

## Nutritional evaluation of *Bhimkal* (*Musa* AAB) powder baby food at different storage periods

### ABSTRACT

Fully matured *Bhimkal* was ground and stored at room temperature for four months. The biochemical changes in *Bhimkal* powder were analysed at five different storage periods viz. zero month, one month, two months, three months and at four months. The results revealed that the controlled sample showed the highest values for all the observed parameters like moisture (12.00%), ash (1.05%), fat (0.92%), protein (1.75%), crude fibre (1.05%), reducing sugar (7.50%), non reducing sugar (7.50%), vitamin C (20mg/100gm), titrable acidity (0.20%) and starch (60.15%) contents. These values were almost constant upto two months of storage whereas slight variations were observed at three and four months of storage. The values of the parameters at four months of storage period were as follows: moisture (11.50%), ash (0.68%), fat (0.80%), protein (1.73%), crude fibre (0.70%), reducing sugar (7.10%), non reducing sugar (5.50%), vitamin C (18.00mg/100gm), titrable acidity (0.16%) and starch (59.55%) contents. Thus the results revealed that the *Bhimkal* powder is suitable as baby food upto four months of storage with a very little decrease in the values of the nutritional parameters from the controlled sample.