

Assessment of Proximate and Mineral Element Content of Crude Methanolic Extract of *Clausena indica* (Dals) Oliver Leaves in Sri Lanka

D.T. Abeysinghe¹, K.A.H. Kumara², D.D.D.H. Alwis³, U.G. Chandrika⁴

Clausena indica (Dals.) Oliver commonly known as “mee-gon-karapincha” plant in Sinhala, belongs to family Rutaceae. In comparison to the other members of Rutaceae family in Sri Lanka, *C. indica* is a less common plant which is usually associated with rain forests. However, *C. indica* is frequently used in traditional medical practices in Sri Lanka, especially in fixing bone fractures and joint dislocations. It is rich in essential photochemical constituents and minerals. In the current study, proximate and mineral content of a crude methanol extract of *C. indica* were analyzed following the standard methods. Moisture content was analyzed by oven drying method and the value was $54.67 \pm 0.00\%$. Total ash content was determined to be $3.00 \pm 0.07\%$ by AOAC methods. Rose-Gottlieb method was used to determine the total fat content, which was $1.32 \pm 0.38\%$. The protein content determined by Kjeldahl method was $18.93\% \pm 0.73$ and the total carbohydrate content was 22.08% . Mineral elements were analyzed according to AOAC official methods and Fe, Zn, Na, K contents were 9.08 ± 0.23 mg/100g, 1.99 ± 1.14 mg/100g, 0.15 ± 0.025 mg/100g, and 0.19 ± 0.04 mg/100g respectively. These findings revealed that the *C. indica* plant leaves are a rich source of Fe and Zn, which also has a significant amount of proximate composition.

Keywords: *Clausena indica*; proximate analysis; Mineral element analysis

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¹ Department of Chemistry, The Open University of Sri Lanka, Nawala, Nugegoda, Sri Lanka, dtabe@ou.ac.lk

² Department of Chemistry, The Open University of Sri Lanka, Nawala, Nugegoda, Sri Lanka

³ Department of Chemistry, The Open University of Sri Lanka, Nawala, Nugegoda, Sri Lanka

⁴ Department of Biochemistry, University of Sri Jayawardanapura, Gangodawila, Nugegoda, Sri Lanka