





# HEALTHY PROPERTIES OF ENDIVE (CICHORIUM ENDIVIA L.) DEPENDING ON THE VARIETY AND VEGETATIVE OF SEASON

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### **ABSTRACT**

The endive (Cichorium endivia L.) is plant belonging to Asteraceae family. It is very popular vegetable in France, Italy and Germany. Endive because of its high content healthy components can be used in prevention against a lot of diseases. The studies were conducted on two varieties of endive: 'Cigal' and 'Marconi' during vegetative of season: 2009 and 2010. The research material was assessed for: dry matter, protein, dietary fibre, ash, selected minerals (Ca, Mg, K, P, Na, Fe, Zn, Mn, Cu) levels and antioxidants (vitamin C, phenols components) contents. Also, the calculation of the energy value, carbohydrates and the antioxidant potential of ABTS were performed. The endive variety 'Cigal' was characterized higher content of calcium, magnesium, phosphorus, pot assium, sodium, zinc and phenols components. While variety 'Marconi' contained more of dry matter, carbohydrates, dietary fibre, vitamin C, iron, copper and higher antioxidant activity. The studies showed statistically significant differences in terms of the content of components and antioxidant activity, between analysed varieties of vegetable and vegetation of season.

Keywords: Endive, healthy properties, variety, vegetative of season

# INTRODUCTION

Endive (Cichorium endivia L.) belongs to the family Asteraceae, genus Cichorium. This vegetable is an annual plant and the leaves rosette, placed on a short stalk are an edible part of this plant (Nuez and Prohens, 2008; Alshehri and Esaved, 2012). Endive has not special climate requirements, and it tolerates moderate frost. However, prolonged droughts cause that the plants knock in the flower stem. The soil humus curled, airy, with a neutral pH are the posts recommended for the cultivation of endive. Endive is characterized by a high content of nutrients. This vegetable contains more: calcium, phosphorus, iron and potassium in comparison to lettuce. Moreover, a lot of  $\beta$ -carotene, vitamin C and vitamin from group of B are in leaves of endive, bioactive substances such as: inulin and intybine and also phenolic compounds (Hedges and Lister, 2005; Degl'Innocenti et al., 2008; Cieślik and Gajda, 2010). Due to the presence of biological substances, endive has got valuable healthy properties, and systematic consumption of this vegetable influences beneficially on digestive and cardiovascular system (Rice-Evans et al., 1997; Cieślik, 2009; Cieślik and Gębusia, 2011;). A lot of studies (Hasan et al., 1990; Achmed, et al., 2003; Alshhehri and Esayed, 2012) conducted both in vitro and in vivo (with participation of laboratory animals) showed very important influence of alcoholic extract of the plant of genus Cichorium on tumor cells growth. Due to the presence of antioxidant compounds including phenols components, the use of these extracts inhibits the development of carcinogenic structures.

The aim of study was to determine healthy properties and also antioxidant activity of endive (Cichorium endivia L.) depending on variety and vegetative of

## MATERIAL AND METHODS

## Material

Experiment was conducted on two varieties of endive: 'Cigal' and 'Marconi' available in the dealing in 2009 and 2010 year. The samples were collected at  $\,20\,$ samples of each variety, which next washed up, dried and comminuted.

