

# WELCOME









**Seminar-2**

**Microgreens - A Novel Approach For Food and Nutritional Security**



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# Seminar outline

**Introduction**

**Microgreens: What are they? and History**

**Commercially grown microgreens and Nutritional Importance**

**Important vegetable crops as Microgreens**

**Microgreens: The Growing Process**

**Homestead utility**

**Review of Literature**

**Conclusion**

# Introduction

✓ The spectrum of life in terms of income, life style and spending is changing rapidly with economic development leading to major challenge of numerous diseases related to nutritional deficiencies.

✓ Non-availability of fresh and pesticide residue free vegetables for consumption.

✓ Diet-related diseases - Imbalanced food consumption patterns.

# Option???????????



## MICROGREENS



It can easily be grown in **urban or peri urban areas.**

- \* Short growth cycle.
- \* Grown with and without-soil.
- \* Successfully grown using organic manures.

Rich in -  
Vitamins,  
Minerals,  
Antioxidants.

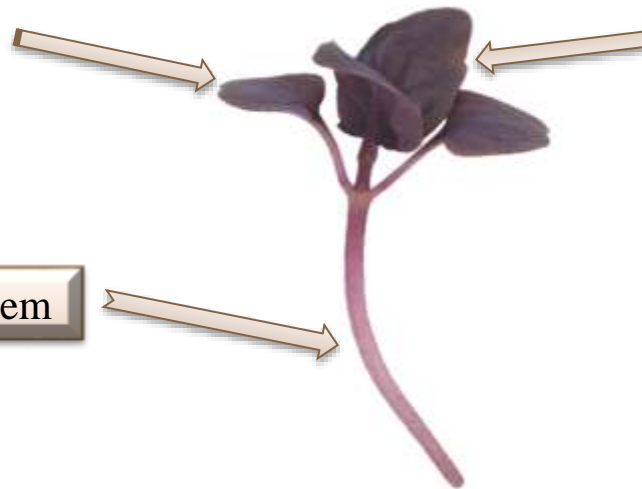
# Microgreens: What are they?

Microgreens are a new class of edible vegetables (Pinto *et al.*, 2015), a very specific type which includes seedlings of edible vegetables, herbs or other plants, ranging in size from 8 to 10 cm (Xiao *et al.*, 2012).

Cotyledon leaf

First pair of young true leaves

Central stem



Older than “Sprouts” and younger than “Babygreens”



# Different Stages of Plant

Sprouts

Microgreens

Babygreens



## Sprouts

- Germinated seeds with emerging root



## Micro greens

- 2-3 inches in height; 7-21 days
- (harvest stem, cotyledons, and emerging true leaves)



## Baby greens

- 4-6 inches in height; 21-40 days



## Mature greens

- >6 inches in height; 40-60 days



# Difference between sprouts and microgreens

## Micro greens

- ✓ Grown in soil or without soil
- ✓ Leaves and stem are eaten
- ✓ Takes 1-3 weeks to grow
- ✓ Filled with flavour and are used for garnishing



## Sprouts

- ✓ Grown in water
- ✓ Seeds are eaten as such
- ✓ Takes 2-3 days
- ✓ Great for crunch



# History



1930s - North America - Wheatgrass as a medicine

1960s - Sunflower, buckwheat and radish - winter “Greens”

1970s - home grown “Grasses” for health benefits

1980s, - “Cresses” and “Seedlings” for garnishing

1990s - California - popularized as “**Vegetable Confetti.**”

1998 - The first documented use of the word “**MICROGREENS**” in USA.

2000s -North America - distributing fresh “Microgreens” to local market

2010 - Microgreens started to appear at grocery stores

# Commercially Grown Microgreens

Commercial name	Botanical Name	Family	Microgreen colour
Arugula	<i>Eruca sativa</i> Mill.	Brassicaceae	Green
Bull's blood beet	<i>Beta vulgaris</i> L.	Chenopodiaceae	Reddish green
Celery	<i>Apium graveolens</i> L.	Apiaceae	Green
Cilantro	<i>Coriandrum sativum</i> L.	Apiaceae	Green
Garnet amaranth	<i>Amaranthus hypochondriacus</i> L.	Amaranthaceae	Red
Golden pea tendrils	<i>Pisum sativum</i> L.	Fabaceae	Yellow
Green basil	<i>Ocimum basilicum</i> L.	Lamiaceae	Green
Green daikon radish	<i>Raphanus sativus</i> L.	Brassicaceae	Green
Magenta spinach	<i>Spinacia oleracea</i> L.	Chenopodiaceae	Red
Mizuna	<i>Brassica rapa</i> L.	Brassicaceae	Green
Opal basil	<i>Ocimum basilicum</i> L.	Lamiaceae	Greenish purple
Opal radish	<i>Raphanus sativus</i> L.	Brassicaceae	Greenish purple
Pea tendrils	<i>Pisum sativum</i> L.	Fabaceae	Green
Pepper cress	<i>Lepidium bonariense</i> L.	Brassicaceae	Green
Popcorn shoots	<i>Zea mays</i> L.	Poaceae	Yellow
Purple kohlrabi	<i>Brassica oleracea</i> L.	Brassicaceae	Purplish green
Purple mustard	<i>Brassica juncea</i> L.	Brassicaceae	Purplish green
Red beet	<i>Beta vulgaris</i> L.	Chenopodiaceae	Reddish green
Red cabbage	<i>Brassica oleracea</i> L.	Brassicaceae	Purplish green
Red mustard	<i>Brassica juncea</i> L.	Brassicaceae	Purplish green
Red orach	<i>Atriplex hortensis</i> L.	Chenopodiaceae	Red
Red sorrel	<i>Rumex acetosa</i> L.	Polygonaceae	Reddish green
Tartary buckwheat	<i>Fagopyrum tataricum</i> L.	Poaceae	Green

# Nutritional Status

- Phytonutrient levels differ according to the growth stage and colour of the plant and often decrease from the seedling to the fully developed stage.

(Barillari *et al.*, 2005)

- Seven days after germination, lettuce microgreens had the highest total phenolic concentration and antioxidant capacity in comparison to the mature plants.

(Oh *et al.*, 2011)

- Spinach microgreens generally had higher levels of phytonutrients and the carotenoids than mature leaves.

(Lester *et al.*, 2015)

Cont..

➤ Microgreens from *Brassica* species are good sources of phenols.

➤ Microgreens = 'Functional Foods'

➤ Nutritional miracle-food



# Health benefits of microgreens

- Cure anaemia.
- Anti-cancer properties (rich in antioxidants).
- Anti-septic and anti-inflammatory properties.
- Reduce the constipation.
- Protects the body from harmful effects of free radicals.
- Reduce the risk of eye diseases
- Maintains the strong and healthy bones.
- Promotes blood clotting.



