

# Separating Clover & Alfalfa Leaves During Harvest to Provide Protein for Pigs or Poultry

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There is a huge demand on protein feed for monogastric animals like poultry and pig fattening in some countries. So, fractionation could allow alfalfa being used as protein feed for monogastric animals by separating the leaves from the stems. After stripping the leaf fraction with a prototype which used a traverse roller with multiple metal bars, the harvested material had a crude protein content of 26.53% ( $\pm 1.57\%$ ) of dry matter. The leaf portion increased from 42.61% ( $\pm 2.08\%$ ) of the whole alfalfa plant to 73.34% ( $\pm 2.51\%$ ) of the harvested material. The dry matter yield of the leaf fraction was 1180.52 ( $\pm 111.11$ ) kg ha<sup>-1</sup>. This resulted in a crude protein yield of approximately 300 kg ha<sup>-1</sup>.