



Case Study: Nutrients from South American Tropical Fruits (201103)

Objective:

The client requested a study detailing the range and potential health benefits of tropical fruits from South America. Emphasis was to be placed on nutritional benefits, identified with various phytochemicals that have been identified in these fruits. Ascorbic acid was to be excluded from the study.

Conclusion:

This was a two part report with the 1st phase detailing those fruits in either commercial production or near to commercial cultivation. Fruits included Acai, Camu-Camu, Babaco, Cupuacu amongst others for which there was a developing supply chain. The 2nd phase required identifying potential phytonutrients from these fruits which might be linked to health benefits. The client is looking to develop an understanding of possible claims before embarking on a review of processing opportunities and then product development which forms the 3rd and 4th phases for this project.

Report structure:

Executive Summary

Objective

Terms of Reference

Introduction: listing of fruits,

Methodology and Data Acquisition – agronomic commercial reports

Tropical fruit agronomy

Fruit suppliers, farms, sources

Phytonutrients associated with fruits i.e. colours, antioxidants, phenolics, other compounds

Health benefits – claims and studies where specific nutrients or the fruits have been used. Anecdotal evidence also reported.

Conclusions

Recommendations including proposals for part 3 and 4 of the study (processing aspects – some novel !).

Appendices (included additional opportunities)