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”Bioactive Compounds from Coconut and Arecanut: Exploring By-Products for Value-Added Applications”

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Abstract:

Primary metabolites present in plants are largely used directly in growth and metabolism of various phases of plant tissues. Secondary metabolites which are organic small molecules are not directly involved and they mediate functions involved in adaptation of plants to environmental changes. Coconut and arecanut are important commercial crops. Betel nut is the economic part of the arecanut whereas every part of coconut is largely used by humans. As a valuable crop both are known for its range of medicinal properties that includes antioxidant and anti-inflammatory functions. Significant world-wide demand exists for functional molecules that are plant-based which are found to be abundance in these crops. In addition to the main products the by-product generated also contains huge bioactive compounds. It provides additional income for farmers and entrepreneurs engaged in processing and marketing. Thus, identifying and exploiting bioactive compounds from by-products for transformation into value-added products holds significant importance.

Key words: Coconut, bioactive compounds, secondary metabolites, antioxidants, anti-inflammatory

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