).

## Discussion

### Crude protein content

Results showed that the crude protein contents of swamp green vegetations ranged from 5.26% to 20.56% with the lowest value (5.26%) was found in Berondong grass (*R. corymbosa*) and the highest (20.56%) was found in Kemon air legume (*N. olerancia*). Kasuran grass (*C. digitatus*) had the highest crude protein content (15.31%) (Table 2). This high nutritional value of Kasuran grass was suspected as caused by the fact that most of this grass was found to grow in the area of buffalo pens where the soil was rich in organic matter. However, the growth of this grass was not dominant as it mostly occurred in rainy seasons.

Kumpai minyak (*H. amplexicaulis*), Kumpai padi (*O. rupifogon*), Kumpai tembaga (*H. acutigluma*), and Purun tikus (*E. dulcis*) were found as the dominant palatable grasses containing 12.00, 10.41, 10.96, and 8.22% crude

protein, respectively. Results of this study were not too different from those obtained by Rostini et al. (2014), who reported that Kumpai minyak and Pipisangan had protein contents of 10.88 and 15.92%, respectively. Crude protein (CP) contents of these swamp grasses in Pulau Layang and Rambutan Villages were closed to those of prime grasses including 9.11-12.8% CP of *elephant* grass (*P. purpureum*) (Santos et al. 2013; Dahlan and Iskandar 2013; Rahman et al. 2014), 12.4% CP of *elephant* grass hay, 11.1% CP of *elephant* grass silage, 11.4% CP of king grass hay, and 10.2% CP of king grass silage (Santoso and Hariadi 2008). Other vegetations even had higher CP contents including Kumpai tembaga (*H. acutigluma*) with 10.96% CP, Tapak dara (*C. roseus*) 15.20%, Telepek gajah (*N. lotus*) 13.22%, Cecengkehan (*L. hyssopifolia*) 12.07%, Kasuran (*C. digitatus*) 15.31%, and Kumpai minyak (*H. amplexicaulis*)<sup>R</sup> 12.0% (Table 2). CP contents of vegetations in this study were also higher than those of nature grasses found in coffee plantation areas (6.95%) and pastoral areas (6.65%) in Wulanggintang District, East Flores Regency as reported by Kleden et al. (2015). Meanwhile, CP content of grasses in lowlands was 8.41% (Rochana et al. 2016; Maswada and Elzaawely 2013).

**Table 1.** Properties of soil at the study site

Parameter	Pulau Layang		Rambutan	
	Value	Remark	Value	Remark
pH H <sub>2</sub> O (1 : 1)	5.10	Low	4.41	Very low
pH KCl (1 : 1)	4.39	Very acidic	3.99	Very acidic
Organic C (g/kg)	57.66	Very high	36.14	Very high
Total N (g/kg)	3.64	Very high	2.19	Very high
Available P/Bray I (mg/kg)	11.70	Medium	2.25	Very low
Exchangeable K (cmol/kg)	0.63	Medium	0.45	Medium
Na (cmol/kg)	0.65	Medium	0.65	Medium
Ca (cmol/kg)	1.95	Very low	0.73	Very low
Mg (cmol/kg)	0.45	Very low	0.32	Very low
CEC (cmol/kg)	65.25	Very high	43.50	Very high
Exchangeable Al (cmol/kg)	1.84		2.37	
Exchangeable H (cmol/kg)	0.74		0.88	
Texture:				
Sand (%)	47.08		46.64	
Ash (%)	31.11		27.18	
Clay (%)	21.81		26.18	

**Table 2.** Crude protein, fiber, ether extract, and ash contents (%) of lowland swamp vegetations

Latin name	Local name	Crude protein	Fiber	Ether extract	Ash
<i>Catharanthus roseus</i>	Tapak dara	15.20	11.18	1.29	12.53
<i>Cyperus digitatus</i>	Kasuran	15.31	14.76	1.42	25.19
<i>Digitaria fuscescens</i>	Kerak Maling/Pasiran	12.00	15.64	1.24	16.26
<i>Eichhornia crassipes</i>	Eceng gondok	8.61	20.66	0.84	14.22
<i>Eleocharis dulcis</i> <sup>P</sup>	Purun tikus	8.22	25.72	0.48	15.13
<i>Eleocharis dulcis</i> <sup>R</sup>	Purun tikus	6.63	24.52	1.69	10.24
<i>Hymenachne acutigluma</i> <sup>P</sup>	Kumpai Tembaga	6.86	30.26	2.22	7.88
<i>Hymenachne acutigluma</i> <sup>R</sup>	Kumpai Tembaga	10.96	23.73	1.77	10.30
<i>Hymenachne amplexicaulis</i> <sup>P</sup>	Kumpai Minyak	9.21	21.91	2.82	13.96
<i>Hymenachne amplexicaulis</i> <sup>R</sup>	Kumpai Minyak	12.00	15.64	1.24	16.26
<i>Hymenachne sp</i>	Kumpai Merah	8.52	21.20	1.30	12.88



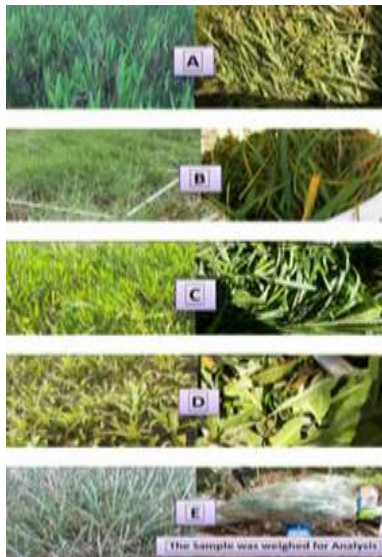
<i>Ipomoea aquatica</i>	Kangkung merah	8.95	14.34	2.24	10.39
<i>Leersia hexandra</i>	Bento rayap	5.35	27.57	2.06	5.63
<i>Ludwigia hyssopifolia</i>	Cecengkehan	12.07	11.01	1.66	9.09
<i>Neptunia olerancia</i>	Kemon air	20.56	15.03	2.92	7.31
<i>Nymphaea lotus</i>	Telepuk Gajah	13.22	11.45	2.84	10.30
<i>Oryza rupifogon</i> <sup>P</sup>	Kumpai Padi	7.93	23.30	1.60	16.25
<i>Oryza rupifogon</i> <sup>R</sup>	Kumpai Padi	10.41	21.59	2.49	11.92
<i>Polygonum barbatum</i>	Are Bolong	7.53	16.60	1.57	8.40
<i>Rhynchospora corymbosa</i>	Berondong	5.26	22.27	1.48	14.84
<i>Sesbania exasperata</i>	Mutiara	18.27	11.22	1.86	19.47

Notes: <sup>P</sup>: Grass in Pulau Layang Village; <sup>R</sup>: Grass in Rambutan Village.

**Table 3.** Composition of fiber fractions of green vegetations in lowland swamp: NDF, ADF, hemicellulose, cellulose, and lignin (%).

Latin name	NDF	ADF	Hemi-cellulose	Cellulose	Lignin
<i>Catharanthus roseus</i>	47.79	39.67	8.12	16.96	22.71
<i>Cyperus digitatus</i>	58.90	36.93	21.97	5.24	31.68
<i>Digitaria fuscescens</i>	65.43	33.56	31.87	12.11	21.45
<i>Eichhornia crassipes</i>	62.77	41.83	20.94	10.22	31.60
<i>Eleocharis dulcis</i> <sup>P</sup>	69.57	49.83	19.74	21.80	28.04
<i>Eleocharis dulcis</i> <sup>R</sup>	75.73	54.91	20.82	19.71	35.20
<i>Hymenachne acutigluma</i> <sup>P</sup>	75.89	50.60	25.29	12.25	38.34
<i>Hymenachne acutigluma</i> <sup>R</sup>	64.72	46.38	18.34	16.01	30.37
<i>Hymenachne amplexicaulis</i>	65.31	38.92	26.39	8.29	30.63
<i>Hymenachne sp</i>	60.14	28.40	31.74	8.64	19.76
<i>Ipomoea aquatica</i>	41.40	26.17	15.23	6.32	19.85
<i>Leersia hexandra</i>	79.47	42.33	37.14	25.88	33.92
<i>Ludwigia hyssopifolia</i>	40.64	32.91	7.73	8.39	24.52
<i>Neptunia olerancia</i>	62.31	45.44	16.87	27.08	18.36
<i>Nymphaea lotus</i>	46.05	23.66	22.39	8.82	14.84
<i>Oryza rupifogon</i> <sup>P</sup>	71.13	60.33	10.80	17.23	43.09
<i>Oryza rupifogon</i> <sup>R</sup>	65.49	46.19	19.30	14.96	31.24
<i>Polygonum barbatum</i>	61.27	48.46	12.81	20.28	28.18
<i>Rhynchospora corymbosa</i>	65.29	44.64	20.65	16.08	28.56

Note: <sup>P</sup>: Grass in Pulau Layang Village; <sup>R</sup>: Grass in Rambutan Village.



**Figure 2.** Dominant and palatable swamp roughages with good nutrient contents included. A. *Hymenachne acutigluma*, B. *Oryza*

*rupifogon* C. *Hymenachne amplexicaulis*, D. *Polygonum barbatum*, and E. *Eleocharis dulcis*.

This high protein content was suspected to be caused by the fact that soil organic C and total N contents in the study site were also high, namely 36.14-57.66 and 2.19-3.64 g.kg<sup>-1</sup>, respectively (Table 1). Soil organic C and total N contents affected protein content in plants. Four swamp grasses including Kasuran (*C. digitatus*), Tapak dara (*C. roseus*), Telepuk gajah (*N. lotus*), and Cecengkehan (*L. hyssopifolia*) and a legume, Kemon air (*N. olerancia*) were found to be the lowland swamp vegetations having the highest N contents of 15.31,15.20, 13.22, 12.07, and 20.56%, respectively.

**Fiber contents**

Fiber contents of lowland swamp green vegetations ranged from 11.01 to 30.26%, with the lowest content found in Cecengkehan (*L. hyssopifolia*) and the highest in Kumpai tembaga (*H. acutigluma*<sup>P</sup>). Four vegetations including *Cecengkehan* (*L. hyssopifolia*), *Tapak dara* (*C. roseus*), *Mutiara legume* (*S. exasperata*), and *Telepuk gajah* (*N. lotus*) were found to have the lowest fiber contents of 11.01, 11.18, 11.22, and 11.45%, respectively (Table 2). These results were almost similar to those found by Ali et al. (2012) who reported that the fiber contents of roughage in a pasture ranged from 7.20 to 34.98%. These

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researchers found that the fiber content of Bento rayap (*Leersia hexandra*) was 27.40% which was very close to that (27.57%) of the same vegetation in this study. Meanwhile, Rostini et al. (2014) reported that the fiber contents of swamp vegetation in South Kalimantan ranged from 14.84 to 29.35% with the lowest content found in Hadangan (*Paspalum sp*) and the highest in Dadangsit (*L. adscendens*). These figures were lower than those found by Kleden et al. (2015) who revealed that nature grasses in a coffee plantation area and pasture in Wulanggitang, East Flores contained 34.57 and 35.59% of fiber. They also found that the lowest fiber content was found in *L. peploides* and the highest in *I. rugosum*. Fiber contents reported by Kleden et al. (2015) were higher than the results reported by Ahmed et al. (2013) with a fiber content of 29.32% in *D. aegyptium* plants. A previous study showed that fermented *I. rugosum*, *H. amplexicaulis*, and *O. rufifogon* had fiber contents of 29.27, 29.57, and 33.07%, respectively (Muhakka et al. 2015).

The fiber content of Eceng gondok (*E. crassipes*) in this study (20.66%) was lower than those found by Hossain et al. (2015), Tham and Uder (2015), and Make et al. (2016). In addition, the fiber content of Eceng gondok (*E. crassipes*) in this study was lower than those of *Azolla*, another water plant, ranging from 13.19 to 16.54% (Kathirvelan et al. 2015; Anitha et al. 2016) and 9.25 to 13.25% (Ahmed et al. 2016). These fiber contents of *Azolla* equaled to those of Cecengkehan (*L. hyssopifolia*) (11.01%), Tapak dara (*C. roseus*) (11.18%), Mutiara legume (*S. exasperata*) (11.22%), Telepuk gajah (*N. lotus*) 11.45%, and Kangkung merah (*I. aquatica*) (14.34%) found in this study. Fiber contents of swamp green vegetations found in this study indicated that they were potential to be used as feed for Pampangan buffaloes.

#### Ether extract contents

Lowland swamp vegetations in this study were found to have ether extract (EE) contents of about 0.48-2.92%. The lowest EE content was found in Purun tikus (*E. dulcis*) while the highest was found in Kemon air legume (*N. olerancia*). Four vegetations of lowland swamp including Telepuk gajah (*N. lotus*) (2.84% EE), Kumpai minyak (*H. amplexicaulis*) (2.82% EE), Kumpai padi (*O. rufifogon*) (2.49% EE), and Kangkung merah (*I. aquatica* Forsk) (2.24% EE) were revealed to have the highest ether extract contents (Table 2). Results of this study were lower than those found by Rostini et al. (2014), reporting about 0.61-3.67% of EE contents in swamp vegetations in South Kalimantan with the lowest found in Pipisangan (*L. hyssopifolia*) and the highest in Padi hiang (*O. rufifogon spotanea*). EE contents of lowland swamp vegetations were 1.40-1.91% for grasses and 1.36-2.95% for legumes (Asep et al. 2012) and those of grasses in a pasture for buffaloes in Pulau Moa were 1.95-2.41% (Eoh 2014). In other studies, grasses in a natural pasture in North Lore, Poso Regency had EE contents of 2.12-2.34% (Damry 2009) and those in Sabana Timur Barat pasture in the rainy season to the end of dry season had an average EE content of 1.91% (Manu 2013). A study by Se'u et al. (2015) revealed an EE content of 1.07% in grasses in a pasture in Timor Tengah

Selatan Regency. Another work by Kleden et al. (2015) showed that vegetations in a natural pasture and a coffee plantation area had EE contents of 1.23 and 1.35%, respectively.

Vegetations found in this study had EE contents equaled to those of prime grasses including elephant grass (*P. purpurerum*) and king grass (*P. purpureophoides*) preserved in the form of hay and silage. Elephant grass hay and silage had EE contents of 1.9 and 2.6%, respectively, while those of king grass had EE contents of 1.6 and 2.4%, respectively (Santoso and Hariadi 2008; Ukpabi et al. 2015). EE contents of some species of ruminant roughages were found to be about 1.2-4.1% (Ahmed et al. 2013). Dominant swamp roughages including Kumpai minyak (*H. amplexicaulis*) and Kumpai padi (*O. rufifogon*) had EE contents of 2.82 and 2.49%, respectively and they were palatable and potential to be used as feed for Pampangan buffaloes.

#### Ash contents

Ash contents of green vegetations in lowland swamp ranged from 5.63 to 25.19%. Four types of vegetations with the highest ash contents included Kasuran (*C. digitatus*) (25.19%), Mutiara legume (*S. exasperata*) (19.47%), Kumpai minyak (*H. amplexicaulis*) (16.26%), and Kumpai padi (*O. rufifogon*) (16.25%). Meanwhile, Bento rayap (*L. hexandra*) was found to have the lowest ash content of 5.63% (Table 2). Ash contents of vegetations found in this study were higher than those of swamp vegetations in South Kalimantan of 2.18-3.28% during the high tidal season and 3.23-9.83% during the low tidal season (Rostini et al. 2014). Elephant grass (*P. purpureum*) was indicated to have varied ash contents of 4.4% (Dahlan and Iskandar 2013), 0.95-1.1% (Ukpabi et al. 2015), 9.59% (Nuhuyanan 2010), and 18% (Araica et al. 2009). Meanwhile, the ash content of grasses in lowland areas ranged from 6.32 to 8.91% (Richmond et al. 2015; Mako et al. 2016; Norman et al. 2013; Maswada et al. 2013). Alam et al. (2015) found that *B. mutica* had an ash content of 4.20-4.89% and rice straw had 6.63%.

Roughages were found to have average ash contents of 7.28% in a pasture for buffaloes in Pulau Moa (Eoh 2014), 9.82-10.14% in Lore Utara, Poso Regency (Damry 2009), 11.51% in a pasture during the rainy season until the end of dry season in Sabana Timur Barat (Manu 2013), and 8.11 and 8.22% in a natural pasture and a coffee plantation area, respectively (Kleden et al. 2015). Differences in these ash contents were suspected to be caused by differences in plant species (internal factor) and environmental differences, particularly seasonal differences (external factor). In a dry season, pH levels in lowland swamp areas were found to be 3.9-4.8, causing a decreased supply of nutrients, especially total N and K, to the soil. This decreased supply of nutrients led to lowered nutrients contained in plants (Rostini et al. 2014). This was in line with what was stated by Gutteridge and Shelton (1994) that nutrient content in plants was affected by soil nutrient content. In addition, in acidic soil conditions, activities of Fe, Al, and Mn increased which might cause toxicity in plants (Tjondronegoro and Gunawan).

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#### NDF and ADF contents

Neutral Detergent Fiber (NDF) depicts plant cell walls consisting of hemicellulose, cellulose, and lignin. NDF is part of fiber which is not dissolved in neutral detergent representing the component of fiber undissolved in plant cell wall materials. NDF content of a feed affects the ability of ruminant animals to consume the feed. Acid Detergent Fiber (ADF) represents parts of the plant cell wall bond to cellulose and lignin. ADF content is related to energy content and higher ADF content results in lowered digestible energy content (Van Soest 1982).

The NDF and ADF contents of vegetations found in this study were about 40.65-79.47% and 23.66-60.33%, respectively. Lowest NDF contents were found in Cecengkehan (*L. hyssopifolia*) (40.65%), Kangkung merah (*I. aquatica*) (41.40%), Telepek gajah (*N. lotus*) (46.05%), and Tapak dara (*C. roseus*) (47.79%). In contrast, highest NDF content of 79.47% was found in Bento rayap (*L. hexandra*). Lowest ADF contents were found in Telepek gajah (*N. lotus*) (46.05%), Kangkung merah (*I. aquatica*) (26.17%), Kumpai merah (*Hymenachne sp*) (28.40%), Cecengkehan (*L. hyssopifolia*) (32.91%). Meanwhile, the highest ADF content of 60.33% was found in Kumpai padi (*O. rupifogon*<sup>p</sup>) (Table 3). NDF and ADF contents of vegetations found in this study were lower than those of Asep et al. (2012) who reported that the NDF contents of swamp green vegetations in a pasture for buffaloes were about 91.73-93.45% in grasses and 68.11-90.93% in legumes and the ADF content of grasses was 51.6-86.8%. It was shown in other studies that NDF and ADF contents of roughages in a pasture during the rainy season to the end of the dry season in Sabana Timur Barat were on average 65.9 and 43.29%, respectively (Manu 2013). Vegetations in a natural pasture and a coffee plantation area had NDF contents of 74.89 and 72.37% and ADF contents of 57.22 and 55.15%, respectively (Kleden et al. 2015). Meanwhile, swamp vegetations in South Kalimantan had average NDF and ADF contents of 55.97 and 37.87%, respectively, during the high tidal season and 81.44 and 60.86% respectively, during the low tidal season (Rostini et al. 2014).

NDF and ADF contents of roughages in the BPTU-HPT Padang Mengatas area were found to be 75.62 and 45.96%, respectively in the rain season and 69.35 and 38.66%, respectively in the dry season (Muhajirin et al. 2017). NDF and ADF contents of Eceng gondok (*E. crassipes*) in this study were 62.77 and 41.83%, respectively. These figures were close to those of *water hyacinth* (*E. crassipes*) plants studied by Tham (2015) with NDF and ADF contents of 63.9 and 34.68% and by Tham and Uden (2015) with NDF and ADF contents of 52.1 and 30.7%, respectively. Other studies conducted by Ahmed et al. (2016), Anitha et al. (2016), and Nampoothiri (2017) showed that *Azolla sp* had NDF and ADF contents of 53.8-54.85% and 36.57-37.0%, respectively. Meanwhile, NDF and ADF contents of *elephant grass* (*P. purpureum*) were found to be 55.8 and 46.5% (Dahlan and Iskandar 2013) and 84.25 and 64.07% (Nuhuyanan 2010), respectively. These figures equaled to the NDF and ADF contents of Kumpai tembaga (64.72 and 46.38%), Kumpai minyak (65.31 and 38.92%), and Are

bolong (61.27 and 48.46%). This indicated that lowland swamp vegetations had fiber fraction nutritional quality which was not less than that of prime grasses including *elephant grass* and *king grass*.

In this study, NDF and ADF contents of lowland swamp vegetations were 40.65-79.47% and 23.66%-60.33%, respectively. These figures were still within the ranges of NDF and ADF contents of prime grasses such as *elephant grass* (*P. purpureum*), which had NDF and ADF contents of 55.8 and 46.5% (Dahlan and Iskandar 2013) and 84.25 and 64.07% (Nuhuyanan 2010), respectively. In the rumen, NDF degradation is higher than that of ADF as NDF contains hemicellulose fraction which is more soluble (Church and Pond 1986). NDF content has a negative correlation with its degradation rate (Varga et al. 1983) and higher NDF content decreases dry matter digestibility of feed (NRC 1988). Cellulose is an ADF component that is easy to digest while lignin is hard to digest as it contains double bonds. Higher lignin content decreases feed digestibility (Sutardi et al. 1980).

#### Hemicellulose and cellulose contents

Lowland swamp vegetations were found to have hemicellulose and cellulose contents ranging from 7.73 to 37.14% and 5.24 to 27.08%, respectively. Four green vegetations with the highest hemicellulose contents were Bento rayap (*L. hexandra*) (37.14%), Kerak maling (*D. fuscescens*) (31.87%), Kumpai merah (*Hymenachne sp.*) (31.74%), and Kumpai minyak (*H. amplexicaulis*) (26.39%). In contrast, the lowest hemicellulose content was found in Cecengkehan (*L. hyssopifolia*) (7.73%). Highest cellulose contents were found in Kemon air (*N. olerancia*) (27.08%), Bento rayap (*L. hexandra*) (25.88%), Purun tikus (*E. dulcis*) (21.80%), and Are bolong (*P. barbatum*) (20.28%). Meanwhile, Kasuran (*C. digitatus*) had the lowest cellulose content of 5.24% (Table 3). Results of this study were in line with those of a study conducted by Asep et al. (2012) who reported the hemicellulose and cellulose contents of lowland swamp green vegetations ranging from 7.89 to 31.55% and 30.85 to 63.35%, respectively. They also found that Kumpai padi (*O. rupifogon*) had 31.55% hemicellulose content which was higher than those of Kumpai padi (10.80-19.30%) found in this study (Table 4). Swamp vegetations in South Kalimantan had hemicellulose contents of 0.65-25.85% in high tidal season and 5.37-40.09% in low tidal season. Cellulose contents in high and low tidal seasons were about 20.07-34.03% and 7.90-38.31%, respectively (Rostini et al. 2014). Various water plants including *Azolla*, which was used as animal feed, had hemicellulose and cellulose contents of 10.20 and 12.76% (Nampoothiri 2017), 1.15-10.20% and 12.76% (Nampoothiri 2017), respectively. Roughages in BPTU-HPT Padang Mengatas had hemicellulose and cellulose contents of 29.79 and 33.62% in the rain season and 30.69 and 31.64% in the dry season, respectively (Muhajirin et al. 2017). *Elephant grass* (*P. purpureum*) was found to contain 21.18% hemicellulose and 43.32% cellulose (Nuhuyanan 2010) and 35.3% cellulose (Dahlan and Iskandar 2013). In a study conducted by Archimede et al. (2010), hay was found to have 37.7% hemicellulose and 35.7% cellulose.