# Important Vegetable Crops as Microgreens



## Red Amaranth

- Flavour is sweet and tangy.
- Gorgeous magenta leaves
- Vit- A, C, K, and minerals like Ca, Fe.



## Beetroot

- Attractive, deep reddish metallic purple leaves
- Delicious, mild spinach like flavour.
- Rich in vit-A, B, K.



## Broccoli

- Highly nutritious.
- Rich in vit-A, C, minerals-Ca, Fe, protein and chlorophyll.
- Stimulate the immune system.
- Broccoli is a cruciferous (sulfur-containing) powerhouse.



## Cress

- Traditional microgreen
- finely curled leaves and a peppery flavour.
- Good source of vitamin A, C and sulphur. Rich in fibre.



## Dill

- Fine, feathery foliage and a great flavour.
- Goes well with eggs, cucumbers, cheese, and cabbage.



## Fenugreek

- High in protein, vit- A, E, B and minerals.
- Stimulate appetite
- Effective against anaemia and fatigue.



## Kale

- Mild cabbage like flavour
- known to be a **vitamin C powerhouse**.
- Rich in anti-oxidants - prevent macula degeneration



## Linseed

- Mildly spicy and very tender.
- Highly nutritious, rich in Omega-3 fatty acids.



## Radish

- Spicy microgreen.
- Ca, Fe, K, Zn, anti-oxidants, vit-A, B, C, K and folic acid
- Stimulate immune system.



## Red Cabbage

- Red purple microgreen, mild sweet cabbage flavour.
- Rich in vitamins A, B, C, E, K and minerals-Ca, Mg and chlorophyll.
- Stimulate immune system.



## Fennel

- Light leaves and Liquorish flavour.
- Higher in K, vitamin C, B.
- Decrease risk of heart disease.



## Mustard

- Stimulate blood circulation
- Effective against fever and colds.



## Pea

- Sweet and tender.
- Pea shoots promising seven times the vitamin C of blueberries and eight times the folic acid of bean sprouts.



## Carrot

- Fine textured leaves.
- Rich in  $\beta$ -carotene and other phytonutrients like lutein and zeaxanthin.
- Cancer prevention and anti-aging.



**Red Veined Sorrel**



**Golden Corn**



**Onion**



**Basil**



**Arugula**



**Clover**



**Rapini**



**wasabi**

# How to grow microgreens

.....?



# Material and Media

- ✓ Flat tray with good drainage.
- ✓ Media: Coco peat, Vermiculite, perlite, coconut coir.
- ✓ Fill the tray with moist media about 2-3 cm deep.
- ✓ Seed.





## Sowing

- ✓ Soaking .
- ✓ Seeding - Broadcast or sprinkle the seeds on top of the media and press lightly.
- ✓ Covered with paper towel/ Vermiculite/ Cocopeat.



## Practices

- ✓ Watering by fine spray .
- ✓ High light conditions with low humidity and good air circulation.
- ✓ Requires 12 and 16 hours of light and 18–24 C° temperature.



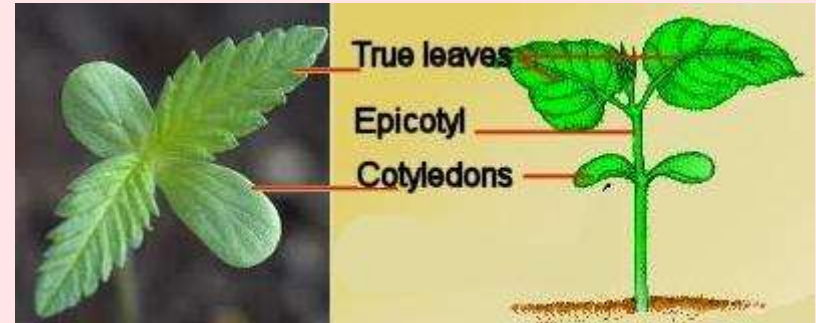
# Nutritional requirement

- ✓ Not need much fertilizer.
- ✓ Diluted organic nutrients. *e.g.* Seaweed spraying will improve the nutrient levels in the microgreens
- ✓ Germination paper dipping into fertilizer if grown without media.



# Harvesting

- ✓ Appearance of 1<sup>st</sup> set of true leaves.
- ✓ Cutting above from media surface.
- ✓ Packing without roots.
- ✓ Some types will regrow and can be cut several times.
- ✓ Invert the media, top it up with a bit of fresh media and replant.





# How to Sow Microgreens



## Step 1



Fill a seed tray or other shallow, wide container with fine seed compost. Compress lightly.

## Step 2



Sprinkle seed thickly all over. Do not bury. Water using a fine nozzle or by lowering the tray into shallow water to hydrate from the bottom up.

## Step 3



Cover the tray with a board to keep the seeds in the dark until they germinate.

## Step 4



Remove the board as soon as the seeds germinate.

## Step 5



Water and grow on for another 1 to 2 weeks.

## Step 6



Harvest by pulling gently out of the compost, roots and all, or by snipping off with scissors. Eat immediately.

**Table:1 Some Requirements for Growing Microgreens**

<b>Micro-greens</b>	<b>Seed (g)/Tray (30 x 30 cm )</b>	<b>Soaking Time (h)</b>	<b>Depth of media Mix (cm)</b>	<b>Temperature (°C)</b>	<b>Maturity (Days)</b>
Amaranth	2.5	NA	2	>22	16-20
Purple Basil	2.5	NA	1	>24	16-20
Beet root	12.5	8 - 10	2	16-25	16-20
Buckwheat	12.5	8 -12	2	20-25	5-6
Cress	8	NA	1	16-25	5-14
Dill	5	NA	1	15-23	16-20
Kale	5	4-8	2	16-28	16-20
Linseed	36	NA	2	16-25	6-8
Mustard	2.5	8	2	16-25	15-20
Pea shoots	100-150	8-12	2	15-25	10-14
Radish	5	6-12	3	16-28	12
Cabbage	5	4-8	2	16-25	3-6
Arugula	3	NA	2	16-25	16-20
Sunflower	50	8-12	2	20-25	8-12

# Post Harvest Management



Microgreens have a short shelf life. Hence, require better methods of storing and transporting.

Commercial microgreens are most often stored in plastic clamshell containers and refrigeration @ 2.5-3.5<sup>0</sup> C up to 7 days.