## Methods

The content of vitamin C, phenols components and antioxidant activity was determined in the fresh material. The determination of: protein, ash, dietary fibre, mineral components contents was carried out after prior lyophilisation by using CHRIST LOC-1M ALPHA 1-4 apparatus. The dry mass content was done on fresh and lyophilised material. All obtained results were calculated for fresh mass basis. The dry mass was obtained by thermo-gravimetric method in dryer at 105 °C during 24 h (PN-ISO 1026:2000). The protein content was performed by Dumas method with TruSpec N analyser. The ash content was performed by thermo-gravimetric method by ashing in muffle furnace at 525 °C during 12 h (PN-90/A-75101/08:1990+Az1:2002). The assessment of carbohydrates was obtained by method of calculation in accordance with methodology reported by Gronowska-Senger (2004). The dietary fibre content was determined according to AOAC 991.43 method (Association of Official Analytical Chemists International, 2006). The energy value was calculated with average Atwater coefficients (method of calculation) (Kunachowicz et al., 2005). For calculations, the average  $-\ 0.2$  g content of fat was used (according to bibliography). The vitamin C content was estimated by titration as sum of ascorbic and dehydroascorbic acids (Krelowska-Kulas, 1993). Antioxidant activity was determined by using method according to Swain and Hillis (1959). Phenols components was done by using Folin and Ciocalteu's phenol reagent in accordance with methodology reported by Re at al., (1999). The determination of phosphorous in endive was conducted using dry ashing followed by UV-Vis spectrophotometry with ammonium vanadomolybdate method (VM) (Cieślik et al., 2011). The determination of calcium, magnesium, potassium, sodium, iron and zinc was accomplished with atomic absorption spectrometry.

## Statistical analysis

The analyses were done in three repetitions. The obtained results were submitted to statistical estimates two-way analysis of variance method at the significance level  $\alpha = 0.05$ .

## RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

The energy value fluctuated in the scope from 14,16-18.04 kcal 100g<sup>-1</sup> of fresh weight (Tab. 1) irrespective of the variety and vegetative of season. The obtained results were in accordance with data received by a lot of authors (Cieślik and Gajda, 2010; Elmadfa and Muskat, 2011; USDA, 2012), which showed that value of this component was 10-25 kcal 100 g<sup>-1</sup> of fresh weight. Any statistically significant differences in energy value were not observed in analysed endives

varieties. However, the obtained results differed significantly between the vegetative of season those varieties.

The average content of dry matter in assessed of rosette leaf endive ranged from 6.50-6.76 g 100 g<sup>-1</sup> of fresh weight (Tab. 1). Significant differences in dry matter contents between vegetative of season and interaction between variety and vegetative of season (Tab. 2) were found. Moreover, the significance of statistical differences was not noticed for studied varieties. The obtained results were lower in comparison to Adamczewska-Sowińska and Uklańska, (2009), which reported that value of this factor was 7.98 g 100 g<sup>-1</sup> of fresh weight. In other researches, Cieślik and Gajda, (2010) and Elmadfa and Muskat, (2011) the level of water was determined at 93.3 g 100 g<sup>-1</sup> of fresh weight, and dry matter – 6.7 g 100 g<sup>-1</sup> of fresh weight.

There were not significant differences in protein contents within the varieties and also within the vegetative of season (average 1.45 g 100 g<sup>-1</sup> of fresh weight). The obtained results were in accordance with those reported by a lot of authors (Cieślik and Gajda, 2010; Elmadfa and Muskat, 2011; USDA, 2012), average 1.25-1.8 g protein 100 g<sup>-1</sup> of fresh weight.

The average values of carbohydrates were from 3.31-4.62 g 100 g<sup>-1</sup> of fresh weight. There were significant differences noticed only between vegetative of seasons. The obtained results were higher than those received by other authors (Cieślik and Gajda, 2010; Elmadfa and Muskat, 2011; USDA, 2012). For dietary fibre content any significant differences between varieties of endive and between vegetative of seasons were not found. The average values were from 1.59-2.07 g 100 g<sup>-1</sup> of fresh weight. However, interaction between variety and vegetative of season was observed. The obtained amounts of dietary fibre in leaves of endive were higher than those reported by Wiąckowski, (1995), which claimed that content of this component was 0.6 g 100 g<sup>-1</sup> of fresh weight and it was lower in comparison to USDA, (2012) reports (3.10 g 100 g<sup>-1</sup> of fresh

The average value of ash was from 0.77 to 1.37 g 100 g<sup>-1</sup> fresh weight and was close to those showed by other authors for another Asteraceae (1-1.76 g 100 g of fresh weight) (Cieślik et al., 2012; Mentel et al., 2012). The statistical tests showed significant differences in ash content between the varieties (Tab. 2).

