

Physico-chemical Characteristics and Chemical Composition of Khesari Seeds (*Lathyrus sativus*)

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ABSTRACT In the present investigation the Khesari (*Lathyrus sativus*) was analysed for physical and chemical characteristics. The length, width, weight/100g, volume and water absorption capacity of the Khesari seeds was found to be 5.77mm, 4.69mm, 6.10g, 0.90cm³ and 1.75cm³, respectively. The raw, soaked and autoclaved Khesari seed samples were analysed for proximate composition. The moisture, protein, ash, ether extract, fibre, nitrogen free extract, total soluble sugars and energy were found to be 11.64, 26.25, 3.39, 1.86, 7.23, 49.63, 4.34g/100g and 319Kcal/100g, respectively. A significant decrease in, protein, ash, fibre and total soluble sugars was observed after soaking and autoclaving and this decrease might be due to the leaching effect of these nutrients.

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