Post-harvest Treatment of the *Pogostemon cablin* Benth Oil Yield

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ABSTRACT

Patchouli oil is one of the essential oils that are important in the perfume industry, cosmetics, and medicine. Patchouli oil is obtained from the distillation of the trunk, branches, and leaves of patchouli. One of the factors affecting the yield of patchouli oil is a post-harvest treatment. This study aims to determine the yield of patchouli (*Pogostemon cablin* Benth) oil from different processes in post-harvest management. There were two post-harvest treatments committed to patchouli leaves before oil refining. First, patchouli leaves were dried then chopped and stored for 1, 2 or 3 days before the distillation process. Second, patchouli leaves were chopped then dried and stored for 1, 2 or 3 days before the distillation process. For comparison, it is also conducted patchouli leaves treatment without the drying process as a control. Patchouli leaf distillation was performed by using water and steam method. Average yield of value patchouli oil obtained from the first treatment sequence were 0,39 percent, 0,38 percent and 0,33 percent. In the second treatment the average value of patchouli oil yield in a sequence were 0,32 percent, 0,39 percent and 0,36 percent. No patchouli oil was produced from the distillation of patchouli leaves without drying (control). Post-harvest treatments give effects to the production of patchouli yield compared to distillation of fresh leaves (control).

Keywords: *patchouli oil, postharvest-treatments*