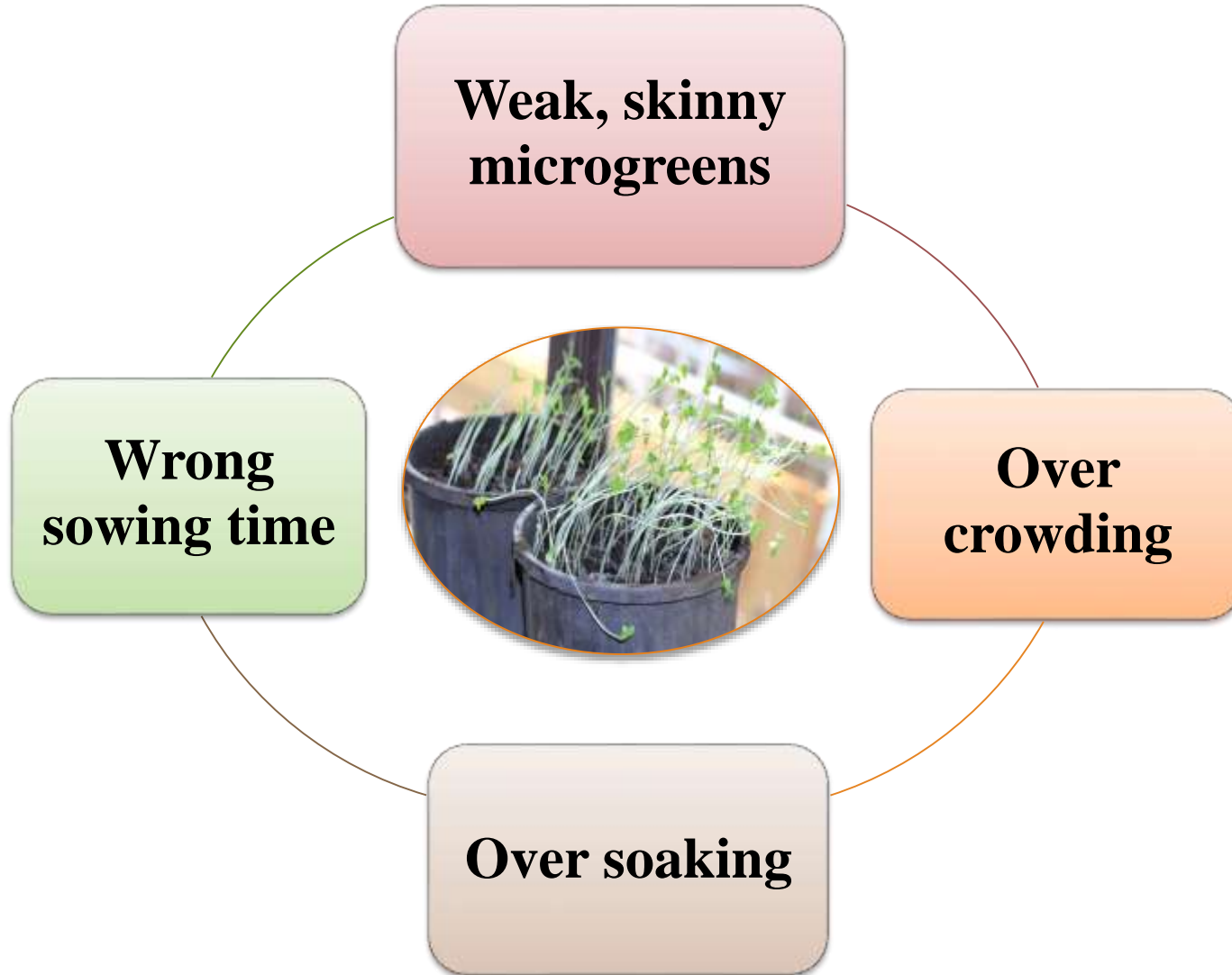


Biodegradable Clamshell containers also available.





# Microgreen Troubleshooting



# Microgreens under Vertical garden

## Orientation

- ✓ It determines the amount of light each plant receives.
- ✓ Need full sun, or at least 5-6 hours of bright light .
- ✓ An A-frame vertical garden gives maximum food in minimum space.



(Patterson, 2016)

- ✓ Choose south or southwestern exposure to grow high-light plants.
- ✓ Eastern exposure is good for root vegetables, herbs and greens.
- ✓ Artificial lighting - Using overhead lighting
- ✓ Arrange high-light veggies on the top shelves and the others at lower levels.





## Vertical planting of microgreens against wall

## Crops suitable for vertical gardening

- Red amaranth
  - Cabbage
  - Broccoli
  - Sunflower
  - Beet
  - Daikon radish
  - Basil
  - Mustard
  - Khol rabi
- Chives
  - Parsley
  - Sage
  - Mint
  - Cilantro

# Hydroponic Production of Microgreens



❖ **Media** : Paper towel, hessian/burlap sheets, rockwool cubes or sheets, thin kitchen cloth and hydroponic microgreen pads can all be used.

❖ Microgreens best produced on thin mat/ capillary pad.



**Step 0:** Balance the pH of water – 5.5 to 6.5

**Step 1:** Preparation of Trays

**Step 2:** Spread of Seeds

For smaller seeds (**arugula, broccoli**) - 2-3 table spoon.

larger seeds like (**radish**) quarter cup.

**Step 3:** Mist & Cover – use the spray mister to spray the seeds.

**Step 4:** Mist Every 12 Hours.

Do not add additional water other than the misting.





**Step 5:** Uncover The Tray – after 4 or 5 days.

Direct sunlight, fluorescent, or incandescent lights, propagation lamps.

**Step 6:** Check Daily – Right balance of water from seeding to till harvest.

**Step 7:** Time to Harvest – Most microgreens will be ready to harvest in 10 days.

**Step 8:** Harvest – Move the trays to a cool, shady place.

Harvest greens during late evening or early morning

Uproot the entire clump from the grow pad.

Use scissors to trim the roots from the greens.



**Step 9** : Washing- Use cold water.

**Step 10**: Packing – In clamshell boxes.



## Problems:

- Seedling rot
- Fungal pathogens

# Homestead Utility

- Plate's presentation (add vivid colours)
- Introduce hidden tangy flavour
- Microgreen Salads: All the flavour of a Big Salad in a Tiny Pile on Plate.



***Idada* with mustard  
microgreens**



**Mix vegetable soup  
with microgreens**



***Khaman* with  
microgreens**

# CASE STUDIES



[WWW.28FRESH.COM](http://WWW.28FRESH.COM)



## Assessment of Vitamin and Carotenoid Concentrations of Emerging Food Products: Edible Microgreens

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<sup>‡</sup>Food Quality Laboratory, Beltsville Agricultural Research Center, Agricultural Research Service, U.S. Department of Agriculture, 10300 Baltimore Avenue, Beltsville, Maryland 20705, United States

### Objective:

To determine the concentrations of ascorbic acid, tocopherols, phyloquinone and carotenoids in 25 commercially available microgreens.



