

## Investigation of the Quality of Chinese Herbs (V)

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### ABSTRACT

In this investigation, twenty types of marketed Chinese herbs including *Cassiae torae* Semen, *Foeniculi Fructus*, *Gentianae Macrophyllae Radix*, *Perillae Folium*, *Rehmanniae Radix*, *Carthami Flos*, *Plantaginis Semen*, *Biotae Semen*, *Evodiae Fructus*, *Arstolochiae Fangchi Radix*, *Aurantii Immaturus Fructus*, *Ligustici Sinensis Rhizoma et Radix*, *Zingiberis Siccatum Rhizoma*, *Polyporus*, *Cistanchis Herba*, *Sterculiae Lychnophorae Semen*, *Alpiniae Oxyphyllae Fructus*, *Polygoni Multiflori Caulis*, *Gentitana Scabrae Radix* and *Aconiti Lateralis Preparata Radix* were analyzed.

Analysis of loss on drying, diluted ethanol-soluble extractive, water-soluble extractive, total ash and acid-insoluble ash of herbs were performed.

To summarize the above survey results of the five tests done for each herb, the produced values compared with their M.+S.D. or M.-S.D., seven herbs that displayed a reasonable distribution in their test results were *Perillae Folium*, *Carthami Flos*, *Aurantii Immaturus Fructus*, *Ligustici Sinensis Rhizoma et Radix*, *Polyporus*, *Cistanchis Herba* and *Gentitana Scabrae Radix*. The other thirteen herbs showed an unreasonable distribution in response to one to four of the five test performed. Based on the data obtained, this experiment is able to generate a statistic value that can cover most of the reasonable data. This data can further be served as a remarkable estimation value for the future testing on the above twenty types of herbs.

**Key words:** Chinese herbs, loss on drying, total ash, acid-insoluble ash, diluted ethanol-soluble extractive, water-soluble extractive.