

# Phylloquinone (Vitamin K<sub>1</sub>) Content of Foods in the U.S. Food and Drug Administration's Total Diet Study

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Two hundred sixty-one foods from the U.S. Food and Drug Administration's Total Diet Study were analyzed for phylloquinone (vitamin K<sub>1</sub>) using a high-performance liquid chromatographic method that incorporates postcolumn reduction of the quinone, followed by fluorescence detection of the hydroquinone form of the vitamin. Green, leafy vegetables still appear to be the predominant dietary source of this vitamin (113–440  $\mu\text{g}$  of phylloquinone/100 g of vegetable), followed by certain vegetable oils that are derived from vegetables or seeds containing large concentrations of phylloquinone. Some mixed dishes contain moderate amounts of phylloquinone that are attributable to the vegetable oils used in their preparation. Other foods, such as certain meats, brewed beverages, soft drinks, and alcoholic beverages, contained negligible amounts of phylloquinone. These data expand and improve the quality and quantity of the phylloquinone food composition table and will be used to prioritize future analyses.

**Keywords:** *Phylloquinone; vitamin K<sub>1</sub>; food composition; total diet study*

## INTRODUCTION

Six vitamin K-dependent proteins have well-defined roles in the regulation of blood coagulation (Suttie, 1988). However, the requirement for vitamin K is not limited to its role in the regulation of blood clotting. Recent research has led to the hypothesis that vitamin K nutrition may play a role in the etiology of several metabolic diseases related to bone and cartilage metabolism (Knapen et al., 1989; Szulc et al., 1993). In light of the present state of knowledge regarding vitamin K's role in human nutrition, it is important to determine how much phylloquinone (vitamin K<sub>1</sub>) is in the typical American diet in relation to the current daily Recommended Dietary Allowance of 0.5–1.0  $\mu\text{g}/\text{kg}$  of body weight (NRC, 1989). To date, no accurate description of the phylloquinone content of foods commonly consumed in the United States is available.

A revised provisional table for phylloquinone content in some foods was recently compiled by using high-performance liquid chromatography (HPLC) data exclusively (Booth et al., 1993). Many of the values were generated from single analyses, with inadequate descriptions of sampling design and food preparation. Cooked and processed foods were poorly represented. In addition, food composition data for phylloquinone were collected from diverse sources throughout the world. Earlier work by Ferland and Sadowski (1992a) suggested that geographical variation in the phylloquinone content of certain food items limits how representative the data are in the provisional table for estimating the phylloquinone content of foods in the American diet.

We recently described HPLC preparation procedures for the determination of phylloquinone in various food matrices that were selected to represent foods commonly

consumed in the United States (Booth et al., 1994). In this paper, we present values of phylloquinone content in foods obtained from the Food and Drug Administration's (FDA) Total Diet Study (TDS) analyzed according to these procedures. In the FDA-TDS, more than 250 core foods in the American food supply, representing foods consumed in the United States, are purchased from retail markets four times per year from different geographic regions (Pennington, 1992a). Analyses of these foods for phylloquinone have identified food classes that are potential contributors to phylloquinone intake in the United States and provide food composition data for the estimation of dietary intake of this vitamin by 14 age-gender groups.

## METHODS

**Collection and Preparation of Foods.** The most recent FDA-TDS food list identified core foods in the American diet on the basis of data from the U.S. Department of Agriculture's (USDA) 1987–1988 Nationwide Food Consumption Survey (NFCS) (Pennington, 1992a). Individual foods and ingredients were collected from four sites per year in the United States and sent to the FDA Field Office Laboratory in Kansas City for preparation and processing according to instructions described by Pennington (1992b). Two hundred sixty-one foods were selected from the August 1993 TDS collection for phylloquinone determination. Each food was homogenized, and a 10-g portion was packed in domestic quality ziplock-type plastic bags. The 10-g portions were frozen, packed with frozen ice packs, and shipped by air to the Vitamin K Laboratory at the Jean Mayer USDA Human Nutrition Research Center on Aging at Tufts University, where they were stored, protected from light, at  $-20\text{ }^{\circ}\text{C}$  until analysis.

