



Research Article

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The Effect of Sprouting on the Nutritional Composition of Legumes and Its Impact on Human Health: A Comparative Study

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Abstract

Pigeon pea (*Cajanus cajan*) is a leguminous crop of significant nutritional and medicinal value, particularly in developing countries.

This study aimed to determine the ascorbic acid, phosphate, and protein content in pigeon pea (*Cajanus cajan*) during sprouting over a 5-day period. Pigeon pea seeds were sprouted, and samples were collected daily from day 0 to day 5. The ascorbic acid content was determined by titration with iodine solution, protein content was measured using the Kjeldahl method, and phosphate content was analysed spectrophotometrically.

The results showed that ascorbic acid content increased from 0.088 mg/100g on day 0 to 0.152 mg/100g on day 5 as the seeds sprouted. Protein content also increased, ranging from 0.63 mg/100g on day 0 to 1.66 mg/100g on day 3, before decreasing to 0.79 mg/100g on day 5. Phosphate content varied, starting at 0.275 mg/100g on day 0, peaking at 0.718 mg/100g on day 3, and then declining to 0.556 mg/100g on day 5.

This study demonstrates that sprouting significantly enhances the nutritional profile of pigeon pea, with increases in ascorbic acid and protein content. However, phosphate levels fluctuated during the sprouting process. These findings suggest that sprouting can be a useful method to improve the nutritional value of pigeon pea for food and feed applications.

Keywords: Pigeon pea, *Cajanus cajan*, Sprouting, Ascorbic acid, Protein, Phosphate, Nutritional value

Introduction

Ascorbic acid (Vitamin C)

Ascorbic acid is a crystalline water-soluble substance that has a molecular weight of 176.13 dalton and its molecular formula is C₆H₅O₆ and it does not contain a free carboxyl group in its molecule. It has a sharp taste usually associated with acid and will form salt. It can be easily destroyed during extraction and oxidation catalyzed by oxidase found in the cells of the food stuffs. They can also be set free on cutting, chopping or crushing [26] (Figure 1,2).

One important function of vitamin C is the formulation and maintenance of collagen the basis of connective tissue which are found in sun, ligament, cartilage, vertebral discs, joint, capillary walls, the bones and teeth [24].

Protein

Proteins are organic compound made of amino acids arranged in a linear chain and folded into a globular form. The amino acid in a polymer is joined together by the peptide bond between the carboxyl and amino group of adjacent amino acid residues [19] (Figure 3).

The sequence of amino acids in a protein is defined by the sequence of a gene which is encoded by in the genetic code. In general the genetic code specifies 20 standard amino acids; however in certain organism the genetic code can include selenocysteine. Shortly after or even during synthesis, the residues in a protein are often chemically modified by post-translational modification which



alters the stability, activity and ultimately, the function the proteins. . Proteins can also work together to achieve a particular function and they often associate to form stable complexes. Like other biological macromolecules such as polysaccharides and nucleic acid, protein is essential part of organisms and participates in virtually every process within cells [22]. Many proteins are enzymes that catalyze biochemical reactions and are vital to metabolism. Protein

also has structural or mechanical functions such as action and myosin in muscles and the protein in the cytoskeleton, which maintains cell shape. Proteins are important in animal's diet since animals cannot synthesize all the amino acid they need and must obtain essential amino acid from food. Through the process of digestion animals' breakdown ingested proteins into free amino acid that are then used in metabolism [16].

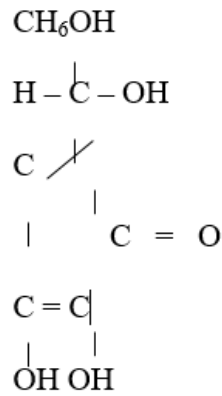


Figure 1: Structural formula of Ascorbic acid.

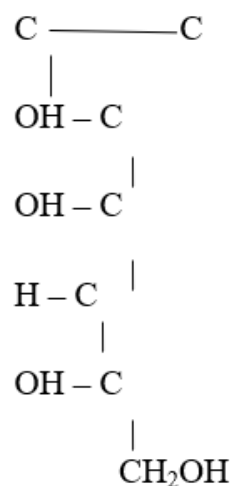


Figure 2: Straight chain formula of Ascorbic acid.

