The effects of post-burn regrowth and protein supplement on foraging behaviour of goats

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Trees and shrubs invade grassland and/or increase the density of an already wooded area.

Introduction

- Prescribed burning is an important ecological factor for managing woody plant encroachment
- Strategic supplementation may enable goats to consume more secondary metabolites rich plants



Objective

To determine the effects of fire (**post-burn forage**) and protein blocks (**nutrient supplement**) on the utilization of chemically defended woody plant species by goats



Experimental design

Four replicated paddocks of 0.25ha each were established with 4 treatments:

1) control,

2) post-burn regrowth,

- 3) protein block, and
- 4) protein block and post-burn regrowth



Preliminary Results and Discussion



Conclusion

 Post-burn regrowth and protein blocks may be potentially advantageous for increasing intake of chemically defended woody plants by goats.



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