(Xiao *et al.*, 2012)

# Material and Methods

## Material:

- Twenty-five varieties of microgreens

## Methods:

- Phylloquinone - HPLC analysis(270nm)
- TAA - Spectrophotometric method(525nm)
- Tocopherol & Carotenoids – HPLC(290 &450nm)

**Table :2 Twenty-five Commercially Grown Microgreens Assayed in the Nutrient Study**

Common Name	Scientific Name	Family	Plant color
Arugula	<i>Eruca sativa</i> Mill.	Brassicaceae	Green
Bull's blood beet	<i>Beta vulgaris</i> L.	Chenopodiaceae	Reddish green
Celery	<i>Apium graveolens</i> L.	Apiaceae	Green
China rose radish	<i>Raphanus sativus</i> L.	Brassicaceae	Purplish green
Cilantro	<i>Coriandrum sativum</i> L.	Apiaceae	Green
Garnet amaranth	<i>Amaranthus hypochondriacus</i> L.	Amaranthaceae	Red
Golden pea tendrils	<i>Pisum sativum</i> L.	Fabaceae	Yellow
Green basil	<i>Ocimum basilicum</i> L.	Lamiaceae	Green
Green daikon radish	<i>Raphanus sativus</i> L.var. <i>longipinnatus</i>	Brassicaceae	Green
Magenta spinach	<i>Spinacia oleracea</i> L.	Chenopodiaceae	Red
Mizuna	<i>Brassica rapa</i> L.ssp. <i>Nipposinica</i>	Brassicaceae	Green

Cont.....

<b>Pea tendrils</b>	<i>Pisum sativum</i> L.	<b>Fabaceae</b>	<b>Preen</b>
<b>Pepper cress</b>	<i>Lepidium bonariense</i> L.	Brassicaceae	Preen
<b>Opal basil</b>	<i>Ocimum basilicum</i> L.	Lamiaceae	Greenish purple
<b>Opal radish</b>	<i>Raphanus sativus</i> L.	Brassicaceae	Greenish purple
<b>Popcorn shoots</b>	<i>Zea mays</i> L.	Poaceae	Pellow
<b>Purple kohlrabi</b>	<i>Brassica oleracea</i> L. var. <i>gongylodes</i>	Brassicaceae	Purplish green
<b>Purple mustard</b>	<i>Brassica juncea</i> (L.) Czern.	Brassicaceae	Purplish green
<b>Red beet</b>	<i>Beta vulgaris</i> L.	Chenopodiaceae	Peddish green
<b>Red cabbage</b>	<i>Brassica oleracea</i> L. var. <i>capitata</i>	Brassicaceae	Purplish green
<b>Red mustard</b>	<i>Brassica juncea</i> (L.) Czern.	Brassicaceae	Purplish green
<b>Red orach</b>	<i>Atriplex hortensis</i> L.	Chenopodiaceae	Red
<b>Red sorrel</b>	<i>Rumex acetosa</i> L.	Polygonaceae	Reddish green
<b>Sorrel</b>	<i>Rumex acetosa</i> L.	Polygonaceae	Green
<b>Wasabi</b>	<i>Wasabia japonica</i> Matsum.	Brassicaceae	Green



**Table:3** - Mean Phylloquinone, Total ascorbic acid, Tocopherol Concentrations in 25 Commercially Grown Microgreens

**Table:4** - Mean  $\beta$ -Carotene, Violaxanthin, and Lutein/Zeaxanthin Concentrations in 25 Commercially Grown Microgreens

**LIGHT - EMITTING DIODES (LEDs) FOR HIGHER NUTRITIONAL QUALITY OF  
*BRASSICACEAE* MICROGREENS**

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RESEARCH FOR RURAL DEVELOPMENT 2015, VOLUME 1

**Objective:**

To investigate the effect of industrially designed LED lamp lighting on nutritional quality of *Brassica* microgreens.



# Material and Methods

**Material** – Red pak choi (*Brassica rapa*)

- Musturd (*Brassica juncea* L. red lion)

**Three light treatment:** 1) High pressure sodium lamps

2) LED<sub>150</sub>

3) LED<sub>250</sub>

- ❖ Leaf area (cm<sup>2</sup>) - Automatic leaf area meter
- ❖ Ascorbic acid – Spectrophotometric method (600nm)
- ❖ Total phenol – Folin – ciocalteu method (765nm)
- ❖ Total anthocyanin – Spectrophotometric method (420, 520, 700nm)

**Table:5** - Growth parameters of microgreens cultivated under different light treatments

Light treatment	Hypocotyl length (cm)	Plant height (cm)	Leaf area (cm <sup>2</sup> )
Red pak choi 'Rubi F <sub>1</sub> '			
HPS	3.66±0.33	4.86±0.51	0.89±0.03
LED 150	2.79±0.25 <sup>b</sup>	3.98±0.30 <sup>b</sup>	0.90±0.10
LED 250	2.59±0.35 <sup>b</sup>	3.96±0.30 <sup>b</sup>	1.00±0.10
LSD <sub>05</sub>	0.30	0.46	0.37
Mustard 'Red Lion'			
HPS	3.39±0.22	4.71±0.24	0.91±0.10
LED 150	2.56±0.11 <sup>b</sup>	3.84±0.15 <sup>b</sup>	0.81±0.07
LED 250	2.05±0.06 <sup>b</sup>	3.47±0.10 <sup>b</sup>	0.85±0.13
LSD <sub>05</sub>	0.22	0.24	0.27

Values are expressed as mean ± SD (n=10). LSD<sub>05</sub> - Fisher's protected least significant difference (P≤0.05); b - the value is significantly lower than control (HPS). FW - fresh weight.

**Table :6** - Antioxidant properties of brassicaceae microgreens cultivated under different light treatments

Light treatment	Ascorbic acid (mg g <sup>-1</sup> FW)	Total phenols (mg g <sup>-1</sup> FW)	Total anthocyanins (mg g <sup>-1</sup> FW)
Red pak choi 'Rubi F <sub>1</sub> '			
HPS	0.92±0.07	1.32±0.01	0.52±0.02
LED 150	1.08±0.05 <sup>a</sup>	1.61±0.05 <sup>a</sup>	0.63±0.03 <sup>a</sup>
LED 250	1.12±0.05 <sup>a</sup>	1.69±0.03 <sup>a</sup>	0.53±0.01
LSD <sub>05</sub>	0.11	0.07	0.03
Mustard 'Red Lion'			
HPS	1.47±0.02	1.41±0.06	0.38±0.02
LED 150	1.58±0.03 <sup>a</sup>	1.65±0.02 <sup>a</sup>	0.44±0.03 <sup>a</sup>
LED 250	2.26±0.06 <sup>a</sup>	2.10±0.05 <sup>a</sup>	0.43±0.02
LSD <sub>05</sub>	0.10	0.12	0.05



Contents lists available at ScienceDirect

## Journal of Food Composition and Analysis

journal homepage: [www.elsevier.com/locate/jfca](http://www.elsevier.com/locate/jfca)



Original research article

### Microgreens of Brassicaceae: Mineral composition and content of 30 varieties



Zhenlei Xiao<sup>a,b</sup>, Eton E. Codling<sup>c</sup>, Yaguang Luo<sup>a,\*</sup>, Xiangwu Nou<sup>d</sup>, Gene E. Lester<sup>a</sup>,  
Qin Wang<sup>b</sup>



#### Objective:

Assesment of concentrations of Macro and Micro elements and toxic heavy metals of 30 varieties of Brassicaceae microgreens.

