

**NUTRITIONAL COMPOSITION OF CARDAMOM (*ELETTARIA CARDAMOMUM*) SEED
CULTIVATED IN ETHIOPIA****Sileshi Abera*¹, Belay Gezahegn¹ and Biruk Hirko²**¹Food Science and Nutrition Research, Ethiopian Institute of Agricultural Research, Teppi Agricultural Research Center, P.O. Box 34, Teppi, Ethiopia.²Crop Research, Ethiopian Institute of Agricultural Research, Teppi Agricultural Research Center, P.O. Box 34, Teppi, Ethiopia.

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Sileshi AberaFood Science and Nutrition
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Ethiopia.**ABSTRACT**

This study aimed to study the nutritional composition of released variety of Cardamom (*Elettaria cardamomum* Maton) cultivated in Ethiopia. Therefore our country Ethiopia has one released variety of cardamom and this study showed that the analyzed composition of the cardamom variety which found in Ethiopia is between in the ranges of different countries cardamom variety. The results of the analysis shows that it contains 8.51 % moisture, 6.72 % ash, 9.29 % crude protein, 10.025 % Oleoresin, 8.01 % Essential oil, 24.14 % crude fiber and 41.08 % total Carbohydrate. Its macro and micro mineral content were calculated to be rich where Calcium (Ca), Potassium (K), Magnesium (Mg), Phosphorus (P), Sulfur (S), Manganese (Mn), Iron (Fe) and Zinc (Zn) were determined at the amount of 109.87, 843.28, 102.76, 151.29, 37.14, 29.32, 11.66 1.573 mg/100g respectively. As it seen from different studies the crude fiber and Potassium content of Ethiopian cardamom was greater than other countries result.

KEYWORDS: Cardamom, Ethiopia, Nutritional, Mineral and Essential oil.**1. INTRODUCTION**

The cardamom *Elettaria cardamomum* (L.) Maton (*Zingiberaceae*), commonly known as queen of the spices is native to South Asia but is commercially cultivated in Southern India on the shady slopes of Ghats (mainly in Kerala, Tamilnadu and Karnataka), Sri Lanka, Guatemala, Nepal, Mexico, Thailand, Tanzania and Central America.^[1-2] The chemical of composition of cardamom has been extensively documented,^[3-7] as have studies involving the colour and storage properties of the capsule of cardamom.^[8-9] Natural products have garnered the attention of many researchers in recent years as complementary and alternative antimicrobial agents.^[10] Cardamom is used for flavoring various food preparation, confectionery, perfumes, beverages, liquors and preparation of medicine in India and other countries. In medicine it is used as a powerful aromatic, stimulant, carminative, stomachic and diuretic, but rarely used alone. It also checks nausea and vomiting helps in combating digestive ailments. Herbal lores on this spice suggest that can be used to freshen breath and support smooth digestion.^[11] Research has implicated cardamom potential therapeutic value as an inhibitor of human platelet aggregation.^[12]

In Ethiopia whole and ground cardamom seeds are added to flavor coffee, tea, confectionery and baked foods. The efficiency of the EOs depends on its chemical

composition, genotypes, environmental, and agronomic conditions.^[13]

Researches have shown that the quantitative composition is widely influenced by the genotype, development, and environmental and growing conditions.^[14-15] It also implies the possibility of different medicinal uses of the same plant species grown in different regions.^[16] In the present study one Cardamom samples obtained from Tepi Agricultural Research center were used the objectives of the present study were an exhaustive study on these Cardamom samples with respect to chemical analysis. No previous reports are available on the chemical analysis of these Gene variety of cardamom.

2. MATERIALS AND METHODS**2.1. Sample collection and preparation**

Fresh Cardamom Gene Variety capsule used in this study was collected from the filled site of Tepi Agricultural Research Center, Ethiopia. The samples were cleaned manually to remove all foreign matter, dust and dirty and immature capsule. The required plant materials were air dried for two week. After air drying, the seeds were powdered, sieved in 0.5 mm mesh size and divided in to three parts, and is used for triplicate analysis.

2.2. Proximate composition analysis

Proximate composition including moisture, protein, total carbohydrate, ash and mineral content were determined as per the method given by AOAC, (2005).^[17]

2.3. Oleoresin determination

Ten (10) gm of powder Cardamom sample were taken into a thimble and placed in a Soxhlet apparatus 300 mL of hexane was added and extracted according to their boiling point for six hours. After completion of extraction the dark black extract was then cooled, concentrated using rotary evaporator get a crude dried extract yield was calculated based on dry weight of plant material.

