

**Potential, the current scenario, and improving the efficiency of forage utilization of the *Cynodon* plants**

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**Abstract**

In recent years there has been renewed interest in the *Cynodon* grasses counter the emergence of new cultivars originating from breeding programs that developed plants of high productivity and nutritional value, especially in the United States. And among the options of fodder plants of this genus also highlight the star grasses, especially because of its occupation and dominance of pasture areas and lower soil fertility requirements than most bermuda grasses cultivars of the same genera. However, currently, there is a scientific and technological consensus regarding the need for studies on the mechanisms governing plant productivity in grassland environments, and this focus, the use of criteria for Morphophysiological management of pastures have been more efficient than those of chronological or quantitative imprint. However, the grasses have not been studied star grasses under management characterized by light interception under rotational stocking, featuring a gap in the scientific and technological development for the use of these grasses, especially in contrast to several other genera of *Urochloa* or *Brachiaria*, *Panicum* and *Pennisetum* for which these studies have been elucidated. Seeking to meet this demand, a research group of the Federal Rural University of Rio de Janeiro and research firm in the state of Rio de Janeiro (PESAGRO-RIO), has been developing since the end of 2011, with management studies of Puerto Rico star grass pasture (*Cynodon nlenfuensis* cv. Florico) with evaluation of frequencies and severities of defoliation under grazing, which is ending in the autumn season of 2013, whose themes focus mainly on productive behavior and quality of this forage plant ally that root system the same, and the feeding behavior of the forage in your pastures. The results obtained so far are very interesting and enlightening production processes of forage under management strategies adopted, and indicating new alternative uses of these pastures.