

COMPARISON OF PHOTOSYNTHETIC PIGMENT EXTRACTION CAPABILITIES OF ORGANIC SOLVENTS FROM COMMONLY CONSUMED LEAFY VEGETABLES

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This study was undertaken to compare the photosynthetic pigment extraction capabilities of different organic solvents namely 80% acetone, 95% ethanol, DMSO and methanol from commonly consumed leafy vegetables *Amaranthus viridis*, *Argyreia populifolia*, *Centella asiatica*, *Dregea volubilis*, *Glinus oppositifolius*, *Moringa oleifera*, *Pisonia alba*, *Sauropus androgynus*, *Sesbania grandiflora* and *Solanum trilobatum*. It was found that both DMSO and methanol are best for the extraction of chlorophyll except from *Glinus oppositifolius*, *Pisonia alba*, *Sesbania grandiflora* and *Solanum trilobatum*. DMSO was found to be the suitable extracting solvent for chlorophyll b from many of the studied leafy vegetables except from *Amaranthus viridis*, *Argyreia populifolia*, *Pisonia alba* and *Sauropus androgynus*. The best extracting solvents for carotenoids from most of the studied leafy vegetables were found to be 80% acetone and 95% ethanol except from *Argyreia populifolia* and *Dregea volubilis*.

Keywords: Pigment Extraction, Organic Solvents, Leafy Vegetables