



NUTRITIONAL VALUE OF BROWSE SPECIES MOST FED TO ZOO ANIMALS

Blackberry / Brombeeren / Braam

Rubus fruticosus

Frequently eaten by herbivores in situ.

Composition of	Dry Matter (%)	Crude ash (% DM)	Crude protein (% DM)	Fat (% DM)
Leaves		6,6	10,7	2,6
Crude fiber (% DM)	NDF (% DM)	ADF (% DM)	Ca (g/kg DM)	P (g/kg DM)
	43,5	26,8	11,5	1,6



Common ash / Gemeine Esche / Gewone es

Fraxinus excelsior

Accepted by most browsers.

Less preferred by elephant, rhinoceros and tapir.

Composition of	Dry Matter (%)	Crude ash (% DM)	Crude protein (% DM)	Fat (% DM)
Leaves	27	12	19	4
Crude fiber (% DM)	NDF (% DM)	ADF (% DM)	Ca (g/kg DM)	P (g/kg DM)
16			24	1,9

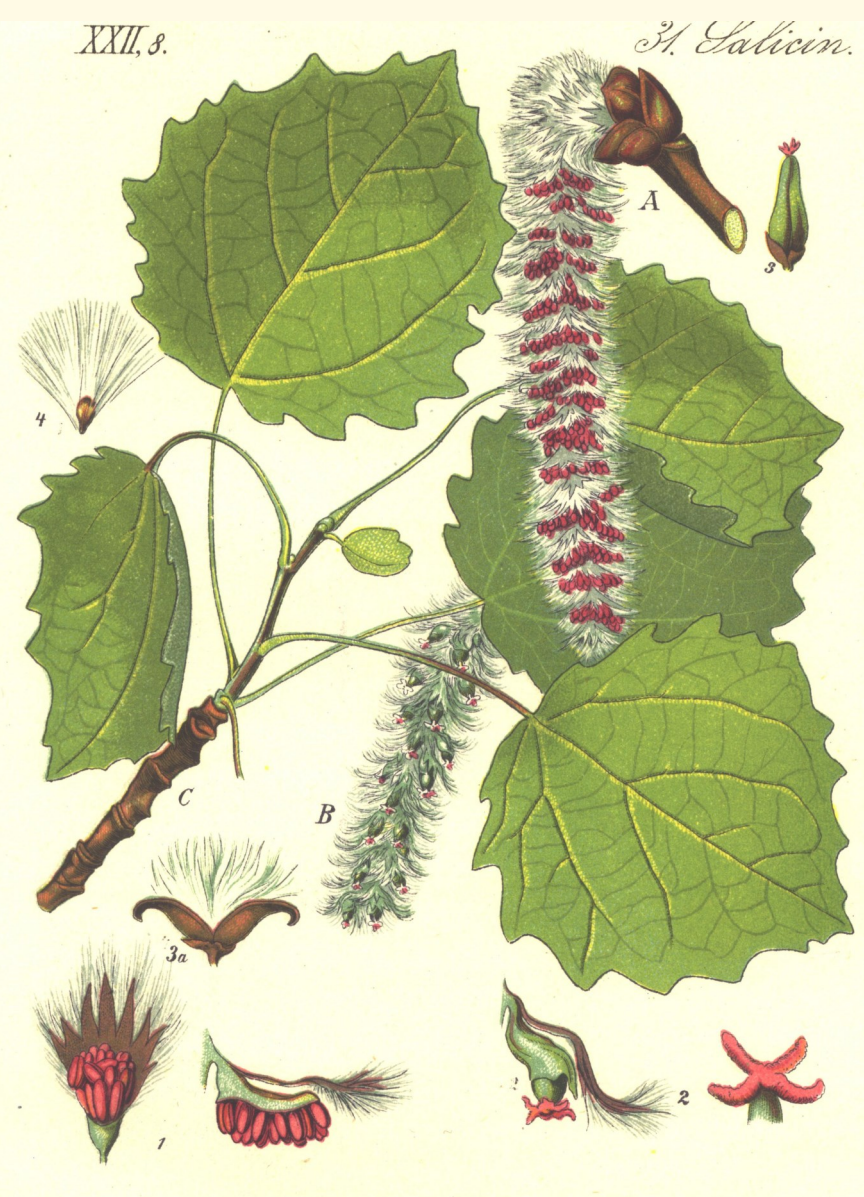


Common aspen / Espe / Esp (Ratelpopulier)

Populus tremula

Accepted by most browsers.