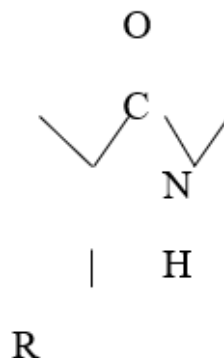


Figure 3: Structural formula of protein.

Phosphate

Phosphate is an essential element in the body. The total body phosphate is about 25mol more than 85% of which is found in the bone, 15% in soft tissues and 1% is found in other part of the body. Phosphate uptake is sodium dependent about 85% of filtered Po_4 is reabsorbed by the proximal tubules. The free energy produced by metabolic reaction may be stored as high phosphate ATP and creatine phosphate [11].

A phosphate is an inorganic chemical, is a salt or phosphoric acid. In organic chemistry, a phosphate or organophosphate is an ester of phosphoric acid. Organic phosphates are important in biochemistry and ecology. Inorganic phosphates are mined to obtain phosphorus for use in agriculture and industry. At elevated temperature in the solid state, phosphate can condense to form pyrophosphate [3] (Figure 4).

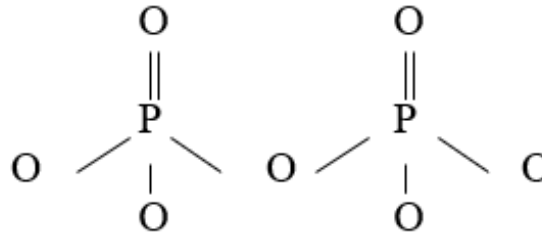


Figure 4: Pyrophosphate.

The phosphate ion is a polyatomic ion with the molar mass of 94.737 g/mol. It consists of central phosphorus atom surrounded by four identical oxygen atoms in a tetrahedral arrangement. The phosphate ion carries a negative three formal charge and is the conjugate base of the hydrogen phosphate ion. Many phosphates are not soluble in water at standard temperature and pressure [18].

Pigeon pea (Cajanus cajan)

The pigeon pea is a perennial member of the family fabaceae. It belongs to the genus known as *Cajanus* and its binomial name is *Cajanus cajan*. Pigeon pea is an important grain legume crop of rainfed agriculture in the semi-arid tropics. The Indian sub-continent, Eastern Africa and Central America in order are the world's three main pigeon pea producing regions. It could be cultivated as sole crop or intermixed with such cereals as sorghum, pearl millet or maize. Being a legume, pigeon pea enriches soil through symbiotic nitrogen fixation [10].

Pigeon pea is both a food crop and a forage crop or cover crop. The dried peas may be sprouted briefly, and then cooked for a favour different from the green or dried peas. Sprouting also enhances the digestibility of dried pigeon pea [6]. Food is the primary necessity of life, it supplies energy, and it is utilized in building and maintaining the cells, tissue and in regulating the body processes. Legumes are beneficial for the overall health and wellness of individuals they are rich dietary source of good quality proteins, carbohydrate, minerals and vitamins.

This work is carried out to know the nutritional content and minerals, present in sprouting of pigeon pea.

Literature Review

Pigeon Pea (*Cajanus Cajan*)

Pigeon pea is one of the oldest food crops and rank fifth in important among edible legumes of the world [12]. It is a popular food in developing countries because it is rich in vitamin C another micronutrient, its green seeds are sources of flour, it can be

used in split form to prepare soups or eaten with rice. In Thailand and Bengal, it serves as host for the scale insect that produce lac. In India and Java, pigeon pea young leaves are applied to sores. In Argentina, the leaf is used in treatment of genital and other skin bronchitis, cough, pneumonia, etc. The leaves are used for toothache, dysentery [4].

Seed and Seedling Description of *Cajanus Cajan*

Seeds range in colour from white, cream, brown, purplish to almost black and are plain or mottled, they are ellipsoid or squarish in shape. The seedling emerges 2 to 3 weeks after sowing, vegetative growth begins slowly but accelerates at 2 to 3 months. The seedling depth is always 2.5 to 10cm during its cultivation.