## Material and methods

### Material:

- 30 varieties of Brassicaceae microgreens

### Methods:

- Spectrophotometric method.

**Table:7** - 30 commercially grown microgreens of Brassicaceae family.

sl.no	Commercial name	Scientific name
1	Arugula	<i>Eruca sativa</i> Mill.
2	Broccoli	<i>Brassica oleracea</i> L. var. <i>italica</i>
3	Brussel sprouts	<i>Brassica oleracea</i> L. var. <i>Gemmifera</i>
4	Cabbage Chinese	<i>Brassica rapa</i> L. var. <i>pekinensis</i>
5	Cabbage green	<i>Brassica oleracea</i> L. var. <i>capitata</i> f. <i>alba</i>
6	Cabbage red	<i>Brassica oleracea</i> L. var. <i>capitata</i> f. <i>rubra</i>
7	Cabbage savoy	<i>Brassica oleracea</i> L. var. <i>capitata</i> f. <i>sabauda</i>
8	Cauliflower	<i>Brassica oleracea</i> L. var. <i>botrytis</i>
9	Collard	<i>Brassica oleracea</i> L. var. <i>viridis</i>
10	Kale Chinese	<i>Brassica oleracea</i> L. var. <i>alboglabra</i>
11	Kale red	<i>Brassica oleracea</i> L. var. <i>acephala</i>
12	Kale Tucsan	<i>Brassica oleracea</i> L. var. <i>acephala</i>
13	Kohlrabi purple	<i>Brassica oleracea</i> L. var. <i>gongylodes</i>
14	Komatsuna red	<i>Brassica rapa</i> L. var. <i>perviridis</i>



Cont....

15	Mizuna	<i>Brassica rapa L. var. nipposinica</i>
16	Mustard Dijon	<i>Brassica juncea (L.) Czern</i>
17	Mustard red	<i>Brassica juncea (L.) Czern.</i>
18	Pak choy	<i>Brassica rapa L. var. chinensis</i>
19	Pepper cress	<i>Lepidium bonariense L.</i>
20	Radish China rose	<i>Raphanus sativus L.</i>
21	Radish daikon	<i>Raphanus sativus L. var. longipinnatus</i>
22	Radish red	<i>Raphanus sativus L.</i>
23	Radish ruby	<i>Raphanus sativus L.</i>
24	Rapini	<i>Brassica rapa L. var. ruvo</i>
25	Rutabaga	<i>Brassica napus L. var. napobrassica</i>
26	Tatsoi	<i>Brassica narinosa L. var. rosularis</i>
27	Turnip	<i>Brassica rapa L. var. rapa</i>
28	Upland cress	<i>Barbarea verna (P. Mill.) Aschers</i>
29	Wasabi	<i>Wasabia japonica Matsum.</i>
30	Watercress	<i>Nasturtium officinale L.</i>

**Tabel :8** - Mean Macro element concentrations of **Ca, Mg, P, K,** and **Na** in 30 commercially grown microgreens in Brassicaceae family.

Commercial name	(mg/100 g FW)				
	Ca	Mg	P	K	Na
Arugula	67 ± 2 <sup>a</sup>	41 ± 1	63 ± 1	343 ± 13	35 ± 1
Broccoli	88 ± 2	51 ± 1	69 ± 0	326 ± 9	52 ± 2
Brussel sprouts	81 ± 4	49 ± 1	57 ± 1	293 ± 5	54 ± 3
Cabbage Chinese	68 ± 1	31 ± 0	69 ± 1	240 ± 35	25 ± 1
Cabbage green	92 ± 1	55 ± 1	57 ± 1	192 ± 2	57 ± 1
Cabbage red	75 ± 1	39 ± 0	65 ± 0	240 ± 2	32 ± 1
Cabbage savoy	98 ± 3	62 ± 2	59 ± 2	238 ± 9	65 ± 3
Cauliflower	94 ± 2	66 ± 1	62 ± 0	224 ± 13	61 ± 1
Collard	71 ± 3	53 ± 1	75 ± 2	266 ± 5	44 ± 1
Kale Chinese	66 ± 1	45 ± 1	68 ± 0	246 ± 23	38 ± 3
Kale red	59 ± 3	36 ± 1	60 ± 1	332 ± 18	43 ± 3
Kale Tucsan	80 ± 1	52 ± 2	69 ± 2	283 ± 8	51 ± 2
Kohlrabi purple	92 ± 5	55 ± 2	77 ± 3	342 ± 7	50 ± 3
Komatsuna red	55 ± 1	40 ± 2	70 ± 4	357 ± 3	32 ± 2
Mizuna	48 ± 5	29 ± 0	57 ± 1	354 ± 7	35 ± 4
Mustard Dijon	51 ± 4	35 ± 2	62 ± 2	365 ± 32	35 ± 1
Mustard red	47 ± 2	28 ± 1	52 ± 2	289 ± 5	27 ± 1
Pak choy	58 ± 1	31 ± 2	59 ± 4	284 ± 12	42 ± 5
Peppercress	39 ± 1	33 ± 2	58 ± 4	320 ± 26	29 ± 1
Radish China rose	54 ± 2	48 ± 2	71 ± 3	270 ± 7	38 ± 2
Radish daikon	66 ± 2	60 ± 3	86 ± 4	176 ± 10	57 ± 4
Radish red	56 ± 3	49 ± 2	81 ± 2	283 ± 10	42 ± 1
Radish ruby	41 ± 3	39 ± 2	82 ± 3	215 ± 6	19 ± 0
Rapini	92 ± 2	55 ± 1	85 ± 2	359 ± 1	56 ± 2
Rutabaga	59 ± 2	44 ± 1	64 ± 1	270 ± 14	39 ± 4
Tatsoi	62 ± 2	33 ± 1	66 ± 1	329 ± 13	36 ± 1
Turnip	57 ± 3	32 ± 1	61 ± 1	341 ± 12	26 ± 1
Upland cress	79 ± 5	47 ± 2	56 ± 0	376 ± 9	35 ± 1
Wasabi	56 ± 3	41 ± 1	69 ± 3	387 ± 9	33 ± 5
Watercress	51 ± 2	32 ± 2	62 ± 2	360 ± 3	68 ± 4

<sup>a</sup> Values are expressed as mean ± standard error (n=3).