**Phylloquinone Determination.** Each homogenate was analyzed in triplicate for phylloquinone by an HPLC method that incorporates postcolumn reduction of the quinone followed by fluorescence detection of the hydroquinone form of the vitamin as described elsewhere (Booth et al., 1994). Briefly, 0.25–0.50 g from each homogenate was weighed directly into 50-mL polypropylene centrifuge tubes (Corning Co., Corning, NY). Vegetable, fruit, and meat homogenates were further processed to a fine powder by grinding with 10 times their weight in anhydrous sodium sulfate, followed by quantitative

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transfer to a 50-mL centrifuge tube. An appropriate amount of the internal standard vitamin K<sub>(1,25)</sub> was added directly to the samples. Fifteen milliliters of 2-propanol/hexane (3:2 v/v) and 4 mL of H<sub>2</sub>O were added, followed by sonification using a Branson Model 350 sonifer-cell disruptor with a 1/8-in. tapered microtip (Branson Ultrasonics Corp., Danbury, CT). Thirty-two milliliters of H<sub>2</sub>O was added to those homogenates that were further processed using anhydrous sodium sulfate. Samples were then vortexed (10 min) and centrifuged at 1000g (10 min). After phase separation, the upper hexane layer was aspirated into a 16 × 100 culture tube and evaporated to dryness under reduced pressure in a centrifugal evaporator Savant Instrument Inc., Farmingdale, NY), and the residue was redissolved in hexane (4–10 mL). An aliquot of the reconstituted lipid extract was applied to a 3- or 6-mL solid-phase extraction (SPE) silica column (J. T. Baker Inc., Chicago, IL) which had been preconditioned by successive washes of 8 mL of hexane/diethyl ether (93:3 v/v) followed by 8.0 mL of hexane. The size of the column used was determined by the lipid content of the food. The SPE silica column was washed with an additional 8 mL of hexane after application of the sample to remove the hydrocarbons. The phyloquinone-containing fraction was eluted with 8 mL of hexane/diethyl ether (97:3 v/v). The eluate was collected and evaporated to dryness. To further purify the foods with a high lipid content, such as the meats, butter, and margarine, a reversed-phase C<sub>18</sub> SPE extraction was used. After evaporation, the residue from the eluate was dissolved in 200 μL of 2-propanol by heating (45 °C) for 10 min. The reversed-phase C<sub>18</sub> columns (6 mL) (J. T. Baker) were preconditioned by successive washes with 6 mL of methanol/methylene chloride (80:20 v/v) followed by 6 mL of 100% methanol and 6 mL of 100% H<sub>2</sub>O. The sample was applied directly to the preconditioned packing. The column was washed with 6 mL of 100% methanol/H<sub>2</sub>O (95:5 v/v), followed by 6 mL of 100% acetonitrile, and the sample eluted from the column with 10 mL of methanol/methylene chloride (80:20 v/v). The C<sub>18</sub> SPE column eluate was collected and evaporated to dryness. The final residue for each sample was reconstituted initially in 30 μL of 100% methylene chloride, followed by 270 μL of methanol containing 10 mM zinc chloride, 5 mM acetic acid, and 5 mM sodium acetate. A 150-μL sample was injected into the HPLC. Quantitation of phyloquinone in the homogenates was achieved by direct comparison of peak area ratios of the foods to authentic standards of phyloquinone and vitamin K<sub>(1,25)</sub> using a Waters 360 chromatography data system (Waters Chromatography, Milford, MA).

All foods were analyzed within 7 months of collection and preparation. The procedures involving preparation and analysis were performed under yellow lighting because vitamin K compounds are sensitive to photooxidation. The solvents used for extraction and chromatography were of HPLC grade (Fisher Scientific Inc., Springfield, NJ). The internal standard vitamin K<sub>(1,25)</sub> that was used for all of the FDA-TDS analyses was a gift from Hoffmann-La Roche and Co. (Basel, Switzerland).