Matured Plant Description of Pigeon Pea

Pigeon pea is an erect shrub or short lived. (1-5 years) perennial legume often grown as an annual crop; 1 to 4 meters high. The leaves have three leaflets, the leaflets are elliptic to lanceolate green and pubescent above and silvery grayish green with longer hairs below, 2.5-10cm long and up to 3.5cm wide. The flowers are yellow with red/reddish brown lines or a red outside, borne in terminal racemes and measures 12-17cm in diameter.

The pods are straight to sickle shaped 5-10cm long and 0.5-1.5cm wide [12].

Water and Nutrient Content

Optimum rainfall for pigeon pea is between 600-1000mm per year. It does not tolerate water logging well. It does have some drought tolerance. Pigeon pea can grow on infertile as well as fertile soil. It has a relatively low response to fertilizer. Bogdan reports pigeon pea responding well to P and modestly to K, N application usually reduce yields.

Soil PH, Type and Tolerance of Pigeon Pea

Pigeon pea grows best at a PH between 5.0-7.0. It will grow on a wide range soils from coarse to fine textured. It will not do well

on waterlogged days, it has some salt tolerance, it is sensitive to salt spray. FAQ reports that pigeon pea is tolerant of herbicides [27].

Life Cycle of Pigeon Pea

Vegetative growth is slow initially, seeding emerge 2- 3 weeks after sowing, growth accelerates as about 2- 3 months. Half of the plants begin to flower with 56-210 days after sowing, maturity ranges from 95 to 256 days. short days will accelerate flowering and reduce lengths growth [8].

Seeding Methods and Flowering Date

FAQ, reports that the seedling method, it can be drilled with a maize drill. Year round at elevations between 0.3000 fit.

Flowering of half the plants begins 56 to 210 days after sowing maturity ranges from 95 to 256 days. Pigeon pea is a perennial shrub which grows to 4 meters high. It is woody at the base. It grows a maximum height of 4 meters.

Root System and Establishment

Pigeon pea has an extremely deep rooting top root. *Van de Maesan, et al.*, [25] describes pigeon pea root as thin and up to 2m deep. Its establishment is by seed, weed control is needed during establishment.

Harvesting of Pigeon Pea

Pigeon pea is generally hand harvested in the tropics; ripe pods can be harvested with harvesters from cultivars which mature uniformly with pods at a uniform level above the ground. Pigeon pea is cut for forage at the preflowering state or when first pod ripens [21].

Uses of Pigeon Pea

It is used primary as a vegetable food crop in southeast Asia, it is recommended in Hawaii for green manure for vegetable crops. intercropped with cereal used a forage or hay but not grazed. Branches and stons can be used for basket and fuel. It is also, used as a shade crop and wind break, cover crops or support. It is used to improve soil quality. It also has traditional medicinal uses [10].

The FAQ reports that pigeon pea grows well interplanted with forage grasses Rhodes, grass and molasses with pongola grass. After inter crop is harvested, pigeon pea continues to grow, produce and protect the soil.

Biotic Factors of Cajanus Cajan

FAQ reports that pigeon pea in Hawari is being attacked by the same scale insects, a stem borer, a pod borer and leaf-eating caterpillars. The pest effects are on nematodes.

Nutritional Values of Pigeon Pea

Pigeon pea is a good source of proteins, carbohydrate and dietary minerals, such as calcium, phosphorus, magnesium, iron, sulphur and potassium. It is also good source of thiamin, riboflavin, niacin and grown pigeon pea cultivars ranges between 17.9 and 24.3g/100g [17]. Wide species of pigeon pea have high content of protein and several high protein genotype of about 32.5% (*Singh, et al., 1990*) (Table 1,2).

Table 1: Shows the analytical value of pigeon pea without husk in percent.

Moisture	15.2%
Protein	22.3%
Fat	1.7%
Mineral matter	8.6%
Carbohydrate	57.2%
Calcium	9.1%
Phosphate	0.26%

Table 2: Shows the Cajanus Cajan contents of sundry seeds in grams.

Nutrients contents of Cajanus Cajan	Values
Protein	19.5g
Fat	1.3g
Carbohydrate	65.5g
Fiber	1.3g
Ash	3.89g

Nutritional Evaluation of Pigeon Pea and Its Cooking Characteristics

Pigeon pea which has a high source of lysine, and the other essential amino acid, carbohydrate and mineral can be used as supplement with cereal proteins [27].