Table 1 Energy value and selected nutritive and non-nutritive components of endive (per 100 grams fresh weight)

Variety	'Ci	gal'	'Mar	coni'	'Cigal'	'Marconi'
Component	2009	2010	2009	2010	Average	Average
Energy value, kcal 100 g <sup>-1</sup>	18.04	14.16	17.60	14.44	16.10	16.02
SD	0.74	2.98	1.84	1.36	2.90	2.26
Dry matter, g 100 g <sup>-1</sup>	6.63	6.37	7.50	6.02	6.50	6,76
SD	0.26	0.47	0.05	1.05	0.38	1.05
Protein, g 100 g <sup>-1</sup>	1.04	1.85	1.75	1.14	1.45	1,45
SD	0.15	0.14	0.44	0.15	0.45	0.44
Carbohydrates, g 100 g <sup>-1</sup>	4.62	3.31	4.50	3.61	3.97	4.06
SD	0.62	0.95	0.34	0.46	1.02	0.60
Including dietary fibre, g 100 g <sup>-1</sup>	1.60	2.07	2.30	1.59	1.84	1.95
SD	0.35	0.20	1.05	0.15	0.37	0.81
Ash, g 100 g <sup>-1</sup>	0.77	1.01	1.05	1.07	0.89	1.06
SD	0.23	0.04	0.06	0.24	0.20	0.17

SD - standard deviation

Table 2 Analysis of variance for energy value and selected nutritive and nonnutritive components of endive

Energy value		
Factor	Statistic value of F	Level p
Variety	0.12	0.73
Vegetative of season	17.94	0.00
Interaction VxVs	0.65	0.42
Dry mass		
Factor	Statistic value of F	Level p
Variety	1.15	0.29
Vegetative of season	12.72	0.00
Interaction VxVs	6.39	0.01
Protein		
Factor	Statistic value of F	Level p
Variety	0.00	0.97
Vegetative of season	0.98	0.33
Interaction VxVs	47.65	1.05 E-06
Carbohydrates		
Factor	Statistic value of F	Level p
Variety	0.12	0.73
Vegetative of season	17.94	0.00
Interaction VxVs	0.65	0.42
Dietary fibre		
Factor	Statistic value of F	Level p
Variety	0.24	0.63
Vegetative of season	0.25	0.62
Interaction VxVs	6.50	0.02
Ash		
Factor	Statistic value of F	Level p
Variety	6.03	0.02
Vegetative of season	3.38	0.08
Interaction VxVs	2.66	0.11

Interaction VxVs - interaction variety and vegetative of season.

The value in the table in bold represent statistically significant differences at the significance level  $\alpha=0.05$ 

Studies conducted on two varieties of endive showed statistical significant higher content of calcium in leaves of variety 'Cigal'. The average content of this component was from 62.06-67.72 g 100 g<sup>-1</sup> of fresh weight (Tab. 3). The obtained results were in accordance with those reported by Koudela and **Petříkova**, (2007) (33.2 – 85.1 mg 100 g<sup>-1</sup> of fresh weight), and higher in comparison to Cieślik and Gajda, (2010) and Elmadfa and Muskat, (2011) reports (54 mg 100 g<sup>-1</sup> fresh weight). Significant differences in calcium average

were found also between vegetative of seasons and interaction between variety and vegetative of season was noticed.

The magnesium content in assessed varieties of Cichorium endivia ranged from 9.82 to 28.27 mg 100 g<sup>-1</sup> of fresh weight (Tab. 3). These values were found to be close to those obtained by Koudela and Petříkova, (2007) for different varieties of this vegetable (12.6 – 41.7 mg 100 g<sup>-1</sup> of fresh weight) and **Emadfa and Muskat, (2011)** (10 mg 100 g<sup>-1</sup> of fresh weight). On the basis of statistical analysis, significant differences were shown between vegetative of seasons and interaction between variety and vegetative of season was observed.