Based on the above findings, it was suggested that hemicellulose (7.73-37.14%) and cellulose (5.24-27.08%) contents of lowland swamp vegetations in this study were within normal ranges and these vegetations were potential to be used as feed for Pampangan buffaloes.

#### Lignin contents

Lignin contents of lowland swamp vegetation ranged from 14.84 to 43.09%. Four vegetations including Telepek gajah (*N. lotus*), Kemon air (*N. olerancia*), Kumpai merah (*Hymenachne* sp.), and Kangkung merah (*I. aquatica*) were found to have the lowest lignin contents of 14.84, 18.36, 19.76, and 19.85%, respectively, while the highest lignin content of 43.09% was found in Kumpai padi (*O. rupifogon*<sup>P</sup>) (Table 3). Lignin contents in this study were higher than that obtained by Rostini et al. (2014) who reported the lignin contents of swamp vegetations in South Kalimantan were about 2.8-17.59% in high tidal season with that of Kumpai minyak as the lowest and that of *Beberasan* as the highest and 10.06-61.12% in low tidal season with that of *Beberasan* as the lowest and that of Kumpai minyak as the highest. Lignin contents of Kumpai padi (*O. rupifogon*<sup>R</sup>) (31.24%) and Kumpai padi (*O. rupifogon*<sup>P</sup>) (43.09%), Bento rayap (*L. hexandra*) (33.92%), and Eceng gondok (*E. crassipes*) (31.60%) (Table 3) found in this study were higher those of Kumpai padi (18.27%) and Bento rayap (*L. hexandra*) (17.96%) found by Asep et al. (2012) and Eceng gondok (*E. crassipes*) (8.17%) found by Tham (2015). In other studies *Azolla* was found to have lignin contents of 5.7% (Ahmed et al. 2016) and 28.24% (Nampoothiri 2017). Meanwhile, lignin contents of *elephant* grass were found to be 15.37% (Nuhuyanan 2010) and 11.2% (Dahlan and Iskandar 2013).

Differences in lignin contents in green vegetation are suspected to be caused by differences in plant species, plant ages, and environmental factors including seasons (rain or dry season), tidal seasons, and fertility levels of the soil where the vegetations grow. In cell walls, cellulose is a bond with hemicellulose and lignin. The animals cannot digest lignin and its molecule structure is different from other carbohydrates as it contains carbon and nitrogen of only 1-5%. Hemicellulose consists of pentose, hexose, uronic acid, and pectin substance. Pectin is a carbohydrate that is composed of uronic acid, galactose, arabinose, xylose, and methanol. Cellulose is degradable by microorganisms and functions as the source of volatile fatty acids. Young grasses (roughages) contain less than 5% lignin and 80% of their cellulose is degradable. On the contrary, in old roughages, lignin content may reach up to 10% causing a decrease in cellulose digestibility by up to 50% (Prawirokusumo 1994).

Based on the results of the study, it was concluded that: (i) The highest protein (20.56%) and crude fat (2.92%) contents were found in Kemon air (*Neptunia olerancia*). The highest ash content (25.19%) was found in Kasuran (*C. digitatus*), while the lowest (11.01%) was found in Cecengkehan (*L. hyssopifolia*). The lowest NDF content (40.64%) was found in Cecengkehan (*L. hyssopifolia*) and the highest hemicellulose content (37.14%) was found in Bento rayap. Telepek gajah had the lowest ADF (23.66%)

and lignin (14.84%) contents. Kemon air contained the highest cellulose level of 27.08%. (ii) The best nutritional values were found in Kasuran (*C. digitatus*) and Cecengkehan (*L. hyssopifolia*). (iii) Dominant and palatable swamp roughages with good nutrient contents included Kumpai tembaga (*H. acutigluma*), Kumpai minyak (*H. amplexicaulis*), Kumpai padi (*O. rupifogon*), Are bolong (*P. barbatum*), and Purun tikus (*E. dulcis*).

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## Nutritional values of swamp grasses as feed for Pampangan Buffaloes in South Sumatra, Indonesia

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**Abstract.** Muhakka, Suwignyo RA, Budianta D, Yakup. 2020. Nutritional values of swamp grasses as feed for Pampangan Buffaloes in South Sumatra, Indonesia. *Biodiversitas* 21: xxxx. This study was aimed at determining the types and quality of vegetations in the swamp area, which could be used as sources of roughage for Pampangan buffaloes in South Sumatra. In this descriptive study. Results showed that the highest crude protein and ether extract contents, 20.56 and 2.92%, respectively, were found in Kemon air (*Neptunia olerancia*). The highest ash content of 25.19% was found in Kasuran (*Cyperus digitatus*). The lowest fiber content (11.01%) was found in Cecengkehan (*Ludwigia hyssopifolia*), which also had the lowest content of Neutral Detergent Fiber (NDF) (40.64%). Hemicellulose content was found to be highest (37.14%) in Bento rayap (*Leersia hexandra*). The lowest ADF (23.66%) and lignin (14.84%) contents were found in Telepek gajah (*Nymphaea lotus*). Kemon air (*N. olerancia*) was found to have the lowest content (27.08%) of cellulose. It was concluded that the swamp vegetation found in this study consisted of 17 species types of grasses (89.47%) and two species types of legumes (10.53%). Kasuran (*C. digitatus*) and Cecengkehan (*L. hyssopifolia*) were found to have the best nutritional values. Dominant and palatable vegetations with good nutritional values, which were potential to be used as sources of roughage for Pampangan buffaloes, were Kumpai tembaga (*Hymenachne acutigluma*), Kumpai padi (*Oryza rufipogon*), Kumpai minyak (*Hymenachne amplexicaulis*), Are bolong (*Polygonum barbatum*), and Purun tikus (*Eleocharis dulcis*).

**Keywords:** Nutritional value, swamp grass, feed, Pampangan buffalo

### INTRODUCTION

The availability of roughage as the main feed for ruminant animals depends considerably on seasons. During the rainy season, it is abundant, and during the dry season, the availability of grasses and legumes is lacking. The limited supply of roughage may hamper productivity including the reproductive performance of ruminant animals including buffaloes.

In South Sumatra, Pampangan buffalo is a potential germplasm which needs to be preserved and developed. There were 37,405 heads of Pampangan buffaloes in 2016, and this population increased by 3.97% to 38,952 heads in 2017. In 2017, of this population, 11,150 heads (28.63%) and 2,227 heads (5.72%) were found in Ogan Komering Ilir Regency and Banyuasin Regency, respectively (Statistik Peternakan Sumsel 2017). The population and productivity of Pampangan buffaloes need to be improved, and for this purpose, feed is an important factor to consider. Pampangan buffaloes feed mostly on roughage from the swamp, grassland to meet their maintenance and reproductive needs.

In Indonesia, there are 13.27 million hectares of lowland swamp areas. Only 4 million hectares of these areas have been developed and cultivated by the community and private sectors (2.6 million hectares) and

the government assistance (1.3 million hectares) (BPS 2010, Mulyani and Sarwani 2013). In Sumatra, the largest lowland swamp area of 2.98 million hectares is found in South Sumatra, but only 298,189 hectares of it have been utilized (BPS Sumatra Selatan 2014). In order to utilize the potential swamp area as a feed source for Pampangan buffaloes, a study on vegetations as sources of roughage in lowland swamp areas that include vegetation identification and nutritional quality determination needs to be conducted.

In the previous study, some swamp grasses, including Kumpai minyak grass (*H. amplexicaulis*) (Rostini et al. 2014; Muhakka et al. 2015), *I. rugosum* and *L. hexandra* (Ali et al. 2012) were identified. However, many more swamp has not been identified. For example, *P. barbatum*, *C. digitatus*, *R. corymbosa*. This study was conducted to identify the types and nutritional values of vegetations that could be used as sources of roughage feed for Pampangan buffaloes in South Sumatra. This information was important to support the productivity improvement of Pampangan buffaloes as germplasm in South Sumatra. In this study, some new swamp found where in the previous study it's not found yet.

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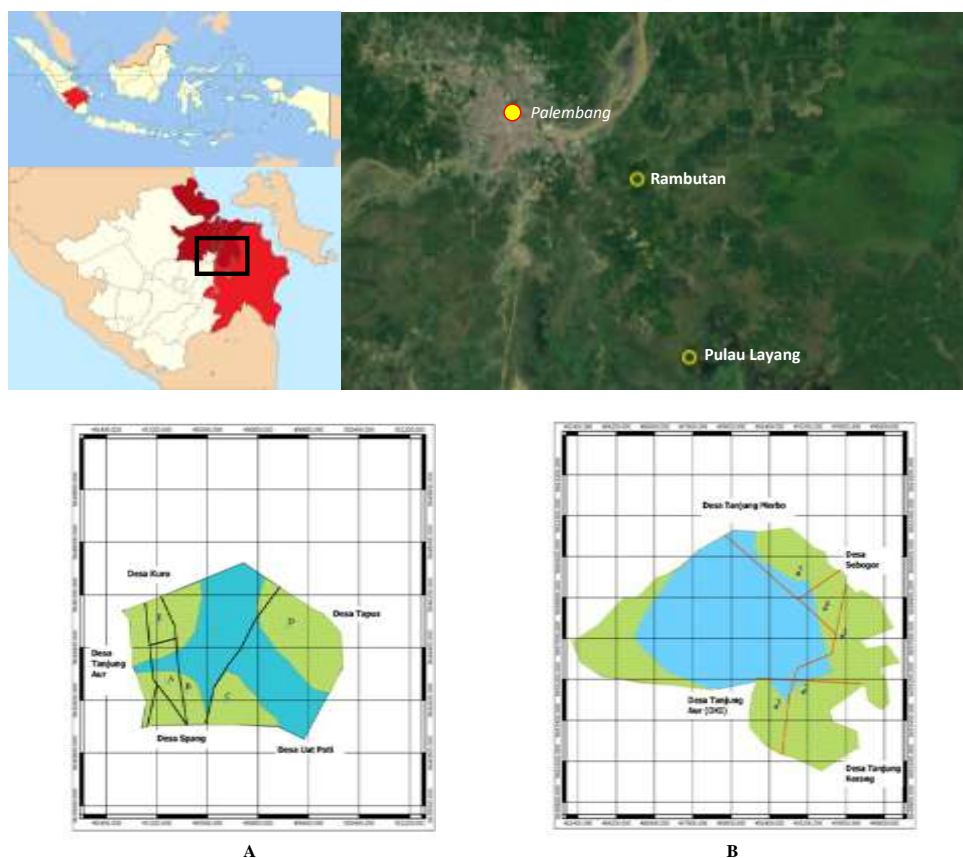


## MATERIALS AND METHODS

### Area study

This study was a descriptive study to assess the types and nutritional values of vegetations, which were the dominant and palatable as sources of roughage feed for Pampangan buffaloes. Vegetation samples were taken from grazing areas of Pampangan buffaloes in Rambutan Village and Pulau Layang Village, South Sumatra, Indonesia (Figure 1) from April to Juni 2017. Vegetation samples for nutrient analysis were obtained by following these procedures: (i) vegetation collection was done based on estimated growth age (young age, medium age, and old age based on physical appearance), (ii) collected samples of each vegetation was composited, and (iii) samples were chopped into small sizes, homogenized.

For each vegetation, 1 kg sample was taken randomly and sent to the laboratory for oven drying at 105°C until a constant weight was obtained and dry matter content was determined. Samples were then ground for nutrient content determination by using proximate and Van Soest analyses (Syarifuddin and Wahdi 2010). Sample analyses of Crude protein, fiber, ether extract, and ash contents conducted in Laboratory of Dairy Nutrition, Department of Nutrition and Feed Technology, Institut Pertanian Bogor (IPB), Bogor, Indonesia, while analyses of NDF, ADF, hemicellulose, cellulose, and lignin conducted in Biotechnology Assessment Laboratory, Center for Biotechnology Research, Indonesian Institute of Sciences (LIPI), Cibinong, Bogor; and analysis of soil conducted in Laboratory of Soil Chemistry, Biology, and Fertility, Soil Department, Faculty of Agriculture, Sriwijaya University, Ogan Ilir, Indonesia.



**Figure 1.** Research location in South Sumatra, Indonesia. A. Pulau Layang Village, Pampangan Sub-district, Ogan Komering Ilir District, South Sumatra. B. Rambutan Village, Rambutan Sub-district, Banyuasin District, South Sumatra, Indonesia (Muhakka et al. 2019)

## Measured parameters

### Soil analysis

Soil sampling is done in a composite manner at a depth of 0-20 cm. Taking the soil sample points is done by making a diagonal line in each zone and determining 5 soil sampling points to analyze chemical fertility (N, P, K) and physical fertility (texture, structure and pH).

**Plant materials** (1) The sampling area is divided into five zones (A, B, C, D and E) and each zone consists of 10 observation points. (2) Samples of each type of forage vegetation the dominant and palatable are collected based on the estimated age of growth, namely young age, middle age, and old age by looking at their physical appearance. (3) Samples of each type of vegetation that have been collected, put together until homogeneous and (4) Samples are finely chopped, mixed until homogeneous then randomly taken as much as 1 kg.

### Proximate analysis

Crude protein, fiber, ether extract, and ash contents were determined based on the procedures of AOAC (1990). **Crude protein.** Nitrogen (N) content was determined by using a Kjeldahl method. In this analysis, sulphuric acid with a catalyst and a heating process. The organic matter of samples was then oxidized by sulfuric acid, and nitrogen was changed into an ammonium sulfate form. The remaining sulfuric acid was neutralized by NaOH until the solution became basic. Ammonium sulfate was then distilled in an acid medium to obtain the quantitative amount of N. As the average protein contains 16% nitrogen, a factor 100 %: 16% = 6.25 was used to obtain the value of crude protein (crude protein = N% x 6.25). **Fiber.** The filtered fat-free sample was used in fiber content determination. 1.25% sulfuric acid solution was added into the sample, and the mixture was heated for about 30 minutes before the residue was filtered. 1.25% NaOH solution was added into the precipitate, and the mixture was heated for about 30 minutes. The mixture was then filtered, and the precipitate was washed, dried, and weighed. This precipitate was burnt, and the ash was weighed. The difference between the weight of precipitate before it was burnt and the weight of the ash was referred to as fiber content. **Ether extract.** The dry matter sample was extracted with diethyl ether for 5 hours. At the end of the extraction process, ether evaporated and the remaining material was referred to as fat. **Ash.** The third part of the dry matter sample was weighed and burnt in a crucible at 550°C for 8 hours.

### Van Soest analysis

Neutral Detergent Fiber (NDF), Acid Detergent Fiber (ADF), hemicellulose, cellulose, and lignin contents were determined by using a Van Soest method (1982).

**Neutral Detergent Fiber (NDF).** One gram of sample was put in a beaker glass. 50 ml NDS solution was added into the beaker before the mixture was heated for an hour. The mixture was then filtered by using a vacuum pump and a filter glass which was previously weighed (b gram). The mixture was then washed with hot water and acetone before it was dried in an oven and let cool in a desiccator. Finally, it was weighed as c gram. NDF content was calculated by using the following formula:

$$\% \text{ NDF} = \frac{c-b}{a} \times 100\%$$

**Acid Detergent Fiber (ADF).** One gram of sample was put in a beaker glass. 50 ml ADS solution was added into the beaker before the mixture was heated for an hour. The mixture was then filtered by using a vacuum pump and a sintered glass filter which was previously weighed (b gram). The mixture was then washed with hot water and acetone before it was dried in an oven and let cool in a desiccator. Finally, it was weighed as c gram. Cellulose content was calculated by using the following formula:

$$\% \text{ cellulose} = \frac{c-d}{a} \times 100\%$$

**Hemicellulose.** Hemicellulose content was calculated as a difference between NDF and ADF contents as follows.

$$\% \text{ Hemicellulose} = \% \text{ NDF} - \% \text{ ADF}$$

**Lignin.** Cellulose residue (d gram) was burnt in a furnace at 500-600°C for 3 hours. After that, it was left to cool and weighed (e gram). Lignin content was calculated by using the following formula:

$$\% \text{ Lignin} = \frac{d-e}{a} \times 100\%$$

### Data analysis

The data obtained were used directly to describe the nutritional value of the swamp vegetation that could be used as a roughage source. These data were then combined with those of *in vitro* digestibility as the basis for concluding (Syarifuddin and Wahdi 2010).

## RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

### Soil analysis

Results of soil analysis showed that soil at the study site had a low fertility level and was highly acidic. It also had very high organic C and total N contents, medium level of exchangeable-K and N contents, very low Ca and Mg contents, medium P content, and very high CEC level (Table 1).

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### Nutrient contents of lowland swamp

Crude protein, fiber, ether extract, and ash nutrient contents of lowland swamp vegetations found in this study are listed in (Table 2).

The NDF and ADF contents of vegetations found in this study were about 40.65-79.47% and 23.66-60.33%, respectively. Lowland swamp vegetations were found to have hemicellulose and cellulose contents ranging from 7.73 to 37.14% and 5.24 to 27.08%, respectively. Lignin contents of lowland swamp vegetation ranged from 14.84 to 43.09% (Table 3).

There are 19 species -19 types of forage found in Pampangan buffalo pasture that have potential that can be used as food for Pampangan buffalo, consisting of 17 species types of grass (gramineae) and 2 species types of legumes (legumes) (Muhakka et al. 2019). Species Types of forage swamp forage plants, there are dominant and palatable species of swamp lowland forage vegetation having potential as buffalo feed, namely Kumpai padi (*O. rupifogon*), Kumpai tembaga (*H. acutigluma*), and Kumpai minyak (*H. amplexicaulis*), not dominant and palatable such as Kumpai merah (*Hymenachne* sp.) and Kemon air (*N. olerancia*); dominant and non palatable grass species (buffalo does not like it) namely Are bolong (*P. barbatum*). this grass species would be eaten by the buffaloes if there were no other species to be eaten (Muhakka et al. 2019).

### Discussion

#### Crude protein content

Results showed that the crude protein contents of swamp green vegetations ranged from 5.26% to 20.56% with the lowest value (5.26%) was found in Berondong grass (*R. corymbosa*) and the highest (20.56%) was found in Kemon air legume (*N. olerancia*). Kasuran grass (*C.*

*digitatus*) had the highest crude protein content (15.31%) (Table 2). This high nutritional value of Kasuran grass was suspected as caused by the fact that most of this grass was found to grow in the area of buffalo pens where the soil was rich in organic matter. However, the growth of this grass was not dominant as it mostly occurred in rainy seasons.

Kumpai minyak (*H. amplexicaulis*), Kumpai padi (*O. rupifogon*), Kumpai tembaga (*H. acutigluma*), and Purun tikus (*E. dulcis*) were found as the dominant palatable grasses containing 12.00, 10.41, 10.96, and 8.22% crude protein, respectively. Results of this study were not too different from those obtained by Rostini et al. (2014), who reported that Kumpai minyak and Pipisangan had protein contents of 10.88 and 15.92%, respectively. Crude protein (CP) contents of these swamp grasses in Pulau Layang and Rambutan Villages were closed to those of prime grasses including 9.11-12.8% CP of elephant grass (*P. purpureum*) (Santos et al. 2013; Dahlan and Iskandar 2013; Rahman et al. 2014), 12.4% CP of elephant grass hay, 11.1% CP of elephant grass silage, 11.4% CP of king grass hay, and 10.2% CP of king grass silage (Santoso and Hariadi 2008). Other vegetations even had higher CP contents including Kumpai tembaga (*H. acutigluma*) with 10.96% CP, Tapak dara (*C. roseus*) 15.20%, Telepuk gajah (*N. lotus*) 13.22%, Cecengkehan (*L. hyssopifolia*) 12.07%, Kasuran (*C. digitatus*) 15.31%, and Kumpai minyak (*H. amplexicaulis*)<sup>8</sup> 12.0% (Table 2). CP contents of vegetations in this study were also higher than those of nature grasses found in coffee plantation areas (6.95%) and pastoral areas (6.65%) in Wulanggintang District, East Flores Regency as reported by Kleden et al. (2015). Meanwhile, CP content of grasses in lowlands was 8.41% (Maswada and Elzaawely 2013; Rochana et al. 2016).

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Table 1. Properties of soil at the study site

Parameter	Pulau Layang		Rambutan	
	Value	Remark	Value	Remark
pH H <sub>2</sub> O (1 : 1)	5.10	Low	4.41	Very low
pH KCl (1 : 1)	4.39	Very acidic	3.99	Very acidic
Organic C (g/kg)	57.66	Very high	36.14	Very high
Total N (g/kg)	3.64	Very high	2.19	Very high
Available P/Bray I (mg/kg)	11.70	Medium	2.25	Very low
Exchangeable K (cmol/kg)	0.63	Medium	0.45	Medium
Na (cmol/kg)	0.65	Medium	0.65	Medium
Ca (cmol/kg)	1.95	Very low	0.73	Very low
Mg (cmol/kg)	0.45	Very low	0.32	Very low
CEC (cmol/kg)	65.25	Very high	43.50	Very high
Exchangeable Al (cmol/kg)	1.84		2.37	
Exchangeable H (cmol/kg)	0.74		0.88	
Texture:				
Sand (%)	47.08		46.64	
Ash (%)	31.11		27.18	
Clay (%)	21.81		26.18	



*rupifogon* C. *Hymenachne amplexicaulis*, D. *Polygonum barbatum*, and E. *Eleocharis dulcis*.

This high protein content was suspected to be caused by the fact that soil organic C and total N contents in the study site were also high, namely 36.14-57.66 and 2.19-3.64 g.kg<sup>-1</sup>, respectively (Table 1). Soil organic C and total N contents affected protein content in plants. Four swamp grasses including Kasuran (*C. digitatus*), Tapak dara (*C. roseus*), Telepuk gajah (*N. lotus*), and Cecengkehan (*L. hyssopifolia*) and a legume, Kemon air (*N. olerancia*) were found to be the lowland swamp vegetations having the highest N contents of 15.31, 15.20, 13.22, 12.07, and 20.56%, respectively.

#### Fiber contents

Fiber contents of lowland swamp green vegetations ranged from 11.01 to 30.26%, with the lowest content found in Cecengkehan (*L. hyssopifolia*) and the highest in Kumpai tembaga (*H. acutigluma*<sup>P</sup>). Four vegetations including Cecengkehan (*L. hyssopifolia*), Tapak dara (*C. roseus*), Mutiara legume (*S. exasperata*), and Telepuk gajah (*N. lotus*) were found to have the lowest fiber contents of 11.01, 11.18, 11.22, and 11.45%, respectively (Table 2). These results were almost similar to those found by Ali et al. (2012) who reported that the fiber contents of roughage in a pasture ranged from 7.20 to 34.98%. These researchers found that the fiber content of Bento rayap (*Leersia hexandra*) was 27.40% which was very close to that (27.57%) of the same vegetation in this study. Meanwhile, Rostini et al. (2014) reported that the fiber contents of swamp vegetation in South Kalimantan ranged from 14.84 to 29.35% with the lowest content found in Hadangan (*Paspalum* sp) and the highest in Dadangsit (*L. adscendens*). These figures were lower than those found by Kleden et al. (2015) who revealed that nature grasses in a coffee plantation area and pasture in Wulanggitang, East Flores contained 34.57 and 35.59% of fiber. They also found that the lowest fiber content was found in *L. peplodes* and the highest in *I. rugosum*. Fiber contents reported by Kleden et al. (2015) were higher than the results reported by Ahmed et al. (2013) with a fiber content of 29.32% in *D. aegyptium* plants. A previous study showed that fermented *I. rugosum*, *H. amplexicaulis*, and *O. rupifogon* had fiber contents of 29.27, 29.57, and 33.07%, respectively (Muhakka et al. 2015).