The nutritional quality of the three cultivars of pigeon pea on which includes ICPL 313, ICPL 314 and desi cultivars was studied by determining the chemical composition, mineral element composition, amino acid composition, chemical score and biological evaluation. The protein contents of whole seed of the three cultivars ranged from 20.78 to 21.5%, Fat from 1.53 to 1.89%, crude fiber from 8.29 to 8.63% and ash content of the whole seed where 6.22%, 0.55%, 4.43% and 1.72% respectively.

Also, the protein, fat crude fiber and ash of the cooked dhals were 6.69%, 0.14%, 1.91% and 1.379% respectively.

Amino Acid Compositions of Pigeon Pea

(Table 3) Essential and non-essential amino acid were determined in the raw and cooked whole seed and their dhals. The proportion of glutamic acid was the highest followed by aspartic acid, phenylalanine and lysine, threonine, valine, leucine and isoleucine decreased in the whole seed of both local varieties and imported varieties on cooking. There was drastic reduction in the tryptophan contents of the whole seed of all the three cultivars due to cooking. The effect of cooking on amino acid, content was greater in the dhal. Uncooked samples of the whole seed of cultivars ICPL 313 have the highest chemical score 53 and ICPL 314 had the lowest score of 48 in each cultivar.

Methionine was the first limiting amino acid and ICPL 314 tryptophan the second limiting amino acid. In the cooked samples of the whole seed of the three cultivars tryptophan was the first and methionine, the second limiting amino acid [9].

Table 3: Percentage concentration of amino acid in pigeon pea (Tony and Cliff, 1996).

Amino acid	Concentration of pigeon pea %
Arginine	6.7
Cystein	1.2
Histidine	3.4
Isoleucine	3.8
Lysine	7.0
Methionine	1.5
Phenylnaanic	8.7
Threonine	3.4
Tyrosine	22
Valine	5.0
Aspartic acid	9.8
Glutanic acid	19.2
Alanine	6.4
Glycine	3.6
Proline	4.4
Sernine	5.0
leucine	7.0

Minerals Composition of Pigeon Pea

Nine minerals' elements, sodium, potassium, phosphorous, calcium, copper, zinc, iron and manganese were determined in the raw cultivars and cooked whole and dhal of the three cultivars of pigeon pea, cooking cause significant decrease in the macro mineral element in whole seed and dlhal of the pigeon pea [25].

Biological Evaluation of Pigeon Pea

The biological values of the raw whole seed of the three-genotype ranged between 61.6 to 69.8% Sand that of their dhal were between 62.4 to 76.6% these are no significant increase in biological values on cooking whole seed or dhal [22].

Materials

Chemical and Reagent for Ascorbic Acid, Protein and Phosphate

- i. Acid washed sand
- ii. Sulphuric acid
- iii. Distilled water
- iv. Iodine solution
- v. Starch indicator
- vi. Zinc metal
- vii. Screen methyl red indicator
- viii. Hydrochloric acid
- ix. 40% sodium hydroxide
- x. Jik

Equipment and Glassware

Testube, pipettes, capillary tube, measuring cylinder, retort stand, metal spatular, beaker, glass burette, foil paper, absorbent cloth, round bottom flask, plastic funnel, volumetric flask, ceramic mortar and pestle, weighing balance, kjeldahl flask, mantle heater, electric shaker, distillation column, spectrophotometer.

Sample Collection

Seed of pigeon pea used for this research purchased from the open market of in Enugu State. These selected were the harvested from immediate past planting season and were also made sure that they were not infested with weevils to ensure their viability and germinability.

Sprouting.

Sprouting is the practice of soaking, drawing and then rising seed at regular intervals until they germinate or sprouts. This can be a semi-automated or fully automated process when done on a large scale of commercial use.

Procedure for Sprouting

The pigeon pea seed was spread on a plastic tray, covered with cotton wool. A solution was prepared using Jik and water at the ratio of 1:4 respectively, the solution was sprinkled on top of the cotton wool to prevent fungal growth on the seed during germination. The tray was finally covered with aluminum foil.

