

## **Bromatological Analysis from Medicinally Relevant Wild Edible Plant Parts**

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**Abstract:** - *The wild edible plant parts such as tubers, rhizomes, corm, fruits, inflorescence, leaves, flowers, stems were consumed by rural peoples of Kolhapur district, Maharashtra, India. Ten wild edible plant species viz. Bauhinia recemosa Lam., Caryota urens L, Gmelina arborea Roxb, Oroxyllum indicum (L.) Vent, Zanthoxylum rhetsa (Roxb.) DC, Commelina benghalensis L, Garcinia indica (Du Petit-Thou.) Choisy, Smilax zeylanica L, Ensete superbum (Roxb.) Cheesuran, Woodfordia fruticosa (L.) Kurz. from different localities of Kolhapur district was selected for present study. In bromatological analysis leaves of Commelina benghalensis show lower dry matter (4.44±1.10 %FW) and crude fat (0.8± 0.3 %DW) content. Lower crude protein (1.375±0.0190 g/100g DW) and total ash (6.24±0.15% DW) content was observed in fruits of Bauhinia recemosa. Fruits of Gmelina arborea show higher moisture (94.2±1.25 %FW) and total ash (18.16±0.10%DW) but higher dry matter (37.9±±0.50%FW) and lower moisture (62.1±0.50 %FW) was observed in fruits of Caryota urens. Fruits of Zanthoxylum rhetsa consist of higher crude fat (3.8±0.45 %DW), crude protein (4.518±0.0184 g/100g DW) and lower crude fiber (6.23±0.55 %DW) content. Crude fiber (12.79±2.52 %DW) is higher in flowers of Ensete Superbum. In case of carbohydrate analysis highest reducing sugars, total sugars and energy was observed in flowers of Woodfordia fruticosa (0.4131±0.0058 g/100g DW, 0.8122 ±0.0071 g/100g DW, 48.4851±0.4893 kcal/100g DW) and lowest in flowers of Ensete Superbum (0.0775±0.0052 g/100g DW, 0.1035±0.0129 g/100g DW, 18.3683±0.2240 kcal/100g DW), highest starch content was observed in flowers of Woodfordia fruticosa (2.0808±0.0327 g/100g DW) and lowest in fruits of Caryota urens (0.8772±0.0155 g/100g DW).*

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**Keyword:** *Neutraceutical analysis, Bromatological analysis, proximate composition, wild edible plant, Kolhapur district.*

### **Introduction**

Wild plants make an important contribution to the life of rural communities. Wild edible plants are those with one or more parts that can be used for food, if gathered at the appropriate stage of growth and properly prepared. Rural people fulfil their nutritional requirement from wild resources. They got knowledge of wild edible plants traditionally. This traditional knowledge is useful to develop new food sources.

At least one billion people can analyse the nutrients for preliminary assessment are thought to use wild foods in their diet. In India, Malaysia and Thailand, about 150 wild plant species have been identified as sources of emergency food (Burlingame, 2000). Bromatological analysis of edible fruit and vegetables plays a crucial role in assessing their nutritional significance (Pandey et al., 2006). The considerable use of wild edible species by the local people in their diet motivated

us to carry out the present bromatological analysis.

## Materials and Methods

### Material:

The bromatological analysis was conducted for the parts of ten wild edible plant species such as

*Bauhinia recemosa* Lam., *Caryota urens* L., *Gmelina arborea* Roxb, *Oroxylum indicum* (L.) Vent, *Zanthoxylum rhetsa* (Roxb.) DC, *Commelina benghalensis* L, *Garcinia indica* (Du Petit-Thou.) Choisy, *Smilax zeylanica* L, *Ensete superbum* (Roxb.) Cheesuran, *Woodfordia fruticosa* (L.) Kurz.