The fiber content of Eceng gondok (*E. crassipes*) in this study (20.66%) was lower than those found by Hossain et al. (2015), Tham and Uder (2015), and Make et al. (2016). In addition, the fiber content of Eceng gondok (*E. crassipes*) in this study was lower than those of *Azolla*, another water plant, ranging from 13.19 to 16.54% (Kathirvelan et al. 2015; Anitha et al. 2016) and 9.25 to 13.25% (Ahmed et al. 2016). These fiber contents of *Azolla* equaled to those of Cecengkehan (*L. hyssopifolia*) (11.01%), Tapak dara (*C. roseus*) (11.18%), Mutiara legume (*S. exasperata*) (11.22%), Telepuk gajah (*N. lotus*) 11.45%, and Kangkung merah (*I. aquatica*) (14.34%) found in this study. Fiber contents of swamp green vegetations found in this study indicated that they were potential to be used as feed for Pampangan buffaloes.

#### Ether extract contents

Lowland swamp vegetations in this study were found to have ether extract (EE) contents of about 0.48-2.92%. The lowest EE content was found in Purun tikus (*E. dulcis*) while the highest was found in Kemon air legume (*N. olerancia*). Four vegetations of lowland swamp including Telepuk gajah (*N. lotus*) (2.84% EE), Kumpai minyak (*H. amplexicaulis*) (2.82% EE), Kumpai padi (*O. rupifogon*) (2.49% EE), and Kangkung merah (*I. aquatica* Forsk) (2.24% EE) were revealed to have the highest ether extract contents (Table 2). Results of this study were lower than those found by Rostini et al. (2014), reporting about 0.61-3.67% of EE contents in swamp vegetations in South Kalimantan with the lowest found in Pipisangan (*L. hyssopifolia*) and the highest in Padi hiang (*O. rufipogon spotanea*). EE contents of lowland swamp vegetations were 1.40-1.91% for grasses and 1.36-2.95% for legumes (Asep et al. 2012) and those of grasses in a pasture for buffaloes in Pulau Moa were 1.95-2.41% (Eoh 2014). In other studies, grasses in a natural pasture in North Lore, Poso Regency had EE contents of 2.12-2.34% (Damry 2009) and those in Sabana Timur Barat pasture in the rainy season to the end of dry season had an average EE content of 1.91% (Manu 2013). A study by Se'u et al. (2015) revealed an EE content of 1.07% in grasses in a pasture in Timor Tengah Selatan Regency. Another work by Kleden et al. (2015) showed that vegetations in a natural pasture and a coffee plantation area had EE contents of 1.23 and 1.35%, respectively.

Vegetations found in this study had EE contents equaled to those of prime grasses including elephant grass (*P. purpureum*) and king grass (*P. purpureoides*) preserved in the form of hay and silage. Elephant grass hay and silage had EE contents of 1.9 and 2.6%, respectively, while those of king grass had EE contents of 1.6 and 2.4%, respectively (Santoso and Hariadi 2008; Ukpabi et al. 2015). EE contents of some species of ruminant roughages were found to be about 1.2-4.1% (Ahmed et al. 2013). Dominant swamp roughages including Kumpai minyak (*H. amplexicaulis*) and Kumpai padi (*O. rupifogon*) had EE contents of 2.82 and 2.49%, respectively and they were palatable and potential to be used as feed for Pampangan buffaloes.

#### Ash contents

Ash contents of green vegetations in lowland swamp ranged from 5.63 to 25.19%. Four types of vegetations with the highest ash contents included Kasuran (*C. digitatus*) (25.19%), Mutiara legume (*S. exasperata*) (19.47%), Kumpai minyak (*H. amplexicaulis*) (16.26%), and Kumpai padi (*O. rupifogon*<sup>P</sup>) (16.25%). Meanwhile, Bento rayap (*L. hexandra*) was found to have the lowest ash content of 5.63% (Table 2). Ash contents of vegetations found in this study were higher than those of swamp vegetations in South Kalimantan of 2.18-3.28% during the high tidal season and 3.23-9.83% during the low tidal season (Rostini et al. 2014). Elephant grass (*P. purpureum*) was indicated to have varied ash contents of 4.4% (Dahlan and Iskandar 2013), 0.95-1.1% (Ukpabi et al. 2015), 9.59% (Nuhuyanan 2010), and 18% (Araica et al. 2009). Meanwhile, the ash



content of grasses in lowland areas ranged from 6.32 to 8.91% (Richmond et al. 2015; Mako et al. 2016; Norman et al. 2013; Maswada et al. 2013). Alam et al. (2015) found that *B. mutica* had an ash content of 4.20-4.89% and rice straw had 6.63%.

Roughages were found to have average ash contents of 7.28% in a pasture for buffaloes in Pulau Moa (Eoh 2014), 9.82-10.14% in Lore Utara, Poso Regency (Damry 2009), 11.51% in a pasture during the rainy season until the end of dry season in Sabana Timur Barat (Manu 2013), and 8.11 and 8.22% in a natural pasture and a coffee plantation area, respectively (Kleden et al. 2015). Differences in these ash contents were suspected to be caused by differences in plant species (internal factor) and environmental differences, particularly seasonal differences (external factor). In a dry season, pH levels in lowland swamp areas were found to be 3.9-4.8, causing a decreased supply of nutrients, especially total N and K, to the soil. This decreased supply of nutrients led to lowered nutrients contained in plants (Rostini et al. 2014). This was in line with what was stated by Gutteridge and Shelton (1994) that nutrient content in plants was affected by soil nutrient content. In addition, in acidic soil conditions, activities of Fe, Al, and Mn increased which might cause toxicity in plants (Tjondronegoro and Gunawan, 2000).

#### NDF and ADF contents

Neutral Detergent Fiber (NDF) depicts plant cell walls consisting of hemicellulose, cellulose, and lignin. NDF is part of fiber which is not dissolved in neutral detergent representing the component of fiber undissolved in plant cell wall materials. NDF content of a feed affects the ability of ruminant animals to consume the feed. Acid Detergent Fiber (ADF) represents parts of the plant cell wall bond to cellulose and lignin. ADF content is related to energy content and higher ADF content results in lowered digestible energy content (Van Soest 1982).

The NDF and ADF contents of vegetations found in this study were about 40.65-79.47% and 23.66-60.33%, respectively. Lowest NDF contents were found in Cecengkehan (*L. hyssopifolia*) (40.65%), Kangkung merah (*I. aquatica*) (41.40%), Telepek gajah (*N. lotus*) (46.05%), and Tapak dara (*C. roseus*) (47.79%). In contrast, highest NDF content of 79.47% was found in Bento rayap (*L. hexandra*). Lowest ADF contents were found in Telepek gajah (*N. lotus*) (46.05%), Kangkung merah (*I. aquatica*) (26.17%), Kumpai merah (*Hymenachne sp*) (28.40%), Cecengkehan (*L. hyssopifolia*) (32.91%). Meanwhile, the highest ADF content of 60.33% was found in Kumpai padi (*O. rupifogon*) (Table 3). NDF and ADF contents of vegetations found in this study were lower than those of Asep et al. (2012) who reported that the NDF contents of swamp green vegetations in a pasture for buffaloes were about 91.73-93.45% in grasses and 68.11-90.93% in legumes and the ADF content of grasses was 51.6-86.8%. It was shown in other studies that NDF and ADF contents of roughages in a pasture during the rainy season to the end of the dry season in Sabana Timur Barat were on average 65.9 and 43.29%, respectively (Manu 2013). Vegetations in a natural pasture and a coffee plantation area had NDF

contents of 74.89 and 72.37% and ADF contents of 57.22 and 55.15%, respectively (Kleden et al. 2015). Meanwhile, swamp vegetations in South Kalimantan had average NDF and ADF contents of 55.97 and 37.87%, respectively, during the high tidal season and 81.44 and 60.86% respectively, during the low tidal season (Rostini et al. 2014).

NDF and ADF contents of roughages in the BPTU-HPT Padang Mengatas area were found to be 75.62 and 45.96%, respectively in the rain season and 69.35 and 38.66%, respectively in the dry season (Muhajirin et al. 2017). NDF and ADF contents of Eceng gondok (*E. crassipes*) in this study were 62.77 and 41.83%, respectively. These figures were close to those of water hyacinth (*E. crassipes*) plants studied by Tham (2015) with NDF and ADF contents of 63.9 and 34.68% and by Tham and Uden (2015) with NDF and ADF contents of 52.1 and 30.7%, respectively. Other studies conducted by Ahmed et al. (2016), Anitha et al. (2016), and Nampoothiri (2017) showed that *Azolla sp* had NDF and ADF contents of 53.8-54.85% and 36.57-37.0%, respectively. Meanwhile, NDF and ADF contents of elephant grass (*P. purpureum*) were found to be 55.8 and 46.5% (Dahlan and Iskandar 2013) and 84.25 and 64.07% (Nuhyanan 2010), respectively. These figures equaled to the NDF and ADF contents of Kumpai tembaga (64.72 and 46.38%), Kumpai minyak (65.31 and 38.92), and Are bolong (61.27 and 48.46%). This indicated that lowland swamp vegetations had fiber fraction nutritional quality which was not less than that of prime grasses including elephant grass and king grass.

In this study, NDF and ADF contents of lowland swamp vegetations were 40.65-79.47% and 23.66-60.33%, respectively. These figures were still within the ranges of NDF and ADF contents of prime grasses such as elephant grass (*P. purpureum*), which had NDF and ADF contents of 55.8 and 46.5% (Dahlan and Iskandar 2013) and 84.25 and 64.07% (Nuhyanan 2010), respectively. In the rumen, NDF degradation is higher than that of ADF as NDF contains hemicellulose fraction which is more soluble (Church and Pond 1986). NDF content has a negative correlation with its degradation rate (Varga et al. 1983) and higher NDF content decreases dry matter digestibility of feed (NRC 1988). Cellulose is an ADF component that is easy to digest while lignin is hard to digest as it contains double bonds. Higher lignin content decreases feed digestibility (Sutardi et al. 1980).

#### Hemicellulose and cellulose contents

Lowland swamp vegetations were found to have hemicellulose and cellulose contents ranging from 7.73 to 37.14% and 5.24 to 27.08%, respectively. Four green vegetations with the highest hemicellulose contents were Bento rayap (*L. hexandra*) (37.14%), Kerak maling (*D. fuscens*) (31.87%), Kumpai merah (*Hymenachne sp.*) (31.74%), and Kumpai minyak (*H. amplexicaulis*) (26.39%). In contrast, the lowest hemicellulose content was found in Cecengkehan (*L. hyssopifolia*) (7.73%). Highest cellulose contents were found in Kemon air (*N. olerancia*) (27.08%), Bento rayap (*L. hexandra*) (25.88%), Purun tikus (*E. dulcis*) (21.80%), and Are bolong (*P. barbatum*)

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(20.28%). Meanwhile, Kasuran (*C. digitatus*) had the lowest cellulose content of 5.24% (Table 3). Results of this study were in line with those of a study conducted by Asep et al. (2012) who reported the hemicellulose and cellulose contents of lowland swamp green vegetations ranging from 7.89 to 31.55% and 30.85 to 63.35%, respectively. They also found that Kumpai padi (*O. rupifogon*) had 31.55% hemicellulose content which was higher than those of Kumpai padi (10.80-19.30%) found in this study (Table 4). Swamp vegetations in South Kalimantan had hemicellulose contents of 0.65-25.85% in high tidal season and 5.37-40.09% in low tidal season. Cellulose contents in high and low tidal seasons were about 20.07-34.03% and 7.90-38.31%, respectively (Rostini et al. 2014). Various water plants including *Azolla*, which was used as animal feed, had hemicellulose and cellulose contents of 10.20 and 12.76% (Nampoothiri 2017), 1.15-10.20% and 12.76% (Nampoothiri 2017), respectively. Roughages in BPTU-HPT Padang Mengatas had hemicellulose and cellulose contents of 29.79 and 33.62% in the rain season and 30.69 and 31.64% in the dry season, respectively (Muhajirin et al. 2017). *Elephant* grass (*P. purpureum*) was found to contain 21.18% hemicellulose and 43.32% cellulose (Nuhuyanan 2010) and 35.3% cellulose (Dahlan and Iskandar 2013). In a study conducted by Archimede et al. (2010), hay was found to have 37.7% hemicellulose and 35.7% cellulose. Based on the above findings, it was suggested that hemicellulose (7.73-37.14%) and cellulose (5.24-27.08%) contents of lowland swamp vegetations in this study were within normal ranges and these vegetations were potential to be used as feed for Pampangan buffaloes.

#### Lignin contents

Lignin contents of lowland swamp vegetation ranged from 14.84 to 43.09%. Four vegetations including Telepek gajah (*N. lotus*), Kemon air (*N. olerancia*), Kumpai merah (*Hymenachne* sp.), and Kangkung merah (*I. aquatica*) were found to have the lowest lignin contents of 14.84, 18.36, 19.76, and 19.85%, respectively, while the highest lignin content of 43.09% was found in Kumpai padi (*O. rupifogon*<sup>P</sup>) (Table 3). Lignin contents in this study were higher than that obtained by Rostini et al. (2014) who reported the lignin contents of swamp vegetations in South Kalimantan were about 2.8-17.59% in high tidal season with that of Kumpai minyak as the lowest and that of *Beberasan* as the highest and 10.06-61.12% in low tidal season with that of *Beberasan* as the lowest and that of Kumpai minyak as the highest. Lignin contents of Kumpai padi (*O. rupifogon*<sup>R</sup>) (31.24%) and Kumpai padi (*O. rupifogon*<sup>P</sup>) (43.09%), Bento rayap (*L. hexandra*) (33.92%), and Eceng gondok (*E. crassipes*) (31.60%) (Table 3) found in this study were higher than those of Kumpai padi (18.27%) and Bento rayap (*L. hexandra*) (17.96%) found by Asep et al. (2012) and Eceng gondok (*E. crassipes*) (8.17%) found by Tham (2015). In other studies *Azolla* was found to have lignin contents of 5.7% (Ahmed et al. 2016) and 28.24% (Nampoothiri 2017). Meanwhile, lignin contents of *elephant* grass were found to be 15.37% (Nuhuyanan 2010) and 11.2% (Dahlan and Iskandar 2013).

Differences in lignin contents in green vegetation are suspected to be caused by differences in plant species, plant ages, and environmental factors including seasons (rain or dry season), tidal seasons, and fertility levels of the soil where the vegetations grow. In cell walls, cellulose is a bond with hemicellulose and lignin. The animals cannot digest lignin and its molecule structure is different from other carbohydrates as it contains carbon and nitrogen of only 1-5%. Hemicellulose consists of pentose, hexose, uronic acid, and pectin substance. Pectin is a carbohydrate that is composed of uronic acid, galactose, arabinose, xylose, and methanol. Cellulose is degradable by microorganisms and functions as the source of volatile fatty acids. Young grasses (roughages) contain less than 5% lignin and 80% of their cellulose is degradable. On the contrary, in old roughages, lignin content may reach up to 10% causing a decrease in cellulose digestibility by up to 50% (Prawirokusumo 1994).

Based on the results of the study, it was concluded that:

(i) The highest protein (20.56%) and crude fat (2.92%) contents were found in Kemon air (*Neptunia olerancia*). The highest ash content (25.19%) was found in Kasuran (*C. digitatus*), while the lowest (11.01%) was found in Cecengkehan (*L. hyssopifolia*). The lowest NDF content (40.64%) was found in Cecengkehan (*L. hyssopifolia*) and the highest hemicellulose content (37.14%) was found in Bento rayap. Telepek gajah had the lowest ADF (23.66%) and lignin (14.84%) contents. Kemon air contained the highest cellulose level of 27.08%. (ii) The best nutritional values were found in Kasuran (*C. digitatus*) and Cecengkehan (*L. hyssopifolia*). (iii) Dominant and palatable swamp roughages with good nutrient contents included Kumpai tembaga (*H. acutigluma*), Kumpai minyak (*H. amplexicaulis*), Kumpai padi (*O. rupifogon*), Are bolong (*P. barbatum*), and Purun tikus (*E. dulcis*).

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**6. Bukti konfirmasi submit revisi ketiga,  
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## Nutritional values of swamp grasses as feed for Pampangan Buffaloes in South Sumatra, Indonesia

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**Abstract.** Muhakka, Suwignyo RA, Budianta D, Yakup, 2020. Nutritional values of swamp grasses as feed for Pampangan Buffaloes in South Sumatra, Indonesia. *Biodiversitas* 21: xxxx. This study was aimed at determining the types and quality of ~~vegetations~~vegetation in the swamp area, which could be used as sources of roughage for Pampangan buffaloes in South Sumatra. In this descriptive study, Results showed that the highest crude protein and ether extract contents, 20.56 and 2.92%, respectively, were found in Kemon air (*Neptunia oleracea*). The highest ash content of 25.19% was found in Kasuran (*Cyperus digitatus*). The lowest fiber content (11.01%) was found in Cecengkehan (*Ludwigia hyssopifolia*), which also had the lowest content of Neutral Detergent Fiber (NDF) (40.64%). Hemicellulose content was found to be highest (37.14%) in Bento rayap (*Leersia hexandra*). The lowest ADF (23.66%) and lignin (14.84%) contents were found in Telepek gajah (*Nymphaea lotus*). Kemon air (*N. oleracea*) was found to have the lowest content (27.08%) of cellulose. It was concluded that the swamp vegetation found in this study consisted of 17 species of grasses and herbs (89.47%) and two species of legumes (10.53%). Kasuran (*C. digitatus*) and Cecengkehan (*L. hyssopifolia*) were found to have the best nutritional values. Dominant and palatable ~~vegetations~~vegetation with good nutritional values, which were potential to be used as sources of roughage for Pampangan buffaloes, were Kumpai tembaga (*Hymenachne acutigluma*), Kumpai padi (*Oryza rufipogon*), Kumpai minyak (*Hymenachne amplexicaulis*), Are bolong (*Polygonum barbatum*), and Purun tikus (*Eleocharis dulcis*).

**Keywords:** Nutritional value, swamp grass, feed, Pampangan buffalo

### INTRODUCTION

The availability of roughage as the main feed for ~~ruminant animals~~ruminants depends considerably on seasons. During the rainy season, it is abundant, ~~and but~~ during the dry season, the availability of grasses/herbs and legumes is lacking. The limited supply of roughage may hamper productivity including the reproductive performance of ~~ruminant animals~~ruminants including buffaloes.

In South Sumatra, Pampangan buffalo is potential germplasm that needs to be preserved and developed. There were 37,405 ~~heads of~~Pampangan buffaloes in 2016, and this population increased by 3.97% to 38,952 ~~heads in~~ 2017. In 2017, of this population, 11,150 ~~heads~~ (28.63%) and 2,227 ~~heads~~ (5.72%) were found in Ogan Komering Ilir District and Banyuasin District, respectively (Statistik Peternakan Sumsel 2017). The population and productivity of Pampangan buffaloes need to be improved, and for this purpose, feed is an important factor to consider. Pampangan buffaloes feed mostly on roughage from the swamp, grassland to meet their ~~maintenance~~upkeeping and reproductive needs.

In Indonesia, there are 13.27 million hectares of lowland swamp areas. Only 4 million hectares of these areas have been developed and cultivated by the

community and private sectors (2.6 million hectares) and the government assistance (1.3 million hectares) (BPS 2010, Mulyani and Sarwani 2013). In Sumatra, the largest lowland swamp area of 2.98 million hectares is found in South Sumatra, but only 298,189 hectares of it have been utilized (BPS Sumatra Selatan 2014). In order to utilize the potential swamp area as a feed source for Pampangan buffaloes, a study on ~~vegetations~~vegetation as sources of roughage in lowland swamp areas that include vegetation identification and nutritional quality determination needs to be conducted.

In the previous study, some swamp grasses, including Kumpai minyak grass (*H. amplexicaulis*) (Rostini et al. 2014; Muhakka et al. 2015), *J. rugosum* and *L. hexandra* (Ali et al. 2012) were identified. However, ~~many~~more swamp ~~vegetation~~ ~~has~~have not been identified. For example, *P. barbatum*, *C. digitatus*, *R. corymbosa*. This study was conducted to identify the types and nutritional values of ~~vegetations~~vegetation that could be used as sources of roughage feed for Pampangan buffaloes in South Sumatra. This information was important to support the productivity improvement of Pampangan buffaloes as germplasm in South Sumatra. In this study, some new swamp forages ~~were found, although and they were not stated~~ in the previous study. ~~it's not found yet.~~

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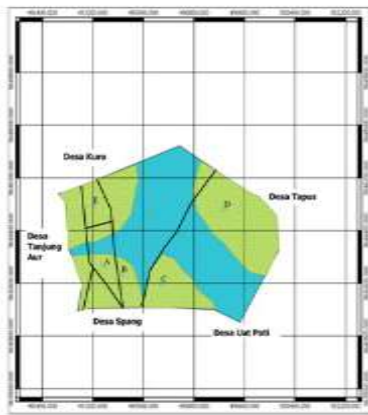
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MATERIALS AND METHODS

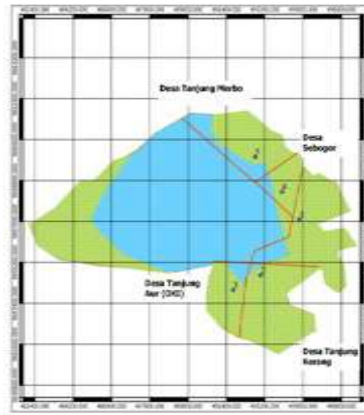
Area study

This study was a descriptive study to assess the types and nutritional values of vegetation, which were the dominant and palatable as sources of roughage feed for Pampangan buffaloes. Vegetation samples were taken from grazing areas of Pampangan buffaloes in Rambutan Village and Pulau Layang Village, South Sumatra, Indonesia (Figure 1) from April to Juni 2017. Vegetation samples for nutrient analysis were obtained by following procedures: (i) vegetation collection was done based on estimated growth age (young age, medium-middle age, and old age based on physical appearance), (ii) collected samples of each vegetation was composited, and (iii) samples were chopped into small sizes, and then homogenized.

For each vegetation, 1 kg sample was taken randomly and sent to the laboratory for oven drying at 105°C, until a constant weight was obtained and dry matter content was determined. Samples were then ground for nutrient content determination by using proximate and Van Soest analyses (Syarifuddin and Wahdi 2010). Sample analyses of crude protein, fiber, ether extract, and ash contents were conducted in Laboratory of Dairy Nutrition, Department of Nutrition and Feed Technology, Institut Pertanian Bogor (IPB), Bogor, Indonesia, while analyses of NDF, ADF, hemicellulose, cellulose, and lignin were conducted in Biotechnology Assessment Laboratory, Research Center for Biotechnology, Indonesian Institute of Sciences (LIPI), Cibinong, Bogor, Indonesia; and analysis of soil was conducted in Laboratory of Soil Chemistry, Biology, and Fertility, Soil Department, Faculty of Agriculture, Sriwijaya University, Ogan Ilir, Indonesia.