3.4.0 Sample preparation for determination of vitamin C. Procedure.

10g of the sample of pigeon pea and 5g of acid washed sand was weighed and emptied into a mortar, the two samples were mixed and grinded thoroughly. 100ml of distilled H₂O was measured into a round bottom flask and mixed with the grinded sample. The solution was allowed to shake for 2hours using the electric shaker. The sample was filtered using a filtering paper and the volume was measure, 5ml of the sample was pipette and 2.5ml of 1M H₂SO₄ was added into a conical flask, 1 ml of starch indicator was added stired, finally the sample was titerated using 0.05M of iodine solution.

Result

Ascorbic Acid (Vitamin C)

The result of ascorbic acid in the sprouting seeds from zero to day five

Table 4

Using 5g of acid washed sand and 100ml of distilled water for ascorbic acid extraction. Zero-day ascorbic acid in mg/g

Volume of extract = 50ml

Weight of sample = 10g

Volume of extracted sample used = 5mg

Initial value = 16.30

Final value = 16.40

Total value = 0.1

$$\text{Vitamin C} = \frac{0.1 \times 0.00886 \times 1000 \times 50}{5 \times 10}$$

= 0.88mg/kg converting to grams 0.88/10 = 0.088mg/100g

DAY 1 ascorbic acid in mg/100g

Volume of extract = 52ml

Weight of sample = 10g

Initial value = 16.00

Final value = 16.10

Total value = 0.1

$$\text{Vitamin C} = \frac{0.1 \times 0.00886 \times 1000 \times 52}{5 \times 10}$$

Vitamin C = 0.92mg/kg, converting to grams

0.92/10 = 0.092mg/100g

DAY 2

Volume of extract = 60ml

Weight of sample = 10g

Initial value = 24.00

Final value = 24.10

Total value = 0.1

$$\text{Vitamin C} = \frac{0.1 \times 0.00886 \times 1000 \times 60}{5 \times 10}$$

Vitamin C = 1.06mg/kg, converting to gram

1.06/10 = 0.106mg/100g

DAY 3

Volume of extract = 69ml

Weight of sample = 10g

Initial value = 25.00

Final value = 25.10

Total value = 0.1

$$\text{Vitamin C} = \frac{0.1 \times 0.00886 \times 1000 \times 52}{5 \times 10}$$

Vitamin C = 1.22mg/kg, converting to gram

0.122/10 = 0.122mg/100g

DAY 4

Volume of extract = 80ml

Weight of sample = 10g

Initial value = 28.00

Final value = 28.10

Total value = 0.1

$$\text{Vitamin C} = \frac{0.1 \times 0.00886 \times 1000 \times 80}{5 \times 10}$$

Vitamin C = 1.42mg/kg, converting to gram

1.42/10 = 0.142mg/100g

DAY 5

Volume of extract = 86ml

Weight of sample = 10g

Initial value = 42.00

Final value = 42.10

Total value = 0.1

$$\text{Vitamin C} = \frac{0.1 \times 0.00886 \times 1000 \times 86}{5 \times 10}$$

Vitamin C = 1.52mg/kg, converting to gram

1.52/10 = 0.152mg/100g (Figure 5)

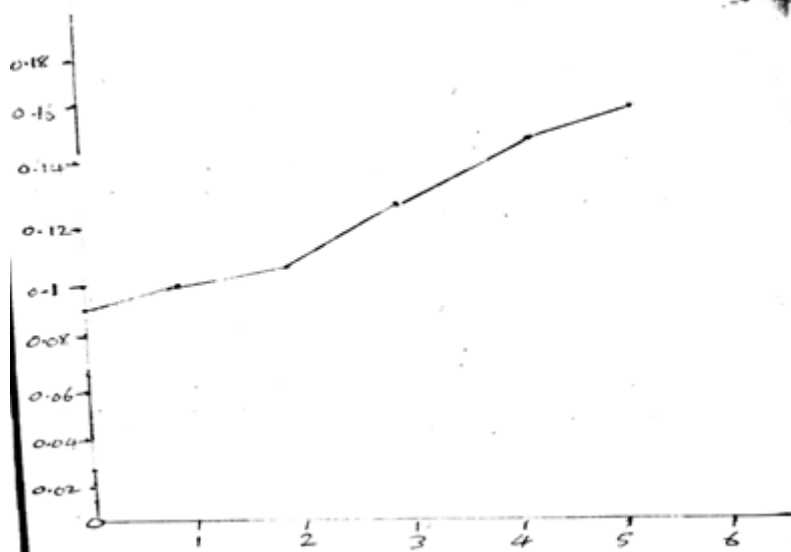


Figure 5: Graph of concentration of Ascorbic Acid against number of days of sprouting.

