

## Identification of quality *Alexandrian loural* oil in market samples through a traditional organoleptic method

Dissanayake DMP<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup>“*Purna Oushadha*”, Quality Traditional Oil Manufacturers, Veyangoda, Sri Lanka.

### Abstract

Alexandrian Loural oil is a traditional oil used by Sri Lankans since prehistoric era. It is used by the Traditional practitioners for orthopedic purposes, nerve disorders, ulcers, skin diseases, hemorrhoids and fistula. At present most of the loural oil products available in the market are not in good quality. Thus the objective of this paper was to present a traditional organoleptic parameter which is used by the Sri Lankan Traditional oil manufacturer (*Purna Oushadha*) to identify quality oil since 1931.

Organoleptic parameters (colour and smell) of four different brands (A, B, C and D) were compared with in-house preparation (E) of Alexandrian Loural oil. Plant materials (matrix of the *Callophyllum inophyllum* L. seed) were prepared according to the traditional standard method used by the *Purna Oushadha*. Oil was prepared by the Traditional *Sekku* oil preparing machine and filtered.

The results were given in the order of A, B, C, D and E. Brand “A” was light greenish colour in the white light and transparent. It had a deposit. It was converted to dark black when it kept under sunlight. It turned to light green after several days. It also had a mixed odour. Brand “B” was peacock blue colour in the white light and heavily turbid. It had a coconut oil mixed odour. No changes were observed when kept under sunlight. Brand “C” was brown in colour in the white light and had a odor similar to loural oil. No changes were observed when kept under sunlight. Brand “D” was black in the white light. But it was transparent. No changes when kept under sunlight. It had a mixed odour of coconut oil. Brand “E” was black in colour and it was purple green colour in the white light. It was thick and had a continuous smooth odor.

The results revealed a significant deviation of marketed samples from the in-house preparation. Organoleptic measures of the in-house preparations showed unique features of good quality *Alexandrian Loural* oil observed since 1931. Arrangements of sediment in the quality oil will increase with years of kept. It is also a unique feature of Alexandrian Loural oil. These results would be considered as tools for manufacturing quality *Alexandrian Loural* oil with great efficacy.

**Keywords:** Organoleptic parameters, *Alexandrian Loural* oil