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Microbial analysis of electron beam irradiated *Capsicum annum*

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Abstract : Food irradiation is the process of exposing food to ionizing radiation to destroy microorganism's bacteria, viruses or insects that might be present in the food. Radiation processing of food involves exposure of food to short wave radiations energy to destroy the contaminants (bacteria, fungi etc.,) and thereby to achieve extension of shelf life. Since these electromagnetic radiations (electron beam, x – rays) are highly penetrating and no residual radiation retained in the materials. Irradiation treatment is considered as more safe and effective than chemical method.

Key words : *Capsicum annum*, electron beam irradiation, KGy, microbial load.

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