Protein

The result of protein in the sprouting seeds of pigeon pea from zero day to five

Table 5**DAY ZERO**

Quantity of sample used = 0.5g

Initial value = 15.00

Final value = 18.60

Total value = 4.30

$$\text{Protein} = \frac{100 \times 4.30 \times 0.0014 \times 6.25}{0.5}$$

$$= 3.15 = 6.3\text{mg/kg, converting to gram}$$

$$\frac{3.15}{0.5} = 6.3\text{mg / kg converting to gram}$$

$$6.3/10 = 0.62$$

$$\text{Protein} = 0.63\text{mg}/100\text{g}$$

DAY 1

Quantity of sample used = 0.5g

Initial value = 15.00

Final value = 18.60

Total value = 3.6

$$\text{Protein} = \frac{100 \times 4.30 \times 0.0014 \times 6.25}{0.5}$$

$$= 3.7625 = 7.5\text{mgmg/kg, converting to gram}$$

$$\frac{3.15}{0.5} = 6.3\text{mg / kg converting to gram}$$

$$6.3/10 = 0.62$$

$$\text{Protein} = 0.75\text{mg}/100\text{g}$$

DAY 2

Quantity of sample used = 0.5g

Initial value = 10.00

Final value = 17.7

Total value = 7.70

$$\text{Protein} = \frac{100 \times 7.70 \times 0.0014 \times 6.25}{0.5}$$

$$= 6.7375 = 13.5\text{mgmg/kg, converting to gram}$$

$$\frac{6.7375}{0.5} = 13.5\text{mg / kg converting to gram}$$

$$13.5/10 = 1.35\text{mg}/100\text{g}$$

$$\text{Protein} = 1.35\text{mg}/100\text{g}$$

DAY 3

Quantity of sample used = 0.5g

Initial value = 0.00

Final value = 9.50

Total value = 9.50

$$\text{Protein} = \frac{100 \times 9.50 \times 0.0014 \times 6.25}{0.5}$$

$$= \frac{8.3125}{0.5} = 16.6\text{mgmg / kg, converting to gram}$$

$$16.6/10 = 1.66\text{mg}/100\text{g}$$

$$\text{Protein} = 1.66\text{mg}/\text{kg}$$

DAY 4

Quantity of sample used = 0.5g

Initial value = 4.40

Final value = 9.50

Total value = 5.10

$$\text{Protein} = \frac{100 \times 5 \times 10 \times 0.0014 \times 6.25}{0.5}$$

$$= \frac{4.4625}{0.5} = 8.9\text{mgmg / kg, converting to gram}$$

$$8.9/10 = 0.89\text{mg}/\text{kg}$$

$$\text{Protein} = 0.89\text{mg}/100\text{g}$$

DAY 5

Quantity of sample used = 0.5g

Initial value = 6.00

Final value = 10.50

Total value = 4.50

$$\text{Protein} = \frac{100 \times 4.50 \times 0.0014 \times 6.25}{0.5}$$

$$\text{Protein} = \frac{3.9375}{0.5} = 7.9\text{mg / kg, converting to gram}$$

$$7.9/10 = 0.79\text{mg}/\text{kg}$$

$$\text{Protein} = 0.79\text{mg}/100\text{g (Figure 6)}$$

Phosphate

The result of phosphate content in the sprouting of seed of pigeon pea from zero to day five

