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Volatile Constituents of Green Tea, Gyokuro (Camellia sinensis L. var Yabukita)

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The volatile constituents of Gyokuro, which had not been studied prior to this report, have been investigated by gas chromatography/mass spectrometry. Seventy-nine compounds were positively identified and ten compounds were tentatively identified in the oil obtained from a methylene chloride extract of the steam distillate of the green tea leaf. The compounds reported here include 17 hydro-carbons, 17 alcohols, 16 aldehydes, 13 ketones, 8 esters, 2 ethers, 1 acid, and 5 others. Major constituents of this oil were identified as 2,6,6-trimethyl-2-hydroxycyclohexanone, linalool, geraniol, *cis*-jasmone, β -ionone, cyclohexanone, 5,6-epoxy- β -ionone, indole, and caffeine.

Green tea was introduced to Japan from China in 1191 and quickly became one of the most popular drinks. Domestic green tea production increased steadily, reaching 98000 tons in 1979. Recently, green tea flavor has also been used in ice cream, soft drinks, etc.

Green tea flavor has been investigated by many researchers and over 100 volatile components have been identified (Yamanishi, 1975; Kiribuchi and Yamanishi, 1963). The compounds found range from low boiling point alcohols (e.g., 2-methylpropanol) to high boiling point acids (e.g., decanoic acid).

Gyokuro, one of the highest grades of green tea (annual production in 1979 = 494 tons), gives a fresh green aroma and has a mild taste. The characteristic taste of Gyokuro is due to the use of specially treated new tea leaves. The leaves are grown in the shade under nets made by rice straw for ~ 20 days. Nakagawa (1973) reported that the taste of Gyokuro depends upon the relative amounts of amino acids, caffeine, and tannin present. There are, however, no reports on the volatile constituents of Gyokuro were isolated and identified by gas chromatography/mass spectrometry (GC/MS) techniques.

EXPERIMENTAL SECTION

Tea Sample. Gyokuro (*Camellia sinensis* L. var Yabukita) was obtained from The Agricultural Institute of Fukuoka Prefecture, Tea Branch, in May 1979.

Isolation of Volatiles. Gyokuro (220 g) was made into powder by using a blender and placed in a 2-L roundbottomed flask. Deionized water (1 L) was added, and steam distillation was performed under reduced pressure (thermometer and pressure gauge reading = $50 \text{ }^{\circ}\text{C}$ and 40mmHg). The steam distillate (800 mL) was gathered with the condensate (50 mL) obtained from the dry ice-acetone trap. The distillate was then extracted with 300 mL of methylene chloride for 20 h by using a liquid-liquid continuous extractor. The extract was dried over anhydrous sodium sulfate for 12 h, and solvent was removed by using a rotary flash evaporator to $\sim 10 \text{ mL}$ in volume. Further concentration was conducted with an N_2 stream in a micro test tube. Three batches of green tea samples were treated by the above method (total green tea used: 660 g). The concentrated extracts were combined and the composite was analyzed by the GC/MS technique described by Yamaguchi and Shibamoto (1979).

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

The volatile compounds identified in green tea (C. sinensis L. var Yabukita) extract are listed in Table I. Peak numbers on the left side show the elution order on the Carbowax 20M column (Figure 1); peak numbers on the right side show the elution order on the OV-101 column (Figure 2). Those peak areas (from the Carbowax 20M column) which had value of less than 0.1% are not listed. I_u designates retention indexes of unknowns. I_k represents the retention indexes of authentic samples. For some compounds, formulas were deduced from mass spectral data, but known compounds were not available. We listed those compounds as "tentatively" identified.

Several probable reaction products from β -ionone (peak 133, OV-101) were found (represented by footnote b in

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Table I. Compounds Identified in the Green Tea Extract and Their Kovats Indexes