Composition of	Dry Matter (%)	Crude ash (% DM)	Crude protein (% DM)	Fat (% DM)
Leaves	25	9	17	5
Crude fiber (% DM)	NDF (% DM)	ADF (% DM)	Ca (g/kg DM)	P (g/kg DM)
25			26,1	3,3



Sycamore maple / Bergahorn / Gewone esdoorn

Acer pseudoplatanus

Accepted by most browsers and also usable as enrichment.

Maple leaves with fungus are poisonous.

Composition of	Dry Matter (%)	Crude ash (% DM)	Crude protein (% DM)	Fat (% DM)
Leaves		8	18	3
Crude fiber (% DM)	NDF (% DM)	ADF (% DM)	Ca (g/kg DM)	P (g/kg DM)
21			11,1	2,9



Fieldelm / Feldulme / Gladde iep

Ulmus minor

One of the more palatable types of browse.

Composition of	Dry Matter (%)	Crude ash (% DM)	Crude protein (% DM)	Fat (% DM)
Leaves		10	21	3
Crude fiber (% DM)	NDF (% DM)	ADF (% DM)	Ca (g/kg DM)	P (g/kg DM)
15			19,3	2,1



Common nettle / Große Brennessel / Grote brandnetel

Urtica dioica

Can cause irritation in many animals.

Young plants are commonly eaten by grazing herbivores.

Composition of	Dry Matter (%)	Crude ash (% DM)	Crude protein (% DM)	Fat (% DM)
Leaves	35	9	12,9	
Crude fiber (% DM)	NDF (% DM)	ADF (% DM)	Ca (g/kg DM)	P (g/kg DM)
	51,4	38	6,4	3,1



Dog rose / Hunds Rose / Hondсроos

Rosa canina

Cultivated roses can contain traces of pesticides, contact your supplier about the source.

Fresh and dried leaves are gladly eaten.

Composition of	Dry Matter (%)	Crude ash (% DM)	Crude protein (% DM)	Fat (% DM)
Leaves	26		18	
Crude fiber (% DM)	NDF (% DM)	ADF (% DM)	Ca (g/kg DM)	P (g/kg DM)
	32	18		



Alfalfa / Luzerne / Luzerne

Medicago sativa

Quality of alfalfa is mostly determined by age and leave/stem ratio. Alfalfa hay or silage are considered to be the best alternatives for browse.

Composition of	Dry Matter (%)	Crude ash (% DM)	Crude protein (% DM)	Fat (% DM)
Leaves	88	11	15	
Crude fiber (% DM)	NDF (% DM)	ADF (% DM)	Ca (g/kg DM)	P (g/kg DM)
33	58	36	14,8	2,4



White willow / Silber-Weide / Schietwilg

Salix alba

Contains toxins, but concentrations vary.

Long fibers from bark may cause constipation.

Suitable for most leaf eating herbivores, well accepted and the risks are low.

Composition of	Dry Matter (%)	Crude ash (% DM)	Crude protein (% DM)	Fat (% DM)
Leaves	48	2	4	1
Crude fiber (% DM)	NDF (% DM)	ADF (% DM)	Ca (g/kg DM)	P (g/kg DM)
56	81	68	4,1	0,9



Common Heather / Besenheide / Struikheide

Calluna vulgaris

Main food of grouse, like wood grouse and whitegrouse. Also eaten by deer.

Especially the young shoots are gladly eaten.

Composition of	Dry Matter (%)	Crude ash (% DM)	Crude protein (% DM)	Fat (% DM)
Leaves		4	6	3
Crude fiber (% DM)	NDF (% DM)	ADF (% DM)	Ca (g/kg DM)	P (g/kg DM)
30		66	3,9	1



Small-leaved lime / Winter-Linde / Winterlinde

Tilia cordata

Gladly eaten by browsers.

Composition of	Dry Matter (%)	Crude ash (% DM)	Crude protein (% DM)	Fat (% DM)
Leaves		9		
Crude fiber (% DM)	NDF (% DM)	ADF (% DM)	Ca (g/kg DM)	P (g/kg DM)
			24,1	2,8



English oak / Stieleiche / Zomereik

Quercus robur

Especially green acorns contain a high amount of tannins and are therefore poisonous for many animals. Leaves with honeydew are susceptible to fungus growth. Leaves with fungus should be discarded.

Composition of	Dry Matter (%)	Crude ash (% DM)	Crude protein (% DM)	Fat (% DM)
Leaves		6	17	4
Crude fiber (% DM)	NDF (% DM)	ADF (% DM)	Ca (g/kg DM)	P (g/kg DM)
26			8,8	2,7



Important notice: Browse can be a valuable addition to the diet of many animals. However scientific data on the use of browse for captive animals are relatively scarce. Therefore avoid using unknown browse species, and try to use a variety of species. Browse should be free of dirt and (black!) fungus.