**Table 1. Bromatological analysis of ten wild edible plants.**

Sr. No.	Name of Plant species	Family	Vernacular Name	Edible plant part	Non reducing sugars (g/100g of DW)	Reducing Sugars (g/100g of DW)	Total Sugars (g/100g of DW)	Starch (g/100g of DW)	Total Carbohydrate (g/100g of DW)
1.	<i>Ensete Superbum</i> (Roxb.) Cheesuran	Musaceae	Ran-keli, Chaveli-keli	Flower	<b>0.0234</b> ±0.0116	<b>0.0775</b> ±0.0052	<b>0.1035</b> ±0.0129	<b>1.006</b> ±0.020	<b>1.0999</b> ±0.01379
2.	<i>Gmelina arborea</i> Roxb	Verbenaceae	Shivan	Fruit	<b>0.053</b> ±0.0127	<b>0.2041</b> ±0.0180	<b>0.2572</b> ±0.0064	<b>0.9690</b> ±0.0158	<b>1.2335</b> ± 0.0190
3.	<i>Oroxylum indicum</i> (L.) Vent,	Bignoniaceae	Tetu	Fruit	<b>0.0556</b> ±0.0011	<b>0.1588</b> ±0.0041	<b>0.2102</b> ±0.0067	<b>0.9576</b> ±0.0158	<b>1.1766</b> ±0.0120
4.	<i>Bauhinia recemosa</i> Lam.	Caesalpiniaceae	Apata	Fruit	<b>0.0161</b> ±0.0011	<b>0.2030</b> ±0.0035	<b>0.2193</b> ±0.0041	<b>1.1045</b> ±0.0522	<b>1.3238</b> ±0.0549
5.	<i>Caryota urens</i> L	Arecaceae	Ardhashishi	Fruit	<b>0.1072</b> ±0.0032	<b>0.1872</b> ±0.0071	<b>0.2944</b> ±0.0038	<b>0.8772</b> ±0.0155	<b>1.1716</b> ±0.01180
6.	<i>Smilax zeylanica</i> L	Smilacaceae	Chopchini	Leaves	<b>0.0564</b> ±0.0076	<b>0.2256</b> ±0.0012	<b>0.2820</b> ±0.0064	<b>0.9741</b> ±0.0145	<b>1.2561</b> ±0.0083
7.	<i>Woodfordia fruticosa</i> (L.) Kurz	Lytharaceae	Dhayati	Flower	<b>0.4027</b> ±0.0131	<b>0.4131</b> ±0.0058	<b>0.8122</b> ±0.0071	<b>2.0808</b> ±0.0327	<b>2.9033</b> ±0.0293
8.	<i>Commelina benghalensis</i> L.	Commelinaceae	Kena	Leaves	<b>0.0167</b> ±0.0081	<b>0.1939</b> ±0.0032	<b>0.2082</b> ±0.0047	<b>1.1040</b> ±0.0183	<b>1.3122</b> ±0.0224
9.	<i>Garcinia indica</i> (Du Petit-Thou.) Choisy	Clusiaceae	Kokam	Leaves	<b>0.0423</b> ±0.0093	<b>0.1634</b> ±0.0061	<b>0.2002</b> ±0.0053	<b>1.006</b> ±0.0211	<b>1.1932</b> ±0.02100
10.	<i>Zanthoxylum rhetsa</i> (Roxb.) DC	Rutaceae	Tirphal, Chirphal.	Fruit	<b>0.0558</b> ±0.0074	<b>0.1836</b> ±0.0025	<b>0.2375</b> ±0.0061	<b>1.000</b> ±0.0057	<b>1.2580</b> ±0.0009

**Table 2. Bromatological analysis of ten wild edible plants.**

Sr. No.	Name of Plant species	Family	Vernacular Name	Edible plant part	Energy (kcal/100g of DW)	Crude protein (g/100g of DW)	Moisture (% in fresh wt.)	Dry matter (% in fresh wt.)
1.	<i>Ensete Superbum</i> (Roxb.) Cheesuran	Musaceae	Ran-keli, Chaveli-keli	Flower	<b>18.3683</b> ±0.2240	<b>2.0625</b> ±0.0252	<b>92.8</b> ± 1.10	<b>7.2</b> ±1.10
2.	<i>Gmelina arborea</i> Roxb	Verbenaceae	Shivan	Fruit	<b>20.5999</b> ±0.3179	<b>2.4375</b> ±0.0250	<b>94.2</b> ±1.25	<b>5.8</b> ±1.25
3.	<i>Oroxylum indicum</i> (L.) Vent,	Bignoniaceae	Tetu	Fruit	<b>19.6492</b> ±0.2017	<b>4.1612</b> ±0.0259	<b>77.9</b> ±0.92	<b>22.1</b> ±0.92
4.	<i>Bauhinia recemosa</i> Lam.	Caesalpiniaceae	Apata	Fruit	<b>22.1074</b> ±0.9179	<b>1.375</b> ±0.0190	<b>76.3</b> ±1.09	<b>23.7</b> ±1.09
5.	<i>Caryota urens</i> L	Arecaceae	Ardhashishi,	Fruit	<b>19.5657</b> ±0.1971	<b>3.125</b> ±0.0280	<b>62.1</b> ±0.50	<b>37.9</b> ±0.50
6.	<i>Smilax zeylanica</i> L	Smilacaceae	Chopchini	Leaves	<b>20.9768</b> ±0.6996	<b>3.850</b> ±0.0344	<b>87</b> ±0.45	<b>13</b> ±0.45
7.	<i>Woodfordia fruticosa</i> (L.) Kurz	Lytharaceae	Dhayati	Flower	<b>48.4851</b> ±0.4893	<b>1.75</b> ±0.0315	<b>90.6</b> ±0.94	<b>9.4</b> ±0.94
8.	<i>Commelina benghalensis</i> L	Commelinaceae	Kena	Leaves	<b>21.9137</b> ±0.3755	<b>3.125</b> ±0.0312	<b>95.56</b> ±1.10	<b>4.44</b> ±1.10
9.	<i>Garcinia indica</i> (Du Petit-Thou.) Choisy	Clusiaceae	Kokam	Leaves	<b>19.9264</b> ±0.3508	<b>3.5</b> ±0.040	<b>75.03</b> ±0.27	<b>24.97</b> ±0.40
10.	<i>Zanthoxylum rhetsa</i> (Roxb.) DC	Rutaceae	Tirphal, Chirphal.	Fruit	<b>20.6740</b> ±0.01651	<b>4.518</b> ±0.0184	<b>89.4</b> ±1.37	<b>10.6</b> ±1.37