(Xiao *et al.*, 2016)

**Tabel :9** - Mean concentrations of micro elementary minerals in 30 commercially grown microgreens in Brassicaceae family

Commercial name	(mg/100 g FW)						
	Fe	Zn	Cu	Mn	Cd	Pb	
Arugula	0.71 ± 0.01 <sup>a</sup>	0.35 ± 0.01	0.07 ± 0.00	0.29 ± 0.01	ND <sup>b</sup>	ND	
Broccoli	0.67 ± 0.01	0.37 ± 0.00	0.09 ± 0.00	0.37 ± 0.00	ND	ND	
Brussel sprouts	0.57 ± 0.01	0.29 ± 0.01	0.08 ± 0.00	0.37 ± 0.01	ND	ND	
Cabbage Chinese	0.66 ± 0.01	0.36 ± 0.01	0.04 ± 0.00	0.30 ± 0.01	ND	ND	
Cabbage green	0.59 ± 0.01	0.29 ± 0.01	0.05 ± 0.00	0.33 ± 0.00	ND	ND	
Cabbage red	0.62 ± 0.01	0.36 ± 0.01	0.08 ± 0.00	0.31 ± 0.00	ND	ND	
Cabbage savoy	0.57 ± 0.02	0.27 ± 0.01	0.05 ± 0.00	0.38 ± 0.01	ND	ND	
Cauliflower	0.62 ± 0.01	0.29 ± 0.01	0.06 ± 0.00	0.31 ± 0.00	ND	ND	
Collard	0.65 ± 0.01	0.40 ± 0.01	0.09 ± 0.00	0.36 ± 0.01	ND	ND	
Kale Chinese	0.64 ± 0.04	0.37 ± 0.01	0.06 ± 0.00	0.28 ± 0.01	ND	ND	
Kale red	0.47 ± 0.01	0.29 ± 0.01	0.06 ± 0.00	0.32 ± 0.01	ND	ND	
Kale Tucsan	0.72 ± 0.02	0.37 ± 0.00	0.09 ± 0.00	0.44 ± 0.01	ND	ND	
Kohlrabi purple	0.75 ± 0.03	0.43 ± 0.02	0.11 ± 0.01	0.39 ± 0.01	ND	ND	
Komatsuna red	0.74 ± 0.05	0.38 ± 0.02	0.08 ± 0.01	0.34 ± 0.01	ND	ND	
Mizuna	0.57 ± 0.02	0.28 ± 0.01	0.06 ± 0.00	0.36 ± 0.01	ND	ND	
Mustard Dijon	0.56 ± 0.01	0.29 ± 0.01	0.06 ± 0.00	0.39 ± 0.01	ND	ND	
Mustard red	0.62 ± 0.07	0.22 ± 0.01	0.06 ± 0.00	0.24 ± 0.00	ND	ND	
Pak choy	0.49 ± 0.02	0.30 ± 0.01	0.05 ± 0.01	0.29 ± 0.02	ND	ND	
Peppercress	0.48 ± 0.03	0.41 ± 0.03	0.06 ± 0.01	0.24 ± 0.02	ND	ND	
Radish China rose	0.62 ± 0.03	0.35 ± 0.01	0.08 ± 0.00	0.27 ± 0.01	ND	ND	
Radish daikon	0.57 ± 0.02	0.28 ± 0.01	0.05 ± 0.00	0.19 ± 0.00	ND	ND	
Radish red	0.67 ± 0.02	0.43 ± 0.00	0.11 ± 0.01	0.30 ± 0.00	ND	ND	
Radish ruby	0.55 ± 0.01	0.40 ± 0.01	0.06 ± 0.00	0.17 ± 0.00	ND	ND	
Rapini	0.84 ± 0.05	0.51 ± 0.02	0.13 ± 0.01	0.40 ± 0.00	ND	ND	
Rutabaga	0.52 ± 0.02	0.26 ± 0.01	0.07 ± 0.00	0.39 ± 0.00	ND	ND	
Tatsoi	0.57 ± 0.01	0.35 ± 0.01	0.05 ± 0.00	0.29 ± 0.01	ND	ND	
Turnip	0.58 ± 0.01	0.34 ± 0.01	0.07 ± 0.00	0.41 ± 0.00	ND	ND	
Upland cress	0.63 ± 0.01	0.41 ± 0.01	0.12 ± 0.00	0.48 ± 0.01	ND	ND	
Wasabi	0.65 ± 0.05	0.42 ± 0.01	0.08 ± 0.00	0.26 ± 0.01	ND	ND	
Watercress	0.52 ± 0.01	0.41 ± 0.02	0.09 ± 0.01	0.39 ± 0.01	ND	ND	

## Case study-4

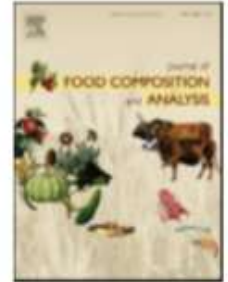
Journal of Food Composition and Analysis 37 (2015) 38–43



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### Journal of Food Composition and Analysis

journal homepage: [www.elsevier.com/locate/jfca](http://www.elsevier.com/locate/jfca)



Original Research Article

## Comparison between the mineral profile and nitrate content of microgreens and mature lettuces



Edgar Pinto<sup>a</sup>, Agostinho A. Almeida<sup>b</sup>, Ana A. Aguiar<sup>c</sup>, Isabel M.P.L.V.O. Ferreira<sup>a,\*</sup>

### Objective:

- To compare the mineral profile and nitrate level in the microgreens and mature lettuces.

