

A survey of the nutrient content of foods consumed by free ranging and captive Jamaican iguanas (*Cyclura collei*).

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Nutrient concentrations were determined in foods consumed by both free ranging and captive Jamaican iguanas (*Cyclura collei*). Twelve species of plants known to be consumed by free ranging iguanas during the dry season were collected and analyzed. The plant parts were separated and categorized for analyses as flowers, fruits, leaves, and seeds. Dry matter (DM) of plants parts sampled ranged from 5.9-82.2%. Nutrient concentrations expressed on a dry matter basis (DMB) included crude protein (CP) 1.3-18.1%, acid detergent fiber (ADF) 9.1-63.5%, and neutral detergent fiber (NDF) 19.9-69.4%. Nutrient concentrations were analyzed in the diets offered to captive iguanas held for re-introduction at the Hope Zoo in Kingston, Jamaica. The captive diets were comprised of mixed greens (typically callalou, pap choy), fruits (banana, mango, papaya, pineapple, watermelon) and vegetables (cucumber), and twice a week they were offered a commercial complete feed (Zeigler iguana diet). The average DM was 14.9% other nutrients (DMB) were CP 16.6%, ADF 16.3%, NDF 22.1%. These data provide a basis for the establishment of a database which will provide valuable information to improve nutritional husbandry of captive Jamaican iguanas. Additional studies are underway to further define the feeding ecology and nutritional needs for this species.