The potassium level was different between the varieties, vegetative of seasons and interaction between variety and vegetative of season was noticed. In 2009 year, variety 'Marconi' characterized by a lower level of these component (166.20 mg 100 g<sup>-1</sup> of fresh weight). Moreover, in the next year, content of potassium was higher (226.99 mg 100 g<sup>-1</sup> of fresh weight). Also in the leaves of endive - variety 'Cigal', significant differences was observed for two years of studies. The results obtained were lower in comparison to Cieślik and Gajda, (2010) (346 mg 100 g<sup>-1</sup> of fresh weight) and Koudela and Petříkova, (2007)  $(248.3 - 615.5 \text{ mg } 100 \text{ g}^{-1} \text{ of fresh weight}).$ 

The studies varieties had statistical significant differences in level of phosphorus. Variety 'Cigal' characterized a higher content of this macroelement, average 33.70 mg 100 g<sup>-1</sup> of fresh weight (Tab. 3). Moreover, the significant differences were noticed in value of phosphorus between vegetative of seasons and interaction between variety and vegetative of season. The obtained amounts were similar to those reported by other authors (10 to 54 mg 100 g<sup>-1</sup> of fresh weight) (Cieślik and Gajda, 2010; Elmadfa and Muskat, 2011; USDA, 2012).

The assessed varieties: 'Cigal' and 'Marconi' contained outstandingly higher sodium in comparison to results obtained by other (Koudela and Petříkova, 2007; Rekowska and Jurga-Szlempo, 2011). The highest level of those macroelement was observed in variety 'Cigal' in the first year (142.63 mg 100 g of fresh weight), however the lowest was noticed in leaves of variety 'Marconi' in 2010 year (15.84 mg 100 g<sup>-1</sup> of fresh weight). The statistically significant differences were shown in content of sodium between varieties, vegetative of seasons and also variety and vegetative of seasons (Tab. 4).

The results of iron level were ranged from 3.78-6.51 mg  $100\,\mathrm{g}^{\text{--}1}$  of fresh weight. The values obtained were significantly much higher than these noticed by other authors. According to Cieślik and Gajda, (2010) and also Emadfa and Muskat, (2011), the values of these component was 1.4 mg 100 g<sup>-1</sup> of fresh weight. Moreover, USDA, (2012) reported the iron level for endive to be at 0.28 mg 100 g<sup>-1</sup> of fresh weight.

The lowest amount of zinc was observed in the first year of studies in Cichorium endivia variety 'Marconi' (average 0.18 mg 100 g<sup>-1</sup> fresh weight), while in 2010 year content of those component in leaves of this variety significantly increased (Tab. 3). The statistical significance differences were shown in level of zinc in vegetative of seasons. The data received during the study were much lower than indicated by the USDA, (2012).

The average content of manganese in leaves of endive was the same for both of varieties (0.43 mg 100  $g^{-1}$  of fresh weight). There were statistical significant differences in level of this component between vegetative of seasons (Tab. 4). The values received, were in accordance to those reported by **USDA**, (2012) (0.42 mg 100  $g^{-1}$  of fresh weight).

Basing on results from conducted studies, it was found that the content of copper was from 0.03 to 0.06 mg 100 g $^{-1}$  of fresh weight. The results were lower than those noticed by **USDA**, (2012). There were no significant differences showed.