A



B

Figure 1. Research location in South Sumatra, Indonesia. A. Pulau Layang Village, Pampangan Sub-district, Ogan Komering Ilir District, South Sumatra. B. Rambutan Village, Rambutan Sub-district, Banyuasin District, South Sumatra, Indonesia (Muhakka et al. 2019).

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**Measured parameters**

*Soil analysis*

Soil sampling is done in a composite manner at a depth of 0-20 cm. Taking the soil sample points is done by making a diagonal line in each zone and determining 5 soil sampling points to analyze chemical fertility (N, P, K) and physical fertility (texture, structure and pH).

*Plant materials*

The sampling area is divided into five zones (A, B, C, D and E) and each zone consists of 10 observation points. Samples of each type of **dominant and palatable** forage vegetation ~~the dominant and palatable~~ are collected based on the estimated age of growth, namely young age, middle age, and old age by looking at their physical appearance. Samples of each type of vegetation that have been collected, **are** put together until homogeneous. Samples are finely chopped, mixed until homogeneous then randomly taken as much as 1 kg.

There are some species that **are** analyzed twice, – in Pulau Layang and Rambutan because they appear in both areas, ~~and some while the~~ others **are** only analyzed once because they only appear in one area. For Mutiara (*Sesbania exasperata*) it is enough to know only its nutrient content from analysis of proximate, and the production of this grass is measly so that its potential to be buffalo's feed is measly as well, but it can be made as feed supplement. So, it is not analyzed for composition of fiber fractions (Table 3).

*Proximate analysis*

Crude protein, fiber, ether extract, and ash contents were determined based on the procedures of AOAC (1990). **Crude protein.** Nitrogen (N) content was determined by using a Kjeldahl method. In this analysis, sulphuric acid **was treated**, with a catalyst and a heating process. The organic matter of samples was then oxidized by sulfuric acid, and nitrogen was changed into an ammonium sulfate form. The remaining sulfuric acid was neutralized by NaOH until the solution became basic. Ammonium sulfate was then distilled in an acid medium to obtain the quantitative amount of N. As the average protein contains 16% nitrogen, a factor 100%: 16% = 6.25 was used to obtain the value of crude protein (crude protein = N% x 6.25). **Fiber.** The filtered fat-free sample was used in fiber content determination. 1.25% sulfuric acid solution was added into the sample, and the mixture was heated for about 30 minutes before the residue was filtered. 1.25% NaOH solution was added into the precipitate, and the mixture was heated for about 30 minutes. The mixture was then filtered, and the precipitate was washed, dried, and weighed. This precipitate was burnt, and the ash was weighed. The difference between the weight of precipitate before it was burnt and the weight of the ~~ass-ash~~ **was** referred to as fiber content. **Ether extract.** The dry matter sample was extracted with diethyl ether for 5 hours. At the end of the extraction process, ether evaporated and the remaining material was referred to as fat. **Ash.** The third part of the dry matter sample was weighed and burnt in a crucible at 550°C for 8 hours.

*Van Soest analysis*

**Neutral Detergent Fiber (NDF), Acid Detergent Fiber (ADF), hemicellulose, cellulose, and lignin** contents were determined by using a Van Soest method (1982).

**Neutral Detergent Fiber (NDF).** One gram of sample was put in a beaker glass. 50 ml NDS solution was added into the beaker before the mixture was heated for an hour. The mixture was then filtered by using a vacuum pump and a filter glass which was previously weighed (b gram). The mixture was then washed with hot water and acetone before it was dried in an oven and let cool in a desiccator. Finally, it was weighed as c gram. NDF content was calculated by using the following formula:

$$\% \text{ NDF} = \frac{c-b}{a} \times 100\%$$

**Acid Detergent Fiber (ADF).** One gram of sample was put in a beaker glass. 50 ml ADS solution was added into the beaker before the mixture was heated for an hour. The mixture was then filtered by using a vacuum pump and a sintered glass filter which was previously weighed (b gram). The mixture was then washed with hot water and acetone before it was dried in an oven and let cool in a desiccator. Finally, it was weighed as c gram. Cellulose content was calculated by using the following formula:

$$\% \text{ cellulose} = \frac{c-d}{a} \times 100\%$$

**Hemicellulose.** Hemicellulose content was calculated as a difference between NDF and ADF contents as follows.

$$\% \text{ Hemicellulose} = \% \text{ NDF} - \% \text{ ADF}$$

**Lignin.** Cellulose residue (d gram) was burnt in a furnace at 500-600°C for 3 hours. After that, it was left to cool and weighed (e gram). Lignin content was calculated by using the following formula:

$$\% \text{ Lignin} = \frac{d-e}{a} \times 100\%$$

**Data analysis**

The data obtained were used directly to describe the nutritional value of the swamp vegetation that could be used as a roughage source. These data were then combined with those of *in vitro* digestibility as the basis for concluding (Syarifuddin and Wahdi 2010).

**RESULTS AND DISCUSSION**

**Soil analysis**

Results of soil analysis showed that soil at the study site had a low fertility level and was highly acidic. It also had very high organic C and total N contents, medium level of exchangeable-K and N contents, very low Ca and Mg contents, medium P content, and very high CEC level (Table 1).

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Table 1. Properties of soil at the study site

Parameter	Pulau Layang		Rambutan	
	Value	Remark	Value	Remark
pH H <sub>2</sub> O (1 : 1)	5.10	Low	4.41	Very low
pH KCl (1 : 1)	4.39	Very acidic	3.99	Very acidic
Organic C (g/kg)	57.66	Very high	36.14	Very high
Total N (g/kg)	3.64	Very high	2.19	Very high
Available P/Bray I (mg/kg)	11.70	Medium	2.25	Very low
Exchangeable K (cmol/kg)	0.63	Medium	0.45	Medium
Na (cmol/kg)	0.65	Medium	0.65	Medium
Ca (cmol/kg)	1.95	Very low	0.73	Very low
Mg (cmol/kg)	0.45	Very low	0.32	Very low
CEC (cmol/kg)	65.25	Very high	43.50	Very high
Exchangeable Al (cmol/kg)	1.84		2.37	
Exchangeable H (cmol/kg)	0.74		0.88	
Texture:				
Sand (%)	47.08		46.64	
Ash (%)	31.11		27.18	
Clay (%)	21.81		26.18	

#### Nutrient contents of lowland swamp

Crude protein, fiber, ether extract, and ash nutrient contents of lowland swamp ~~vegetations~~vegetation found in this study are listed in (Table 2).

The NDF and ADF contents of ~~vegetations~~vegetation found in this study were about 40.65-79.47% and 23.66-60.33%, respectively. Lowland swamp ~~vegetations~~vegetation were ~~was~~ found to have hemicellulose and cellulose contents ranging from 7.73 to 37.14% and 5.24 to 27.08%, respectively. Lignin contents of lowland swamp vegetation ranged from 14.84 to 43.09% (Table 3).

There are 19 species of forage found in Pampangan buffalo pasture that have potential ~~that can to~~ be used as food for Pampangan buffalo, consisting of 17 species of grasses and herbs and 2 species of legumes (Muhakka et al. 2019). ~~Species of forage swamp forage plants, there~~There are dominant and palatable species of swamp lowland forage vegetation having potential as buffalo feed, namely Kumpai padi (*O. rupifogon*), Kumpai tembaga (*H. acutigluma*), and Kumpai minyak (*H. amplexicaulis*), not dominant ~~and but~~ palatable ~~species~~ such as Kumpai merah (*Hymenachne* sp.) and Kemon air (*N. oleracea*); dominant ~~and but~~ non-palatable grass species (buffalo does not like it) namely Are bolong (*P. barbatum*). ~~this~~~~This~~ grass species would be eaten by the buffaloes if there were no other species to be eaten (Muhakka et al. 2019).

#### Discussion

##### Crude protein content

Results showed that the crude protein contents of swamp green ~~vegetations~~vegetation ranged from 5.26% to 20.56% with the lowest value (5.26%) was found in Berondong grass (*R. corymbosa*) and the highest (20.56%) was found in Kemon air legume (*N. oleracea*). Kasuran grass (*C. digitatus*) had the highest crude protein content (15.31%) (Table 2). This high nutritional value of Kasuran grass was suspected as caused by the fact that most of this

grass was found to grow in the area of buffalo pens where the soil was rich in organic matter. However, the growth of this grass was not dominant as it mostly occurred in rainy seasons.

Kumpai minyak (*H. amplexicaulis*), Kumpai padi (*O. rupifogon*), Kumpai tembaga (*H. acutigluma*), and Purun tikus (*E. dulcis*) were found as the dominant palatable grasses containing 12.00, 10.41, 10.96, and 8.22% crude protein, respectively. Results of this study were not too different from those obtained by Rostini et al. (2014), who reported that Kumpai minyak and Pipisangan had protein contents of 10.88 and 15.92%, respectively. Crude protein (CP) contents of these swamp grasses in Pulau Layang and Rambutan Villages were closed to those of prime grasses including 9.11-12.8% CP of elephant grass (*P. purpureum*) (Santos et al. 2013; Dahlan and Iskandar 2013; Rahman et al. 2014), 12.4% CP of elephant grass hay, 11.1% CP of elephant grass silage, 11.4% CP of king grass hay, and 10.2% CP of king grass silage (Santoso and Hariadi 2008). Other ~~vegetations~~vegetation even had higher CP contents including Kumpai tembaga (*H. acutigluma*) with 10.96% CP, Tapak dara (*C. roseus*) 15.20%, Telepuk gajah (*N. lotus*) 13.22%, Cecengkehan (*L. hyssopifolia*) 12.07%, Kasuran (*C. digitatus*) 15.31%, and Kumpai minyak (*H. amplexicaulis*)<sup>R</sup> 12.0% (Table 2). CP contents of ~~vegetations~~vegetation in this study were also higher than those of natural grasses found in coffee plantation areas (6.95%) and pastoral areas (6.65%) in Wulanggitang Subdistrict, East Flores District, East Nusa Tenggara, Indonesia as reported by Kleden et al. (2015). Meanwhile, CP content of grasses in lowlands was 8.41% (Maswada and Elzaawely 2013; Rochana et al. 2016).

This high protein content was suspected to be caused by the fact that soil organic C and total N contents in the study site were also high, namely 36.14-57.66 and 2.19-3.64 g.kg<sup>-1</sup>, respectively (Table 1). Soil organic C and total N contents affected protein content in plants. Four swamp grasses/herbs including Kasuran (*C. digitatus*), Tapak dara

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(*C. roseus*), Telepek gajah (*N. lotus*), and Cecengkehan (*L. hyssopifolia*) and a legume, Kemon air (*N. oleracea*) were found to be the lowland swamp [vegetations/vegetation](#) having the highest N contents of 15.31, 15.20, 13.22, 12.07, and 20.56%, respectively.

**Table 2.** Crude protein, fiber, ether extract, and ash contents (%) of lowland swamp [vegetations/vegetation](#)

Latin name	Family	Origin (Village)	Local name	Crude protein	Fiber	Ether extract	Ash
<i>Catharanthus roseus</i>	Apocynaceae	Pulau Layang	Tapak dara	15.20	11.18	1.29	12.53
<i>Cyperus digitatus</i>	Cyperaceae	Rambutan	Kasuran	15.31	14.76	1.42	25.19
<i>Digitaria fuscescens</i>	Poaceae	Rambutan	Kerak Maling/Pasiran	12.00	15.64	1.24	16.26
<i>Eichhornia crassipes</i>	Pontederiaceae	Pulau Layang	Eceng gondok	8.61	20.66	0.84	14.22
<i>Eleocharis dulcis</i> -P	Cyperaceae	Pulau Layang	Purun tikus	8.22	25.72	0.48	15.13
<i>Eleocharis dulcis</i> -R	Cyperaceae	Rambutan	Purun tikus	6.63	24.52	1.69	10.24
<i>Hymenachne acutigluma</i> -P	Poaceae	Rambutan	Kumpai Tembaga	10.96	23.73	1.77	10.30
<i>Hymenachne acutigluma</i> -R	Poaceae	Pulau Layang	Kumpai Tembaga	6.86	30.26	2.22	7.88
<i>Hymenachne amplexicaulis</i> -P	Poaceae	Pulau Layang	Kumpai Minyak	9.21	21.91	2.82	13.96
<i>Hymenachne amplexicaulis</i> -R	Poaceae	Rambutan	Kumpai Minyak	12.00	15.64	1.24	16.26
<i>Hymenachne</i> sp.	Poaceae	Pulau Layang	Kumpai Merah	8.52	21.20	1.30	12.88
<i>Ipomoea aquatica</i>	Convolvulaceae	Pulau Layang	Kangkung merah	8.95	14.34	2.24	10.39
<i>Leersia hexandra</i>	Poaceae	Pulau Layang	Bento rayap	5.35	27.57	2.06	5.63
<i>Ludwigia hyssopifolia</i>	Onagraceae	Pulau Layang	Cecengkehan	12.07	11.01	1.66	9.09
<i>Neptunia olerancia</i>	Fabaceae	Pulau Layang	Kemon air	20.56	15.03	2.92	7.31
<i>Nymphaea lotus</i>	Nymphaeaceae	Pulau Layang	Telepek Gajah	13.22	11.45	2.84	10.30
<i>Oryza rufifogon</i> -P	Poaceae	Pulau Layang	Kumpai Padi	7.93	23.30	1.60	16.25
<i>Oryza rufifogon</i> -R	Poaceae	Rambutan	Kumpai Padi	10.41	21.59	2.49	11.92
<i>Polygonum barbatum</i>	Poaceae	Pulau Layang	Are Bolong	7.53	16.60	1.57	8.40
<i>Rhynchospora corymbosa</i>	Cyperaceae	Pulau Layang	Berondong	5.26	22.27	1.48	14.84
<i>Sesbania exasperata</i>	Fabaceae	Rambutan	Mutiara	18.27	11.22	1.86	19.47

Note: P: Pulau Layang Village; R: Rambutan Village

**Table 3.** Composition of fiber fractions of green [vegetations/vegetation](#) in lowland swamp: NDF, ADF, hemicellulose, cellulose, and lignin (%).

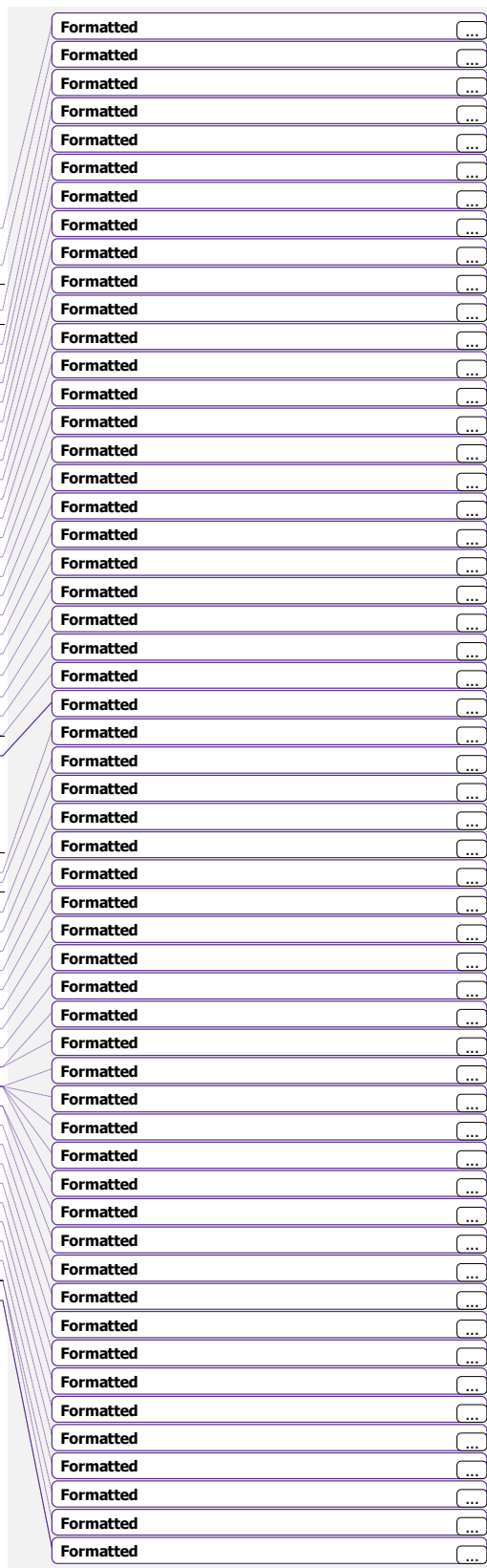
Latin name	Family	Origin (Village)	NDF	ADF	Hemicellulose	Cellulose	Lignin
<i>Catharanthus roseus</i>	Apocynaceae	Pulau Layang	47.79	39.67	8.12	16.96	22.71
<i>Cyperus digitatus</i>	Cyperaceae	Rambutan	58.90	36.93	21.97	5.24	31.68
<i>Digitaria fuscescens</i>	Poaceae	Rambutan	65.43	33.56	31.87	12.11	21.45
<i>Eichhornia crassipes</i>	Pontederiaceae	Pulau Layang	62.77	41.83	20.94	10.22	31.60
<i>Eleocharis dulcis</i> -P	Cyperaceae	Pulau Layang	69.57	49.83	19.74	21.80	28.04
<i>Eleocharis dulcis</i> -R	Cyperaceae	Rambutan	75.73	54.91	20.82	19.71	35.20
<i>Hymenachne acutigluma</i> -P	Poaceae	Pulau Layang	75.89	50.60	25.29	12.25	38.34
<i>Hymenachne acutigluma</i> -R	Poaceae	Rambutan	64.72	46.38	18.34	16.01	30.37
<i>Hymenachne amplexicaulis</i> -P	Poaceae	Pulau Layang	65.31	38.92	26.39	8.29	30.63
<i>Hymenachne amplexicaulis</i> -R	Poaceae	Rambutan	65.32	39.45	25.87	9.75	28.67
<i>Hymenachne</i> sp.	Poaceae	Pulau Layang	60.14	28.40	31.74	8.64	19.76
<i>Ipomoea aquatica</i>	Convolvulaceae	Pulau Layang	41.40	26.17	15.23	6.32	19.85
<i>Leersia hexandra</i>	Poaceae	Pulau Layang	79.47	42.33	37.14	25.88	33.92
<i>Ludwigia hyssopifolia</i>	Onagraceae	Pulau Layang	40.64	32.91	7.73	8.39	24.52
<i>Neptunia olerancia</i>	Fabaceae	Pulau Layang	62.31	45.44	16.87	27.08	18.36
<i>Nymphaea lotus</i>	Nymphaeaceae	Pulau Layang	46.05	23.66	22.39	8.82	14.84
<i>Oryza rufifogon</i> -P	Poaceae	Pulau Layang	71.13	60.33	10.80	17.23	43.09
<i>Oryza rufifogon</i> -R	Poaceae	Rambutan	65.49	46.19	19.30	14.96	31.24
<i>Polygonum barbatum</i>	Poaceae	Pulau Layang	61.27	48.46	12.81	20.28	28.18
<i>Rhynchospora corymbosa</i>	Cyperaceae	Pulau Layang	65.29	44.64	20.65	16.08	28.56

Note: P: Pulau Layang Village; R: Rambutan Village

**Fiber contents**

Fiber contents of lowland swamp green [vegetations/vegetation](#) ranged from 11.01 to 30.26%, with the lowest content found in Cecengkehan (*L. hyssopifolia*) and the highest in Kumpai tembaga (*H. acutigluma* <sup>P</sup>). Four

[vegetations/vegetation](#) including *Cecengkehan* (*L. hyssopifolia*), Tapak dara (*C. roseus*), Mutiara legume (*S. exasperata*), and Telepek gajah (*N. lotus*) were found to have the lowest fiber contents of 11.01, 11.18, 11.22, and 11.45%, respectively (Table 2). These results were almost



similar to those found by Ali et al. (2012) who reported that the fiber contents of roughage in a pasture ranged from 7.20 to 34.98%. These researchers found that the fiber content of Bento rayap (*Leersia hexandra*) was 27.40% which was very close to that (27.57%) of the same vegetation in this study. Meanwhile, Rostini et al. (2014) reported that the fiber contents of swamp vegetation in South Kalimantan ranged from 14.84 to 29.35% with the lowest content found in Hadangan (*Paspalum* sp.) and the highest in Dadangit (*L. adscendens*). These figures were lower than those found by Kleden et al. (2015) who revealed that nature grasses in a coffee plantation area and pasture in Wulanggitang, East Flores contained 34.57 and 35.59% of fiber. They also found that the lowest fiber content was found in *L. peplodes* and the highest in *I. rugosum*. Fiber contents reported by Kleden et al. (2015) were higher than the results reported by Ahmed et al. (2013) with a fiber content of 29.32% in *D. aegyptium* plants. A previous study showed that fermented *I. rugosum*, *H. amplexicaulis*, and *O. rufipogon* had fiber contents of 29.27, 29.57, and 33.07%, respectively (Muhakka et al. 2015).

The fiber content of Eceng gondok (*E. crassipes*) in this study (20.66%) was lower than those found by Hossain et al. (2015), Tham and Uder (2015), and Make et al. (2016). In addition, the fiber content of Eceng gondok (*E. crassipes*) in this study was lower than those of *Azolla*, another water plant, ranging from 13.19 to 16.54% (Kathirvelan et al. 2015; Anitha et al. 2016) and 9.25 to 13.25% (Ahmed et al. 2016). These fiber contents of *Azolla* equaled to those of Cecengkehan (*L. hyssopifolia*) (11.01%), Tapak dara (*C. roseus*) (11.18%), Mutiara legume (*S. exasperata*) (11.22%), Telepek gajah (*N. lotus*) 11.45%, and Kangkung merah (*I. aquatica*) (14.34%) found in this study. Fiber contents of swamp green vegetation found in this study indicated that they were potential to be used as feed for Pampangan buffaloes.

#### Ether extract contents

Lowland swamp [vegetationsvegetation](#) in this study were found to have ether extract (EE) contents of about 0.48-2.92%. The lowest EE content was found in Purun tikus (*E. dulcis*) while the highest was found in Kemon air legume (*N. oleracea*). Four [vegetationsvegetation](#) of lowland swamp including Telepek gajah (*N. lotus*) (2.84% EE), Kumpai minyak (*H. amplexicaulis*) (2.82% EE), Kumpai padi (*O. rufipogon*) (2.49% EE), and Kangkung merah (*I. aquatica* Forsk) (2.24% EE) were revealed to have the highest ether extract contents (Table 2). Results of this study were lower than those found by Rostini et al. (2014), reporting about 0.61-3.67% of EE contents in swamp [vegetationsvegetation](#) in South Kalimantan with the lowest found in Pipisangan (*L. hyssopifolia*) and the highest in Padi hiang (*O. rufipogon spontanea*). EE contents of lowland swamp [vegetationsvegetation](#) were 1.40-1.91% for grasses and 1.36-2.95% for legumes (Asep et al. 2012) and those of grasses in a pasture for buffaloes in Pulau Moe were 1.95-2.41% (Eoh 2014). In other studies, grasses in a natural pasture in North Lore, Poso District had EE contents of

2.12-2.34% (Damry 2009) and those in Sabana Timur Barat pasture in the rainy season to the end of dry season had an average EE content of 1.91% (Manu 2013). A study by Se'u et al. (2015) revealed an EE content of 1.07% in grasses in a pasture in Timor Tengah Selatan District. Another work by Kleden et al. (2015) showed that [vegetationsvegetation](#) in a natural pasture and a coffee plantation area had EE contents of 1.23 and 1.35%, respectively.

