

## PHYSICO-CHEMICAL AND NUTRITIONAL CHARACTERIZATION OF *ARBUTUS UNEDO L.* FROM THE REGION OF TIARET (ALGERIA)

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### ABSTRACT

In Algeria, wild berries *Arbutus unedo L.*, known as "lendj" remain unexploited and little studies have been devoted to it. The presented work aims to study the physicochemical and nutritional characteristics of this fruit, The *Arbutus unedo L.* fruits are acidic ( $\text{pH} = 3.4 \pm 0.005$ ), rich in dietary fiber ( $18.63\% \pm 0.212$ ) and polyphenols ( $21.13 \text{ mg GAE} / \text{g} \pm 0.03$ ) and are an important source of vitamin C ( $527.21 \text{ mg} / 100\text{g}$ ) and malic acid ( $282.3 \text{ mg} / 100\text{g}$ ), but low in fat ( $0.68 \pm 0.127\%$ ) and pectin ( $0.084\% \pm 0.002$ ).

**KEYWORDS:** *Arbutus unedo L.*, Nutritional Value, Physicochemical Properties



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