Recoveries of the internal standard in the homogenates, which ranged from 55 to 90%, corresponded to those previously reported by our laboratory (Booth et al., 1994; Ferland and Sadowski, 1992a,b). The analytical variation of the assay, defined by the intra- and interday coefficients of variation among successive determinations of single food samples, ranged from 6 to 14% (Booth et al., 1994). The lower limit of detection was set at 0.01 μg of K<sub>1</sub>/100 g of food.

## RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

The phyloquinone contents of foods from the August 1993 collection of the FDA-TDS are presented in Table 1. The vegetable group contained the highest overall content of phyloquinone in the American diet, with a range of 0.03–440 μg K<sub>1</sub>/100 g of food. The vegetables that contained the greatest amounts of phyloquinone were the dark, leafy greens such as boiled collards and spinach. In contrast, the root vegetables, such as white

potatoes, radishes, and onions, contained trace amounts of phyloquinone.

The phyloquinone contents of vegetables that were homogenized in the raw form prior to freezing, such as iceberg lettuce and green peppers, were lower than corresponding values reported in the provisional table [122 μg of K<sub>1</sub>/100 g of lettuce and 17 μg of K<sub>1</sub>/100 g of pepper, respectively (Booth et al., 1993)]. The discrepancies between the two sets of phyloquinone values may reflect geographical variation as reported by Ferland and Sadowski (1992a). Alternatively, the lower values reported for the FDA-TDS foods could be indicative of phyloquinone losses associated with enzymatic destruction during preparation and storage. The effects of preparation and storage on the stability of phyloquinone in foods have not yet been investigated and should be an area for future research.

The fats and dressings group contained the second highest overall level of phyloquinone content in the FDA-TDS foods, with a range of 0.3–51 μg of K<sub>1</sub>/100 g of food. Margarine, mayonnaise, and regular-calorie salad dressing, which are derived from vegetable oils, contained more phyloquinone than did animal fat sources, such as butter. These findings are consistent with previous data showing that animal products do not appear to contain appreciable amounts of phyloquinone (Parrish, 1980). However, when certain vegetable oils are used in packing or processing animal products, these foods become potentially important dietary sources of phyloquinone. Eggs, which contain trace amounts of phyloquinone in their raw form, contained 6.9 and 12 μg of K<sub>1</sub>/100 g of egg when fried and scrambled, respectively. Tuna contains trace amounts of phyloquinone when packed in brine (M. J. Shearer, St. Thomas' Hospital, London, personal communication, 1993). The tuna analyzed in this study was packed in oil and contained 24 μg of K<sub>1</sub>/100 g of tuna. It should be noted that the increase in phyloquinone content associated with the addition of oil is dependent on the type of oil used. Ferland and Sadowski (1992b) reported that soybean, canola, and olive oils were rich sources of phyloquinone, whereas peanut and corn oils are not. In the FDA-TDS, the only pure vegetable oils collected were olive and safflower oils. The vegetable oils used in the preparation of mixed dishes and in the commercial preparation of fats and dressings, such as mayonnaise and salad dressing, were representative of current market availability. Monitoring the food supply on a regular basis would identify changes in the types of oils used commercially because of their impact on the phyloquinone content of foods. Monitoring would also be important for commercially baked goods such as blueberry muffins, which, unlike the other grain products, contain large amounts of phyloquinone associated with the oils used in their preparation.

Snack foods and desserts were in the medium range for overall phyloquinone content, with ranges of 2.9–20 and 0.0–14 μg of K<sub>1</sub>/100 g of food, respectively. The provisional table contains values for pretzels and potato chips (1 and 10 μg of K<sub>1</sub>/100 g of food, respectively) that are comparable to those presented here. When the phyloquinone content of these foods is expressed per average serving size (Table 1), some of the dessert items, such as pies, are consumed in large enough quantities to be of potential importance to the dietary intake of this vitamin. Likewise, analysis of cooked and processed foods in their ready-to-eat form revealed that certain mixed dishes are moderate-to-rich sources of