Table 6

ZERO

Weight of sample = 0.2g

Zero-day concentration = 0.088

$$\text{Phosphate} = \frac{0.088 \times 250 \times 0.05 \times 100 \times 5}{1000 \times 0.2}$$

$$\frac{5.500}{200} = 2.75\text{mg / kg, converting to gram}$$

$$= 2.75/10$$

$$= 0.275\text{mg}/100\text{g}$$

$$\text{Phosphate} = 0.275\text{mg}/100\text{g}$$

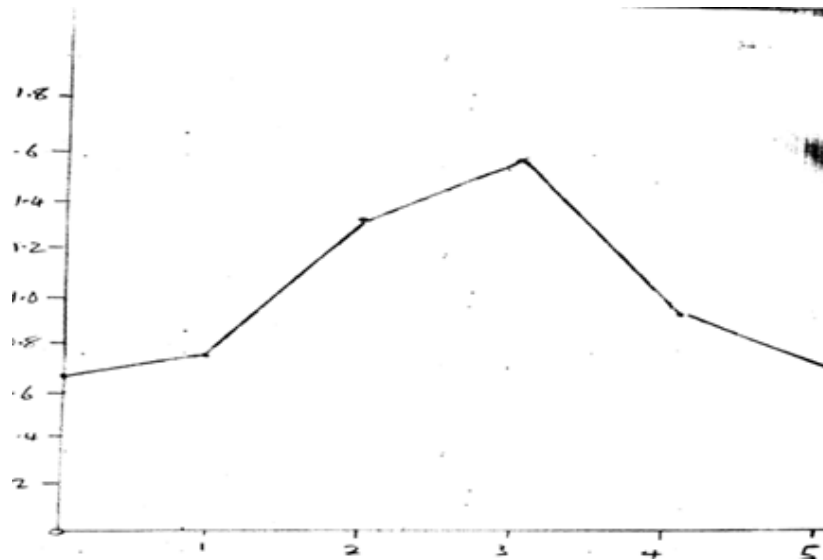


Figure 6:

DAY 1

Weight of sample = 0.29g

Day one concentration = 0.178

$$\text{Phosphate} = \frac{0.224 \times 250 \times 0.05 \times 100 \times 5}{1000 \times 0.2}$$

$$\frac{1400}{200} = 7.0 \text{ mg / kg, converting to gram } 7.0 / 10$$

=0.70mg/100g

Phosphate=0.70mg/100g

DAY 2

Weight of sample = 0.2g

Day two concentration = 0.421

$$\text{Phosphate} = \frac{0.421 \times 250 \times 0.05 \times 100 \times 5}{1000 \times 0.2}$$

$$\frac{2631.25}{200} = 13.2 \text{ mg / kg, converting to gram}$$

=13.2/10 = 1.32mg/100g

Phosphate=1.32mg/100g

DAY 3

Weight of sample = 0.2g

Day three concentration = 0.230

$$\text{Phosphate} = \frac{0.230 \times 250 \times 0.05 \times 100 \times 5}{1000 \times 0.2}$$

$$\frac{1432.5}{200} = 7.18 \text{ mg / kg, converting to gram}$$

7.18/10 = 0.718mg/100g

Phosphate=0.718mg/100g

DAY 4

Weight of sample = 0.2g

Day four concentration = 0.204

$$\text{Phosphate} = \frac{0.204 \times 250 \times 0.05 \times 100 \times 5}{1000 \times 0.2}$$

$$\frac{1275}{208} = 6.37 \text{ mg / kg, converting to gram } 6.37 / 10$$

=0.637mg/100g

Phosphate = 0.637mg/100g

DAY 5

Weight of sample = 0.2g

Day four concentration = 0.178

$$\text{Phosphate} = \frac{0.178 \times 250 \times 0.05 \times 100 \times 5}{1000 \times 0.2}$$

$$\frac{1112.5}{208} = 5.5 \text{ mg / kg, converting to gram } 5.56 / 10$$

=0.556mg/100g

Phosphate = 0.556mg/100g (Figure 7)

Discussion

The results of this study demonstrate that sprouting significantly impacts the nutritional profile of pigeon pea (*Cajanus cajan*). Over the 5-day sprouting period, notable changes were observed in the concentrations of ascorbic acid, protein and phosphate.

The ascorbic acid content steadily increased from 0.088 mg/100g on day 0 to 0.152 mg/100g on day 5 as the seeds sprouted. This gradual rise in ascorbic acid can be attributed to the metabolic activation and synthesis of vitamin C during the germination process. Sprouting triggers enzymatic activities that enhance the conversion of precursor molecules into ascorbic acid. This finding is consistent with previous reports that sprouting improves the vitamin C content of various legumes and grains.

