## Antimicrobial Activity of Some Satureja Essential Oils

Dilek Azaz<sup>a</sup>, Fatih Demirci<sup>b</sup>, Fatih Satıl<sup>a</sup>, Mine Kürkçüoğlu<sup>b</sup> and Kemal Hüsnü Can Baser<sup>b\*</sup>

- <sup>a</sup> Faculty of Science and Letters, Department of Biology, Balikesir University, 10100 Balikesir, Turkey
- Medicinal and Aromatic Plant and Drug Research Centre (TBAM), Anadolu University, 26470-Eskisehir. Turkey
- \* Author for correspondence and reprint request

Fax: +902223350127. E-mail: khcbaser@anadolu.edu.tr Z. Naturforsch. **57c**, 817–821 (2002); received May 16/July 1, 2002

Satureja sp., Essential Oil, Antimicrobial Activity

The genus Satureja is represented by fifteen species of which five are endemic and Satureja pilosa and S. icarica have recently been found as new records for Turkey. Aerial parts of the Satureja pilosa, S. icarica, S. boissieri and S. coerulea collected from different localities in Turkey were subjected to hydrodistillation to yield essential oils which were subsequently analysed by GC and GC/MS. The main constituents of the oils were identified, and both antibacterial and antifungal bioassays were applied. Carvacrol (59.2%, 44.8%, 42.1%) was the main component in the oils of S. icarica, S. boissieri and S. pilosa, respectively. The oil of S. coerulea contained  $\beta$ -caryophyllene (10.6%) and caryophyllene oxide (8.0%) as main constituents.