## WILD BLACKTHORN (*Prunus spinosa* L.) AND CORNELIAN CHERRY (*Cornus mas L.*) FRUITS AND JUICES - VALUABLE SOURCES OF CHEMICALS AS NOURISHING COMPONENTS

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Abstract. This paper presents the importance of cornelian cherry and blackthorn as well as juices obtained from them, for human health. Fruits were obtained from Dagita village, Iasi County, Romania. Clear juices from berries was done by proper technology establishing the specific consumptions. Thus, for 1000 kg clear juice are required 1612.9 kg cornelian cherry and 1594.8 kg blackthorn fruits. Complex analysis of fruits and their clear juices showed a slight decline of nutrients in juices compared to pulp. To assess the comparative quality of fruits and obtained juices, carbohydrates, pectin, polyphenols, minerals, vitamin C and beta-carotene were determined.

**Key words:** cornelian cherry, blackthorn, carbohydrates, minerals, vitamins, polyphenols

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