

Title Determination of degree of methyl esterification of pectin from dragon fruit (*Hylocereus undatus*, Britt.& Rose) skin

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Abstract

Cell wall material from the skin of dragon fruits (*Hylocereus undatus*, Britt.& Rose) was prepared by refluxing the dried skin with toluene:ethanol (38:62) followed by water extraction . The pectic polysaccharides were sequentially extracted from the cell wall with water and EDTA. The degree of methyl esterification (DME) of pectin fractions was determined using the titrimetric method and Fourier transform – infrared (FT-IR) spectroscopy. The uronic acid content was also monitored by spectrophotometric method. The DME of water and EDTA fractions was 60.71 and 54.14% respectively. The uronic acid content were 234.4 and 70.76 mg/g fraction.