**Table 3** Content of selected mineral components of endive (per 100 grams fresh weight)

Variety	'Cigal'		'Marconi'		'Cigal'	'Marconi'
Component	2009	2010	2009	2010	Average	Average
Calcium, mg 100 g <sup>-1</sup>	27.66	107.77	68.77	55.35	67.72	62.06
SD	1.35	4.92	1.97	2.27	41.98	7.29
Magnesium, mg 100 g <sup>-1</sup>	9.82	28.27	15.18	19.45	19.05	17.32
SD	3.05	1.98	2.28	1.42	9.94	2.87
Potassium, mg 100 g <sup>-1</sup>	184.52	272.15	166.20	226.99	228.34	196.60
SD	9.05	5.51	1.53	3.50	46.32	31.85
Phosphorus, mg 100 g <sup>-1</sup>	30.82	36.58	27.76	29.22	33.70	28.49
SD	0.98	2.03	1.16	0.82	3.37	1.22
Sodium, mg 100 g <sup>-1</sup>	142.63	30.47	45.54	15.84	86.55	30.69
SD	10.72	0.49	2.29	2.41	59.02	15.67
Iron, mg 100 g <sup>-1</sup>	0.75	6.80	4.05	8.96	3.78	6.51
SD	0.38	1.49	0.27	0.28	3.32	2.58
Zinc, mg 100 g <sup>-1</sup>	0.27	0.40	0.18	0.39	0.34	0.29
SD	0.09	0.04	0.12	0.09	0.10	0.15
Manganese, mg 100 g <sup>-1</sup>	0.20	0.66	0.28	0.58	0.43	0.43
SD	0.16	0.18	0.19	0.12	0.29	0.22
Copper, mg 100 g <sup>-1</sup>	0.03	0.04	0.06	0.05	0.04	0.06
SD	0.02	0.01	0.02	0.03	0.02	0.02

SD – standard deviation

Table 4. Analysis of variance for selected minerals components of endive

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Calcium		
Factor	Statistic value of F	Level p
Variety	21.92	0.00
Vegetative of season	762.11	0.00
Interaction VxVs	1498.81	0.00
Magnesium		
Factor	Statistic value of F	Level p
Variety	3.51	0.08
Vegetative of season	151.66	0.00
Interaction VxVs	59.01	0.00
Potassium		
Factor	Statistic value of F	Level p
Variety	190.63	0.00
Vegetative of season	1042.22	0.00
Interaction VxVs	34.09	0.00
Phosphorus		
Factor	Statistic value of F	Level p
Variety	91.55	0.00
Vegetative of season	43.84	0.00
Interaction VxVs	15.57	0.00
Sodium		
Factor	Statistic value of F	Level p
Variety	593.58	0.00
Vegetative of season	957.17	0.00
Interaction VxVs	323.44	0.00
Iron		
Factor	Statistic value of F	Level p
Variety	71.20	0.00
Vegetative of season	286.69	0.00
Interaction VxVs	3.09	0.09
Zinc		
Factor	Statistic value of F	Level p
Variety	1.93	0.18
Vegetative of season	21.42	0.00
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Interaction VxVs	1.00	0.33
Manganese		
Factor	Statistic value of F	Level p
Variety	0.00	1.00
Vegetative of season	32.39	0.00
Interaction VxVs	1.37	0.26
Copper		
Factor	Statistic value of F	Level p
Variety	3.23	0.09
Vegetative of season	0.00	0.94
Interaction VxVs	0.64	0.43

Interaction VxVs – interaction variety and vegetative of season

The value in the table in bold represent statistically significant differences at the significance level  $\alpha$ =0.05

The average value of vitamin C in leaves of endive was from  $9.86-13.30\,\mathrm{mg}\,100\,\mathrm{g}^1$  of fresh weight (Tab. 5). There were significant differences in level of this component between varieties and interaction between variety and vegetative of season (Tab. 6). The conducted studies showed that content of this vitamin in variety 'Cigal' was comparable to data received by other authors and not much higher for variety 'Marconi'. According to Llorach  $\it et al., (2008), M\"{u}ller-Nothmann, (2008), Cieślik and Gajda, (2010) and Emadfa and Muskat, (2011), the vitamin C content in the fresh of endive was at the level of <math>10-10.2\,\mathrm{mg}\,100\,\mathrm{g}^{-1}$  fresh weight.