Table 1. Phylloquinone (Vitamin K<sub>1</sub>) Content of Core Foods in the U.S. FDA Total Diet Study

code	food name	phylloquinone content, mean (SD) ( $\mu\text{g}/100\text{ g}$ )	av serving size (g)	phylloquinone per serving ( $\mu\text{g}$ )	code	food name	phylloquinone content, mean (SD) ( $\mu\text{g}/100\text{ g}$ )	av serving size (g)	phylloquinone per serving ( $\mu\text{g}$ )					
<b>A. Milk and Cheese</b>														
A02	whole milk, fluid	0.3 (0.02)	244	0.7	A16	fruit-flavored yogurt, low fat (fruit mixed in)	3.0 (0.5)	227	6.8					
A04	low-fat (2% fat) milk, fluid	0.2 (0.02)	244	0.5	A18	Cheddar cheese	2.1 (0.2)	28	0.6					
A06	skim milk, fluid	0.01 (<0.01)	245	0.02	A20	Swiss cheese	2.8 (0.6)	28	0.8					
A10	chocolate milk, fluid	0.2 (0.01)	250	0.02	A22	American, processed cheese	1.6 (0.05)	28	0.5					
A12	evaporated milk, canned	1.6 (0.03)	32	0.5	A24	cottage cheese, 4% milk fat	0.4 (0.2)	113	0.5					
A14	plain yogurt, low fat	0.1 (0.01)	227	0.2	A26	cream cheese	2.9 (0.6)	28	0.8					
<b>B. Eggs</b>														
B02	eggs, boiled	0.3 (0.05)	50	0.2	B04	eggs, fried	6.9 (0.2)	46	3.2					
B06	eggs, scrambled	12 (0.05)	64	7.5										
<b>C. Meat, Poultry, and Fish</b>														
C02	beef steak, loin, pan-cooked	1.8 (0.2)	85	1.5	C25	ham luncheon meat, sliced	<0.01 (<0.01)	56	<0.01					
C04	beef chuck roast, baked	0.7 (0.2)	85	0.6	C26	salami, sliced	1.3 (0.08)	56	0.7					
C06	ground beef, pan-cooked	2.4 (0.1)	85	2.0	C28	liver, beef, fried	2.7 (0.1)	85	2.3					
C08	pork chop, pan-cooked	3.1 (0.07)	85	2.6	C30	chicken breast, roasted	<0.01 (<0.01)	85	<0.01					
C10	ham, baked	<0.01 (<0.01)	85	<0.01	C32	chicken, fried (breast, leg, and thigh), homemade	4.5 (0.3)	85	3.8					
C12	pork roast, baked	<0.01 (<0.01)	85	<0.01	C33	chicken nuggets, fast food	1.5 (0.2)	109	1.6					
C14	lamb chop, pan-cooked	4.6 (0.5)	85	3.9	C34	chicken, fried (breast, leg, and thigh), fast food	1.3 (0.1)	85	1.1					
C16	veal outlet, pan-cooked	6.6 (0.4)	85	5.6	C36	turkey breast, roasted	<0.01 (<0.01)	85	<0.01					
C18	pork bacon, pan-cooked	0.1 (0.05)	19	0.02	C38	fish sticks, frozen, heated	6.8 (0.2)	85	5.8					
C20	pork sausage, pan-cooked	3.4 (1.4)	56	1.9	C40	haddock, pan-cooked	5.2 (0.1)	85	4.4					
C22	frankfurters, beef, boiled	1.8 (0.5)	57	1.0	C44	tuna, canned in oil, drained	24 (1.2)	56	14					
C24	bologna, sliced	0.3 (0.2)	56	0.2	C46	shrimp, boiled	<0.01 (<0.01)	85	<0.01					
<b>D. Legumes and Nuts</b>														
D02	pork and beans, canned	1.1 (0.02)	126	1.4	D10	peanut, dry, roasted	0.3 (0.2)	28	0.08					
D04	kidney beans, dry, boiled	8.4 (0.9)	88	7.2	D12	peanut butter, smooth	0.3 (0.02)	32	0.1					
D06	pinto beans, dry, boiled	3.7 (0.2)	86	3.4	D14	mixed nuts, no peanuts, dry roasted	13 (0.3)	28	3.6					