			Kovats indexes				
peak no.			Carbowax 20M O			101	peak no.
on CW 20M	compound	peak area, %	$\overline{I_{u}}$	Ik	Iu	Ik	on OV-101
1	acetaldehyde		690	692	363	358	1
2	unknown	0.27	943	002	700	000	11
3	toluene		997	1001	764	765	16^{c}
5	n-hexanal	0.10	1036	1041	782	779	18^c
6 ^c	4-methyl-3-penten-2-one (tentative)	0.45	1055	1000	782		18^{c}
6°	ethylbenzene	0.75	1055	1063	857	855	270
7	1-penten-3-01	0.75	1072	1101	649 864	000 864	9 9
9	<i>n</i> -undecane	0.10	1100	1100	1100	1100	20 71 ^c
10	unknown	0.32	1144	1100	586	1100	8
12	unknown	0.23	1132		525		5
15	<i>n</i> -heptanal	1.84	1173	1171	882	883	31
17	o-xylene ^a		1183	1178	887	887	32
18	unknown	0.18	1194	1900	811	1020	20
19	inmonene trans-9-hevenal	0 1 1	1202	1200	832	830	20 94
20	n-amyl alcohol	0.97	1220	1214	764	759	16^{c}
$\overline{26}^{c}$	<i>p</i> -cymene	0.01	1263	1270	1016	1019	52
26 ^c	acetoin	0.11	1263	1270	714	710	12
27	n-octanal	0.25	1270	1277	988	987	48^{c}
28	cyclohexanone ^a	2.34	1280	1281	874	872	29
29	cis-2-penten-1-ol (tentative)	3.70	1288		764		16 ^c
30	periliene (tentative)	0.18	1292	1200	1099	1200	11/0
32	2.6.6-trimethylcyclohexanone ^{a, b}	0.15	1300	1303	1019	1022	53
34	unknown	0.38	1317	1000	878	1022	30
35	6-methyl-5-hepten-2-one	0.96	1322	1318	964	968	42
36	n-hexanol	0.54	1339	1332	857	858	27
39	cis-3-hexen-1-ol	2.02	1354	1351	846	847	26
40	n-nonanal	1.95	1374	1380	1086	1088	68
41	tetradecane	0.19	1400	1400	1400	1400	125
43	unknown		1403	1400	1112	1400	75
44^c	linalool oxide, <i>cis</i> -furanoid	0.35	1414	1410	1066	1066	64
45^{c}	<i>m</i> -dichlorobenzene	0.22	1414	1409	1000	997	50 ^c
46	furfural	0.29	1425	1432	818	815	21
48	trans-2, cis-4-heptadienal	0.36	1435	1430	976	975	45
49	linalool oxide, trans-turanoid	0.28	1444	1443	1079	1081	66 54C
51 59	trans-9 trans-4-hentadienal	0.38	1459	1455	988	989	48 ^c
55	n-decanal	0.25	1474	1481	1185	1187	93
56 ^c	trans-3, cis -5-octadien-2-one (tentative) ^a	2.61	1488		1050		61
56 ^c	benzaldehyde		1488	1482	941	946	38
58	<i>n</i> -pentadecane	0.12	1500	1500	1500	1500	136
59	unknown	0.20	1510	1510	1141	1000	81
6U 61	linalool	3.40	1514	1518	1055	1060	63
62	trans-3 trans-5-octadien-2-one (tentative)	1.09	1521	1019	1072	1000	65
65	unknown	0.19	1558		1102		72
66	2,6,6-trimethyl-2-hydroxycyclohexanone ^{a, b}	4.08	1565	1561	1093	1093	70
69	diethylene glycol monoethyl ether	1.31	1579	1577	985	985	47
71	β -cyclocitral ^{a, o}	1.22	1586	1584	1200	1200	96
72	phenylacetaldehyde		1592	1585	1028	1022	55
73°	acetophenone n hovedeenne	0.28	1600	1600	1600	1600	146
73	cis-3-hexenyl hexanoate	1 35	1631	1638	1364	1370	119
80	a-terpineol	0.55	1656	1655	1179	1179	91
81	unknown	1.30	1666		1200		95
83	2,5-dimethylbenzaldehyde ^a	0.12	1683	1680	1154	1159	84
84	naphthalene"	0.28	1688	1688	1170	1172	89
60 988	Denzyi acetate	0.40	1700	1699	1337	1344	00 116
86 ^c	linalool oxide, <i>cis</i> -pyranoid	1.22	1700	1684	1162	1160	86
87	cis-3-hexenyl trans-2-hexenoate		1703	1706	1401	1405	126
89	α -muurolene (tentative)		1717		1378		1 22 ^c
90	linalool oxide, <i>trans</i> -pyranoid		1722	1716	1168	1164	88
01c	mennyi sancylate R-sesquinhellandrene (tentative)		1797	1730	1406	1191	90 127
92 ^c	unknown	0.37	1735		1220		100
92 ^c	α -cadinene (tentative)		1735		1410		128^{c}
95	nerol		1781	1774	1222	1219	101
96	2-methylnaphthalene ^a	0.58	1793	1794	1279	1281	110
97°	calamenene (tentative)	0.58	1800	1900	1460	1244	131
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Table I (Continued)

