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Brief communication

Preformed volatile nitrosamines in some Nigerian foodstuffs

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Abstract

Some common Nigerian foodstuffs were assessed for their content of preformed volatile nitrosamine by chemiluminescence detection following gas chromatographic separation.

Nitrosodimethylamine levels of between 0.4 and 4.6 ppb were detected in 75% of the samples analysed. The highest value was found in *Brassica oleraceae*, while *Vernonia amygdalina* contained the lowest detectable level. These data suggest that Nigerians may be exposed to chronic but very low levels of carcinogenic nitrosamines in their foods.