

Investigation of Nitrate Contents of Some Vegetables and Cucurbits Offered in Zahedan Fruits and Vegetables Market, 2020

Mohammad Reza Shadan¹, Hanieh Sheikh², Fahimeh Khoushab³, Anahita Shadan⁴

Received: 27.10.2022

Accepted: 01.12.2022

Published: 05.01.2023

Abstract

Background: Nitrate is an essential nutrient for the growth of plants. The presence of it in vegetables, water and other foods, is a serious threat for human health. Human body receives about 80% of nitrate from fruits and vegetables. The purpose was to determine the amount of nitrates in some vegetables and cucurbits (basil, mint, radish and tomato) that are sold in fruit and vegetable market of Zahedan city in 2020 year.

Methods: Hundred and twenty samples were selected and their nitrate content were measured by HPLC method. The significance level was less than 5%.

Results: Mean of nitrate in, tomato, mint, radish and basil were 20.55, 515.76, 585.73 and 591.7mg/kg respectively. The mean of nitrate in basil was slightly higher than the radish but difference wasn't statistically significant. There was statistically significant difference among mean of nitrate in investigated vegetables (p value < 0.05). Mean of nitrate in basil was higher than others (p value < 0.05). A statistically significant difference was observed among mean of nitrate in vegetables namely tomato, mint, radish and basil in the investigated stalls (p value < 0.05).

Conclusion: Amount of nitrate in samples were lower than the national standard limit that is not harmful for human health. It can be concluded that the vegetables sold in Zahedan city are good in terms of nitrate content and they don't cause health problems. As high consumption rate of different type of vegetables by human and variation of their nitrate concentration, additional investigation and permanent control of their nitrate concentration is necessary.

Keywords: Nitrate; Vegetables; Cucurbits; Tomato; Mint; Radish; Basil

Citation: Shadan MR, Sheikh H, Khoushab F, Shadan A. **Investigation of Nitrate Contents of Some Vegetables and Cucurbits Offered in Zahedan Fruits and Vegetables Market, 2020.** J Zabol Med Sch 2022; 5(4): 173-81.

1- Clinical Immunology Research Center. Department of Nutrition, School of Medicine, Zahedan University of Medical Sciences, Zahedan, Iran

2- School of Medicine, Zahedan University of Medical Sciences, Zahedan, Iran

3- Department of Nutrition, School of Health, Zabol University of Medical Sciences, Zabol, Iran

4- Department of Veterinary Medicine, College of Veterinary Medicine, University of Zabol, Zabol, Iran

Corresponding Author: Fahimeh Khoushab, Email: fyasiny@yahoo.com

استان، پیشنهاد می‌شود که در فواصل زمانی معین، غلظت نیترات در سبزیجات مورد ارزیابی قرار گیرد. در نهایت به منظور کاهش تجمع نیترات در سبزی‌ها، به کارگیری روش‌های زراعی نظری استفاده از کشت آلی، مواد الی کمپوست شده و کودهای زیستی برای افزایش کارآیی مصرف نیتروژن پیشنهاد می‌شود.

تشکر و قدردانی

این مقاله برگرفته از طرح تحقیقاتی با کد اخلاقی IR.ZAUMS.REC. ۱۳۹۹.۲۰۶ در دانشگاه علوم پزشکی زاهدان می‌باشد. بدین‌وسیله نویسنده‌گان بر خود لازم می‌دانند از حمایت مسؤولین دانشگاه و کسانی که در انجام این پژوهه یاری رسانندند، قدردانی نمایند.