[VegetationsVegetation](#) found in this study had EE contents equaled to those of prime grasses including elephant grass (*P. purpureum*) and king grass (*P. purpureophoides*) preserved in the form of hay and silage. Elephant grass hay and silage had EE contents of 1.9 and 2.6%, respectively, while those of king grass had EE contents of 1.6 and 2.4%, respectively (Santoso and Hariadi 2008; Ukpabi et al. 2015). EE contents of some species of ruminant roughages were found to be about 1.2-4.1% (Ahmed et al. 2013). Dominant swamp roughages including Kumpai minyak (*H. amplexicaulis*) and Kumpai padi (*O. rufipogon*) had EE contents of 2.82 and 2.49%, respectively and they were palatable and potential to be used as feed for Pampangan buffaloes.

#### Ash contents

Ash contents of green [vegetationsvegetation](#) in lowland swamp ranged from 5.63 to 25.19%. Four types of [vegetationsvegetation](#) with the highest ash contents included Kasuran (*C. digitatus*) (25.19%), Mutiara legume (*S. exasperata*) (19.47%), Kumpai minyak (*H. amplexicaulis*) (16.26%), and Kumpai padi (*O. rufipogon*) (16.25%). Meanwhile, Bento rayap (*L. hexandra*) was found to have the lowest ash content of 5.63% (Table 2). Ash contents of [vegetationsvegetation](#) found in this study were higher than those of swamp [vegetationsvegetation](#) in South Kalimantan of 2.18-3.28% during the high tidal season and 3.23-9.83% during the low tidal season (Rostini et al. 2014). Elephant grass (*P. purpureum*) was indicated to have varied ash contents of 4.4% (Dahlan and Iskandar 2013), 0.95-1.1% (Ukpabi et al. 2015), 9.59% (Nuhuyanan 2010), and 18% (Araica et al. 2009). Meanwhile, the ash content of grasses in lowland areas ranged from 6.32 to 8.91% (Richmond et al. 2015; Mako et al. 2016; Norman et al. 2013; Maswada et al. 2013). Alam et al. (2015) found that *B. mutica* had an ash content of 4.20-4.89% and rice straw had 6.63%.

Roughages were found to have average ash contents of 7.28% in a pasture for buffaloes in Pulau Moe (Eoh 2014), 9.82-10.14% in Lore Utara, Poso District (Damry 2009), 11.51% in a pasture during the rainy season until the end of dry season in Sabana Timur Barat (Manu 2013), and 8.11 and 8.22% in a natural pasture and a coffee plantation area, respectively (Kleden et al. 2015). Differences in these ash contents were suspected to be caused by differences in plant species (internal factor) and environmental differences, particularly seasonal differences (external factor). In a dry season, pH levels in lowland swamp areas were found to be 3.9-4.8, causing a decreased supply of nutrients, especially total N and K, to the soil. This decreased supply of nutrients led to lowered nutrients

contained in plants (Rostini et al. 2014). This was in line with what was stated by Gutteridge and Shelton (1994) that nutrient content in plants was affected by soil nutrient content. In addition, in acidic soil conditions, activities of Fe, Al, and Mn increased which might cause toxicity in plants (Tjondronegoro and Gunawan 2000).

#### NDF and ADF contents

Neutral Detergent Fiber (NDF) depicts plant cell walls consisting of hemicellulose, cellulose, and lignin. NDF is part of fiber which is not dissolved in neutral detergent representing the component of fiber ~~undissolved-not dissolving~~ in plant cell wall materials. NDF content of a feed affects the ability of ~~ruminant-animalsruminants~~ to consume the feed. Acid Detergent Fiber (ADF) represents parts of the plant cell wall bond to cellulose and lignin. ADF content is related to energy content and higher ADF content results in lowered digestible energy content (Van Soest 1982).

The NDF and ADF contents of ~~vegetationsvegetation~~ found in this study were about 40.65-79.47% and 23.66-60.33%, respectively. Lowest NDF contents were found in Cecengkehan (*L. hyssopifolia*) (40.65%), Kangkung merah (*I. aquatica*) (41.40%), Telepek gajah (*N. lotus*) (46.05%), and Tapak dara (*C. roseus*) (47.79%). In contrast, highest NDF content of 79.47% was found in Bento rayap (*L. hexandra*). Lowest ADF contents were found in Telepek gajah (*N. lotus*) (46.05%), Kangkung merah (*I. aquatica*) (26.17%), Kumpai merah (*Hymenachne* sp.) (28.40%), Cecengkehan (*L. hyssopifolia*) (32.91%). Meanwhile, the highest ADF content of 60.33% was found in Kumpai padi (*O. rufipogon*<sup>b</sup>) (Table 3). NDF and ADF contents of ~~vegetationsvegetation~~ found in this study were lower than those of Asep et al. (2012) who reported that the NDF contents of swamp green ~~vegetationsvegetation~~ in a pasture for buffaloes were about 91.73-93.45% in grasses and 68.11-90.93% in legumes and the ADF content of grasses was 51.6-86.8%. It was shown in other studies that NDF and ADF contents of roughages in a pasture during the rainy season to the end of the dry season in Sabana Timur Barat were on average 65.9 and 43.29%, respectively (Manu 2013). ~~VegetationsVegetation~~ in a natural pasture and a coffee plantation area had NDF contents of 74.89 and 72.37% and ADF contents of 57.22 and 55.15%, respectively (Kleden et al. 2015). Meanwhile, swamp ~~vegetationsvegetation~~ in South Kalimantan had average NDF and ADF contents of 55.97 and 37.87%, respectively, during the high tidal season and 81.44 and 60.86% respectively, during the low tidal season (Rostini et al. 2014).

NDF and ADF contents of roughages in the BPTU-HPT Padang Mengatas area were found to be 75.62 and 45.96%, respectively in the rain season and 69.35 and 38.66%, respectively in the dry season (Muhajirin et al. 2017). NDF and ADF contents of Eceng gondok (*E. crassipes*) in this study were 62.77 and 41.83%, respectively. These figures were close to those of *water hyacinth* (*E. crassipes*) plants studied by Tham (2015) with NDF and ADF contents of 63.9 and 34.68% and by Tham and Uden (2015) with NDF and ADF contents of 52.1 and 30.7%, respectively. Other

studies conducted by Ahmed et al. (2016), Anitha et al. (2016), and Nampootheri (2017) showed that *Azolla* sp. had NDF and ADF contents of 53.8-54.85% and 36.57-37.0%, respectively. Meanwhile, NDF and ADF contents of *elephant grass* (*P. purpureum*) were found to be 55.8 and 46.5% (Dahlan and Iskandar 2013) and 84.25 and 64.07% (Nuhuyanan 2010), respectively. These figures equaled to the NDF and ADF contents of Kumpai tembaga (64.72 and 46.38%), Kumpai minyak (65.31 and 38.92%), and Are bolong (61.27 and 48.46%). This indicated that lowland swamp ~~vegetationsvegetation~~ had fiber fraction nutritional quality which was not less than that of prime grasses including *elephant grass* and *king grass*.

In this study, NDF and ADF contents of lowland swamp ~~vegetationsvegetation~~ were 40.65-79.47% and 23.66%-60.33%, respectively. These figures were still within the ranges of NDF and ADF contents of prime grasses such as *elephant grass* (*P. purpureum*), which had NDF and ADF contents of 55.8 and 46.5% (Dahlan and Iskandar 2013) and 84.25 and 64.07% (Nuhuyanan 2010), respectively. In the rumen, NDF degradation is higher than that of ADF as NDF contains hemicellulose fraction which is more soluble (Church and Pond 1986). NDF content has a negative correlation with its degradation rate (Varga et al. 1983) and higher NDF content decreases dry matter digestibility of feed (NRC 1988). Cellulose is an ADF component that is easy to digest while lignin is hard to digest as it contains double bonds. Higher lignin content decreases feed digestibility (Sutardi et al. 1980).

#### Hemicellulose and cellulose contents

Lowland swamp ~~vegetationsvegetation~~ were found to have hemicellulose and cellulose contents ranging from 7.73 to 37.14% and 5.24 to 27.08%, respectively. Four green ~~vegetationsvegetation~~ with the highest hemicellulose contents were Bento rayap (*L. hexandra*) (37.14%), Kerak maling (*D. fuscescens*) (31.87%), Kumpai merah (*Hymenachne* sp.) (31.74%), and Kumpai minyak (*H. amplexicaulis*) (26.39%). In contrast, the lowest hemicellulose content was found in Cecengkehan (*L. hyssopifolia*) (7.73%). Highest cellulose contents were found in Kemon air (*N. oleracea*) (27.08%), Bento rayap (*L. hexandra*) (25.88%), Purun tikus (*E. dulcis*) (21.80%), and Are bolong (*P. barbatum*) (20.28%). Meanwhile, Kasuran (*C. digitatus*) had the lowest cellulose content of 5.24% (Table 3). Results of this study were in line with those of a study conducted by Asep et al. (2012) who reported the hemicellulose and cellulose contents of lowland swamp green ~~vegetationsvegetation~~ ranging from 7.89 to 31.55% and 30.85 to 63.35%, respectively. They also found that Kumpai padi (*O. rufipogon*) had 31.55% hemicellulose content which was higher than those of Kumpai padi (10.80-19.30%) found in this study (Table 4). Swamp ~~vegetationsvegetation~~ in South Kalimantan had hemicellulose contents of 0.65-25.85% in high tidal season and 5.37-40.09% in low tidal season. Cellulose contents in high and low tidal seasons were about 20.07-34.03% and 7.90-38.31%, respectively (Rostini et al. 2014). Various water plants including *Azolla*, which was used as animal feed, had hemicellulose and cellulose contents of 10.20 and

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12.76% (Nampoothiri 2017), 1.15-10.20% and 12.76% (Nampoothiri 2017), respectively. Roughages in BPTU-HPT Padang Mengatas had hemicellulose and cellulose contents of 29.79 and 33.62% in the rain season and 30.69 and 31.64% in the dry season, respectively (Muhajirin et al. 2017). *Elephant* grass (*P. purpureum*) was found to contain 21.18% hemicellulose and 43.32% cellulose (Nuhuyanan 2010) and 35.3% cellulose (Dahlan and Iskandar 2013). In a study conducted by Archimede et al. (2010), hay was found to have 37.7% hemicellulose and 35.7% cellulose. Based on the above findings, it was suggested that hemicellulose (7.73-37.14%) and cellulose (5.24-27.08%) contents of lowland swamp ~~vegetations~~vegetation in this study were within normal ranges and ~~these—this~~ ~~vegetations~~vegetation were potential to be used as feed for Pampangan buffaloes.

#### Lignin contents

Lignin contents of lowland swamp vegetation ranged from 14.84 to 43.09%. Four ~~vegetations~~vegetation including Telepek gajah (*N. lotus*), Kemon air (*N. oleracea*), Kumpai merah (*Hymenachne* sp.), and Kangkung merah (*I. aquatica*) were found to have the lowest lignin contents of 14.84, 18.36, 19.76, and 19.85%, respectively, while the highest lignin content of 43.09% was found in Kumpai padi (*O. rufipogon*<sup>B</sup>) (Table 3). Lignin contents in this study were higher than that obtained by Rostini et al. (2014) who reported the lignin contents of swamp ~~vegetations~~vegetation in South Kalimantan were about 2.8-17.59% in high tidal season with that of Kumpai minyak as the lowest and that of *Beberasan* as the highest and 10.06-61.12% in low tidal season with that of *Beberasan* as the lowest and that of Kumpai minyak as the highest. Lignin contents of Kumpai padi (*O. rufipogon*<sup>B</sup>) (31.24%) and Kumpai padi (*O. rufipogon*<sup>B</sup>) (43.09%), Bento rayap (*L. hexandra*) (33.92%), and Eceng gondok (*E. crassipes*) (31.60%) (Table 3) found in this study were higher those of Kumpai padi (18.27%) and Bento rayap (*L. hexandra*) (17.96%) found by Asep et al. (2012) and Eceng gondok (*E. crassipes*) (8.17%) found by Tham (2015). In other studies, *Azolla* was found to have lignin contents of 5.7% (Ahmed et al. 2016) and 28.24% (Nampoothiri 2017). Meanwhile, lignin contents of *elephant* grass were found to be 15.37% (Nuhuyanan 2010) and 11.2% (Dahlan and Iskandar 2013).

Differences in lignin contents in green vegetation are suspected to be caused by differences in plant species, plant ages, and environmental factors including seasons (rain or dry season), tidal seasons, and fertility levels of the soil where the ~~vegetations~~vegetation grow. In cell walls, cellulose is a bond with hemicellulose and lignin. The animals cannot digest lignin and its molecular structure is different from other carbohydrates as it contains carbon and nitrogen of only 1-5%. Hemicellulose consists of pentose, hexose, uronic acid, and pectin substance. Pectin is a carbohydrate that is composed of uronic acid, galactose, arabinose, xylose, and methanol. Cellulose is degradable by microorganisms and functions as the source of volatile fatty acids. Young grasses (roughages) contain less than 5% lignin and 80% of their cellulose is degradable. On the

contrary, in old roughages, lignin content may reach up to 10% causing a decrease in cellulose digestibility by up to 50% (Prawirokusumo 1994).

Based on the results of the study, it was concluded that: (i) the highest protein (20.56%) and crude fat (2.92%) contents were found in Kemon air (*Neptunia oleracea*). The highest ash content (25.19%) was found in Kasuran (*C. digitatus*), while the lowest (11.01%) was found in Cecengehan (*L. hyssopifolia*). The lowest NDF content (40.64%) was found in Cecengehan (*L. hyssopifolia*) and the highest hemicellulose content (37.14%) was found in Bento rayap. Telepek gajah had the lowest ADF (23.66%) and lignin (14.84%) contents. Kemon air contained the highest cellulose level of 27.08%. (ii) The best nutritional values were found in Kasuran (*C. digitatus*) and Cecengehan (*L. hyssopifolia*). (iii) Dominant and palatable swamp roughages with good nutrient contents included Kumpai tembaga (*H. acutigluma*), Kumpai minyak (*H. amplexicaulis*), Kumpai padi (*O. rufipogon*), Are belong (*P. barbatum*), and Purun tikus (*E. dulcis*).

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**7. Bukti konfirmasi artikel accepted  
(8 Februari 2020)**



## [biodiv] Editor Decision

2020-02-08 07:27 AM

MUHAKKA, RUJITO AGUS SUWIGNYO, DEDIK BUDIANTA, YAKUP:

We have reached a decision regarding your submission to Biodiversitas Journal of Biological Diversity, "Nutritional values of swamp grasses as feed for Pampangan Buffaloes in South Sumatra, Indonesia".

Our decision is to: Accept Submission

Smujo Editors  
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# Nutritional values of swamp grasses as feed for Pampangan Buffaloes in South Sumatra, Indonesia

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**Abstract.** Muhakka, Suwignyo RA, Budianta D, Yakup. 2020. Nutritional values of swamp grasses as feed for Pampangan Buffaloes in South Sumatra, Indonesia. *Biodiversitas* 21: 953-961. This study was aimed at determining the types and quality of vegetation in the swamp area, which could be used as sources of roughage for Pampangan buffaloes in South Sumatra. In this descriptive study, Results showed that the highest crude protein and ether extract contents, 20.56 and 2.92%, respectively, were found in (*Neptunia oleracea*). The highest ash content of 25.19% was found in *Cyperus digitatus*. The lowest fiber content (11.01%) was found in *Ludwigia hyssopifolia*, which also had the lowest content of Neutral Detergent Fiber (NDF) (40.64%). Hemicellulose content was found to be highest (37.14%) in *Leersia hexandra*. The lowest ADF (23.66%) and lignin (14.84%) contents were found in *Nymphaea lotus*. *N. oleracea* was found to have the lowest content (27.08%) of cellulose. It was concluded that the swamp vegetation found in this study consisted of 17 species of grasses and herbs (89.47%) and two species of legumes (10.53%). *C. digitatus* and *L. hyssopifolia* were found to have the best nutritional values. Dominant and palatable vegetation with good nutritional values, which were potential to be used as sources of roughage for Pampangan buffaloes, were *Hymenachne acutigluma*, *Oryza rufipogon*, *Hymenachne amplexicaulis*, *Polygonum barbatum*, and *Eleocharis dulcis*.

**Keywords:** Feed, nutritional value, Pampangan buffalo, swamp grass

## INTRODUCTION

The availability of roughage as the main feed for ruminants depends considerably on seasons. During the rainy season, it is abundant, but during the dry season, the availability of grasses/herbs and legumes is lacking. The limited supply of roughage may hamper productivity including the reproductive performance of ruminants including buffaloes.

In South Sumatra, Pampangan buffalo is potential germplasm that needs to be preserved and developed. There were 37,405 Pampangan buffaloes in 2016, and this population increased by 3.97% to 38,952 in 2017. In 2017, of this population, 11,150 (28.63%) and 2,227 (5.72%) were found in Ogan Komering Ilir District and Banyuasin District, respectively (Dinas Peternakan Sumatera Selatan 2014). The population and productivity of Pampangan buffaloes need to be improved, and for this purpose, feed is an important factor to consider. Pampangan buffaloes feed mostly on roughage from the swamp, grassland to meet their upkeep and reproductive needs.

In Indonesia, there are 13.27 million hectares of lowland swamp areas. Only 4 million hectares of these areas have been developed and cultivated by the

community and private sectors (2.6 million hectares) and the government assistance (1.3 million hectares) (BPS 2010; Mulyani and Sarwani 2013). In Sumatra, the largest lowland swamp area of 2.98 million hectares is found in South Sumatra, but only 298,189 hectares of it have been utilized (BPS 2014). In order to utilize the potential swamp area as a feed source for Pampangan buffaloes, a study on vegetation as sources of roughage in lowland swamp areas that include vegetation identification and nutritional quality determination needs to be conducted.

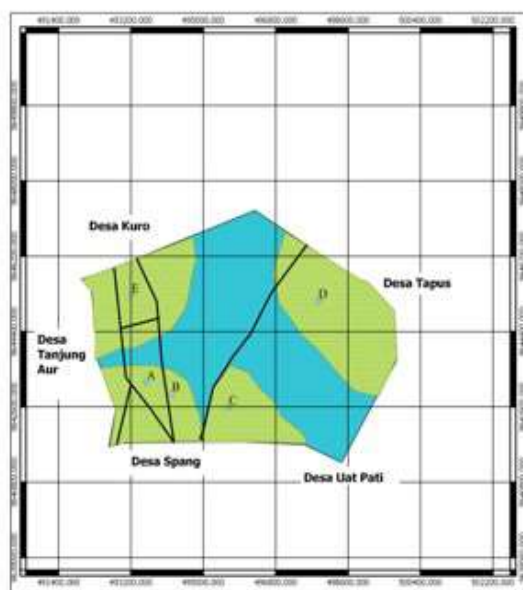
In the previous study, some swamp grasses, including *H. amplexicaulis* (Rostini et al. 2014; Muhakka et al. 2015), *I. rugosum* and *L. hexandra* (Ali et al. 2012) were identified. However, more swamp vegetation has not been identified. For example, *P. barbatum*, *C. digitatus*, *R. corymbosa*. This study was conducted to identify the types and nutritional values of vegetation that could be used as sources of roughage feed for Pampangan buffaloes in South Sumatra. This information was important to support the productivity improvement of Pampangan buffaloes as germplasm in South Sumatra, Indonesia. In this study, some new swamp forages were found, and they were not stated in the previous study.

## MATERIALS AND METHODS

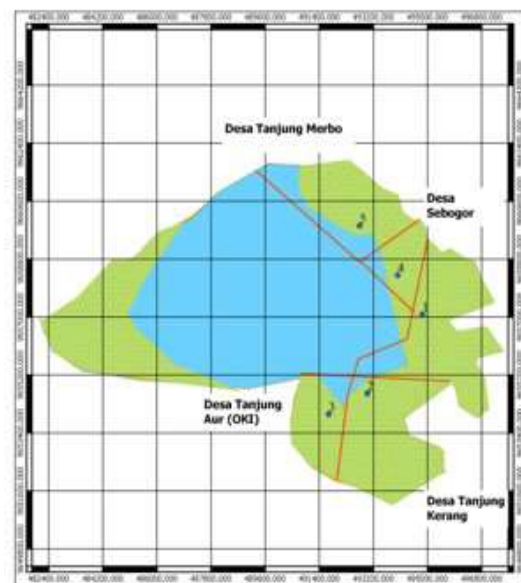
### Area study

This study was a descriptive study to assess the types and nutritional values of vegetation, which were dominant and palatable as sources of roughage feed for Pampangan buffaloes. Vegetation samples were taken from grazing areas of Pampangan buffaloes in Rambutan Village and Pulau Layang Village, South Sumatra, Indonesia (Figure 1) from April to Juni 2017. Vegetation samples for nutrient analysis were obtained by following procedures: (i) vegetation collection was done based on estimated growth age (young age, middle age, and old age based on physical appearance), (ii) collected samples of each vegetation was composited, and (iii) samples were chopped into small sizes, and then homogenized.

For each vegetation, 1 kg sample was taken randomly and sent to the laboratory for oven drying at 105°C, until a constant weight was obtained and dry matter content was determined. Samples were then ground for nutrient content determination by using proximate and Van Soest analyses (Syarifuddin and Wahdi 2010). Sample analyses of crude protein, fiber, ether extract, and ash contents were conducted in Laboratory of Dairy Nutrition, Department of Nutrition and Feed Technology, Institut Pertanian Bogor (IPB), Bogor, Indonesia, while analyses of NDF, ADF, hemicellulose, cellulose, and lignin were conducted in Biotechnology Assessment Laboratory, Research Center for Biotechnology, Indonesian Institute of Sciences (LIPI), Cibinong, Bogor, Indonesia; and analysis of soil was conducted in Laboratory of Soil Chemistry, Biology, and Fertility, Department of Soil, Faculty of Agriculture, Sriwijaya University, Ogan Ilir, Indonesia.



A



B

**Figure 1.** Research location in South Sumatra, Indonesia. A. Pulau Layang Village, Pampangan Sub-district, Ogan Komering Ilir District, South Sumatra. B. Rambutan Village, Rambutan Sub-district, Banyuasin District, South Sumatra, Indonesia (Muhakka et al. 2019)

## Measured parameters

### Soil analysis

Soil sampling is done in a composite manner at a depth of 0-20 cm. Taking the soil sample points is done by making a diagonal line in each zone and determining 5 soil sampling points to analyze chemical fertility (N, P, K) and physical fertility (texture, structure, and pH).

### Plant materials

The sampling area is divided into five zones (A, B, C, D and E) and each zone consists of 10 observation points. Samples of each type of dominant and palatable forage vegetation are collected based on the estimated age of growth, namely young age, middle age, and old age by looking at their physical appearance. Samples of each type of vegetation that have been collected, are put together until homogeneous. Samples are finely chopped, mixed until homogeneous then randomly taken as much as 1 kg.

