

Phenetic relationships of natural and cultivated *Cinnamomum verum* J.Presl. Accessions of Sri Lanka

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Cinnamomum verum is well known as a spice tree. The Cinnamon Research Station possess several *C. verum* accessions where ten different groups have been identified based on leaf morphological characters. These groups were further defined based on their oils properties. Therefore, the present study was undertaken to determine the morphological difference of these accessions in order to evaluate their phenetic relationship with naturally occurring *C. verum*.

Morphological characters were studied in detail. Phenetic analyses were carried out using the statistical packages MINITAB 13.2 and PC-ORD version 4.

Based on the dendrogram, two distinct clusters were identified, where the wild *C. verum* with two accessions grouped together. These two accessions further showed a variation from *C. verum*. The other cluster further divides into two, separating accessions 1 and 3, early and few others, which could also be supported with additional characters. Two accession do not show any morphological difference

Based on the results of the of the phenetic analyses using morphological data, of the ten accessions that are possessed by the Cinnamon Research Station, that have been collected from wild, only two

accessions are morphologically close to *C. verum* while the other eight accessions show several morphological characters that are different from *C. verum*.

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