References

- World Health Organization. Diet, nutrition and the prevention of chronic diseases. [Online] [2003]. Available from: URL: www.fao.org/docrep/005/AC911E/AC911E00.htm.
- Kiani Sh, Gheytasi M. Evaluation of nitrate and nitrite accumulation in vegetables exposed on ShahreKord's markets [in Persian]. Journal of Food Hygiene 2016; 5(20): 67-80.
- Santamaría P. Review – nitrate in vegetables: toxicity content, intake and EC regulation. Journal of the Science of Food and Agriculture 2006; 86: 10-17.
- Risch HA, Jain M, Choi NW, Fodor JG, Pfeiffer CJ, Howe GR, et al. Dietary factors and the incidence of cancer of the stomach. Am J Epidemiol 1985; 122(6): 947-59.
- Dutt MC, Lim HY, Chew RK. Nitrate consumption and the incidence of gastric cancer in Singapore. Food Chem Toxicol 1987; 25(7): 515-20.
- Armijo R, Gonzalez A, Orellana M, Coulson AH, Sayre JW, Detels R. Epidemiology of gastric cancer in Chile: nitrate exposure and stomach cancer frequency. Int J Epidemiol 1981; 10(1): 57-62.
- World Health Organization. Nitrate and nitrite in drinking water - background document for development of WHO guidelines for drinking water quality. Geneva, Switzerland: World Health Organization; 2007.
- EFSA. Nitrate in vegetables: scientific opinion of the panel on contaminants in the food chain. EFSA 2008; 689: 1-79.
- Shokrzadeh M, Shokravie M, Ebadi AG, Babaee Z, Tarighati A. The measurement of nitrate and nitrite content in leek and spinach sampled from central cities of Mazandaran state of Iran. World Applied Sciences Journal 2007; 2(2): 121-4.
- Onyesom I, Okoh PN. Quantitative analysis of nitrate and nitrite contents in vegetables commonly consumed in Delta State, Nigeria. Br J Nutr 2006; 96(5): 902-5.
- Shahlaei A, Alemzadeh Ansari N, Sedighie Dehkordie F. Evaluation of nitrate and nitrite content of Iran southern (Ahwaz) vegetables during winter and spring of 2006. Asianian Journal of Plant Sciences 2007; 6(8): 1197-203.
- Thompson BM, Nokes CJ, Cressy PJ. Intake and risk assessment of nitrate and nitrite from New Zealand foods and drinking water. Food Addit Contam 2007; 24: 113-8.
- Fatemi Ghomsheh A, Nezami S. Study of nitrate status in some vegetables collected from Kermanshah vegetables markets [in Persian]. Iranian J Health Environ 2020; 13(1): 77-86.
- Dich J, Jarvinen R, Knekt P, Penttila PL. Dietary intakes of nitrate, nitrite and NDMA in the Finnish Mobile Clinic Health Examination Survey. Food Addit Contam 1996; 13(5): 541-52.
- Farrington D, Damant AP, Powell K, Ridsdale J, Walker M, Wood R. A comparison of the extraction methods used in the UK nitrate residues monitoring program. J Asso Public Anal 2006; 34: 1-11.
- Foodstuffs- Determination of nitrate and / or nitrite content-Part 2: HPLC/IC method for the determination of nitrate content of vegetables and vegetable products. EN 12014-2: 2017.
- Yordanov ND, Novakoral E, Lubenova S. Consecutive estimation of nitrate and nitrite ions in vegetables and fruits by electron paramagnetic resonance spectrometry. Journal of Analytica Chimica Acta 2001; 437(1): 131-8.
- Pirsahab M, Sharafi K, Moradi M. A survey on nitrite and nitrate levels in vegetables and cucurbits cultivated in northern and western plains of Kermanshah city in 2012 [in Persian]. Journal of Food Hygiene, 2013; 3(1): 77-87.

19. Tabandeh L, Zarei M. Overview of nitrate concentration in some vegetables produced in Zanjan Province. Iranian Journal of Soil Research 2018; 32(3): 373-81.
20. Beheshti M, Shahbazi K, Bazargan K, Malekzadeh E. Study of nitrate status in tomatoes and cucumbers distributed in the Alborz Province Market [in Persian]. J Alborz Univ Med Sci 2019; 8(3): 281-99.
21. Shahbazzadegan S, Hashemimajd K, Shahbazi B. Determination of Nitrate Concentration of Consumed Vegetables and Fruits in Ardabil [in Persian], J Ardabil Univ Med Sci 2010, 10(1): 38-47.
22. Sobhan Ardakani S, Shayesteh K, Afyuni M, Mahboubi Soufiani NA. Nitrate concentration in some plants in Isfahan [in Persian]. Journal of Environmental Studies 2005; 13(37): 37-69.
23. Fytianos K, Zarogiannis P, Nitrate and nitrite accumulation in fresh vegetables from Greece. Bull Environ Contam Toxicol 1999; 62(2): 187-92.