There are some species that are analyzed twice, in Pulau Layang and Rambutan because they appear in both areas, while the others are only analyzed once because they only appear in one area. For *Sesbania exasperata*, it is enough to know only its nutrient content from analysis of proximate, and the production of this grass is measly so that its potential to be buffalo's feed is measly as well, but it can be made as feed supplement. So, it is not analyzed for composition of fiber fractions (Table 3).

### Proximate analysis

Crude protein, fiber, ether extract, and ash contents were determined based on the procedures of AOAC (1990). *Crude protein.* Nitrogen (N) content was determined by using a Kjeldahl method. In this analysis, sulphuric acid was treated with a catalyst and a heating process. The organic matter of samples was then oxidized by sulfuric acid, and nitrogen was changed into an ammonium sulfate form. The remaining sulfuric acid was neutralized by NaOH until the solution became basic. Ammonium sulfate was then distilled in an acid medium to obtain the quantitative amount of N. As the average protein contains 16% nitrogen, a factor 100%: 16% = 6.25 was used to obtain the value of crude protein (crude protein = N% x 6.25). *Fiber.* The filtered fat-free sample was used in fiber content determination. 1.25% sulfuric acid solution was added into the sample, and the mixture was heated for about 30 minutes before the residue was filtered. 1.25% NaOH solution was added into the precipitate, and the mixture was heated for about 30 minutes. The mixture was then filtered, and the precipitate was washed, dried, and weighed. This precipitate was burnt, and the ash was weighed. The difference between the weight of precipitate before it was burnt and the weight of the ash was referred to as fiber content. *Ether extract.* The dry matter sample was extracted with diethyl ether for 5 hours. At the end of the extraction process, ether evaporated and the remaining material was referred to as fat. *Ash.* The third part of the dry matter sample was weighed and burnt in a crucible at 550°C for 8 hours.

### Van Soest analysis

Neutral Detergent Fiber (NDF), Acid Detergent Fiber (ADF), hemicellulose, cellulose, and lignin contents were determined by using a Van Soest method (1982).

*Neutral Detergent Fiber (NDF).* One gram of sample was put in a beaker glass. 50 ml NDS solution was added into the beaker before the mixture was heated for an hour. The mixture was then filtered by using a vacuum pump and a filter glass which was previously weighed (b gram). The mixture was then washed with hot water and acetone before it was dried in an oven and let cool in a desiccator. Finally, it was weighed as c gram. NDF content was calculated by using the following formula:

$$\% \text{ NDF} = \frac{c-b}{a} \times 100\%$$

*Acid Detergent Fiber (ADF).* One gram of sample was put in a beaker glass. 50 ml ADS solution was added into the beaker before the mixture was heated for an hour. The mixture was then filtered by using a vacuum pump and a sintered glass filter which was previously weighed (b gram). The mixture was then washed with hot water and acetone before it was dried in an oven and let cool in a desiccator. Finally, it was weighed as c gram. Cellulose content was calculated by using the following formula:

$$\% \text{ cellulose} = \frac{c-d}{a} \times 100\%$$

*Hemicellulose.* Hemicellulose content was calculated as a difference between NDF and ADF contents as follows.

$$\% \text{ Hemicellulose} = \% \text{ NDF} - \% \text{ ADF}$$

*Lignin.* Cellulose residue (d gram) was burnt in a furnace at 500-600°C for 3 hours. After that, it was left to cool and weighed (e gram). Lignin content was calculated by using the following formula:

$$\% \text{ Lignin} = \frac{d-e}{a} \times 100\%$$

### Data analysis

The data obtained were used directly to describe the nutritional value of the swamp vegetation that could be used as a roughage source. These data were then combined with those of in vitro digestibility as the basis for concluding (Syarifuddin and Wahdi 2010).

## RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

### Soil analysis

Results of soil analysis showed that soil at the study site had a low fertility level and was highly acidic. It also had very high organic C and total N contents, medium level of exchangeable-K and N contents, very low Ca and Mg contents, medium P content, and very high CEC level (Table 1).

**Table 1.** Properties of soil at the study site

Parameter	Pulau Layang		Rambutan	
	Value	Remark	Value	Remark
pH H <sub>2</sub> O (1 : 1)	5.10	Low	4.41	Very low
pH KCl (1 : 1)	4.39	Very acidic	3.99	Very acidic
Organic C (g/kg)	57.66	Very high	36.14	Very high
Total N (g/kg)	3.64	Very high	2.19	Very high
Available P/Bray I (mg/kg)	11.70	Medium	2.25	Very low
Exchangeable K (cmol/kg)	0.63	Medium	0.45	Medium
Na (cmol/kg)	0.65	Medium	0.65	Medium
Ca (cmol/kg)	1.95	Very low	0.73	Very low
Mg (cmol/kg)	0.45	Very low	0.32	Very low
CEC (cmol/kg)	65.25	Very high	43.50	Very high
Exchangeable Al (cmol/kg)	1.84		2.37	
Exchangeable H (cmol/kg)	0.74		0.88	
Texture:				
Sand (%)	47.08		46.64	
Ash (%)	31.11		27.18	
Clay (%)	21.81		26.18	

### Nutrient contents of lowland swamp

Crude protein, fiber, ether extract, and ash nutrient contents of lowland swamp vegetation found in this study are listed in (Table 2). The NDF and ADF contents of vegetation found in this study were about 40.65-79.47% and 23.66-60.33%, respectively. Lowland swamp vegetation was found to have hemicellulose and cellulose contents ranging from 7.73 to 37.14% and 5.24 to 27.08%, respectively. Lignin contents of lowland swamp vegetation ranged from 14.84 to 43.09% (Table 3).

There are 19 species of forage found in Pampangan buffalo pasture that have potential to be used as food for Pampangan buffalo, consisting of 17 species of grasses and herbs and 2 species of legumes (Muhakka et al. 2019). There are dominant and palatable species of swamp lowland forage vegetation having potential as buffalo feed, namely *O. rupifogon*, *H. acutigluma*, and *H. amplexicaulis*, not dominant but palatable species such as *Hymenachne* sp. and *N. oleracea*; dominant but non-palatable grass species (buffalo does not like it) namely *P. barbatum*. This grass species would be eaten by the buffaloes if there were no other species to be eaten (Muhakka et al. 2019).

### Discussion

#### Crude protein content

Results showed that the crude protein contents of swamp green vegetation ranged from 5.26% to 20.56% with the lowest value (5.26%) was found in *R. corymbosa* grass and the highest (20.56%) was found in *N. oleracea* legume. *C. digitatus* grass had the highest crude protein content (15.31%) (Table 2). This high nutritional value of *C. digitatus* was suspected as caused by the fact that most of this grass was found to grow in the area of buffalo pens where the soil was rich in organic matter. However, the growth of this grass was not dominant as it mostly occurred in rainy seasons.

*Hymenachne amplexicaulis*, *O. rupifogon*, *H. acutigluma*, and *E. dulcis* were found as the dominant palatable grasses containing 12.00, 10.41, 10.96, and 8.22% crude protein, respectively. Results of this study were not too different from those obtained by Rostini et al. (2014), who reported that *H. amplexicaulis* and *L. hyssopifolia* had protein contents of 10.88 and 15.92%, respectively. Crude protein (CP) contents of these swamp grasses in Pulau Layang and Rambutan Villages were closed to those of prime grasses including 9.11-12.8% CP of *P. purpureum* (Santos et al. 2013; Dahlan and Iskandar 2013; Rahman et al. 2014), 12.4% CP of *P. purpureum* grass hay, 11.1% CP of *P. purpureum* grass silage, 11.4% CP of *P. purpureophoides* grass hay, and 10.2% CP of *P. purpureophoides* grass silage (Santos and Hariadi 2008). Other vegetation even had higher CP contents including *H. acutigluma* with 10.96% CP, *C. roseus* 15.20%, *N. lotus* 13.22%, *L. hyssopifolia* 12.07%, *C. digitatus* 15.31%, and *H. amplexicaulis* <sup>R</sup> 12.0% (Table 2). CP contents of vegetation in this study were also higher than those of natural grasses found in coffee plantation areas (6.95%) and pastoral areas (6.65%) in Wulanggintang Subdistrict, East Flores District, East Nusa Tenggara Province, Indonesia as reported by Kleden et al. (2015). Meanwhile, CP content of grasses in lowlands was 8.41% (Maswada and Elzaawely 2013; Rochana et al. 2016).

This high protein content was suspected to be caused by the fact that soil organic C and total N contents in the study site were also high, namely 36.14-57.66 and 2.19-3.64 g.kg<sup>-1</sup>, respectively (Table 1). Soil organic C and total N contents affected protein content in plants. Four swamp grasses/herbs including *C. digitatus*, *C. roseus*, *N. lotus*, and *L. hyssopifolia* and a legume, *N. oleracea* were found to be the lowland swamp vegetation having the highest N contents of 15.31, 15.20, 13.22, 12.07, and 20.56%, respectively.



**Table 2.** Crude protein, fiber, ether extract, and ash contents (%) of lowland swamp vegetation

Latin name	Family	Origin (village)	Local name	Crude protein	Fiber	Ether extract	Ash
<i>Catharanthus roseus</i>	Apocynaceae	Pulau Layang	Tapak dara	15.20	11.18	1.29	12.53
<i>Cyperus digitatus</i>	Cyperaceae	Rambutan	Kasuran	15.31	14.76	1.42	25.19
<i>Digitaria fuscescens</i>	Poaceae	Rambutan	Kerak maling/pasiran	12.00	15.64	1.24	16.26
<i>Eichhornia crassipes</i>	Pontederiaceae	Pulau Layang	Eceng gondok	8.61	20.66	0.84	14.22
<i>Eleocharis dulcis</i> -P	Cyperaceae	Pulau Layang	Purun tikus	8.22	25.72	0.48	15.13
<i>Eleocharis dulcis</i> -R	Cyperaceae	Rambutan	Purun tikus	6.63	24.52	1.69	10.24
<i>Hymenachne acutigluma</i> -P	Poaceae	Rambutan	Kumpai tembaga	10.96	23.73	1.77	10.30
<i>Hymenachne acutigluma</i> -R	Poaceae	Pulau Layang	Kumpai tembaga	6.86	30.26	2.22	7.88
<i>Hymenachne amplexicaulis</i> -P	Poaceae	Pulau Layang	Kumpai minyak	9.21	21.91	2.82	13.96
<i>Hymenachne amplexicaulis</i> -R	Poaceae	Rambutan	Kumpai minyak	12.00	15.64	1.24	16.26
<i>Hymenachne</i> sp.	Poaceae	Pulau Layang	Kumpai merah	8.52	21.20	1.30	12.88
<i>Ipomoea aquatica</i>	Convolvulaceae	Pulau Layang	Kangkung merah	8.95	14.34	2.24	10.39
<i>Leersia hexandra</i>	Poaceae	Pulau Layang	Bento rayap	5.35	27.57	2.06	5.63
<i>Ludwigia hyssopifolia</i>	Onagraceae	Pulau Layang	Cecengkehan	12.07	11.01	1.66	9.09
<i>Neptunia olerancia</i>	Fabaceae	Pulau Layang	Kemon air	20.56	15.03	2.92	7.31
<i>Nymphaea lotus</i>	Nymphaeaceae	Pulau Layang	Telepuk gajah	13.22	11.45	2.84	10.30
<i>Oryza rupifogon</i> -P	Poaceae	Pulau Layang	Kumpai padi	7.93	23.30	1.60	16.25
<i>Oryza rupifogon</i> -R	Poaceae	Rambutan	Kumpai padi	10.41	21.59	2.49	11.92
<i>Polygonum barbatum</i>	Poaceae	Pulau Layang	Are bolong	7.53	16.60	1.57	8.40
<i>Rhynchospora corymbosa</i>	Cyperaceae	Pulau Layang	Berondong	5.26	22.27	1.48	14.84
<i>Sesbania exasperata</i>	Fabaceae	Rambutan	Mutiara	18.27	11.22	1.86	19.47

Note: P: Pulau Layang Village; R: Rambutan Village

**Table 3.** Composition of fiber fractions of green vegetation in lowland swamp: NDF, ADF, hemicellulose, cellulose, and lignin (%).

Latin name	Family	Origin (village)	NDF	ADF	Hemi-cellulose	Cellulose	Lignin
<i>Catharanthus roseus</i>	Apocynaceae	Pulau Layang	47.79	39.67	8.12	16.96	22.71
<i>Cyperus digitatus</i>	Cyperaceae	Rambutan	58.90	36.93	21.97	5.24	31.68
<i>Digitaria fuscescens</i>	Poaceae	Rambutan	65.43	33.56	31.87	12.11	21.45
<i>Eichhornia crassipes</i>	Pontederiaceae	Pulau Layang	62.77	41.83	20.94	10.22	31.60
<i>Eleocharis dulcis</i> -P	Cyperaceae	Pulau Layang	69.57	49.83	19.74	21.80	28.04
<i>Eleocharis dulcis</i> -R	Cyperaceae	Rambutan	75.73	54.91	20.82	19.71	35.20
<i>Hymenachne acutigluma</i> -P	Poaceae	Pulau Layang	75.89	50.60	25.29	12.25	38.34
<i>Hymenachne acutigluma</i> -R	Poaceae	Rambutan	64.72	46.38	18.34	16.01	30.37
<i>Hymenachne amplexicaulis</i> -P	Poaceae	Pulau Layang	65.31	38.92	26.39	8.29	30.63
<i>Hymenachne amplexicaulis</i> -R	Poaceae	Rambutan	65.32	39.45	25.87	9.75	28.67
<i>Hymenachne</i> sp.	Poaceae	Pulau Layang	60.14	28.40	31.74	8.64	19.76
<i>Ipomoea aquatica</i>	Convolvulaceae	Pulau Layang	41.40	26.17	15.23	6.32	19.85
<i>Leersia hexandra</i>	Poaceae	Pulau Layang	79.47	42.33	37.14	25.88	33.92
<i>Ludwigia hyssopifolia</i>	Onagraceae	Pulau Layang	40.64	32.91	7.73	8.39	24.52
<i>Neptunia olerancia</i>	Fabaceae	Pulau Layang	62.31	45.44	16.87	27.08	18.36
<i>Nymphaea lotus</i>	Nymphaeaceae	Pulau Layang	46.05	23.66	22.39	8.82	14.84
<i>Oryza rupifogon</i> -P	Poaceae	Pulau Layang	71.13	60.33	10.80	17.23	43.09
<i>Oryza rupifogon</i> -R	Poaceae	Rambutan	65.49	46.19	19.30	14.96	31.24
<i>Polygonum barbatum</i>	Poaceae	Pulau Layang	61.27	48.46	12.81	20.28	28.18
<i>Rhynchospora corymbosa</i>	Cyperaceae	Pulau Layang	65.29	44.64	20.65	16.08	28.56

Note: P: Pulau Layang Village; R: Rambutan Village

**Fiber contents**

Fiber contents of lowland swamp green vegetation ranged from 11.01 to 30.26%, with the lowest content found in *L. hyssopifolia* and the highest in *H. acutigluma*<sup>P</sup>. Four vegetation including *L. hyssopifolia*, *C. roseus*, *S. exasperata*, and *N. lotus* were found to have the lowest fiber contents of 11.01, 11.18, 11.22, and 11.45%, respectively (Table 2). These results were almost similar to those found by Ali et al. (2012) who reported that the fiber

contents of roughage in a pasture ranged from 7.20 to 34.98%. These researchers found that the fiber content of *Leersia hexandra* was 27.40% which was very close to that (27.57%) of the same vegetation in this study. Meanwhile, Rostini et al. (2014) reported that the fiber contents of swamp vegetation in South Kalimantan ranged from 14.84 to 29.35% with the lowest content found in *Paspalum* sp. and the highest in *L. adscendens*. These figures were lower than those found by Kleden et al. (2015) who revealed that

nature grasses in a coffee plantation area and pasture in Wulanggintang, East Flores contained 34.57 and 35.59% of fiber. They also found that the lowest fiber content was found in *L. peploides* and the highest in *I. rugosum*. Fiber contents reported by Kleden et al. (2015) were higher than the results reported by Ahmed et al. (2013) with a fiber content of 29.32% in *D. aegyptium* plants. A previous study showed that fermented *I. rugosum*, *H. amplexicaulis*, and *O. rufipogon* had fiber contents of 29.27, 29.57, and 33.07%, respectively (Muhakka et al. 2015).

The fiber content of *E. crassipes* in this study (20.66%) was lower than those found by Hossain et al. (2015), Tham and Uder (2015), and Make et al. (2016). In addition, the fiber content of *E. crassipes* in this study was lower than those of *Azolla*, another water plant, ranging from 13.19 to 16.54% (Kathirvelan et al. 2015; Anitha et al. 2016) and 9.25 to 13.25% (Ahmed et al. 2016). These fiber contents of *Azolla* equaled to those of *L. hyssopifolia* (11.01%), *C. roseus* (11.18%), *S. exasperata* (11.22%), *N. lotus* 11.45%, and *I. aquatica* (14.34%) found in this study. Fiber contents of swamp green vegetation found in this study indicated that they were potential to be used as feed for Pampangan buffaloes.

#### Ether extract contents

Lowland swamp vegetation in this study was found to have ether extract (EE) contents of about 0.48-2.92%. The lowest EE content was found in *E. dulcis*, while the highest was found in *N. oleracea*. Four vegetation of lowland swamp including *N. lotus* (2.84% EE), *H. amplexicaulis* (2.82% EE), *O. rufipogon* (2.49% EE), and *I. aquatica* (2.24% EE) were revealed to have the highest ether extract contents (Table 2). Results of this study were lower than those found by Rostini et al. (2014), reporting about 0.61-3.67% of EE contents in swamp vegetation in South Kalimantan with the lowest found in *L. hyssopifolia* and the highest in *O. rufipogon*. EE contents of lowland swamp vegetation were 1.40-1.91% for grasses and 1.36-2.95% for legumes (Asep et al. 2012) and those of grasses in a pasture for buffaloes in Pulau Moa were 1.95-2.41% (Eoh 2014). In other studies, grasses in a natural pasture in North Lore, Poso District had EE contents of 2.12-2.34% (Damry 2009) and those in Sabana Timur Barat pasture in the rainy season to the end of dry season had an average EE content of 1.91% (Manu 2013). A study by Se'u et al. (2015) revealed an EE content of 1.07% in grasses in a pasture in Timor Tengah Selatan District, Indonesia. Another work by Kleden et al. (2015) showed that vegetation in a natural pasture and a coffee plantation area had EE contents of 1.23 and 1.35%, respectively.

Vegetation found in this study had EE contents equaled to those of prime grasses including *P. purpureum* grass and *P. purpureophoides* grass preserved in the form of hay and silage. *P. purpureum* grass hay and silage had EE contents of 1.9 and 2.6%, respectively, while those of *P. purpureophoides* grass had EE contents of 1.6 and 2.4%, respectively (Santoso and Hariadi 2008; Ukpabi et al. 2015). EE contents of some species of ruminant roughages were found to be about 1.2-4.1% (Ahmed et al. 2013). Dominant swamp roughages including *H. amplexicaulis*

and *O. rufipogon* had EE contents of 2.82 and 2.49%, respectively and they were palatable and potential to be used as feed for Pampangan buffaloes.

#### Ash contents

Ash contents of green vegetation in lowland swamp ranged from 5.63 to 25.19%. Four types of vegetation with the highest ash contents included *C. digitatus* (25.19%), *S. exasperata* (19.47%), *H. amplexicaulis* (16.26%), and *O. rufipogon* (16.25%). Meanwhile, *L. hexandra* was found to have the lowest ash content of 5.63% (Table 2). Ash contents of vegetation found in this study were higher than those of swamp vegetation in South Kalimantan of 2.18-3.28% during the high tidal season and 3.23-9.83% during the low tidal season (Rostini et al. 2014). *P. purpureum* grass was indicated to have varied ash contents of 4.4% (Dahlan and Iskandar 2013), 0.95-1.1% (Ukpabi et al. 2015), 9.59% (Nuhuyan 2010), and 18% (Araica et al. 2009). Meanwhile, the ash content of grasses in lowland areas ranged from 6.32 to 8.91% (Richmond et al. 2015; Mako et al. 2016; Norman et al. 2013; Maswada et al. 2013). Alam et al. (2015) found that *B. mutica* had an ash content of 4.20-4.89% and rice straw had 6.63%.

Roughages were found to have average ash contents of 7.28% in a pasture for buffaloes in Pulau Moa (Eoh 2014), 9.82-10.14% in Lore Utara, Poso District (Damry 2009), 11.51% in a pasture during the rainy season until the end of dry season in Sabana Timur Barat (Manu 2013), and 8.11 and 8.22% in a natural pasture and a coffee plantation area, respectively (Kleden et al. 2015). Differences in these ash contents were suspected to be caused by differences in plant species (internal factor) and environmental differences, particularly seasonal differences (external factor). In a dry season, pH levels in lowland swamp areas were found to be 3.9-4.8, causing a decreased supply of nutrients, especially total N and K, to the soil. This decreased supply of nutrients led to lowered nutrients contained in plants (Rostini et al. 2014). This was in line with what was stated by Gutteridge and Shelton (1994) that nutrient content in plants was affected by soil nutrient content. In addition, in acidic soil conditions, activities of Fe, Al, and Mn increased which might cause toxicity in plants (Tjondronegoro and Gunawan 2000).

#### NDF and ADF contents

Neutral Detergent Fiber (NDF) depicts plant cell walls consisting of hemicellulose, cellulose, and lignin. NDF is part of fiber that is not dissolved in neutral detergent representing the component of fiber not dissolving in plant cell wall materials. NDF content of a feed affects the ability of ruminants to consume the feed. Acid Detergent Fiber (ADF) represents parts of the plant cell wall bond to cellulose and lignin. ADF content is related to energy content and higher ADF content results in lowered digestible energy content (Van Soest 1982).

The NDF and ADF contents of vegetation found in this study were about 40.65-79.47% and 23.66-60.33%, respectively. Lowest NDF contents were found in *L. hyssopifolia* (40.65%), *I. aquatica* (41.40%), *N. lotus* (46.05%), and *C. roseus* (47.79%). In contrast, highest

NDF content of 79.47% was found in *L. hexandra*. Lowest ADF contents were found in *N. lotus* (46.05%), *I. aquatica* (26.17%), *Hymenachne* sp. (28.40%), *L. hyssopifolia* (32.91%). Meanwhile, the highest ADF content of 60.33% was found in (*O. rufipogon*<sup>P</sup> (Table 3). NDF and ADF contents of vegetation found in this study were lower than those of Asep et al. (2012) who reported that the NDF contents of swamp green vegetation in a pasture for buffaloes were about 91.73-93.45% in grasses and 68.11-90.93% in legumes and the ADF content of grasses was 51.6-86.8%. It was shown in other studies that NDF and ADF contents of roughages in a pasture during the rainy season to the end of the dry season in Sabana Timur Barat were on average 65.9 and 43.29%, respectively (Manu 2013). Vegetation in a natural pasture and a coffee plantation area had NDF contents of 74.89 and 72.37% and ADF contents of 57.22 and 55.15%, respectively (Kleden et al. 2015). Meanwhile, swamp vegetation in South Kalimantan had average NDF and ADF contents of 55.97 and 37.87%, respectively, during the high tidal season and 81.44 and 60.86% respectively, during the low tidal season (Rostini et al. 2014).

