

Note on the protein content of some varieties of cashewnut (*Anacardium occidentale* L.)

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Cashewnut (*Anacardium occidentale* L.) has the highest protein content among the tree-nuts (Woodroof, 1970). Hence the protein content of some available cashew-nut varieties was studied in the present experiment.

The kernels were separated from the raw nuts and oven-dried. The total nitrogen of the kernel was estimated by the Kjeldahl method. The crude protein was calculated by multiplying nitrogen with the factor 6.25 (AOAC, 1960).

The protein content of the kernels ranged from 13.13 to 25.03 per cent, indicating that the types studied differ widely in this vital constituent (Table 1). Thus protein should be considered as one of the most important factors in future breeding and selection programmes of cashewnut.

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WOODROOF, J. G. 1970. Tree nuts. *Indian Cashew J.* 6(4): 7-11.

Table 1. Protein content of raw cashew kernel (expressed on oven-dry basis)

Variety	Place	Protein (%)
'Agumbe'	Mysore	16.28
*'M26/1 Edayanchavadi'	Tamil Nadu	19.08
*'M26/2 Edayanchavadi'	Tamil Nadu	19.08
*'M27/2 Edayanchavadi'	Tamil Nadu	20.65
*'E3/1 Ex-Tanganyika 3'	Tanganyika	19.60
*'M54/4 Gangadevakuppam'	Tamil Nadu	23.28
*'E2 Singapore'	Singapore	21.00
*'M44/3 Kattupalli'	Tamil Nadu	22.23
*'M46/3 Kattupalli'	Tamil Nadu	18.90
'Kasaragod'	Kerala	20.15
*'E8 Kenya'	Kenya	21.87
*'M3/2 Narumanam'	Tamil Nadu	13.13
*'M6/1 Peppariamkuppam'	Tamil Nadu	21.18
'Ramapuram-Cuddalore Big'	Tamil Nadu	15.58
'Ramapuram-Cuddalore Irrigated'	Tamil Nadu	20.65
*'M35/4 Rangium'	Tamil Nadu	14.88
*'ME4/4 Selection 1/40'	Mysore	16.63
'Tirthahalli'	Mysore	21.18
*'M10/4 Vazhisodanopalayam'	Tamil Nadu	25.03
'Vittal'	Mysore	22.40

*Nuts collected from Cashew Research Station, Vriddhachalam, Tamil Nadu.

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