		peak area.	Kovats indexes					
peak no.			Carbowax 20M		OV-101		peak no.	
CW 20M	compound	%	Iu	Ik	I _u	Ik	OV-101	
97 ^c	octadecane		1800	1800	1800	1800	149 ^c	
98 ^c	α-ionone ^b	2.03	1805	1811	1410	1412	128^{c}	
98 ^c	benzvl alcohol		1805	1806	1046	1039	60 ^c	
99	geranyl acetone	1.65	1811	1816	1431	1434	129	
100	unknown	1.13	1824		1348		118	
101	1-methylnaphthalene ^a		1831	1828	1305	1298	115	
102^{c}	unknown	0.31	1837		1167		87 ^c	
102^{c}	cis-3-hexenyl octanoate	0.36	1837	1838	1562	1564	142	
103	2-phenylethyl alcohol	0.28	1846	1845	1107	1105	73	
104	unknown	0.65	1853		1167		87 ^c	
106	benzothiazole	0.32	1867	1873	1207	1202	97	
107	butylated hydroxytoluene ^e	0.97	1873	1870	1500	1501	136 ^c	
108 ^c	<i>cis</i> -jasmone	4.16	1891	1886	1372	1368	121	
108^{c}	β-ionone ^b	2.26	1891	1896	1467	1469	133	
110	phenol	0.51	1909	1915	1002	1002	50 ^c	
113	unknown		1934		1214		99 ^c	
114	5,6-epoxy-β-ionone ^b	2.30	1940	1934	1465	1467	132	
115	diphenyl ether ^a		1965	1958	1378	1380	122^{c}	
117	nerolidol	1.23	2000	2000	1552	1551	141	
120	unknown	0.85	2051		1460		131 ^c	
121	2-phenoxyethyl alcohol ^a	0.57	2072	2069	1214	1210	99 ^c	
123	1,5,5-trimethyl-9-oxabicyclo[4.3]non-6- en-3-one (tentative)	0.65		2090	1500		136 ^c	
124	eugenol	2.18	2100	2103	1347	1347	117	
125	nonanoic acid	0.44	2115	2110	1300	1302	114^{c}	
128	dihydroactinidiolide ^b	1.65	2260	2257	1513	1508	138	
129	diethyl phthalate ^f	0.34	2309	2303	1568	1565	143	
130	indole	3.30	2351	2358	1274	1273	109	
131	unknown	0.92	2381		1700		148	
133	<i>n</i> -pentacosane		2500	2500	2500	2500		
135	unknown	1.26	2575		1523		140	
136	dibutyl phthalate ^f	9.32	2631	2630	1919	1922	151	
	caffeine ^a	7.87			1800	1802	149 ^c	

^a Has not been found in green tea prior to this report. ^b Probable reaction products from β -ionone. ^c More than two compounds in one peak. ^d Not found in the Carbowax 20M chromatogram. ^e Probable added antioxidant. ^f Probable contaminants from plastic container.

Table I). β -Ionone is formed from β -carotene by oxidative degradation (Sanderson et al., 1971). β -Cyclocitral (peak 71, Carbowax 20M) possesses a sweet odor (Lloyd et al., 1976) and has been found in black tea (Renold et al., 1974) but not, until this study, in green tea. 2,6,6-Trimethyl-cyclohexanone, too, had been found in black tea (Bondarovich et al., 1967) but not in green tea prior to this study. The mass spectra of peak 66 (Figure 1) is identical with that of the 2,6,6-trimethyl-2-hydroxycyclohexanone reported by Muggler-Chavan et al. (1969) in black tea. This compound was synthesized in our laboratory from 2,6,6-trimethylcyclohexanone (Aldrich) by the method reported by de Botton (1966).

Cyclohexanone was isolated from Gyokuro in fairly large quantities (gas chromatographic peak area percent is 2.34). This compound was also found in cellulose cigarette smoke (Sakuma et al., 1980) and may be formed from a fiber in the tea leaf.

Many aromatic hydrocarbons were identified in Gyokuro. The condensate in the dry ice-acetone trap gave an alkylbenzene-like odor and contained o-, m-, and p-xylene and p-cymene. These alkylbenzenes may come from β carotene upon heat degradation (Kawashima and Yamanishi, 1973). 2,5-Dimethylbenzaldehyde might be regarded as a degradation product of polyphenolic substances (Renold et al., 1974). Naphthalene and 1-methyl- and 2-methylnaphthalene were identified in Gyokuro. They are also regarded as heat degradation products of fiber (Sakuma et al., 1980).