2.4. Essential oil determination

Essential oil content of cardamom seed were determined by hydro-distillation. Three replicates were distilled simultaneously for oil extraction and the oil were weighed and stored in dark at 4°C. The yields obtained were averaged and calculated based on dry weight of the plant material.

3. RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

3.1. Proximate composition of cardamom

The data pertaining to the proximate composition of cardamom with respect to moisture, protein, crude fiber carbohydrates and ash content were determined and results obtained are depicted in table 1.

Table 1: Proximate composition of cardamom (Gene variety).

Types of analysis	%
Oleoresin	10.025
Essential oil	8.01
Moisture	8.51
Ash	6.72
Protein	9.29
Crud fiber	24.14
Carbohydrate	41.08

Table 2: Mineral composition of Ethiopian cardamom.

Variety	Constituents (mg/100g)								
	Ca	K	Mg	P	S	Fe	Mn	Zn	B
Gene	109.87	843.28	102.76	151.29	37.14	11.66	29.32	1.573	0.414

Table 2. represents the major mineral content of Ethiopian cardamom seeds where K was the prime element and found at the amount of 843.28 mg/100gm. P was measured at the amount of 151.29 mg/100gm net in order but found to be greater than the reported value 61 mg/100gm by Bhandari *et al.*, (2011). Ca was measured at the amount of 109.87 mg/100gm but found to be less than the reported value 666 mg/100gm by Bhandari *et al.*, (2011). There after Mg, S, Mn, Fe as well as Zn were determined as amounts of 102.76, 37.14, 29.32, 11.66, and 1.57 mg/100gm consequently.

Table 1: represents the proximate analysis were total carbohydrate contents were found as the most dominant nutrient in Ethiopian cardamom seeds that were resolute at the amount of 41.08 % which is less than to the carbohydrate value of Indian cardamom seed reported by Sontakke *et al.*, (2018).^[18] and Padmakumari Amma *et al.*, (2010).^[19] Subsequently crude fiber was originated as 24.14 % which was the second for most nutrient in this analysis but found to be 10.08 % and 2.10 % greater than the reported values of cardamom seed Padmakumari Amma *et al.*, (2010).^[19] and Shankara charya *et al.*, (1990) respectively.^[20] Following then the oleoresin content was estimated as the amount of 10.025 %. The moisture content was estimated as the amount of 8.51 % where as the Indian seeds were determined as in the range of 10.33 % to 10.75 % as reported values Sontakke *et al.*, (2018).^[20] The protein content 9.29% which was 4.25 less than Indian cardamom Padmakumari Amma *et al.*, (2010).^[19] and 3.29 % greater than the reported values of Shankaracharya *et al.*, (1990).^[22] Essential oil of Ethiopian cardamom was 8.01 % which was similar to reported values by Keezheveettil *et al.*, (2010).^[21] and greater than reported values of Shankaracharya *et al.*, (1990).^[22] Ash content 6.72 % which was 1.44% less than the reported values by Keezheveettil *et al.*, (2010).^[21] And that clearly indicated the Ethiopian cardamom was good source of dietary fibers which have many significant roles in human nutrition.

3.2. Mineral composition of cardamom

The various mineral composition of cardamom including potassium, calcium, phosphorus, sodium, and iron were investigated and results are accordingly reported in table 2.

4. CONCLUSION

The present work aimed to study the nutritional composition of cardamom Gene variety used for food spice in Ethiopia. Nutritional composition of Ethiopia Cardamom seed were performed and the results obtained from the analysis indicated that 8.51 % moisture content, 6.72 % ash, 9.29 % crude protein, 10.025 % Oleoresin, 8.01 %, Essential oil, 24.14 crude fiber, 65.19 total Carbohydrate and its macro and micro mineral content were calculated to be rich where Calcium (Ca), Potassium (K), Magnesium (Mg), Phosphorus (P), Sulfur (S), Manganese (Mn), Iron (Fe)

and Zinc (Zn) were determined at the amount of 109.87, 843.28, 102.76, 151.29, 37.14, 29.32, 11.66 1.573 mg/100g respectively. The cardamom Gene variety nutritional composition is comparable and within the ranges of different cardamom producing country. The data will help the spices/cardamom breeders for further improvement of varieties.

5. REFERENCES

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