D08	peas, mature, dry, boiled	5 (0.2)	98	4.9										
<b>E. Grain Products</b>														
E02	white bread	1.9 (0.1)	50	1.0	E32	pancakes from mix	6.5 (0.6)	114	7.4					
E04	whole wheat bread	3.4 (0.05)	57	1.9	E34	macaroni, boiled	0.05 (0.04)	140	0.07					
E06	cracked wheat bread	3.5 (0.2)	50	1.8	E36	egg noodles, boiled	0.09 (<0.01)	160	0.1					
E08	rye bread	3.0 (0.3)	62	1.9	E48	corn grits, regular, cooked	<0.01 (<0.01)	242	<0.01					
E10	white roll	2.1 (0.3)	57	1.2	E40	oatmeal, quick (1-3 min), cooked	0.4 (0.04)	234	0.9					
E12	bagel, plain	0.4 (0.01)	71	0.3	E42	white rice, cooked	<0.01 (<0.01)	102	<0.01					
E14	English muffin, plain, toasted	0.3 (0.09)	57	0.2	E44	wheat cereal, farina, quick (1-3 min), cooked	0.06 (0.02)	233	0.1					
E16	biscuit, from refrigerated dough, baked	4.6 (0.2)	70	3.2	E46	raisin bran cereal	1.6 (0.6)	56	0.9					
E18	corn bread, homemade	7.4 (0.4)	65	4.8	E48	fruit-flavored, sweetened cereal	0.2 (<0.01)	35	0.07					
E20	tortilla, flour	3.1 (0.1)	70	2.2	E50	cornflakes	0.03 (0.01)	25	0.01					
E22	blueberry muffin, commercial	25 (0.7)	57	14	E52	oat ring cereal	0.8 (0.04)	25	0.2					
E26	graham crackers	8.9 (0.2)	28	2.5	E54	shredded wheat cereal	1.5 (0.09)	47	0.7					
E28	saltine crackers	3.6 (0.1)	30	1.1	E56	crisped rice cereal	<0.01 (<0.01)	28	<0.01					
E20	butter-type crackers	13.1 (0.1)	30	3.9	E58	granola cereal	1.8 (0.1)	56	1.0					
<b>F. Fruits</b>														
F02	grapefruit, raw	<0.01 (<0.01)	154	<0.01	F30	pear, raw	4.9 (0.5)	166	8.1					
F04	orange, raw	<0.01 (<0.01)	154	<0.01	F32	pear, canned in light syrup	0.2 (0.01)	158	0.3					
F06	prunes, dried	1.4 (0.1)	42	0.6	F34	pineapple, canned in juice	0.3 (0.08)	116	0.3					
F08	raisins, dried	1.7 (0.1)	36	0.6	F36	plums, raw	8.2 (3.7)	132	11					
F10	applesauce, bottled	0.6 (<0.01)	128	0.8	F38	watermelon, raw	0.2 (0.03)	280	0.6					
F12	apple, red, raw	1.8 (0.09)	154	2.8	F40	strawberries, raw	1.5 (0.3)	147	2.2					
F14	apricot, raw	3.3 (0.4)	141	4.7	F42	fruit cocktail, canned in heavy syrup	2.6 (0.1)	128	3.3					
F16	avocado, raw	14 (0.7)	30	4.3	F44	grapefruit juice, from frozen concentrate	0.05 (0.01)	247	0.1					
F18	banana, raw	0.2 (0.02)	126	0.3	F46	orange juice, from frozen concentrate	<0.01 (<0.01)	249	<0.01					
F20	cantaloupe, raw	0.4 (0.03)	134	0.5	F48	pineapple juice, from frozen concentrate	0.3 (0.04)	250	0.8					
F22	sweet cherries, raw	1.5 (0.2)	140	2.1	F50	apple juice, bottled	<0.01 (<0.01)	244	<0.01					
F24	grapes, red/green, seedless, raw	8.3 (0.7)	138	12	F52	grape juice, from frozen concentrate	0.4 (0.04)	250	1.0					
F26	peach, raw	2.1 (0.4)	112	2.4	F54	prune juice, bottled	3.4 (0.2)	256	8.7					