As a result of the researches, differences in content of phenols components in assessed varieties and between vegetative of seasons were observed (Tab. 6). Moreover, the interaction between variety and vegetative of season was revealed. In the second year, the studied varieties were characterised by higher level of polyphenols (average: 'Cigal': 99.87 mg GAE 100 g<sup>-1</sup> and 'Marconi': 99.73 mg GAE 100 g<sup>-1</sup>) (Tab. 5). The data were lower to those noticed by **Llorach** et al., (2008) (259.1 mg 100 g<sup>-1</sup> of fresh weight).

Higher values of antioxidant activity measured by the ability to free radicals scavenging ABTS in the examinations were determined (3.61 mg Trolox g<sup>-1</sup> - 'Cigal' and 4.67 mg Trolox g<sup>-1</sup> - 'Marconi'), with respect to those obtained by **Llorach** *et al.*, (2008) (0.934 mg Trolox g<sup>-1</sup>).

Table 5. Content of vitamin C. phenols components and antioxidant activity ABTS of endive (per 100 g fresh weight)

Variety	'Cigal'		'Marconi'		'Cigal'	'Marconi'
Component	2009	2010	2009	2010	Average	Average
Vitamin C, mg 100 g <sup>-1</sup>	10.50	9.22	12.40	14.19	9.86	13.30
SD	0.62	0.43	1.29	1.94	0.84	1.83
Phenols components,	46.69	99.87	33.60	99.73	73.28	66.67
mg GAE 100 g <sup>-1</sup> SD	2.77	1.14	0.36	0.27	27.85	34.54
Antioxidant activity ABTS,						
mg Trolox 100 g <sup>-1</sup>	4.15	3.06	4.54	4.80	3.61	4.67
SD	0.01	0.79	0.02	1.22	0.78	0.83

SD – standard deviation

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**Table 6.** Analysis of variance for vitamin C, phenols components and antioxidant activity ABTS of endive

Vitamin C		
Factor	Statistic value of F	Level p
Variety	46.93	0.00
Vegetative of season	0.25	0.62
Interaction VxVs	9.37	0.01
Phenols components		
Factor	Statistic value of F	Level p
Variety	114.74	0.00
Vegetative of season	9330.93	0.00
Interaction VxVs	109.79	0.00
Antioxidant activity ABT	S <sup>.</sup>	
Factor	Statistic value of F	Level p
Variety	12.99	0.00
Vegetative of season	1.95	0.18
Interaction VxVs	5.16	0.03

Interaction VxVs - interaction variety and vegetative of season

The value in the table in bold represent statistically significant differences at the significance level  $\alpha$ =0.05

### CONCLUSION

The studies showed that content of: ash, calcium, potassium, phosphorus, sodium, iron, vitamin C, phenols components and antioxidant activity depended significantly on variety. Moreover, the statistically significant differences of energy value and content of: dry matter, carbohydrates, calcium, magnesium, potassium, phosphorus, sodium, iron, zinc, manganese and phenols components were noticed between vegetative of seasons.

On the base received of results noticed that endive - variety 'Marconi' was characterized by higher level of: dry matter, carbohydrates, dietary fibre, vitamin C, Fe, Cu and antioxidant activity ABTS, which testify to its higher nutritive value.

The abundance of nutritive components in endive allows concluding that it is not only vegetable but also precious homeopathic herbal medicine with great healthy features. It shows prebiotic activity because of fructans presence. This vegetable because of its high contains content of healthy components, can be used in prophylaxis of digestive disorders, as medicament in supporting of cardio-vascular circulation for retarding of ageing processes and first of all for in blood diseases such as anaemia. Also because of inulin presence endive is recommended for diabetes as low glycemic index vegetable.

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