

Commercially available herbal products for vaping

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Introduction

Vaping natural and plant-based products has always been in people’s minds equivalent to promoting health and prevent sickness. However, there is insufficient scientific data to ensure the effectiveness and safety of the use of such products. Vaping herbs is completely distinct from smoking and it has its own culture. Herb vaporizers offer the alternative of inhaling the vapors generated from herbal products and these products are nowadays widely available in the market [1]. Many new tobacco products appeared during last years and vape technology offered new business opportunities for new vape tech and tobacco companies. Even if the first herb used is marijuana, several other herbs for vaping can be found in the market.

Method

The first phase of this study involved conducting Internet search engine queries on 4th and 7th of February 2022 using the words on table below. The search strategy for these terms (with and without square brackets) generated the number of results presented. [2]

Key words without square brackets	Number of results	Key words with square brackets	Number of results
buy vaporizing herbs	20.300.000	buy "vaporizing herbs"	22.300
buy vaping herbs	892.000	buy "vaping herbs"	7.870
buy herbs for vaping	728.000	buy "herbs for vaping"	10.000
herbs vaping	22.000.000	"herbs vaping"	2.400
where to buy herbs for vaping	1.790.000	where to buy "herbs for vaping"	23.800
plants for vaping	202.000.000	"plants for vaping"	8
herbs for vaporizers	31.700.000	"herbs for vaporizers"	9.100
dry herbs for vaping	594.000	"dry herbs for vaping"	1.360
vaporizable herbs	512.000	"vaporizable herbs"	8
vaping herbs	1.200.000	"vaping herbs"	8.250

From the final list of websites, there was a manual screening in order for the herbs sold for vaping on every website to be recorded. Ranked from most to less popular, the following herbs are sold:

1. lavender

2. chamomile

3. damiana

4. peppermint

5. passion

6. flower

7. hops

8. green tea

9. lemon balm
10. thyme

11. catnip

12. basil

13.eucalyptus

14. St.John’s wort

15. blue lotus

16. rosemary

17. valerian

18. sage

Conclusion

This study has provided information about people’s preferences in herbs / plant-based-products for vaping. The types of herbs sold from internet vendors and used by vapers in the community are identified and ranked according to the frequency of occurrence on the websites. These evidence will allow laboratories that assess the content of these products to prioritize future research.

Referrences

[1] C. Tsipa, L. Desprez, V. Langlois, N. Matsouki, Z. Gareiou and E. Zervas, "Tracking herb vaporizer geographies with Google Trends," in 3d Int. Conf. on Environ. Design (ICED 2022), Athens, 2022.

[2]Google search. Available at www.google.com