

**EFFECT OF SPOROCARP MATURITY ON CHEMICAL
COMPOSITION OF SUBSTRATE COLONIZED BY
Lentinus subnudus BERK**

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ABSTRACT

Changes brought about on chemical composition of substrate colonized by *Lentinus subnudus* Berk by developing sporocarp were investigated. The colonized substrate was assayed for its proximate constituents at five fruitbody developmental stages of spawn run, primordia, young, mature and over-mature and the proximate analyses were for moisture, dry matter, ash, ethanol-soluble sugars, protein, total lipid and crude fibre. Decreases in crude fibre, total lipids and protein contents of substrate were observed from spawn run to over-mature stage. In contrast, dry matter and ash contents increased from spawn run to over-mature stage. The substrate sugar content was found to increase from spawn run (3.6%) to mature stage (5.8%) and thereafter decreased at the over-mature stage (2.3%).

Key words: sporocarp maturity, chemical composition, substrate, *Lentinus subnudus*.