

SUMMARY

Two field trials of cinnamon were established in Matara and Ambalangode which are the major cinnamon growing areas in Sri Lanka. Cinnamon bark and leaf samples harvested at 8 different maturity levels were used for the extraction of volatile oils.

The chemical conjunction of volatile oils was done by GLC. There is a significant difference in cinnamon bark and leaf oil contents between two locations. It was found that the highest levels of cinnamon bark and leaf oil were obtained after the 18 months maturity from both locations. The overall mean value for the contents of cinnamon bark and leaf oils as well as the different groups of chemical compounds presence in the volatile oils were higher for Ambalangoda samples than that of Matara, irrespective of the maturity. No generalization can yet be made about any trends in compositional variation of cinnamon bark and leaf oils obtained at different maturity levels.