

COMPARISON OF EXTRACTIVE CONTENT BETWEEN FIVE SECTIONS OF
ARECA CATECHU TRUNK

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ABSTRACT

The comparison of extractive content has been studied between five sections of areca catechu trunk. The objective of this simple study is to determine the percentage of extractive can be solves by cold and hot water solubility such as tannins, sugar, coloring matter, starch and other. The result show the top of the trunk had highest percentages of extractive and the percentages of extractive will decrease from the top to bottom. That mean the bottom had lowest percentages of extractive.

CHAPTER ONE

1.0 INTRODUCTION

Areca catechu are handsome tree cultivated in all the warmer parts of Asia for its yellowish-red fruits the size of a hen's egg, containing the seed about the size of an acorn, conical shape with flattened base and brownish in colour externally; internally mottled like a nutmeg. The seeds are cut into narrow pieces and rolled inside Betel Pepper leaf, rubbed over with lime and chewed by the natives. They stain the lips and teeth red and also the excrement, they are hot and acrid when chewed.

Areca Nut contains a large quantity of tannin, also gallic acid, a fixed oil gum, a little volatile oil, lignin, and various saline substances. Four alkaloids have been found in Areca Nut - Arecoline, Arecain, Guracine, and a fourth existing in very small quantity. Arecoline resembles Pilocarpine in its effects on the system. Arecaine is the active principle of the Areca Nut.

Areca Nut is aromatic and astringent and is said to intoxicate when first taken. The natives chew these nuts all day. Whole shiploads are exported annually from Sumatra, Malacca, Siam and Cochin China. In this country Areca Nut is made into a dentrifice on account of its astringent properties. Catechu is often made by boiling