Protein content also increased during the sprouting period, rising from 0.63 mg/100g on day 0 to a peak of 1.66 mg/100g on day 3. However, protein levels then declined to 0.79 mg/100g by day 5.

The initial increase in protein can be explained by the mobilization of storage proteins in the seeds to support the rapid growth and development of the sprouts. The subsequent decrease may be due to

the utilization of proteins for metabolic activities and the synthesis of other biomolecules as the sprouts mature.

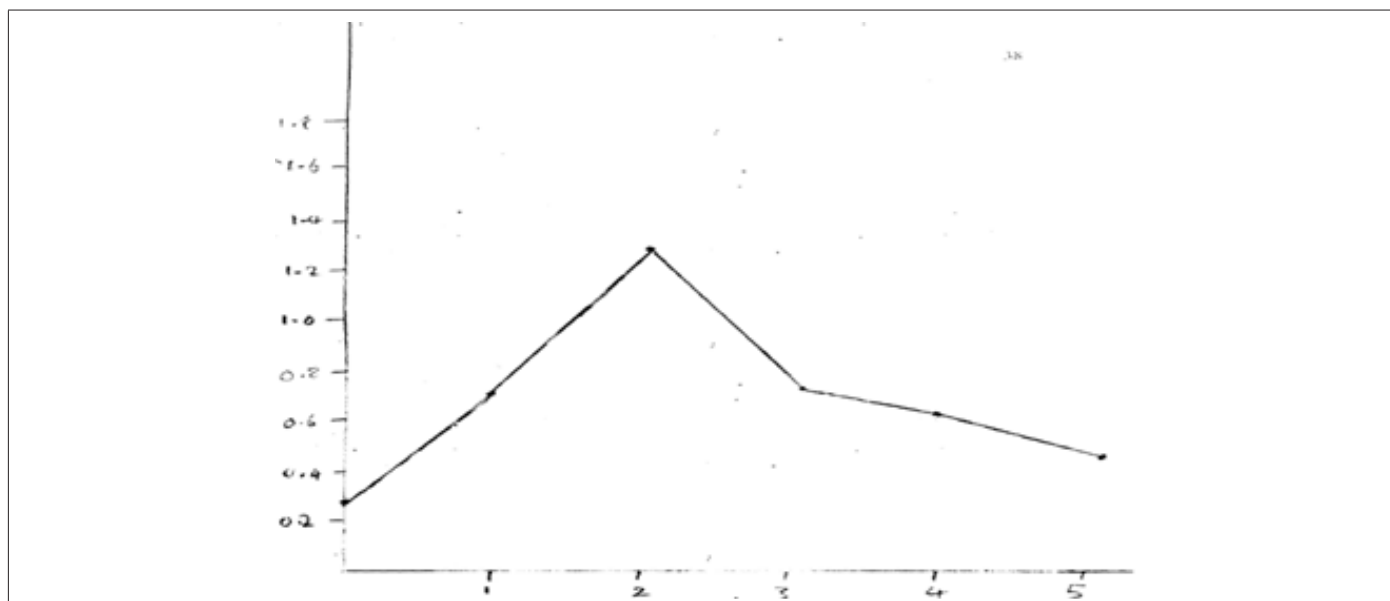


Figure 7: Graph of concentration of Phosphate against numbers of days of sprouting.

Phosphate content fluctuated throughout the sprouting process. It started at 0.275 mg/100g on day 0, increased to 0.718 mg/100g on day 3, and then decreased to 0.556 mg/100g by day 5. The changes in phosphate levels can be attributed to the dynamic role of phosphorus in various biochemical pathways involved in energy metabolism, cell signaling, and structural components during seed germination and seedling growth.

The observed changes in the nutritional parameters of pigeon pea during sprouting demonstrate the potential of this simple processing technique to enhance the bioavailability and quality of this important legume crop. The increases in ascorbic acid and protein content are particularly significant, as these nutrients play crucial roles in human health and nutrition.

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Consent of Publication

All authors are aware of this publication

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Ethical Approval

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Conflict of Interest

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