Table 1 (Continued)

code	food name	phyloquinone content, mean (SD) ( $\mu\text{g}/100\text{ g}$ )	av serving size (g)	phyloquinone per serving ( $\mu\text{g}$ )	code	food name	phyloquinone content, mean (SD) ( $\mu\text{g}/100\text{ g}$ )	av serving size (g)	phyloquinone per serving ( $\mu\text{g}$ )
L02	half and half	1.3 (0.3)	30	0.4	L16	French salad dressing, regular	51 (5.7)	29	15
L04	cream substitute, frozen	5.7 (0.6)	15	0.9	L18	Italian salad dressing, low calorie	2.9 (0.7)	29	0.8
L08	sour cream	1 (0.07)	30	0.3	L20	butter, regular (salted)	7.0 (1.3)	14	1.0
L10	white sauce, homemade	6.9 (1.1)	66	4.6	L22	margarine, stick, regular	33 (4.3)	14	4.6
L12	brown gravy, homemade	0.3 (0.04)	65	0.2	L24	olive/safflower oil	28 (1.0)	14	3.9
L14	mayonnaise, regular, bottled	41 (1.2)	14	5.8					
M02	tap water	<0.01 (<0.01)	237	<0.01	M18	fruit drink, from powder	<0.01 (<0.01)	262	<0.01
M04	coffee, from ground beans	<0.01 (<0.01)	241	<0.01	M20	fruit drink, canned	0.02 (0.01)	248	0.05
M06	coffee, decaffeinated, from instant	0.02 (0.01)	241	0.05	M22	beer	<0.01 (<0.01)	238	<0.01
M08	tea, from tea bag	0.08 (0.02)	237	0.2	M24	martini	<0.01 (<0.01)	70	<0.01
M10	cola, carbonated beverage	0.02 (0.01)	246	0.05	M26	dry table wine	<0.01 (<0.01)	236	<0.01
M12	low-calorie cola, carbonated beverage	<0.01 (<0.01)	237	<0.01	M28	whiskey	<0.01 (<0.01)	42	<0.01
M16	lemonade, from frozen concentrate	0.06 (<0.01)	248	0.1					
N02	milk-baked infant formula, low iron, ready-to-feed	13 (0.6)	30	4.0	N38	cream spinach, strained/junior	292 (22)	113	330
N04	milk-baked infant formula, high iron, ready-to-feed	12 (0.2)	30	3.5	N40	carrots, strained/junior	5.8 (0.9)	113	6.6
N06	soy-based infant formula, ready-to-feed	16 (0.7)	30	4.7	N42	sweetpotatoes, strained/junior	1.0 (0.1)	113	1.1
N10	egg yolk, strained/junior	0.4 (0.06)	113	0.5	N44	green beans, strained/junior	26 (2.8)	113	29
N12	beef, strained/junior	1.7 (0.1)	113	1.9	N46	beets, strained/junior	0.1 (0.01)	113	0.1
N16	chicken, strained/junior	<0.01 (<0.01)	113	<0.01	N48	cream corn, strained/junior	0.05 (0.01)	113	0.1
N18	rice infant cereal, instant, prepared with whole milk	0.3 (0.02)	113	0.3	N50	mixed vegetables, strained/junior	7.4 (0.6)	113	8.4
N20	rice cereal, strained/junior	0.3 (0.02)	113	0.3	N52	peas, strained/junior	17 (1.1)	113	19
N22	applesauce, strained/junior	1.3 (0.2)	113	1.5	N54	vegetables and beef, strained/junior	4.1 (0.6)	113	4.6
N24	peaches, strained/junior	4.9 (0.07)	113	5.5	N56	vegetables and chicken, strained/junior	3.5 (0.2)	113	4.0
N26	pears, strained/junior	4.3 (0.2)	113	4.9	N58	vegetables and ham, strained/junior	1.6 (0.2)	113	1.8
N28	apple juice, strained	0.01 (<0.01)	124	0.01	N68	macaroni, tomatoes, and beef, strained/junior	1.7 (0.2)	113	1.9
N30	orange juice, strained	<0.01 (<0.01)	124	<0.01	N70	turkey and rice, strained/junior	4.2 (0.5)	113	4.7
N32	banana with tapioca, strained/junior	0.1 (0.01)	113	0.1	N72	chicken and noodle dinner, strained/junior	0.9 (0.09)	113	1.0
N34	fruit dessert/pudding, strained/junior	0.5 (0.1)	113	0.6	N74	split peas with vegetables and ham/bacon, strained/junior	3.0 (0.5)	113	3.4
N36	custard pudding, strained/junior	<0.01 (<0.01)	113	<0.01	N76	teething biscuits	4.5 (0.3)	11	0.5