Aliphatic compounds were found in the low boiling point range on the gas chromatograms. Kobayashi et al. (1965) reported that cis-2-penten-1-ol (peak 29, Carbowax 20M) possesses a fruity note and is found in green tea. The isomers trans-2,cis-4-heptadienal (peak 48) and trans-2,trans-4-heptadienal (peak 52) have strong oily green notes and have also been isolated from green tea (Hara and Kubota, 1973). trans-3,trans-5-Octadien-2-one (peak 56 or 62, isomers) has been found in green tea (Yamanishi et al., 1970). The trans-cis form generally has a shorter retention time than the trans-trans form as shown in the case of 2,4-heptadienal. Peaks 56 and 62 were, therefore, tentatively identified as trans-3,cis-5-octadien-2-one and trans-3,trans-5-octadien-2-one, respectively.

The gas chromatogram of green tea extract shows the presence of over 300 chemicals. Further study is necessary to identify all the constituents of green tea.

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Pectic Substance Content of Detergent-Extracted Dietary Fibers

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Acid and neutral detergent fibers (ADF and NDF) prepared from apple, pear, tomato, carrot, onion, potato, wheat bran, and orange albedo were analyzed for total pectic substances (PS). Total PS content and the relative proportion of the original total PS recovered as dietary fiber (DF) were higher in ADF than in NDF, suggesting more PS were solubilized and extracted by neutral detergent. About 50 and 38% of total PS in orange albedo were recovered in ADF and NDF, respectively. In fruits, vegetable, and wheat bran, total PS recovered as ADF and NDF ranged from 3.0 to 15.0% and 0.6 to 7.0%, respectively. For potato, the proportion of total PS recovered in extracts and washings during ADF and NDF analysis was 94.8 and 99.8%, respectively. These data emphasize that the detergent methods which are increasingly used to report dietary fiber values in foods underestimate PS, a component of dietary fiber complex with important nutritional and physiological effects. More attention should be directed toward separate analysis of pectin or modifications of existing methods to reflect pectin more accurately.

Ever since the epidemiological demonstrations of the beneficial effect of what is now called dietary fiber (DF) on the etiology of certain "Western" diseases by Burkitt (1973) and Trowell (1972), a great deal of effort has been directed toward development of simple routine methods to assay the dietary fiber content of food. The acid detergent fiber (ADF) and neutral detergent fiber (NDF) methods (Van Soest, 1963; Van Soest and Wine, 1967) are at present considered the most convenient analytical methods for fiber determination and have largely replaced the crude fiber method (AOAC, 1975). Compared to the enzymatic procedure by Hellendoorn et al. (1975) and to the fractionation method of Southgate (1969, 1976), they are simpler, less expensive, more rapid, and practical for routine analysis of large number of samples. The use of these methods is increasing. The ADF method is listed as an official first action method of the Association of Official Analytical Chemists (AOAC, 1975) while a modified NDF is an official method of the American Association of Cereal Chemists (AACC, 1978).

Due to the complex nature of DF in food materials, the development of a method that will encompass all of the components in the DF complex has presented a difficulty and challenge to workers in this subject. For instance, the ADF and NDF methods are designed to measure insoluble components and therefore exclude most of the watersoluble polysaccharides and other polymers.

Pectic substances (PS) or pectins along with cellulose, hemicellulose, and lignin are the major components of the plant cell wall, and collectively they are part of what is now called DF (Southgate, (1979). PS had been reported to have important physiological and nutritional effects such as hypocholesterolemic effect, increased excretion of fecal sterols and lipids, binding of bile salts, binding of polyvalent cations (Story and Kritchevsky, 1969; Kay and Truswell, 1977; Kay et al., 1978; Kelsay, 1978), and increased requirement for vitamin B_{12} (Cullen and Oace, 1978). With the growing interest in its biological effects, it is desirable to determine this DF component more accurately in foods. Due to their relative water solubility, some PS are solubilized during analysis and therefore not included in the total fiber value (Bailey and Ulyatt, 1970; Bailey et al., 1978). However, some insoluble PS may remain with the fiber (Baker et al., 1979). Bailey et al. (1978) determined the solubility of pectins from a number of common plant foods, indicating that a considerable portion of pectin is lost to commonly used analytical procedures. However, PS analyses of actual detergent fibr residues do not appear to have been reported in the literature. This information is especially important with the increased usage of ADF and NDF in reporting fiber values. For these reasons, PS content of selected foods and their detergent-extracted DF were investigated, and results are discussed in this report.

MATERIALS AND METHODS

Sample and Sample Preparation. Food samples used in this study were potato, carrot, tomato, apple, pear, white onion, orange albedo, and wheat bran. Except for wheat bran, all samples were bought from a local grocery store. Wheat bran was AACC grade obtained from Dr. G. Briggs' laboratory (Department of Nutritional Sciences, University of California, Berkeley). Fruits and vegetable samples were washed and dried. Dried outer skins of onions were re-

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