

## SECTION E

E - 34

### ATTEMPTS AT DRAWING UP STANDARDS FOR COMPLEX AYURVEDIC PRODUCTS

**A. M. Abeysekera, K. T. D. de Silva  
and S. F. Fernando**

*(Dept. of Chemistry, University of Sri Jayewardenepura, Nugegoda)*

The high demand for ayurvedic medicines in Sri Lanka is met only in part by the state-run Ayurvedic Drugs Corporation. The remainder is met by a number of private manufacturers. At present there is no standardisation of the products available in the market.

As a first step towards remedying this unhealthy situation, we have tested the possibility of using various physico-chemical measurements as standards for these products. Our results show that measurements such as loss on drying, ash content, sulphated ash, soluble extractives, quantitative determination of metallic elements and organic compound classes, can be used.

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