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Cyanide Content of Cassava Cultivars in Relation to Nitrogen Fertilization

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ABSTRACT

The effect of nitrogen fertilization on the cyanogenic glucoside content in the leaves and storage roots of four cassava cultivars (TMS 30001, 30211, 30395, and 30572), which were selected for low cyanide content, was investigated in field experiments. The cyanide level in the processed product gari was also determined.

Nitrogen fertilization significantly raised the hydrocyanide content in the leaves and storage roots of the cassava cultivars. After processing, all four cultivars contained similar cyanide levels in the gari. Traditional processing considerably reduced the cyanide level in this product.

