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**CONSTRUCTION AND TESTING OF
A SUPPLEMENTARY GUIDE ON LEAFY VEGETABLES
FOR
ADVANCED LEVEL BIOLOGY TEACHERS**

A PROJECT REPORT PRESENTED BY

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ABSTRACT

In the present A/L Biology syllabus, there are some instances where there is not enough emphasis given to some concepts which are very useful in day-to-day life. One such example is inadequate knowledge on consumption of leafy vegetables. Therefore, a supplementary guide was constructed covering key concepts of leafy vegetables. The field survey on housewives, traders and growers revealed that a wide variety of leafy vegetables are available in Sri Lanka. In general one or other of these leafy vegetables are included in daily diet of people in the different areas surveyed. Though there are more than eighty species which can be used as leafy vegetables, the demand is still on some selected varieties. The existing knowledge about leafy vegetables was tested on a questionnaire (pre-test) prepared including key concepts (identification, the importance of consuming leafy vegetables, possible risks in consuming some varieties, methods of extending the shelf life and preparative methods). The pre-test conducted with ten selected schools in Kandy district revealed that the students' knowledge in key concepts of leafy vegetables is inadequate.

The supplementary guide was prepared including the key concepts of leafy vegetables. Information for constructing supplementary guide was gathered from books, journals, magazines, internet and through the survey done with the housewives, traders, growers and indigenous medical practitioners. After introducing the supplementary guide to the same group of A/L students, through active teaching, a post-test was conducted using the same questionnaire on leafy vegetables. The results of post-test indicated that the students' knowledge has improved significantly. It could be suggested that the constructed supplementary guide would be a useful source to be included in the existing A/L Biology syllabus.