

Secondary Metabolites as Stimulants and Antifeedants of *Salix integra* for the Leaf Beetle *Plagiodera versicolora*

Amir Reza Jassbi*

Laboratory of Ecological Chemistry, Division of Applied Bioscience, Graduate School of Agriculture, Hokkaido University, Kita-ku, Sapporo 060-8589, Japan. Fax: +81-11-706-4281. Email. arjassbi@hotmail.com

* Corresponding Address: Department of Phytochemistry, Medicinal Plants Research Institute, Shahid Beheshti University, Evin, Tehran, Iran. Fax: +98-21-241 86 79. Email. a-jassbi@cc.sbu.ac.ir

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Plagiodera versicolora, a willow beetle living on *S. sachalinensis*, is found on *S. integra* during early June in Hokkaido Island, Japan. This insect selects several species of willows (*Salix*), including *S. integra* as host plant in Honshu Island of Japan. To determine the reasons for the limited distribution of this beetle on the willows of Hokkaido, the feeding preference of the insect to leaves of *S. integra* and its constituents was performed. Feeding-bioassay guided fractionation of an 80 % aqueous acetone extract of fresh leaves of *Salix integra* to *Plagiodera versicolora* resulted in isolation of feeding stimulant and antifeeding constituents. Chlorogenic acid (**1**) and 3,5-dicaffeoyl quinic acid (**2**) were identified as antifeedants and 1,2-di[(9Z,12Z,15Z)-octadeca-9,12,15-trienoyl]-3- β -D-galactopyranosyl-sn-glycerol (MGDG, **3**) as feeding stimulants. The feeding test was performed by an agar disk method. The treated agar disks contained sucrose and test sample in different doses. The antifeeding activities of **1** and **2** and stimulant activity of **3** may be one of the reasons for the limited presence of *P. versicolora* on *S. integra* in Hokkaido.

Key words: *Salix integra*, *Plagiodera versicolora*, Chrysomelidae

Introduction

Plagiodera versicolora Laicharting is a willow beetle found on *Salix sachalinensis*, in Ishikari near Sapporo, Hokkaido, Japan. The body of the adult beetle is about 3–4 mm long with a coloring of shiny steel blue. Ishihara *et al.* (1999) investigated the life cycle of *Plagiodera versicolora*. Two generations were reported for this insect in Hokkaido, while multivoltine cycle (they complete 5–6 life cycle per year) was reported in Honshu Island of Japan (Kimoto and Takizawa, 1994). Ishihara *et al.* (1999) described several reasons for this finding, “why the willow beetles select *S. sachalinensis* as their host plant”, as follows: (1) it may be caused by high quality of *S. sachalinensis* as food. (2) The bivoltine cycle in the field may be maintained by a high growth rate on *S. sachalinensis*. (3) Predation pressure on *S. integra* may cause that *P. versicolora* avoid oviposition on this plant.

Studies on the life cycle of *P. versicolora* in Hokkaido showed that besides the continuous presence of the insect on *S. sachalinensis* as its host

plant, during early June the number of adult insects increased on *S. integra* for a few days and again decreased at the end of the season.

The feeding behavior of *P. versicolora* on different species of *Salix* on Honshu Island suggested salicin, populin and luteolin-7-glucoside as feeding stimulants (Matsuda and Matsuo, 1985). Even chlorogenic acid, which has antifeeding activity for some willow beetles, was found in the leaves of *S. integra* to be a feeding stimulant for *P. versicolora* (Matsuda and Senbo, 1986).

The quality and chemical constituents of leaves of different *Salix* species as food for chrysomelidae leaf beetles were studied thoroughly (Ikonen, 2001). The palatability of leaves of some salicaceous plants (*Populus* and *Salix* species) for leaf beetles of chrysomelidae family, including *P. versicolora* showed that the younger leaves are consumed more (Ikonen, 2002). Secondary metabolites such as phenolic glycosides including salicin and related compounds, chlorogenic acid and condensed tannins exist in higher concentration in younger leaves. Despite the defensive role of the secondary metabolites, the beetles generally prefer

the younger leaves to the older ones (Ikonen, 2002). The analysis of the leaves of several willows showed high contents of nitrogen in the younger leaves of the plants and hence more nutrients for the beetles (Ikonen, 2002). The effect of phenolic secondary compounds including salicin and related glucosides and chlorogenic acid on feeding preference of leaf beetle *Agelastica alni* was investigated (Ikonen *et al.*, 2002). *Agelastica alni* is an oligophagous leaf beetle utilizes both alders and willows. *Alnus incana* is its preferred host plant. In addition *S. phylicifolia* and *S. caprea* were consumed moderately but this beetle rejected other willows (*S. pentandra* and *S. myrsinifolia*). The presence of chlorogenic acid and a salicylate-type phenolic glucoside, salicin, inhibited the feeding of *A. alni* in the bioassay with pure phenolic compounds. High chlorogenic acid and salicylate content of the rejected willows leaves explain their poor palatability. In contrast a feeding stimulant in the leaves of the host plant, *A. incana* that overcomes the deterrent activities of the above-mentioned phenolic compounds has been proposed (Ikonen *et al.*, 2002).

My objective was to determine the possible chemical compounds responsible for the reduced tendency of *P. versicolora* to select *S. integra* in Hokkaido as its host plant. Also the question was addressed, why the beetles live on *S. integra* in the field in the beginning of the season while its host plant is *S. sachalinensis*.