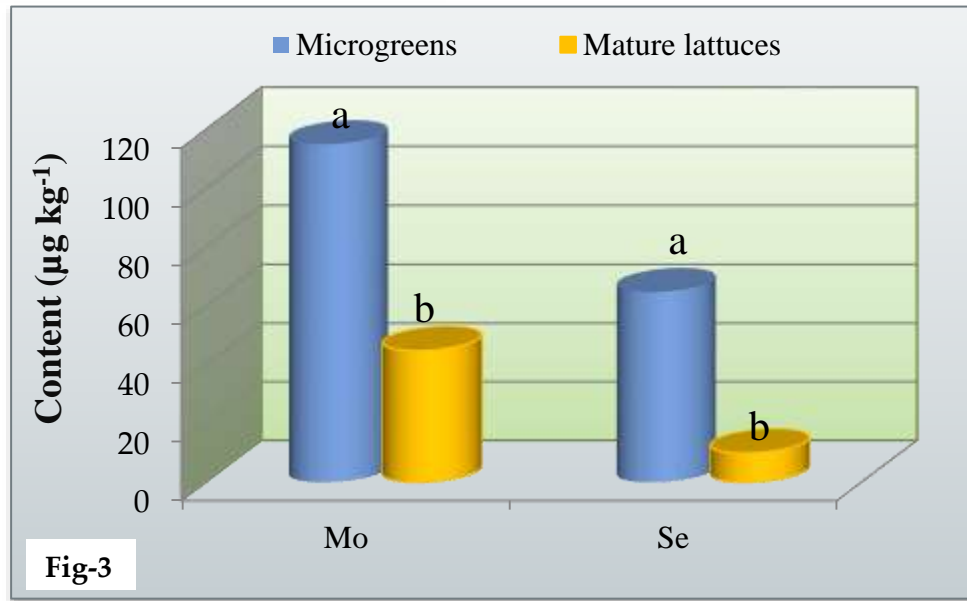
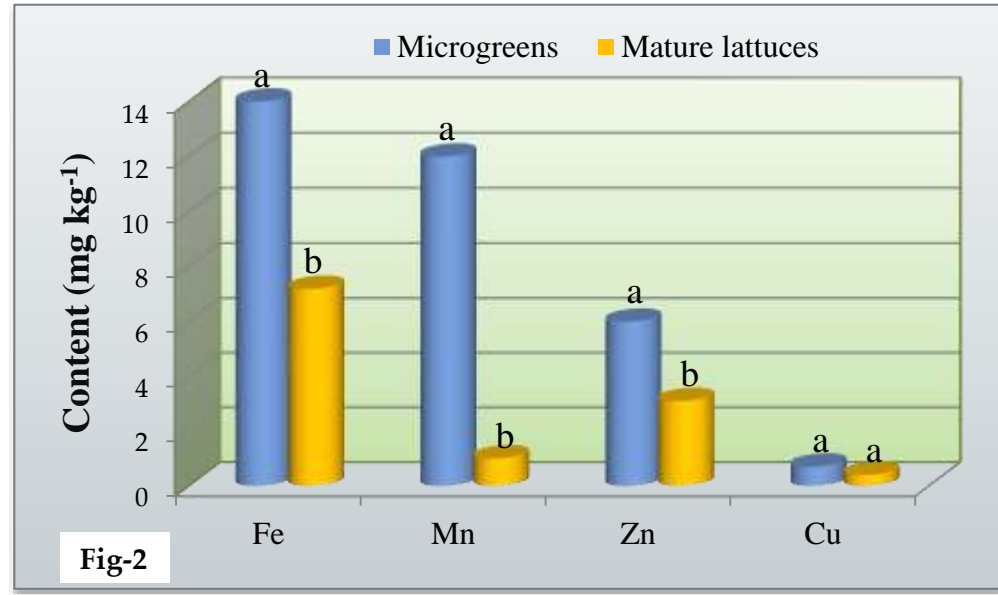
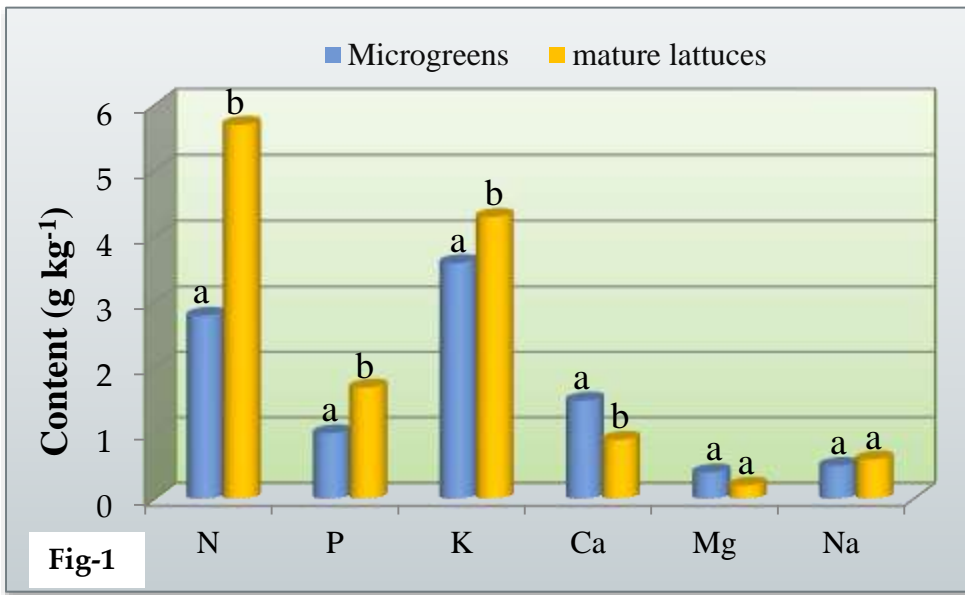


(Pinto *et al.*, 2015)

# Material and Methods

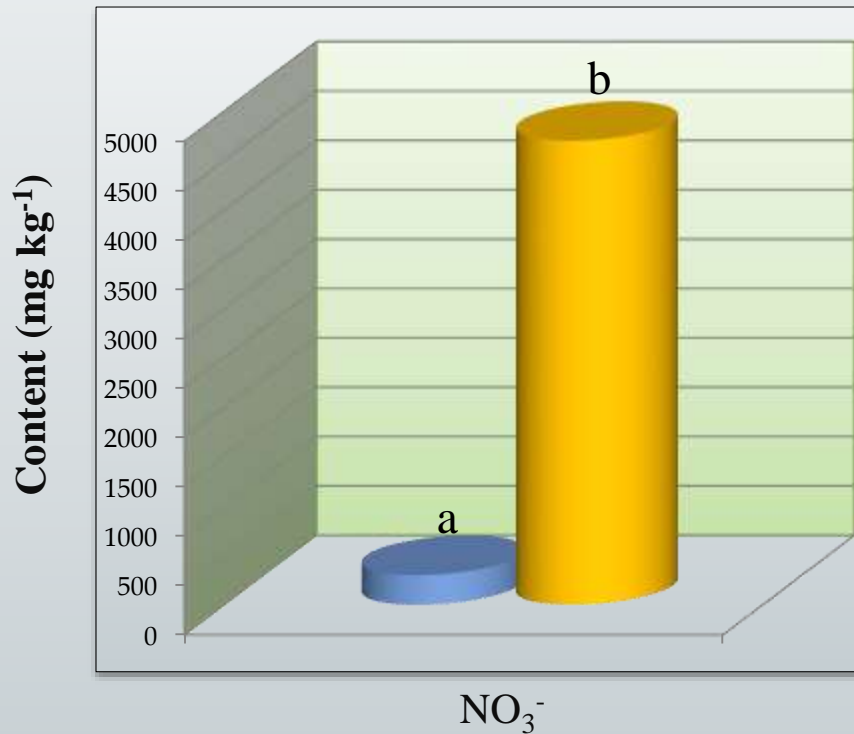
- **Lettuce** –  $A_1$ ,  $A_2$ ,  $A_3$ .
- **Season:** Dec-Feb
- **Nitrate:** Ion Chromatography.
- **Micro nutrients:** AAS (Atomic absorption spectrometer).
- **Ammonium:** Spectrophotometric method.





