

Comparative Proximate Composition of Selected Edible Vegetables Harvested from Farmland Nearby Oil Impacted Sites in Rivers State, Nigeria

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Abstract : Comparative proximate composition of selected edible vegetables (*Abelmoschus esculentus*, *Telfairia occidentalis*, *vernonia amygdalina* and *Talinum triangulare*) harvested in farmland nearby oil impacted sites in Rivers State was investigated. The result obtained was compared to the proximate composition of similar edible vegetables harvested from non oil producing areas in Imo State. Values from the study areas indicated vegetables with high moisture levels (highest values in *Abelmoschus esculentus* and *Telfairia occidentalis*; $6.07 \pm 0.11\%$ and $4.10 \pm 0.12\%$) low ash contents (lowest value in *Telfairia occidentalis* $9.80 \pm 0.08\%$) low crude protein (lowest value in *Talinum triangulare* $8.15 \pm 0.06\%$) high lipid content (highest value in *Talinum triangulare* $4.12 \pm 0.20\%$) lower crude fibre (lowest value in *Abelmoschus esculentus* $9.58 \pm 0.08\%$) and higher Carbohydrate contents (highest value in *vernonia amygdalina* $62.18 \pm 0.67\%$). Values obtained indicated vegetables with lower quality in the study areas.

Keywords : edible vegetables, proximate composition, oil spill, farmland

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