NDF and ADF contents of roughages in the BPTU-HPT Padang Mengatas area were found to be 75.62 and 45.96%, respectively in the rain season and 69.35 and 38.66%, respectively in the dry season (Muhajirin et al. 2017). NDF and ADF contents of *E. crassipes* in this study were 62.77 and 41.83%, respectively. These figures were close to those of *E. crassipes* plants studied by Tham (2015) with NDF and ADF contents of 63.9 and 34.68% and by Tham and Uden (2015) with NDF and ADF contents of 52.1 and 30.7%, respectively. Other studies conducted by Ahmed et al. (2016), Anitha et al. (2016), and Nampoothiri (2017) showed that *Azolla* sp. had NDF and ADF contents of 53.8-54.85% and 36.57-37.0%, respectively. Meanwhile, NDF and ADF contents of *P. purpureum* were found to be 55.8 and 46.5% (Dahlan and Iskandar 2013) and 84.25 and 64.07% (Nuhayanan 2010), respectively. These figures equaled to the NDF and ADF contents of *H. acutigluma* (64.72 and 46.38%), *H. amplexicaulis* (65.31 and 38.92%), and *P. barbatum* (61.27 and 48.46%). This indicated that lowland swamp vegetation had fiber fraction nutritional quality which was not less than that of prime grasses including *P. purpureum* and *P. purpureophoides*.

In this study, NDF and ADF contents of lowland swamp vegetation were 40.65-79.47% and 23.66%-60.33%, respectively. These figures were still within the ranges of NDF and ADF contents of prime grasses such as *P. purpureum* which had NDF and ADF contents of 55.8 and 46.5% (Dahlan and Iskandar 2013) and 84.25 and 64.07% (Nuhayanan 2010), respectively. In the rumen, NDF degradation is higher than that of ADF as NDF contains hemicellulose fraction which is more soluble (Church and Pond 1986). NDF content has a negative correlation with its degradation rate (Varga et al. 1983) and higher NDF content decreases dry matter digestibility of feed (NRC 1988). Cellulose is an ADF component that is easy to digest while lignin is hard to digest as it contains double bonds. Higher lignin content decreases feed digestibility (Sutardi et al. 1980).

#### Hemicellulose and cellulose contents

Lowland swamp vegetation was found to have hemicellulose and cellulose contents ranging from 7.73 to 37.14% and 5.24 to 27.08%, respectively. Four green vegetation with the highest hemicellulose contents were *L. hexandra* (37.14%), *D. fuscescens* (31.87%), *Hymenachne* sp. (31.74%), and *H. amplexicaulis* (26.39%). In contrast, the lowest hemicellulose content was found in *L. hyssopifolia* (7.73%). Highest cellulose contents were found in (*N. oleracea* (27.08%), *L. hexandra* (25.88%), *E. dulcis* (21.80%), and *P. barbatum* (20.28%). Meanwhile, *C. digitatus* had the lowest cellulose content of 5.24% (Table 3). Results of this study were in line with those of a study conducted by Asep et al. (2012) who reported the hemicellulose and cellulose contents of lowland swamp green vegetation ranging from 7.89 to 31.55% and 30.85 to 63.35%, respectively. They also found that *O. rufipogon* had 31.55% hemicellulose content which was higher than those of 10.80-19.30% in this study (Table 4). Swamp vegetation in South Kalimantan had hemicellulose contents of 0.65-25.85% in high tidal season and 5.37-40.09% in low tidal season. Cellulose contents in high and low tidal seasons were about 20.07-34.03% and 7.90-38.31%, respectively (Rostini et al. 2014). Various water plants including *Azolla*, which was used as animal feed, had hemicellulose and cellulose contents of 10.20 and 12.76% (Nampoothiri 2017), 1.15-10.20% and 12.76% (Nampoothiri 2017), respectively. Roughages in BPTU-HPT Padang Mengatas, Indonesia had hemicellulose and cellulose contents of 29.79 and 33.62% in the rain season and 30.69 and 31.64% in the dry season, respectively (Muhajirin et al. 2017). *P. purpureum* was found to contain 21.18% hemicellulose and 43.32% cellulose (Nuhayanan 2010) and 35.3% cellulose (Dahlan and Iskandar 2013). In a study conducted by Archimede et al. (2010), hay was found to have 37.7% hemicellulose and 35.7% cellulose. Based on the above findings, it was suggested that hemicellulose (7.73-37.14%) and cellulose (5.24-27.08%) contents of lowland swamp vegetation in this study were within normal ranges and this vegetation was potential to be used as feed for Pampangan buffaloes.

#### Lignin contents

Lignin contents of lowland swamp vegetation ranged from 14.84 to 43.09%. Four vegetation including *N. lotus*, *N. oleracea*, *Hymenachne* sp., and *I. aquatica* were found to have the lowest lignin contents of 14.84, 18.36, 19.76, and 19.85%, respectively, while the highest lignin content of 43.09% was found in *O. rufipogon*<sup>P</sup> (Table 3). Lignin contents in this study were higher than that obtained by Rostini et al. (2014) who reported the lignin contents of swamp vegetation in South Kalimantan were about 2.8-17.59% in high tidal season with that of *H. amplexicaulis* as the lowest and that of *O. rufipogon* as the highest and 10.06-61.12% in low tidal season with that of *O. rufipogon* as the lowest and that of *H. amplexicaulis* as the highest. Lignin contents of *O. rufipogon*<sup>R</sup> (31.24%) and *O. rufipogon*<sup>P</sup> (43.09%), *L. hexandra* (33.92%), and *E. crassipes* (31.60%) (Table 3) found in this study were higher those of (18.27%) and *L. hexandra* (17.96%) found

by Asep et al. (2012) and *E. crassipes* (8.17%) found by Tham (2015). In other studies, *Azolla* was found to have lignin contents of 5.7% (Ahmed et al. 2016) and 28.24% (Nampoothiri 2017). Meanwhile, lignin contents of *P. purpureum* grass were found to be 15.37% (Nuhuyanan 2010) and 11.2% (Dahlan and Iskandar 2013).

Differences in lignin contents in green vegetation are suspected to be caused by differences in plant species, plant ages, and environmental factors including seasons (rain or dry season), tidal seasons, and fertility levels of the soil where the vegetation grow. In cell walls, cellulose is a bond with hemicellulose and lignin. The animals cannot digest lignin and its molecular structure is different from other carbohydrates as it contains carbon and nitrogen of only 1-5%. Hemicellulose consists of pentose, hexose, uronic acid, and pectin substance. Pectin is a carbohydrate that is composed of uronic acid, galactose, arabinose, xylose, and methanol. Cellulose is degradable by microorganisms and functions as the source of volatile fatty acids. Young grasses (roughages) contain less than 5% lignin and 80% of their cellulose is degradable. On the contrary, in old roughages, lignin content may reach up to 10% causing a decrease in cellulose digestibility by up to 50% (Prawirokusumo 1994).

Based on the results of the study, it was concluded that: (i) the highest protein (20.56%) and crude fat (2.92%) contents were found in *N. oleracea*. The highest ash content (25.19%) was found in *C. digitatus*, while the lowest (11.01%) was found in *L. hyssopifolia*. The lowest NDF content (40.64%) was found in *L. hyssopifolia* and the highest hemicellulose content (37.14%) was found in *L. hexandra*. *N. lotus* had the lowest ADF (23.66%) and lignin (14.84%) contents. *N. oleracea* contained the highest cellulose level of 27.08%. (ii) The best nutritional values were found in *C. digitatus* and *L. hyssopifolia*. (iii) Dominant and palatable swamp roughages with good nutrient contents included *H. acutigluma*, *H. amplexicaulis*, *O. rufipogon*, *P. barbatum*, and *E. dulcis*.

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# Nutritional values of swamp grasses as feed for Pampangan Buffaloes in South Sumatra, Indonesia

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**Abstract.** Muhakka, Suwignyo RA, Budianta D, Yakup. 2020. Nutritional values of swamp grasses as feed for Pampangan Buffaloes in South Sumatra, Indonesia. *Biodiversitas* 21: 953-961. This study was aimed at determining the types and quality of vegetation in the swamp area, which could be used as sources of roughage for Pampangan buffaloes in South Sumatra. In this descriptive study, Results showed that the highest crude protein and ether extract contents, 20.56 and 2.92%, respectively, were found in (*Neptunia oleracea*). The highest ash content of 25.19% was found in *Cyperus digitatus*. The lowest fiber content (11.01%) was found in *Ludwigia hyssopifolia*, which also had the lowest content of Neutral Detergent Fiber (NDF) (40.64%). Hemicellulose content was found to be highest (37.14%) in *Leersia hexandra*. The lowest ADF (23.66%) and lignin (14.84%) contents were found in *Nymphaea lotus*. *N. oleracea* was found to have the lowest content (27.08%) of cellulose. It was concluded that the swamp vegetation found in this study consisted of 17 species of grasses and herbs (89.47%) and two species of legumes (10.53%). *C. digitatus* and *L. hyssopifolia* were found to have the best nutritional values. Dominant and palatable vegetation with good nutritional values, which were potential to be used as sources of roughage for Pampangan buffaloes, were *Hymenachne acutigluma*, *Oryza rufipogon*, *Hymenachne amplexicaulis*, *Polygonum barbatum*, and *Eleocharis dulcis*.

**Keywords:** Feed, nutritional value, Pampangan buffalo, swamp grass

## INTRODUCTION

The availability of roughage as the main feed for ruminants depends considerably on seasons. During the rainy season, it is abundant, but during the dry season, the availability of grasses/herbs and legumes is lacking. The limited supply of roughage may hamper productivity including the reproductive performance of ruminants including buffaloes.

In South Sumatra, Pampangan buffalo is potential germplasm that needs to be preserved and developed. There were 37,405 Pampangan buffaloes in 2016, and this population increased by 3.97% to 38,952 in 2017. In 2017, of this population, 11,150 (28.63%) and 2,227 (5.72%) were found in Ogan Komering Ilir District and Banyuasin District, respectively (Dinas Peternakan Sumatera Selatan 2014). The population and productivity of Pampangan buffaloes need to be improved, and for this purpose, feed is an important factor to consider. Pampangan buffaloes feed mostly on roughage from the swamp, grassland to meet their upkeep and reproductive needs.

In Indonesia, there are 13.27 million hectares of lowland swamp areas. Only 4 million hectares of these areas have been developed and cultivated by the

community and private sectors (2.6 million hectares) and the government assistance (1.3 million hectares) (BPS 2010; Mulyani and Sarwani 2013). In Sumatra, the largest lowland swamp area of 2.98 million hectares is found in South Sumatra, but only 298,189 hectares of it have been utilized (BPS 2014). In order to utilize the potential swamp area as a feed source for Pampangan buffaloes, a study on vegetation as sources of roughage in lowland swamp areas that include vegetation identification and nutritional quality determination needs to be conducted.

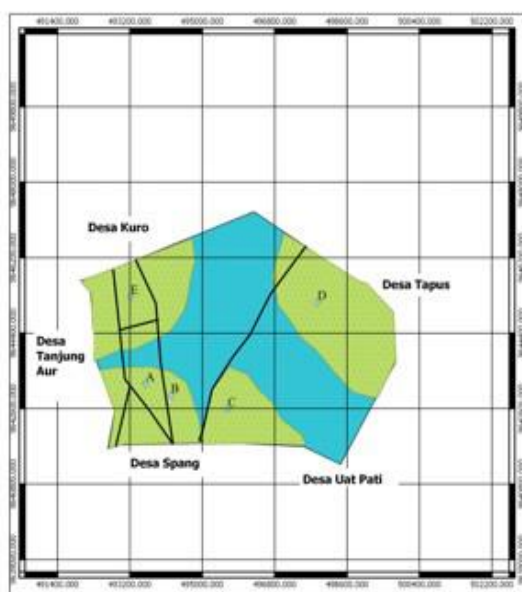
In the previous study, some swamp grasses, including *H. amplexicaulis* (Rostini et al. 2014; Muhakka et al. 2015), *I. rugosum* and *L. hexandra* (Ali et al. 2012) were identified. However, more swamp vegetation has not been identified. For example, *P. barbatum*, *C. digitatus*, *R. corymbosa*. This study was conducted to identify the types and nutritional values of vegetation that could be used as sources of roughage feed for Pampangan buffaloes in South Sumatra. This information was important to support the productivity improvement of Pampangan buffaloes as germplasm in South Sumatra, Indonesia. In this study, some new swamp forages were found, and they were not stated in the previous study.

## MATERIALS AND METHODS

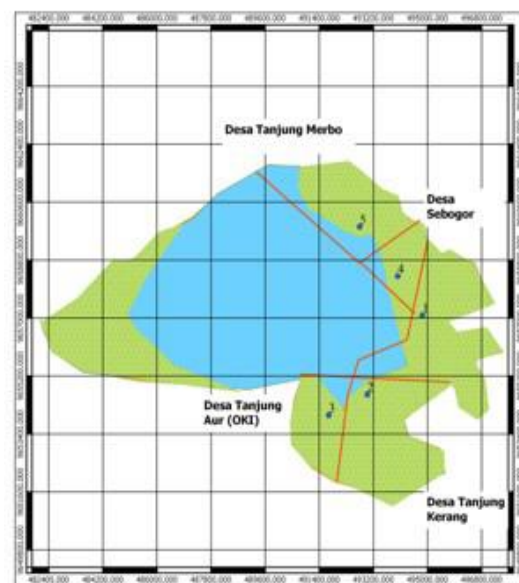
### Area study

This study was a descriptive study to assess the types and nutritional values of vegetation, which were dominant and palatable as sources of roughage feed for Pampangan buffaloes. Vegetation samples were taken from grazing areas of Pampangan buffaloes in Rambutan Village and Pulau Layang Village, South Sumatra, Indonesia (Figure 1) from April to Juni 2017. Vegetation samples for nutrient analysis were obtained by following procedures: (i) vegetation collection was done based on estimated growth age (young age, middle age, and old age based on physical appearance), (ii) collected samples of each vegetation was composited, and (iii) samples were chopped into small sizes, and then homogenized.

For each vegetation, 1 kg sample was taken randomly and sent to the laboratory for oven drying at 105°C, until a constant weight was obtained and dry matter content was determined. Samples were then ground for nutrient content determination by using proximate and Van Soest analyses (Syarifuddin and Wahdi 2010). Sample analyses of crude protein, fiber, ether extract, and ash contents were conducted in Laboratory of Dairy Nutrition, Department of Nutrition and Feed Technology, Institut Pertanian Bogor (IPB), Bogor, Indonesia, while analyses of NDF, ADF, hemicellulose, cellulose, and lignin were conducted in Biotechnology Assessment Laboratory, Research Center for Biotechnology, Indonesian Institute of Sciences (LIPI), Cibinong, Bogor, Indonesia; and analysis of soil was conducted in Laboratory of Soil Chemistry, Biology, and Fertility, Department of Soil, Faculty of Agriculture, Sriwijaya University, Ogan Ilir, Indonesia.



A



B

**Figure 1.** Research location in South Sumatra, Indonesia. A. Pulau Layang Village, Pampangan Sub-district, Ogan Komering Ilir District, South Sumatra. B. Rambutan Village, Rambutan Sub-district, Banyuasin District, South Sumatra, Indonesia (Muhakka et al. 2019)

## Measured parameters

### Soil analysis

Soil sampling is done in a composite manner at a depth of 0-20 cm. Taking the soil sample points is done by making a diagonal line in each zone and determining 5 soil sampling points to analyze chemical fertility (N, P, K) and physical fertility (texture, structure, and pH).

### Plant materials

The sampling area is divided into five zones (A, B, C, D and E) and each zone consists of 10 observation points. Samples of each type of dominant and palatable forage vegetation are collected based on the estimated age of growth, namely young age, middle age, and old age by looking at their physical appearance. Samples of each type of vegetation that have been collected, are put together until homogeneous. Samples are finely chopped, mixed until homogeneous then randomly taken as much as 1 kg.

There are some species that are analyzed twice, in Pulau Layang and Rambutan because they appear in both areas, while the others are only analyzed once because they only appear in one area. For *Sesbania exasperata*, it is enough to know only its nutrient content from analysis of proximate, and the production of this grass is measly so that its potential to be buffalo's feed is measly as well, but it can be made as feed supplement. So, it is not analyzed for composition of fiber fractions (Table 3).

### Proximate analysis

Crude protein, fiber, ether extract, and ash contents were determined based on the procedures of AOAC (1990). **Crude protein.** Nitrogen (N) content was determined by using a Kjeldahl method. In this analysis, sulphuric acid was treated with a catalyst and a heating process. The organic matter of samples was then oxidized by sulfuric acid, and nitrogen was changed into an ammonium sulfate form. The remaining sulfuric acid was neutralized by NaOH until the solution became basic. Ammonium sulfate was then distilled in an acid medium to obtain the quantitative amount of N. As the average protein contains 16% nitrogen, a factor 100%: 16% = 6.25 was used to obtain the value of crude protein (crude protein = N% x 6.25). **Fiber.** The filtered fat-free sample was used in fiber content determination. 1.25% sulfuric acid solution was added into the sample, and the mixture was heated for about 30 minutes before the residue was filtered. 1.25% NaOH solution was added into the precipitate, and the mixture was heated for about 30 minutes. The mixture was then filtered, and the precipitate was washed, dried, and weighed. This precipitate was burnt, and the ash was weighed. The difference between the weight of precipitate before it was burnt and the weight of the ash was referred to as fiber content. **Ether extract.** The dry matter sample was extracted with diethyl ether for 5 hours. At the end of the extraction process, ether evaporated and the remaining material was referred to as fat. **Ash.** The third part of the dry matter sample was weighed and burnt in a crucible at 550°C for 8 hours.

### Van Soest analysis

Neutral Detergent Fiber (NDF), Acid Detergent Fiber (ADF), hemicellulose, cellulose, and lignin contents were determined by using a Van Soest method (1982).

**Neutral Detergent Fiber (NDF).** One gram of sample was put in a beaker glass. 50 ml NDS solution was added into the beaker before the mixture was heated for an hour. The mixture was then filtered by using a vacuum pump and a filter glass which was previously weighed (b gram). The mixture was then washed with hot water and acetone before it was dried in an oven and let cool in a desiccator. Finally, it was weighed as c gram. NDF content was calculated by using the following formula:

$$\% \text{ NDF} = \frac{c-b}{a} \times 100\%$$

**Acid Detergent Fiber (ADF).** One gram of sample was put in a beaker glass. 50 ml ADS solution was added into the beaker before the mixture was heated for an hour. The mixture was then filtered by using a vacuum pump and a sintered glass filter which was previously weighed (b gram). The mixture was then washed with hot water and acetone before it was dried in an oven and let cool in a desiccator. Finally, it was weighed as c gram. Cellulose content was calculated by using the following formula:

$$\% \text{ cellulose} = \frac{c-d}{a} \times 100\%$$

**Hemicellulose.** Hemicellulose content was calculated as a difference between NDF and ADF contents as follows.

$$\% \text{ Hemicellulose} = \% \text{ NDF} - \% \text{ ADF}$$

**Lignin.** Cellulose residue (d gram) was burnt in a furnace at 500-600°C for 3 hours. After that, it was left to cool and weighed (e gram). Lignin content was calculated by using the following formula:

$$\% \text{ Lignin} = \frac{d-e}{a} \times 100\%$$

### Data analysis

The data obtained were used directly to describe the nutritional value of the swamp vegetation that could be used as a roughage source. These data were then combined with those of in vitro digestibility as the basis for concluding (Syarifuddin and Wahdi 2010).

## RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

### Soil analysis

Results of soil analysis showed that soil at the study site had a low fertility level and was highly acidic. It also had very high organic C and total N contents, medium level of exchangeable-K and N contents, very low Ca and Mg contents, medium P content, and very high CEC level (Table 1).

**Table 1.** Properties of soil at the study site

Parameter	Pulau Layang		Rambutan	
	Value	Remark	Value	Remark
pH H <sub>2</sub> O (1 : 1)	5.10	Low	4.41	Very low
pH KCl (1 : 1)	4.39	Very acidic	3.99	Very acidic
Organic C (g/kg)	57.66	Very high	36.14	Very high
Total N (g/kg)	3.64	Very high	2.19	Very high
Available P/Bray I (mg/kg)	11.70	Medium	2.25	Very low
Exchangeable K (cmol/kg)	0.63	Medium	0.45	Medium
Na (cmol/kg)	0.65	Medium	0.65	Medium
Ca (cmol/kg)	1.95	Very low	0.73	Very low
Mg (cmol/kg)	0.45	Very low	0.32	Very low
CEC (cmol/kg)	65.25	Very high	43.50	Very high
Exchangeable Al (cmol/kg)	1.84		2.37	
Exchangeable H (cmol/kg)	0.74		0.88	
Texture:				
Sand (%)	47.08		46.64	
Ash (%)	31.11		27.18	
Clay (%)	21.81		26.18	

### Nutrient contents of lowland swamp

Crude protein, fiber, ether extract, and ash nutrient contents of lowland swamp vegetation found in this study are listed in (Table 2). The NDF and ADF contents of vegetation found in this study were about 40.65-79.47% and 23.66-60.33%, respectively. Lowland swamp vegetation was found to have hemicellulose and cellulose contents ranging from 7.73 to 37.14% and 5.24 to 27.08%, respectively. Lignin contents of lowland swamp vegetation ranged from 14.84 to 43.09% (Table 3).

There are 19 species of forage found in Pampangan buffalo pasture that have potential to be used as food for Pampangan buffalo, consisting of 17 species of grasses and herbs and 2 species of legumes (Muhakka et al. 2019). There are dominant and palatable species of swamp lowland forage vegetation having potential as buffalo feed, namely *O. rupifogon*, *H. acutigluma*, and *H. amplexicaulis*, not dominant but palatable species such as *Hymenachne* sp. and *N. oleracea*; dominant but non-palatable grass species (buffalo does not like it) namely *P. barbatum*. This grass species would be eaten by the buffaloes if there were no other species to be eaten (Muhakka et al. 2019).

### Discussion

#### Crude protein content

Results showed that the crude protein contents of swamp green vegetation ranged from 5.26% to 20.56% with the lowest value (5.26%) was found in *R. corymbosa* grass and the highest (20.56%) was found in *N. oleracea* legume. *C. digitatus* grass had the highest crude protein content (15.31%) (Table 2). This high nutritional value of *C. digitatus* was suspected as caused by the fact that most of this grass was found to grow in the area of buffalo pens where the soil was rich in organic matter. However, the growth of this grass was not dominant as it mostly occurred in rainy seasons.

*Hymenachne amplexicaulis*, *O. rupifogon*, *H. acutigluma*, and *E. dulcis* were found as the dominant palatable grasses containing 12.00, 10.41, 10.96, and 8.22% crude protein, respectively. Results of this study were not too different from those obtained by Rostini et al. (2014), who reported that *H. amplexicaulis* and *L. hyssopifolia* had protein contents of 10.88 and 15.92%, respectively. Crude protein (CP) contents of these swamp grasses in Pulau Layang and Rambutan Villages were closed to those of prime grasses including 9.11-12.8% CP of *P. purpureum* (Santos et al. 2013; Dahlan and Iskandar 2013; Rahman et al. 2014), 12.4% CP of *P. purpureum* grass hay, 11.1% CP of *P. purpureum* grass silage, 11.4% CP of *P. purpureophoides* grass hay, and 10.2% CP of *P. purpureophoides* grass silage (Santoso and Hariadi 2008). Other vegetation even had higher CP contents including *H. acutigluma* with 10.96% CP, *C. roseus* 15.20%, *N. lotus* 13.22%, *L. hyssopifolia* 12.07%, *C. digitatus* 15.31%, and *H. amplexicaulis* <sup>R</sup> 12.0% (Table 2). CP contents of vegetation in this study were also higher than those of natural grasses found in coffee plantation areas (6.95%) and pastoral areas (6.65%) in Wulanggihang Subdistrict, East Flores District, East Nusa Tenggara Province, Indonesia as reported by Kleden et al. (2015). Meanwhile, CP content of grasses in lowlands was 8.41% (Maswada and Elzaawely 2013; Rochana et al. 2016).

