

PROXIMATE ANALYSIS AND MINERAL COMPOSITION OF FIVE SRI LANKAN CULTIVARS OF WINGED BEANS, *PSOPHOGARPUS TETRAGONOLOBUS* (L.) DC.

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The proximate composition was determined for the following five cultivars, Sri Lankan Selection⁷ (SLS 7), SLS 18, SLS 40, University of Papua New Guinea Selection 102 (UPS 102) and Thailand 25.01. The ground samples of mature dried seeds were used in the study. The results showed that the protein content (mean \pm standard deviation) of the five varieties was 33.29 ± 1.24 per cent, the fat content 18.30 ± 0.87 per cent and the soluble carbohydrate 10.92 ± 2.46 per cent. The values obtained in this study fall in line with the values reported by earlier workers for the seeds of Winged Beans.¹

The mineral composition was determined by using an Atomic absorption spectrophotometer. Variations in calcium, iron and phosphorus contents among the five cultivars were hardly observed. However, magnesium, sodium and potassium contents indicated some variability and the amounts were 182.40 ± 71.55 mg/100g, 108.00 ± 35.94 mg/100g and 597.60 ± 54.87 mg/100g respectively. Compared to the values reported by earlier workers,¹ sodium content was considerably high since the samples were from saline areas.

Reference

1. National Academy of Sciences (1975) The Winged bean: a high protein crop for the tropics. Washington.