(i) Location and sample collection:

Cured vanilla beans (Apprx 100 gms) of 2008-09 crop were collected from different curing/processing centers located in the south India i.e., Karnataka and neighboring Kerala state. While collecting the beans the following information was also collected, processing method, duration, cultivation practices, and agro climatic conditions.

Figure. 5. Location of different vanilla growing/curing regions of south India surveyed for the cured vanilla beans.

(Source: Tageo.com)
Collected vanilla beans were subjected to the following studies,

(ii) **Moisture analysis** : As mentioned before

(iii) **Sensory evaluation** : As mentioned before

(iv) **Colour measurement**

Colour of the beans were measured by spectrophotometer (CM-3600d Konica Minolta, Minolta Co., Ltd., Osaka, Japan) using computer controlled software Quality control systems (Version 5.0). Before measuring the beans the instrument were calibrated using white calibration plate CM-A103 and Zero calibration box CM-A104 for the measurement of reflectance and color of the samples were measured using Target mask CM-A105 as illumination area (Measurement aperture).

(v) **Estimation of vanillin and other phenolics by HPLC** : As mentioned before