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PaperTitle # Phenolic Content and Antioxidant of South African Commerical Sorghum Cultivars

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ABSTRACT

Sorghum is an indigenous African cereal that is well adapted to the semi-arid and arid tropical conditions of Africa and Asia and is as such important in food security in those regions. Sorghum grain contains phenolic compounds including the tannins and these compounds exhibit antioxidant activity. As antioxidants, phenolic compounds may retard cellular oxidation and thus reduce the risk of conditions such as cancer and coronary heart disease. There seems to be no scientific data on the phenolic content and antioxidant activity of South African commercial sorghum cultivars. The objective of this work is to characterize South African commercial sorghums with regard to their phenolic content and antioxidant activity.

Twenty South African commercial sorghum cultivars will be analysed for total phenolics and condensed tannin content and antioxidant activity using the Folin-Ciocalteu, vanillin-HCl and Trolox Equivalent Antioxidant Capacity (TEAC) method, respectively. Results of the study will be discussed

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