phylloquinone. Because the average serving size of many of these dishes exceeds 100 g, the absolute phylloquinone intake could be quite significant relative to the current daily Recommended Dietary Allowance of 0.5–1.0  $\mu\text{g}/\text{kg}$  (NRC, 1989). This is particularly evident among the carryout meals such as the beef chow mein, taco/tostada, and fish sandwiches which contain 78, 28, and 26  $\mu\text{g}$  of phylloquinone per average serving, respectively.

As a group, the milk and cheese items did not contain significant amounts of phylloquinone. The one exception was the low-fat, fruit-flavored yogurt that had unspecified types of fruit mixed in (6.8  $\mu\text{g}$  of K<sub>1</sub>/average serving). Although fleshy portions of fruit do not contain appreciable amounts of this vitamin, fruits with a high peel-to-flesh ratio, such as plums and grapes, do. It is not known if the drying process destroys the phylloquinone in fruits, as indicated by the corresponding low values for raisins and prunes in this study, but this should be an area of future investigation.

The beverages group, including carbonated, alcoholic, and brewed beverages, contained the lowest overall level of phylloquinone, with most of the beverages having concentrations below the lower limit of detection (0.01  $\mu\text{g}$  of K<sub>1</sub>/100 g). Although there have been several reports of brewed tea and coffee containing high levels of phylloquinone (Das et al., 1964; Stagg and Millin, 1974), other more recent researchers have reported negligible amounts (Booth et al., 1995; Ferland et al., 1992; Sakano et al., 1988), confirming the data presented here.

The infant and junior foods group had a wide range of phylloquinone values, which reflected the diversity of the food items within this group. The highest values corresponded to the green, leafy vegetables such as creamed spinach (292  $\mu\text{g}$  of K<sub>1</sub>/100 g of food), whereas the lower end of the range corresponded to fruit juices (below the limit of detection). These values for the infant and junior foods category are in agreement with the general distribution of phylloquinone values for the other food groups.

The FDA-TDS provided a unique opportunity to analyze representative, commonly consumed foods in the American diet for their phylloquinone content. From the food data now available for this nutrient, it is apparent that the two major sources of phylloquinone are leafy, green vegetables and certain plant oils. By analyzing foods in their ready-to-eat form, we were able to identify moderate sources of phylloquinone among foods that had previously been of low priority for phylloquinone analysis because of their low phylloquinone content in the raw form. The addition of phylloquinone-rich oils in the processing of many foods increased their potential contribution to the overall vitamin K nutrition. This was most evident among animal products, such as chicken and eggs, and root vegetables, such as potatoes. In contrast, food groups that are poor dietary contributors to vitamin K intake, such as roots, fleshy portions of fruits, fruit juices, and other beverages, will have low priority for future food analysis.

The phylloquinone food composition data from the FDA-TDS can now be applied to intake data generated from the 1987–1988 NFCS for the estimation of phylloquinone intake in various sectors of the American population as stratified by age and gender. In addition, these data expand and improve the quality and quantity of the phylloquinone food database and will facilitate the development of dietary tools for the evaluation of

phylloquinone intake and its relationship to disease states such as osteoporosis and vascular disease.

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