

## VARIABILITY IN THE CHLOROPHYLL AND CAROTENE COMPOSITION OF TEN MAIZE (*Zea mays*) VARIETIES

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### ABSTRACT

Grains of ten maize varieties grown in Eastern part of Nigeria were collected from National Seed Company of Nigeria Umuahia and investigated for their pigment contents. The result of the analysis of variance showed significant differences between the varieties. SUWAN-1-SR-Y was found to have highest significant amount of chlorophyll a, b and total chlorophyll (a + b) as well as carotene. The result of the correlation analysis also showed that there was statistically significant correlations ( $P < 0.01$ ) between chlorophyll a, b, total chlorophyll (a + b) and carotene composition of the maize varieties.

**Keywords:** Maize, pigments, varieties, chlorophyll, Correlation.