

ABSTRACT

Mentha piperita is a perennial plant. In the present study cultivation of the plant and extraction of oil by steam distillation is discussed. The yield of oil is compared with Indian oil of the plant of same species. It is noted that quality of the oil extracted in Pakistan by steam distillation has similar standard as that of USP & IP. However oil yield is less. The qualitative analysis of the oil by GLC shows that composition of oil extracted by steam distillation, in Pakistan is similar to the USP, BP & IP. The menthol crystals were subjected to IR and Refractometric study.