**Table 3. Bromatological analysis of ten wild edible plants.**

Sr. No.	Name of Plant species	Family	Vernacular Name	Edible plant part	Crude fat (% in DW)	Crude fiber (% in DW)	Total ash (% in DW)
1.	<i>Ensete Superbum</i> (Roxb.) Cheesuran	Musaceae	Ran-keli, Chaveli-keli	Flower	<b>3</b> ± 0.3	<b>12.79</b> ±2.52	<b>10.37</b> ±0.07
2.	<i>Gmelina arborea</i> Roxb	Verbenaceae	Shivan	Fruit	<b>1</b> ± 0.25	<b>7.68</b> ± 0.40	<b>18.16</b> ±0.10
3.	<i>Oroxylum indicum</i> (L.) Vent,	Bignoniaceae	Tetu	Fruit	<b>2.3</b> ±0.50	<b>8.84</b> ±0.67	<b>9.40</b> ±0.10
4.	<i>Bauhinia recemosa</i> Lam.	Caesalpiniaceae	Apata	Fruit	<b>0.9</b> ±0.25	<b>7.69</b> ±0.50	<b>6.24</b> ±0.15
5.	<i>Caryota urens</i> L	Areceae	Ardhashishi,	Fruit	<b>1.5</b> ±0.25	<b>7.93</b> ±0.25	<b>10.39</b> ±0.14
6.	<i>Smilax zeylanica</i> L	Smilacaceae	Chopchini	Leaves	<b>2.8</b> ±0.3	<b>7.16</b> ±0.66	<b>5.90</b> ± 0.07
7.	<i>Woodfordia fruticosa</i> (L.) Kurz	Lytharaceae	Dhayati	Flower	<b>2.3</b> ±0.45	<b>7.31</b> ±0.85	<b>8.17</b> ±0.09
8.	<i>Commelina benghalensis</i> L	Commelinaceae	Kena	Leaves	<b>0.8</b> ± 0.3	<b>10</b> ±0.69	<b>8.37</b> ±0.08
9.	<i>Garcinia indica</i> (Du Petit-Thou.) Choisy	Clusiaceae	Kokam	Leaves	<b>1.5</b> ± 0.35	<b>7.71</b> ±0.59	<b>10.30</b> ±0.04
10.	<i>Zanthoxylum rhetsa</i> (Roxb.) DC	Rutaceae	Tirphal, Chirphal.	Fruit	<b>3.8</b> ±0.45	<b>6.23</b> ±0.55	<b>6.37</b> ±0.16

#### Collection of Plant material:

The collection of wild edible plant parts from various localities of Kolhapur district were done during flowering and fruiting period of each plant. Collected plant material was placed in a polythene bag to prevent loss of moisture during transportation to the laboratory. The standard floras were used for correct identification of plant species.

#### Sample preparation:

The healthy and fresh plant parts were washed thoroughly to remove external dust. They were blotted till the excess moisture get absorbed, air dried and weighted to obtain fresh weight. Plant parts were cut in to small pieces and placed in envelops of blotting paper and dried in the oven at 400C until constant weight was obtained. After complete drying the sample was ground to a fine powder by using an electric grinder. The plant powder was packed into airtight sample bottles.

## Methods:

Dry matter, moisture and ash was carried out by using the method of AOAC (1990). Crude fiber, crud fat was described by Sadasivam and Manikam (1992). Crude protein estimated by Hawk *et al.* (1948). Carbohydrates were estimated by Anthron method (Nelson, 1944) and the Atwater system was used to determine the energy values.