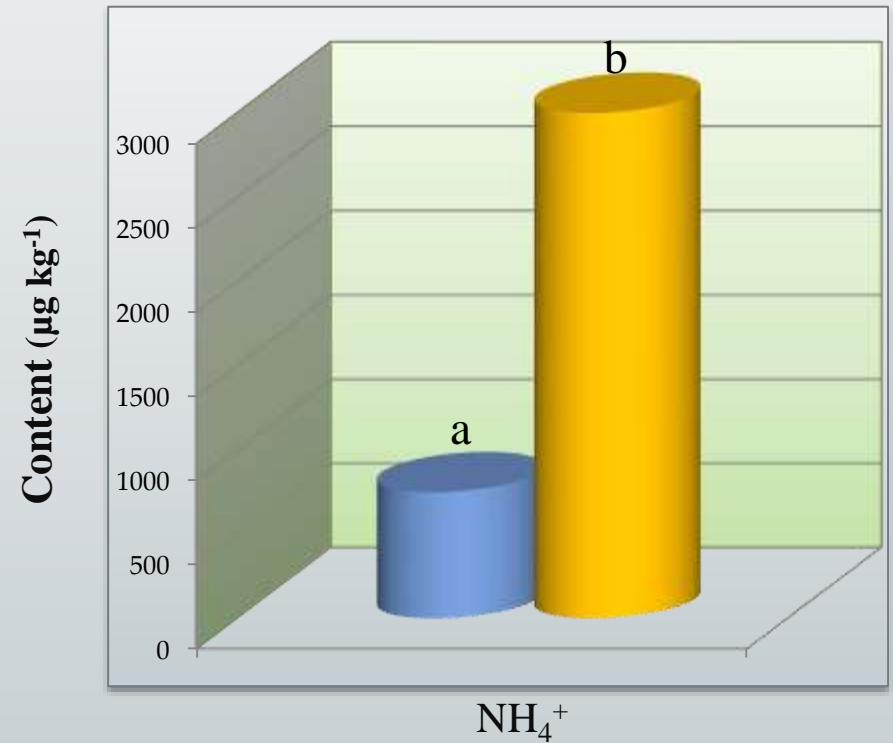
**Fig:1, 2, 3 - Comparison of mineral contents between microgreens and mature lettuce.**

■ Microgreens ■ Mature lattuces



**Fig. 4**

■ Microgreens ■ Mature lattuces



**Fig. 5**

**Fig : 4, 5, - Comparison of nitrate and ammonia content between microgreens and mature lattuces.**



## Nutrient Content of Cabbage and Lettuce Microgreens Grown on Vermicompost and Hydroponic Growing Pads

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### Objective:

To study the nutrient contents of lettuce and cabbage microgreens grown on vermicompost and on hydroponic growing pads.



# Material and Methods

- **Lettuce and cabbage**
- **Insert trays, growing trays,**
- **Humidity domes,**
- **Micro-mat hydroponic growing pads.**
- **Vermicompost**
- **Standard acid digestion procedure**

**Table:10** - Average nutrient content of Lettuce vegetable, hydroponically grown lettuce microgreens and vermicompost grown lettuce microgreens

Element	LV	LHP	LC
	mg (gdw) <sup>-1</sup>		
<b>P</b>	5.58	13.34	8.66
<b>K</b>	41.06	13.92	60.14
<b>Ca</b>	8.48	2.61	8.50
<b>Mg</b>	3.49	6.48	5.78
<b>S</b>	2.76	4.48	5.89
<b>Na</b>	5.02	1.80	2.71
	µg (gdw) <sup>-1</sup>		
<b>Mn</b>	28.99	48.61	118.03
<b>Fe</b>	99.59	232.75	2327.45
<b>Cu</b>	9.44	21.22	17.49
<b>Zn</b>	42.65	143.49	200.97
<b>Standard deviation(Sd)</b>	0.056	0.059	0.056

**LV-** Lettuce vegetable

**LHP-** Hydroponically grown lettuce microgreens

**LC-** Vermicompost grown lettuce

**Tabel:11** - Average nutrient content of cabbage vegetable, hydroponically grown cabbage microgreens and vermicompost grown cabbage microgreens

Element	CV	CHP	CC
	mg (gdw) <sup>-1</sup>		
<b>P</b>	1.28	14.76	12.95
<b>K</b>	24.22	12.34	42.99
<b>Ca</b>	2.93	7.88	13.22
<b>Mg</b>	0.90	4.75	5.82
<b>S</b>	5.74	15.77	19.39
<b>Na</b>	1.07	2.61	3.49
	µg (gdw) <sup>-1</sup>		
<b>Mn</b>	34.34	41.84	64.96
<b>Fe</b>	21.83	121.35	187.19
<b>Cu</b>	1.42	3.69	5.07
<b>Zn</b>	13.84	60.78	160.02
<b>Standard deviation</b>	0.120	0.096	0.070

CV- Cabbage vegetable

CHP- Hydroponically grown cabbage microgreens

CC- Vermicompost grown cabbage

# Success stories

 **microgreens**  
FARMER



# Krishi Cress – International chef turned micro greens farmer!

*Posted July 14, 2015 by [editorial team](#) (THE HINDU)*

## **Hobby by chance led chef to take up farming as parallel profession!**

- ❑ Chef Achintya Anand grows 15 varieties of microgreens and supplies across New Delhi and Gurgaon.
- ❑ Some of the microgreens grown at his farm are mustard, radish, basil, coriander, red cabbage, lettuce and broccoli etc.



❑ **Packaging is done in two ways.**

- ✓ First using live box
- ✓ Another way is to cut, wash, dry and pack in food grade polythene bags with holes.
- ✓ He takes contract with five star hotels and restaurants.
- ✓ Some price quotes are Rs. 150/50 gms for mustard and radish.



# 'Terra Farms' Microgreens

They follow the concept of vertical urban farming in microgreens.(Mumbai)



Weekend | Food & Drink | Shop | Events | Intel | Travel | Top 10



*Cultivate Taste: Live Microgreens From Manori*



**brown paper bag**



*Terra Farms, a recently started urban vertical farm in Manori supplies microgreens to city restaurants like Salt Water Cafe, Sassy Spoon and The White Owl.*



# Adhithya Organic – Urban organic farming

Posted December 1, 2014 by [editorial team](#) (THE HINDU)

- Mr. N. Vidhyadharan and his wife Mrs. M. Jayarani grows micro-greens at their farm, **Adhithya Organics, Vengaivasal, Chennai.**

- Grows micro-greens in soil-less medium.

- Targets 5-stars hotels and organic stores for sale

**Media** - vermicompost, fermented plant extracts and organic fertilizer that is produced at their farm.

- Capital investment - approximately spent Rs. 35,000

- Profit - Rs. 18,000 to 20,000 per month.







# Conclusion

**Bioactive compounds and minerals**

**Taste and flavor**

**Less cost and more income**

**Pesticide residue free**





**Grow**

**Microgreens**

**Own it!**

**at Home**



**THANK**  
**Q.....**