## Dihydroactinidiolide from thermal degradation of 2-carotene

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## **Abstract**

The formation of dihydroactinidiolide by thermal degradation of  $\beta$ -carotene was studied. A comparison of yields of dihydroactinidiolide in commercial  $\beta$ -carotene and  $\beta$ -carotene derived from crude palm oil (CPO) was investigated. Thermal degradation of commercial  $\beta$ -carotene promoted the formation of dihydroactinidiolide with the highest yield, 61.21%. Thermal degradation of recovered  $\beta$ -carotene yielded 29.23% of dihydroactinidiolide. The lower recovery of  $\beta$ -carotene was due to the mixture of compounds in the extract. Further investigation indicated some other useful aroma compounds formed from this thermal degradation were  $\beta$ -ionone, 3-oxo-2-ionone and 2-cyclocitral. The outcome provided wide opportunities in utilizing crude palm oil (CPO) as natural source of beta-carotene to produce aroma compound.

**Keywords**: beta-carotene, crude palm oil, dihydroactinidiolide, thermal degradation, aroma compounds, beta-ionone, beta-cyclocitral