

## **Response of dwarf elephantgrass *Pennisetum purpureum* cv Mott. to grazing. Biomass production and growth**

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### **Abstract**

A trial was conducted at tropical dry forest located in Zulia state, Venezuela, in order to evaluate the effect of four grazing pressure (GP) (3, 5, 9 and 12 kg DM/100 kg LW) upon: available dry matter (ADM), leaf : stem ratio before grazing (LSR), dead matter (DM), height of plant (HP), stubble diameter (SD) of dwarf elephantgrass (*Pennisetum purpureum* cv Mott.); using a randomized block design, with three replication. GP affected ( $P < 0.01$ ) the levels of ADM, LSR, DM, HP, SD. GP affected ( $P < 0.05$ ) LSR. Values of ADM, LSR, DM, HP, SD were increased as the grazing pressure was increased, on the contrary was with LSR. The grazing pressure 5 kg DM/100 kg LW should be used in the management of dwarf elephantgrass cv Mott in order to insure persistence and productivity of the pasture.

**Key words:** grazing pressure, dwarf elephantgrass, yield, dead material, *Pennisetum purpureum*.

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Recibido el 02-10-1996 ● Aceptado el 17-03-1999

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