

Physico-chemical changes of *Amritsagarkal* (*Musa* AAA) at different developing stages.

ABSTRACT

A common cultivar of banana an important commercial crop of Assam and Northeastern states of India, belonging to *Musa* AAA, locally known as *Amritsagarkal* was investigated for the morphological and biochemical changes during various stages of fruit development. The fruits were analyzed at five different stages viz., 20 DAE (days after emergence), 35 DAE, 50 DAE, 65 DAE and at ripening. The results revealed that various morphological parameters viz., length, weight and diameter increased significantly till the fruits attained full maturity. The ripening stage evinced higher moisture (23.96%), reducing sugar (7.62%) and non reducing sugar (7.89%) contents as compared to the other stages of fruit development. On the other hand, ash (1.19%), fat (1.10%), protein (1.99%) and starch (13.65%) contents were found to increase at 65 DAE compared to the other stages. The crude fibre content showed an erratic pattern during the various stages of fruit development. The results obtained in the present study showed that *Amritsagarkal* at 65 DAE can be a potential source of nutritional supplement.