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**BOTANICAL NOMENCLATURE OF
SPICES AND CULINARY HERBS**
(First Revision)

SRI LANKA STANDARDS INSTITUTION

Sri Lanka Standard
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SRI LANKA

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FOREWORD

This standard was approved by the Sectoral Committee on Food Products and was authorized for adoption and publication as a Sri Lanka Standard by the Council of the Sri Lanka Standards Institution on 2015-10-08.

This standard has been formulated in order that botanical nomenclature of spices and culinary herbs may help their identification and provide easy reference, so that any confusion in the national and international trade due to terminology may be cleared.

This standard was first published in 1972. This revision is being published with a view to bringing the standard up to date in the light of International recommendations as applicable to Sri Lanka. Previous version of this standard is titled as “Spices and condiments”. According to dictionary definition there is a difference between spices and condiments. Spices are aromatic or pungent vegetable substances used to flavour food, eg. cloves, pepper, mace, etc. Condiments are used to give relish to food, eg. mustard, coriander, garlic, etc. But here no such distinction is made as the terms overlap at times and are generally loosely used by the public, eg. chillies are referred to under spices as well as condiments. In order to overcome this confusion, the title of the standard has been modified. During the revision, some more important spices and herbs has also been included.

The nomenclature is listed in alphabetical order of the botanical names to keep in line with the pattern followed in International standards (ISO).

In revising this standard, assistance obtained from the Universities, Departments, Research Institutes and Botanical Gardens of Sri Lanka is gratefully acknowledged.

1 SCOPE

- 1.1** This standard prescribes the list of botanical names of the plants classified under spices and culinary herbs.
- 1.2** This standard also gives plants or parts of the plant used, family and the common English, Sinhala and Tamil (vernacular) names of spices and culinary herbs known and grown in the country.

2 DEFINITION

- 2.1** **spices and culinary herbs:** Natural plant products or blends thereof without any extraneous matter, used for flavoring, seasoning and imparting aroma to foods.

NOTE *The term applies equally to the product in the whole form or in the ground/ crushed form.*