

## EVALUATION OF SEED OIL OF *MORINGA CONCANENSIS* NIMMO. (MORINGACEAE)

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(Approved on 20-07-2009)

### Abstract

*Moringa oleifera* (Moringaceae), commonly known as "Shigru" is a reputed drug, its each and every part of the plant being recommended in cases of various ailments in Ayurveda. Fruits are used as a vegetable and are added in curries to give it good flavor and taste. In fact the bitter variety of this species *M. concanensis* (Madhusigru in Ayurveda) is said to be more valued because of its bitter medicinal properties and is used in cases of various ailments like arthritis, diabetes etc. In spite of this due to the bitter taste of each and every part of this plant, it is not yet under cultivation and has been listed as an endangered species. State Medicinal Plant Board has recommended its cultivation to make its use on large scale in medicine. Review

of the literature did not revealed much work on any part of the plant, but ethanomedically seed oil is said to possess good anti-inflammatory properties and hence detailed pharmacognostical investigation of seed was first carried out (Wijayasiriwardena C, Sharma P. P., Chauhan M. G. and Pillai A.P.G. 2008) and then it was thought worthwhile to study the seed oil of this plant. The paper deals with extraction of fixed oil from seeds, determination of composition of fatty acids in the oil and establishment of physico-chemical parameters of the oil.

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