This high protein content was suspected to be caused by the fact that soil organic C and total N contents in the study site were also high, namely 36.14-57.66 and 2.19-3.64 g.kg<sup>-1</sup>, respectively (Table 1). Soil organic C and total N contents affected protein content in plants. Four swamp grasses/herbs including *C. digitatus*, *C. roseus*, *N. lotus*, and *L. hyssopifolia* and a legume, *N. oleracea* were found to be the lowland swamp vegetation having the highest N contents of 15.31, 15.20, 13.22, 12.07, and 20.56%, respectively.

**Table 2.** Crude protein, fiber, ether extract, and ash contents (%) of lowland swamp vegetation

Latin name	Family	Origin (village)	Local name	Crude protein	Fiber	Ether extract	Ash
<i>Catharanthus roseus</i>	Apocynaceae	Pulau Layang	Tapak dara	15.20	11.18	1.29	12.53
<i>Cyperus digitatus</i>	Cyperaceae	Rambutan	Kasuran	15.31	14.76	1.42	25.19
<i>Digitaria fuscescens</i>	Poaceae	Rambutan	Kerak maling/pasiran	12.00	15.64	1.24	16.26
<i>Eichhornia crassipes</i>	Pontederiaceae	Pulau Layang	Eceng gondok	8.61	20.66	0.84	14.22
<i>Eleocharis dulcis</i> -P	Cyperaceae	Pulau Layang	Purun tikus	8.22	25.72	0.48	15.13
<i>Eleocharis dulcis</i> -R	Cyperaceae	Rambutan	Purun tikus	6.63	24.52	1.69	10.24
<i>Hymenachne acutigluma</i> -P	Poaceae	Rambutan	Kumpai tembaga	10.96	23.73	1.77	10.30
<i>Hymenachne acutigluma</i> -R	Poaceae	Pulau Layang	Kumpai tembaga	6.86	30.26	2.22	7.88
<i>Hymenachne amplexicaulis</i> -P	Poaceae	Pulau Layang	Kumpai minyak	9.21	21.91	2.82	13.96
<i>Hymenachne amplexicaulis</i> -R	Poaceae	Rambutan	Kumpai minyak	12.00	15.64	1.24	16.26
<i>Hymenachne</i> sp.	Poaceae	Pulau Layang	Kumpai merah	8.52	21.20	1.30	12.88
<i>Ipomoea aquatica</i>	Convolvulaceae	Pulau Layang	Kangkung merah	8.95	14.34	2.24	10.39
<i>Leersia hexandra</i>	Poaceae	Pulau Layang	Bento rayap	5.35	27.57	2.06	5.63
<i>Ludwigia hyssopifolia</i>	Onagraceae	Pulau Layang	Cecengkehan	12.07	11.01	1.66	9.09
<i>Neptunia olerancia</i>	Fabaceae	Pulau Layang	Kemon air	20.56	15.03	2.92	7.31
<i>Nymphaea lotus</i>	Nymphaeaceae	Pulau Layang	Telepuk gajah	13.22	11.45	2.84	10.30
<i>Oryza rupifogon</i> -P	Poaceae	Pulau Layang	Kumpai padi	7.93	23.30	1.60	16.25
<i>Oryza rupifogon</i> -R	Poaceae	Rambutan	Kumpai padi	10.41	21.59	2.49	11.92
<i>Polygonum barbatum</i>	Poaceae	Pulau Layang	Are bolong	7.53	16.60	1.57	8.40
<i>Rhynchospora corymbosa</i>	Cyperaceae	Pulau Layang	Berondong	5.26	22.27	1.48	14.84
<i>Sesbania exasperata</i>	Fabaceae	Rambutan	Mutiara	18.27	11.22	1.86	19.47

Note: P: Pulau Layang Village; R: Rambutan Village

**Table 3.** Composition of fiber fractions of green vegetation in lowland swamp: NDF, ADF, hemicellulose, cellulose, and lignin (%).

Latin name	Family	Origin (village)	NDF	ADF	Hemi-cellulose	Cellulose	Lignin
<i>Catharanthus roseus</i>	Apocynaceae	Pulau Layang	47.79	39.67	8.12	16.96	22.71
<i>Cyperus digitatus</i>	Cyperaceae	Rambutan	58.90	36.93	21.97	5.24	31.68
<i>Digitaria fuscescens</i>	Poaceae	Rambutan	65.43	33.56	31.87	12.11	21.45
<i>Eichhornia crassipes</i>	Pontederiaceae	Pulau Layang	62.77	41.83	20.94	10.22	31.60
<i>Eleocharis dulcis</i> -P	Cyperaceae	Pulau Layang	69.57	49.83	19.74	21.80	28.04
<i>Eleocharis dulcis</i> -R	Cyperaceae	Rambutan	75.73	54.91	20.82	19.71	35.20
<i>Hymenachne acutigluma</i> -P	Poaceae	Pulau Layang	75.89	50.60	25.29	12.25	38.34
<i>Hymenachne acutigluma</i> -R	Poaceae	Rambutan	64.72	46.38	18.34	16.01	30.37
<i>Hymenachne amplexicaulis</i> -P	Poaceae	Pulau Layang	65.31	38.92	26.39	8.29	30.63
<i>Hymenachne amplexicaulis</i> -R	Poaceae	Rambutan	65.32	39.45	25.87	9.75	28.67
<i>Hymenachne</i> sp.	Poaceae	Pulau Layang	60.14	28.40	31.74	8.64	19.76
<i>Ipomoea aquatica</i>	Convolvulaceae	Pulau Layang	41.40	26.17	15.23	6.32	19.85
<i>Leersia hexandra</i>	Poaceae	Pulau Layang	79.47	42.33	37.14	25.88	33.92
<i>Ludwigia hyssopifolia</i>	Onagraceae	Pulau Layang	40.64	32.91	7.73	8.39	24.52
<i>Neptunia olerancia</i>	Fabaceae	Pulau Layang	62.31	45.44	16.87	27.08	18.36
<i>Nymphaea lotus</i>	Nymphaeaceae	Pulau Layang	46.05	23.66	22.39	8.82	14.84
<i>Oryza rupifogon</i> -P	Poaceae	Pulau Layang	71.13	60.33	10.80	17.23	43.09
<i>Oryza rupifogon</i> -R	Poaceae	Rambutan	65.49	46.19	19.30	14.96	31.24
<i>Polygonum barbatum</i>	Poaceae	Pulau Layang	61.27	48.46	12.81	20.28	28.18
<i>Rhynchospora corymbosa</i>	Cyperaceae	Pulau Layang	65.29	44.64	20.65	16.08	28.56

Note: P: Pulau Layang Village; R: Rambutan Village

**Fiber contents**

Fiber contents of lowland swamp green vegetation ranged from 11.01 to 30.26%, with the lowest content found in *L. hyssopifolia* and the highest in *H. acutigluma*<sup>P</sup>. Four vegetation including *L. hyssopifolia*, *C. roseus*, *S. exasperata*, and *N. lotus* were found to have the lowest fiber contents of 11.01, 11.18, 11.22, and 11.45%, respectively (Table 2). These results were almost similar to those found by Ali et al. (2012) who reported that the fiber

contents of roughage in a pasture ranged from 7.20 to 34.98%. These researchers found that the fiber content of *Leersia hexandra* was 27.40% which was very close to that (27.57%) of the same vegetation in this study. Meanwhile, Rostini et al. (2014) reported that the fiber contents of swamp vegetation in South Kalimantan ranged from 14.84 to 29.35% with the lowest content found in *Paspalum* sp. and the highest in *L. adscendens*. These figures were lower than those found by Kleden et al. (2015) who revealed that

nature grasses in a coffee plantation area and pasture in Wulanggitang, East Flores contained 34.57 and 35.59% of fiber. They also found that the lowest fiber content was found in *L. peploides* and the highest in *I. rugosum*. Fiber contents reported by Kleden et al. (2015) were higher than the results reported by Ahmed et al. (2013) with a fiber content of 29.32% in *D. aegyptium* plants. A previous study showed that fermented *I. rugosum*, *H. amplexicaulis*, and *O. rufipogon* had fiber contents of 29.27, 29.57, and 33.07%, respectively (Muhakka et al. 2015).

The fiber content of *E. crassipes* in this study (20.66%) was lower than those found by Hossain et al. (2015), Tham and Uder (2015), and Make et al. (2016). In addition, the fiber content of *E. crassipes* in this study was lower than those of *Azolla*, another water plant, ranging from 13.19 to 16.54% (Kathirvelan et al. 2015; Anitha et al. 2016) and 9.25 to 13.25% (Ahmed et al. 2016). These fiber contents of *Azolla* equaled to those of *L. hyssopifolia* (11.01%), *C. roseus* (11.18%), *S. exasperata* (11.22%), *N. lotus* 11.45%, and *I. aquatica* (14.34%) found in this study. Fiber contents of swamp green vegetation found in this study indicated that they were potential to be used as feed for Pampangan buffaloes.

#### Ether extract contents

Lowland swamp vegetation in this study was found to have ether extract (EE) contents of about 0.48-2.92%. The lowest EE content was found in *E. dulcis*, while the highest was found in *N. oleracea*. Four vegetation of lowland swamp including *N. lotus* (2.84% EE), *H. amplexicaulis* (2.82% EE), *O. rufipogon* (2.49% EE), and *I. aquatica* (2.24% EE) were revealed to have the highest ether extract contents (Table 2). Results of this study were lower than those found by Rostini et al. (2014), reporting about 0.61-3.67% of EE contents in swamp vegetation in South Kalimantan with the lowest found in *L. hyssopifolia* and the highest in *O. rufipogon*. EE contents of lowland swamp vegetation were 1.40-1.91% for grasses and 1.36-2.95% for legumes (Asep et al. 2012) and those of grasses in a pasture for buffaloes in Pulau Moa were 1.95-2.41% (Eoh 2014). In other studies, grasses in a natural pasture in North Lore, Poso District had EE contents of 2.12-2.34% (Damry 2009) and those in Sabana Timur Barat pasture in the rainy season to the end of dry season had an average EE content of 1.91% (Manu 2013). A study by Se'u et al. (2015) revealed an EE content of 1.07% in grasses in a pasture in Timor Tengah Selatan District, Indonesia. Another work by Kleden et al. (2015) showed that vegetation in a natural pasture and a coffee plantation area had EE contents of 1.23 and 1.35%, respectively.

Vegetation found in this study had EE contents equaled to those of prime grasses including *P. purpureum* grass and *P. purpureophoides* grass preserved in the form of hay and silage. *P. purpureum* grass hay and silage had EE contents of 1.9 and 2.6%, respectively, while those of *P. purpureophoides* grass had EE contents of 1.6 and 2.4%, respectively (Santoso and Hariadi 2008; Ukpabi et al. 2015). EE contents of some species of ruminant roughages were found to be about 1.2-4.1% (Ahmed et al. 2013). Dominant swamp roughages including *H. amplexicaulis*

and *O. rufipogon* had EE contents of 2.82 and 2.49%, respectively and they were palatable and potential to be used as feed for Pampangan buffaloes.

#### Ash contents

Ash contents of green vegetation in lowland swamp ranged from 5.63 to 25.19%. Four types of vegetation with the highest ash contents included *C. digitatus* (25.19%), *S. exasperata* (19.47%), *H. amplexicaulis* (16.26%), and *O. rufipogon*<sup>P</sup> (16.25%). Meanwhile, *L. hexandra* was found to have the lowest ash content of 5.63% (Table 2). Ash contents of vegetation found in this study were higher than those of swamp vegetation in South Kalimantan of 2.18-3.28% during the high tidal season and 3.23-9.83% during the low tidal season (Rostini et al. 2014). *P. purpureum* grass was indicated to have varied ash contents of 4.4% (Dahlan and Iskandar 2013), 0.95-1.1% (Ukpabi et al. 2015), 9.59% (Nuhuyanan 2010), and 18% (Araica et al. 2009). Meanwhile, the ash content of grasses in lowland areas ranged from 6.32 to 8.91% (Richmond et al. 2015; Mako et al. 2016; Norman et al. 2013; Maswada et al. 2013). Alam et al. (2015) found that *B. mutica* had an ash content of 4.20-4.89% and rice straw had 6.63%.

Roughages were found to have average ash contents of 7.28% in a pasture for buffaloes in Pulau Moa (Eoh 2014), 9.82-10.14% in Lore Utara, Poso District (Damry 2009), 11.51% in a pasture during the rainy season until the end of dry season in Sabana Timur Barat (Manu 2013), and 8.11 and 8.22% in a natural pasture and a coffee plantation area, respectively (Kleden et al. 2015). Differences in these ash contents were suspected to be caused by differences in plant species (internal factor) and environmental differences, particularly seasonal differences (external factor). In a dry season, pH levels in lowland swamp areas were found to be 3.9-4.8, causing a decreased supply of nutrients, especially total N and K, to the soil. This decreased supply of nutrients led to lowered nutrients contained in plants (Rostini et al. 2014). This was in line with what was stated by Gutteridge and Shelton (1994) that nutrient content in plants was affected by soil nutrient content. In addition, in acidic soil conditions, activities of Fe, Al, and Mn increased which might cause toxicity in plants (Tjondronegoro and Gunawan 2000).

#### NDF and ADF contents

Neutral Detergent Fiber (NDF) depicts plant cell walls consisting of hemicellulose, cellulose, and lignin. NDF is part of fiber that is not dissolved in neutral detergent representing the component of fiber not dissolving in plant cell wall materials. NDF content of a feed affects the ability of ruminants to consume the feed. Acid Detergent Fiber (ADF) represents parts of the plant cell wall bond to cellulose and lignin. ADF content is related to energy content and higher ADF content results in lowered digestible energy content (Van Soest 1982).

The NDF and ADF contents of vegetation found in this study were about 40.65-79.47% and 23.66-60.33%, respectively. Lowest NDF contents were found in *L. hyssopifolia* (40.65%), *I. aquatica* (41.40%), *N. lotus* (46.05%), and *C. roseus* (47.79%). In contrast, highest



NDF content of 79.47% was found in *L. hexandra*. Lowest ADF contents were found in *N. lotus* (46.05%), *I. aquatica* (26.17%), *Hymenachne* sp. (28.40%), *L. hyssopifolia* (32.91%). Meanwhile, the highest ADF content of 60.33% was found in (*O. rufipogon*<sup>P</sup> (Table 3). NDF and ADF contents of vegetation found in this study were lower than those of Asep et al. (2012) who reported that the NDF contents of swamp green vegetation in a pasture for buffaloes were about 91.73-93.45% in grasses and 68.11-90.93% in legumes and the ADF content of grasses was 51.6-86.8%. It was shown in other studies that NDF and ADF contents of roughages in a pasture during the rainy season to the end of the dry season in Sabana Timur Barat were on average 65.9 and 43.29%, respectively (Manu 2013). Vegetation in a natural pasture and a coffee plantation area had NDF contents of 74.89 and 72.37% and ADF contents of 57.22 and 55.15%, respectively (Kleden et al. 2015). Meanwhile, swamp vegetation in South Kalimantan had average NDF and ADF contents of 55.97 and 37.87%, respectively, during the high tidal season and 81.44 and 60.86% respectively, during the low tidal season (Rostini et al. 2014).

NDF and ADF contents of roughages in the BPTU-HPT Padang Mengatas area were found to be 75.62 and 45.96%, respectively in the rain season and 69.35 and 38.66%, respectively in the dry season (Muhajirin et al. 2017). NDF and ADF contents of *E. crassipes* in this study were 62.77 and 41.83%, respectively. These figures were close to those of *E. crassipes* plants studied by Tham (2015) with NDF and ADF contents of 63.9 and 34.68% and by Tham and Uden (2015) with NDF and ADF contents of 52.1 and 30.7%, respectively. Other studies conducted by Ahmed et al. (2016), Anitha et al. (2016), and Nampoothiri (2017) showed that *Azolla* sp. had NDF and ADF contents of 53.8-54.85% and 36.57-37.0%, respectively. Meanwhile, NDF and ADF contents of *P. purpureum* were found to be 55.8 and 46.5% (Dahlan and Iskandar 2013) and 84.25 and 64.07% (Nuhayanan 2010), respectively. These figures equaled to the NDF and ADF contents of *H. acutigluma* (64.72 and 46.38%), *H. amplexicaulis* (65.31 and 38.92%), and *P. barbatum* (61.27 and 48.46%). This indicated that lowland swamp vegetation had fiber fraction nutritional quality which was not less than that of prime grasses including *P. purpureum* and *P. purpureophoides*.

In this study, NDF and ADF contents of lowland swamp vegetation were 40.65-79.47% and 23.66%-60.33%, respectively. These figures were still within the ranges of NDF and ADF contents of prime grasses such as *P. purpureum* which had NDF and ADF contents of 55.8 and 46.5% (Dahlan and Iskandar 2013) and 84.25 and 64.07% (Nuhayanan 2010), respectively. In the rumen, NDF degradation is higher than that of ADF as NDF contains hemicellulose fraction which is more soluble (Church and Pond 1986). NDF content has a negative correlation with its degradation rate (Varga et al. 1983) and higher NDF content decreases dry matter digestibility of feed (NRC 1988). Cellulose is an ADF component that is easy to digest while lignin is hard to digest as it contains double bonds. Higher lignin content decreases feed digestibility (Sutardi et al. 1980).

#### Hemicellulose and cellulose contents

Lowland swamp vegetation was found to have hemicellulose and cellulose contents ranging from 7.73 to 37.14% and 5.24 to 27.08%, respectively. Four green vegetation with the highest hemicellulose contents were *L. hexandra* (37.14%), *D. fuscescens* (31.87%), *Hymenachne* sp. (31.74%), and *H. amplexicaulis* (26.39%). In contrast, the lowest hemicellulose content was found in *L. hyssopifolia* (7.73%). Highest cellulose contents were found in (*N. oleracea* (27.08%), *L. hexandra* (25.88%), *E. dulcis* (21.80%), and *P. barbatum* (20.28%). Meanwhile, *C. digitatus* had the lowest cellulose content of 5.24% (Table 3). Results of this study were in line with those of a study conducted by Asep et al. (2012) who reported the hemicellulose and cellulose contents of lowland swamp green vegetation ranging from 7.89 to 31.55% and 30.85 to 63.35%, respectively. They also found that *O. rufipogon* had 31.55% hemicellulose content which was higher than those of 10.80-19.30% in this study (Table 4). Swamp vegetation in South Kalimantan had hemicellulose contents of 0.65-25.85% in high tidal season and 5.37-40.09% in low tidal season. Cellulose contents in high and low tidal seasons were about 20.07-34.03% and 7.90-38.31%, respectively (Rostini et al. 2014). Various water plants including *Azolla*, which was used as animal feed, had hemicellulose and cellulose contents of 10.20 and 12.76% (Nampoothiri 2017), 1.15-10.20% and 12.76% (Nampoothiri 2017), respectively. Roughages in BPTU-HPT Padang Mengatas, Indonesia had hemicellulose and cellulose contents of 29.79 and 33.62% in the rain season and 30.69 and 31.64% in the dry season, respectively (Muhajirin et al. 2017). *P. purpureum* was found to contain 21.18% hemicellulose and 43.32% cellulose (Nuhayanan 2010) and 35.3% cellulose (Dahlan and Iskandar 2013). In a study conducted by Archimede et al. (2010), hay was found to have 37.7% hemicellulose and 35.7% cellulose. Based on the above findings, it was suggested that hemicellulose (7.73-37.14%) and cellulose (5.24-27.08%) contents of lowland swamp vegetation in this study were within normal ranges and this vegetation was potential to be used as feed for Pampangan buffaloes.

#### Lignin contents

Lignin contents of lowland swamp vegetation ranged from 14.84 to 43.09%. Four vegetation including *N. lotus*, *N. oleracea*, *Hymenachne* sp., and *I. aquatica* were found to have the lowest lignin contents of 14.84, 18.36, 19.76, and 19.85%, respectively, while the highest lignin content of 43.09% was found in *O. rufipogon*<sup>P</sup> (Table 3). Lignin contents in this study were higher than that obtained by Rostini et al. (2014) who reported the lignin contents of swamp vegetation in South Kalimantan were about 2.8-17.59% in high tidal season with that of *H. amplexicaulis* as the lowest and that of *O. rufipogon* as the highest and 10.06-61.12% in low tidal season with that of *O. rufipogon* as the lowest and that of *H. amplexicaulis* as the highest. Lignin contents of *O. rufipogon*<sup>R</sup> (31.24%) and *O. rufipogon*<sup>P</sup> (43.09%), *L. hexandra* (33.92%), and *E. crassipes* (31.60%) (Table 3) found in this study were higher those of (18.27%) and *L. hexandra* (17.96%) found

by Asep et al. (2012) and *E. crassipes* (8.17%) found by Tham (2015). In other studies, *Azolla* was found to have lignin contents of 5.7% (Ahmed et al. 2016) and 28.24% (Nampoothiri 2017). Meanwhile, lignin contents of *P. purpureum* grass were found to be 15.37% (Nuhuyanan 2010) and 11.2% (Dahlan and Iskandar 2013).

Differences in lignin contents in green vegetation are suspected to be caused by differences in plant species, plant ages, and environmental factors including seasons (rain or dry season), tidal seasons, and fertility levels of the soil where the vegetation grow. In cell walls, cellulose is a bond with hemicellulose and lignin. The animals cannot digest lignin and its molecular structure is different from other carbohydrates as it contains carbon and nitrogen of only 1-5%. Hemicellulose consists of pentose, hexose, uronic acid, and pectin substance. Pectin is a carbohydrate that is composed of uronic acid, galactose, arabinose, xylose, and methanol. Cellulose is degradable by microorganisms and functions as the source of volatile fatty acids. Young grasses (roughages) contain less than 5% lignin and 80% of their cellulose is degradable. On the contrary, in old roughages, lignin content may reach up to 10% causing a decrease in cellulose digestibility by up to 50% (Prawirokusumo 1994).

Based on the results of the study, it was concluded that: (i) the highest protein (20.56%) and crude fat (2.92%) contents were found in *N. oleracea*. The highest ash content (25.19%) was found in *C. digitatus*, while the lowest (11.01%) was found in *L. hyssopifolia*. The lowest NDF content (40.64%) was found in *L. hyssopifolia* and the highest hemicellulose content (37.14%) was found in *L. hexandra*. *N. lotus* had the lowest ADF (23.66%) and lignin (14.84%) contents. *N. oleracea* contained the highest cellulose level of 27.08%. (ii) The best nutritional values were found in *C. digitatus* and *L. hyssopifolia*. (iii) Dominant and palatable swamp roughages with good nutrient contents included *H. acutigluma*, *H. amplexicaulis*, *O. rufipogon*, *P. barbatum*, and *E. dulcis*.

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