STUDY OF PHYTOCHEMISTRY OF MORINGA OLEIFERA LEAVES (DRUM STICKS)

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ABSTRACT

Moringa oleifera commonly called Moringa, is a valuable tree whose fruits, roots and leaves have been advocated for traditional, medicinal and industrial uses. Moringa oleifera is an interesting plant for its use in bioactive compounds. The aim of the present study was to evaluate the chemical composition and nutritional values of dried M. oleifera leaf collected from market of Aurangabad. The phytochemical and nutritional properties of the dried leaf powder of M. oleifera used as nutraceuticals, dietary supplements, functional foods or a source of vegetable in meal preparation. The nutritional and natural products characterization of Moringa conducted in this study show that the leaves of this plant can contribute significantly to the daily recommended allowance needed for many vitamins and mineral needs as well as serve as a rich source of polyphenols, confirming the importance and role that Moringa can play to improve the health and nutrition particularly in malnourished populations.

Keywords: Moringa oleifera, phytochemical and nutritional properties.