## Results and Discussion

In these experiments moisture, dry matter, crude protein, crude fibre, crude fat, total ash, reducing sugar, total sugar, starch and energy content of the wild edible plant parts were analysed. The results are shown in respective tables.

Varma and Khosa (2009) carried out pharmacognostical studies on *Zanthoxylum armatum* leaves. They analysed parameters like total ash, acid soluble ash, water soluble ash, moisture content, water content, foreign organic matter, water soluble extractive, alcohol soluble extractive, chloroform soluble extractive, petroleum ether soluble extractive etc. Moisture content in leaves of *Z. armatum* is 8.97%. Goodson (1921) evaluated constituents of the bark of *Zanthoxylum macrophyllum*. They mentioned bark of *Z. macrophyllum* contains 11.2% of moisture and 4.7% ash. In present study moisture content (89.1±1.37 %FW *Z. rhetsa* fruits) is reported to be higher. Earlier authors used as bark and leaves for their study. In present work fruits had been taken.

Dev et al. (2010) carried out Pharmacognostic and phytochemical studies of bark of *Oroxylum indicum*. They carried out preliminary phytochemical studies of bark of *Oroxylum indicum* including morphological, microscopical, physiochemical studies along with phytochemical studies. In physiochemical properties of stem bark

of *Oroxylum indicum* they obtained total ash value 11.767±0.232%, moisture content 13.845±0.737% respectively. In present work, the moisture content (78.16±0.92% *O. indicum* fruits) is higher than previous work. This difference observed in moisture content because previous author was used stem bark instead of fruits. Bhattacharya and Zaman (2009) worked on pharmacognostical evaluation of *Zanthoxylum nitidium* bark. They studied microscopic characters, physio-chemical evaluations, phytochemical screening, Thin layer chromatography and fluorescence analysis of stem bark of *Z. nitidium*. They obtained 5.81 ± 0.11% total ash value from stem bark of *Z. nitidium*. In present study total ash value (6.57 ± 0.16 % *Z. rhetsa* fruits) is same as reported by above author. Plant parts taken for study are different.

Seal (2011) determined nutritive value, mineral contents and antioxidant activity of some wild edible plants from Meghalaya State, India. They evaluated parameters like ash, moisture, crude fat, crude fiber, crude protein, total carbohydrate, nutritive value, mineral content (Na, K, Ca, Mn, Cu, Fe, Cr, Zn), total phenolic content and DPPH free radical scavenging activity from selected wild edible plant parts; *Zanthoxylum acanthopodium* is one of them. In leaves of *Z. acanthopodium* they reported 7.2±0.24% ash, 56.88±2.67% moisture, 1.99±0.08% crude fat, 28.06±0.14% protein, 5.86±2.53 total carbohydrate, 5.73±0.49% crude fiber, 1536.25±103.49 kcal/kg nutritive value, 1.95 mg/g nitrogen, 33.70 mg/g potassium, 14.35 mg/g calcium, 0.50 mg/g manganese, 0.012 mg/g copper, 1.175 mg/g iron, 0.867mg/g zinc, 61.19±3.01 GAE mg/g DM total phenolic content, 240.44±5.92 IC<sub>50</sub> µg DM/ml DPPH free radical scavenging antioxidant activity. In present study fruits of *Z. rhetsa* showed 2.11±0.24% crude fiber content. Fruits of *Z. rhetsa* showed lower amount of crude fiber content.

Oselebe et al. (2013) carried out ethnobotanical survey of underutilized crops and spices of some

local communities in Nigeria: Potentials for improved nutrition, food security and poverty reduction. They documented total 27 traditional leafy vegetables and five spices belonging to 23 families. They selected 3 traditional leafy vegetables for proximate analysis and physiochemical analysis; *Zanthoxylum zanthoxyloides* is one of them. In leaves of *Zanthoxylum zanthoxyloides* they obtained 9.6% moisture, 8.10% ash, 8.74% crude protein, 2.1% crude fat and 21.3kcal/100g energy content. In present work fruits of *Zanthoxylum rhetsa* showed 3.76±0.45 % crude fat and 20.67±0.016 kJ/100g DW energy content. The values of crude fat and energy are higher in present study. Values obtained in both work is varied may be due to different species have been used.

Nnamani et al. (2009) have done assessment of nutritional values of three underutilized indigenous leafy vegetables of Ebonyi State, Nigeria. They selected three leafy vegetables for their nutritional study; *Z. zanthoxyloides* is one of them. They determined proximate and mineral content from it. In leaves of *Z. zanthoxyloides* they observed protein content was 6.12%. In present study *Z. rhetsa* fruit showed 4.49±0.018% crude protein content. The protein values are lower in present work.

