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Mesocarp of *Terminalia catappa* L.-A Potential and Cost Effective Source for the Production of Alpha 1, 5- L Endo- Arabinase

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Abstract : The fruit of *Terminalia catappa* L. is used as a nutrient source in the formulation of the production media for Alpha 1, 5- L Endo- Arabinase. The mesocarp promoted the production of the enzyme (% activity of 71%) when compared to the whole fruit (60.6%) and the other epicarp layers-Endocarp (26%), Kernel (28%). The incubation time required for peak production also varied with the fruit and the epicarp layers, with the kernel peaking at the earliest in the fifth day of production. The presence of endo-arabinase activity was confirmed with the azurin cross linked (AZCL) debranched arabinan assay. The study proposes a value addition to the mesocarp which is otherwise considered to be a waste material.

Keywords : Alpha 1, 5- L Endo- Arabinase, *Terminalia catappa* L, AZCL debranched arabinan, epicarp, mesocarp, kernel, % activity.

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