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ANTIOXIDANT ACTIVITY AND CHEMICAL COMPOSITION OF EXTRACTS FROM AN ENDEMIC PLANT SIDERITIS SYRIACA[2]

Anife Veli, PhD
Radoslava Nikolova, PhD
Zilya Mustafa, PhD
Department of Central Scientific Research Laboratory,
Prof. Assen Zlatarov University, Prof.Yakimov str.1, 8010 Bourgas, Bulgaria
E-mail: anife_veli@abv.bg
E-mail: radost_vv@yahoo.com
E-mail: zmustafa@abv.bg

Georgi Rusev
Assoc. Prof. Lenia Gonsalvesh, PhD
Department of Chemistry,
Prof. Assen Zlatarov University, Prof.Yakimov str.1, 8010 Bourgas, Bulgaria
E-mail: grussev71@gmail.com
E-mail: lenia_gonsalvesh@abv.bg

Abstract: *The plant world contains a huge number of phytocompounds with important pharmacological properties and is perceived as a treasure trove of potential drugs. Due to their wide availability, lower cost, safety and effectiveness, there has been a strong increase in their use in recent years. In the last decade, there has been serious scientific activity related to the study and analysis of representatives of the family Lamiaceae Lindl., which is one of the most diverse and widespread in the world - it includes 200 genera and about 7000 plant species. The genus Sideritis belongs to the Lamiaceae family and consists of more than 150 species found throughout the world. Many species of the genus Sideritis L. (Lamiaceae), such as S. scardica, S. clandestina, S. syriaca, S. raeseri, S. euboea and S. sipylea are endemic species used in traditional medicine. Worldwide, a large nuber of studies have been dedicated on the phytochemical composition of plants of the genus Sideritis. However, most of the researches cover populations inhabiting Spain, Italy, Greece and Turkey and research on Bulgarian Sideritis populations, especially Sideritis syriaca L., is limited. Current study aims to determine the phytochemical composition of extracts from the cultivated plant Sideritis syriaca and to investigate their biological activity in terms of antioxidant activity.*

Keywords: *Sideritis syriaca, phytochemical composition, antioxidant activity.*

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