Jin et al. (1999) carried out ethnobotanical studies on wild edible fruits in Southern Yunnan; Folk names; Nutritional values and uses. They collected ethnobotanical information of 123 plant species belonging to 52 families and 82 genera with wild edible fruits used by inhabitants in Southern Yunnan have been recorded. They also evaluated nutritional composition (moisture, total sugars, titratable acid, vitamin 'C', soluble tannin, crude fiber, starch, crude fat) of 52 wild edible fruits. They obtained highest starch content in fruits of *Sterculia brevissima* (16.05%) and lowest in *Citrus macroptera* (0.10%). In present study fruits *O. indicum* contain 0.9626±0.0158 g/100g

DW starch. Action of proline on stomata differs from that of abscisic acid, G-substances or methyl jasmonate carried out by Raghavendra and Reddy (1987). They obtained reducing sugars 87.2 pmol sucrose/mm<sup>-2</sup>, total sugars 116.0 pmol/mm<sup>-2</sup>, starch 247.2 pmol/mm<sup>-2</sup>. In present study, leaves of *C. benghalensis* showed 0.1909±0.0032 g/100g D.W. reducing sugars, 0.2097±0.0047 g/100g Mandal (1997) studied nutritive values of tree leaves of some tropical species for goats. He collected leaves of 31 tropical plant species used for feeding goats for their study; *Bauhinia variegata* is one of them. The proximate and mineral values obtained from leaves were 10.7-15.9% DM crude protein, 25.3-33.0% DM crude fat, 6.3- 12.3% DM total ash, 1.8-4.1% DM calcium, 0.2-0.4% DM phosphorus, 32.48% DM starch respectively. In present study fruits of *Bauhinia recemosa* showed non-reducing sugars content 0.0158±0.0011 g/100g DW, reducing sugars 0.2035±0.0035 g/100g DW, total sugars 0.2193±0.0041 g/100g DW, starch 1.0976±0.0522 g/100g DW, total carbohydrate 1.3159±0.0549 g/100g DW, energy 21.9766±0.9179 kJ/100g DW and crude protein 1.37±0.01 g/100g DW. The total sugars, reducing sugars, non reducing sugars, starch, total carbohydrates, energy and crude protein content is higher in previous study as compared to present study. Values obtained in both works is varied may be due to two different species have been used.

Yang et al. (2006) evaluated 203 g/kg dry matter content from shoot of *O. indicum* they obtained. The result of present work shows lower amount (21.83±0.92 % FW) of dry matter content in fruits of *O. indicum*. Annongu and Folorunso (2003) worked on biochemical evaluation of *Gmelina arborea* fruit meal as a swine feedstuff. They analyzed proximate composition of raw *Gmelina arborea* fruit meal (Raw GAF meal) and treated *Gmelina arborea* fruit meal (treated GAF meal). They obtained dry matter content 78.10±1.30% and 83.31±0.40% from raw GAF meal and treated

GAF meal respectively, crude protein content  $17.56 \pm 0.33\%$  and  $18.41 \pm 0.43\%$  from raw GAF meal and treated GAF meal respectively, crude fiber content  $68.18 \pm 0.41\%$  and  $69.88 \pm 0.47\%$  from raw GAF meal and treated GAF meal respectively, ash content  $3.63 \pm 0.07\%$  and  $10.68 \pm 0.05\%$  from raw GAF meal and treated GAF meal respectively. The result of present work (fruits of *G. arborea*) shows  $5.9 \pm 1.25\%$  FW dry matter. Difference was observed in dry matter content in both works because in present work candidate has taken fresh fruits of *G. arborea* and previous authors have taken raw and treated fruit meal of *G. arborea*.

### **Summary and Conclusion:**

In the bromatological analysis, leaves of *Commelina benghalensis* and *Garcinia indica* contains higher amount of moisture and dry matter content respectively. Flowers of *Ensete superbum* and fruits of *Gmelina arborea* showed higher amount of crude fiber and total ash contents. Higher amount of crude protein and crude fat present in fruits of *Zanthoxylum rhetsa*. Reducing sugars, total sugars, starch and energy content were higher in flowers of *Woodfordia fruticosa*.

In nutritional analysis of selected wild edible plants reveals that moisture, ash, carbohydrates, protein, fat, fiber and energy truth with the RDA levels. The nutritional composition of plants proves that these neglected plants can be a valuable source of nutrients under famine condition.

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