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EFFECT OF SALT WATER TREATMENT ON THE EXTRACTION OF OIL FROM LEMONGRASS (Cymbopogon flexuosus)

Lemongrass oil is produced by the distillation of lemongrass. Wilting and chopping of the harvested lemongrass before distillation result in increased production of oil with higher content of citral (Chinnamma and Menon 1973). Dejong as reported by Guenther 1949 mentions that drying or fermenting the leaves of patchouly results in considerably higher yield of oil. Studies conducted on the effect of treatment of peoper berries with sodium chloride have shown that it augments production of oil. An attempt is therefore made to study the effect of treatment of harvested lemongrass with sodium chloride solution at various concentrations viz, 0.5., 1.0., 1.5., 2% for 12 hours with 5 replications

	Quantity of grass used Average oil in cc.	$1\frac{1}{2}$ kg. Average citral content of oil
Control	630	84.18
Dipped in 0.5% Nacl.	6.02	85.82
1.0% ",	5.94	87.78
1.5%	6.08	87 64
2.0% \$5	6.58	87.66
CD.	7.50	4.422
F-ratio	Not significant	Not significaut

Table 1

before distillation on the quality and quantity of oil extracted. The results are presented in Table 1. The production of oil in the treatments is less than that of the control. There is an increase in citral content of oil from 84.18 to 87.66% when the lemongrass is treated with 2% NaCl. Which is an important factor that determines the commercial value of the oil. It is therefore concluded that the treatment of lemongrass with 1.5 to 2% NaCl., increases the citral content of the lemongrass oil eventhough there is no increase in the oil production.

Novano

ഇഞ്ചിപ്പല്ല° വാററിയാണ° തൈലം എട്ടക്കന്നഇ° വാറരന്നതിന°മന്വ° പല്ല° കഷണ ഞ്ടാക്കക, ഉണക്കക, കിണാനത്തിന° വിദേയമാക്കക എന്നിവകൊണ്ട° തൈലത്തിനെറ അളവം

RESEARCH NOTES

ഗുണവും വർദ്ധിയ്ക്കമന്ത് കണ്ടിട്ടുണ്ട്. പരാസരണ മർദ്ദംകൊണ്ട് തൈലത്തിൻെറ മേന വർദ്ധിയ്ക്കമായന്ത് പരീക്ഷിച്ചനോക്കിയതിൽ 1.5 – 2 ശതമാനം ഉപ്പലായനിയിൽ ഇഞ്ചി പ്പല്ല് 12 മണിക്കൂർ മക്കിവയ്യുന്നത്തകൊണ്ട് തൈലം കൂടുതൽ ലഭിയ്യുന്നില്ലെങ്കിലും, അതിൽ അടങ്ങിയിട്ടുള്ള സിട്രാളിൻെറ അംശം വർദ്ധിയ്യുന്നതായി കാണുകയുണ്ടായി.

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Lemongrass Research Station, Odakkali, Asamannoor, K. CHANDRASEKHARAN NAIR E. V. G. NAIR

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