Material and Methods

General procedure

^1H and ^{13}C NMR spectra (broad band and DEPT expts.) were measured on a JEOL JNM-EX270 instrument. MS spectra were recorded on a JEOL JMS-SX102A spectrometer. Optical rotations were determined on a JASCO DIP-370 digital polarimeter. Analytical TLC experiments were performed on Merck silica gel 60 F₂₅₄, DIOL F₂₅₄ HPTLC and RP-18 WF₂₅₄ HPTLC pre-coated glass plates. HPLC was performed on a Hitachi L-6000 with an L-4200H UV-vis detector and a Hitachi D-2500 Chromato-integrator, Tokyo, Japan, using a semi-preparative RP-18 (Prep-ODS *Inertsil* 6.0 × 250 mm, GL Science, Tokyo, Japan) column.

Leaf beetles

Plagiodera versicolora were caught at the adult stage on *S. sachalinensis* and reared on leaves of the same plant. The rearing and all the feeding tests were performed in a growing chamber, NK system controller Biotron NC 220 (Nippon Medical and Chemical Co. LTD., Osaka, Japan) at 21–23 °C, relative humidity of 65 % and 16 h light and 8 h dark.

Chemicals

Chlorogenic acid (**1**) was purchased from Aldrich Chemical Company. It was also purified from the leaves of *S. integra*. 3,5-Dicaffeoyl quinic acid (**2**)

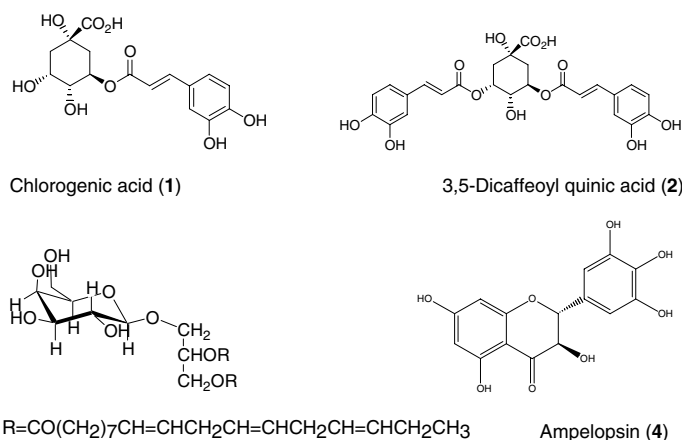


Fig. 1. Antifeeding and feeding stimulant constituents from *S. integra* (**1–3**) and *S. sachalinensis* (**4**).

and 1,2-di[(9Z,12Z,15Z)-octadeca-9,12,15-trienoyl]-3- β -D-galactopyranosyl-*sn*-glycerol (MGDG, **3**) were extracted and purified from the leaves of *S. integra*. Ampelopsin (**4**) was purified previously from *S. sachalinensis* (Fig. 1) (Matsumoto and Tahara, 2001).

Agar disk bioassay

The bioassay procedure was based on counting the agar disk area consumed by the adult beetles (Matsumoto, 2000). The agar mixture was made by mixing of 3.25 g sucrose, 0.75 g agar, and 25 ml de-ionized water and heating to make a clear solution. The hot liquefied agar was poured into the bigger lid of a Petri dish and immediately the smaller lid was used to press the agar solution. The thickness of the agar layer was adjusted by putting three pieces of Φ 0.3 mm lead pencil as a triangle between two lids of the Petri dish before adding the agar solution. After a few min the agar layer was solidified and it was cut to 1 cm circles. Two agar disks (Φ 1 cm) were put on inner side of bigger lid of an Φ 6 cm Petri dish and an Φ 55 mm wet filter paper was put on the inner side of the smaller lid of the dish to maintain the moisture in the vessel. One of the agar disks was treated with a 10- μ l solution of the test compound in acetone or 80 % acetone in water and another with only solvent as the control. Five 1 to 7-day old adult beetles were released inside the dish. The beetles were starved between 20 to 24 h before test. The area of the consumed agar disk was calculated by counting the square units of a haemocytometer, which was placed under the agar disks as the background. The percentage of the feeding index was calculated by the following equation: % Feeding index = $(T - C / T + C) \times 100$. Where T is the number of the consumed squares of the treated agar disk and C is that for the control disk. The positive and negative sign of the feeding index indicates the feeding stimulant and antifeeding activities, respectively.

Isolation of the chemical constituents of *S. integra*

The leaves (515 g fresh), of *S. integra*, collected from Atsubetsu in July 2001 in Sapporo, were extracted with 80 % aqueous acetone. The extraction was done twice for two weeks. The aqueous acetone extract of the leaves was con-

centrated in reduced pressure to give *ca.* 110 g of residue, which was partitioned between water and ethyl acetate. The ethyl acetate fraction was divided into acidic (42 g) and neutral fractions (15 g) by partitioning between ethyl acetate and 5 % NaHCO₃ followed by neutralization of the latter layer by 2N HCl solution and extraction with ethyl acetate.

Purification of the water-soluble part of the aqueous acetone extract of *S. integra*

The water layer fraction of the aqueous acetone extract (33.0 g out of 51.5 g residue) was subjected to Sephadex LH20 (200 g) column chromatography using aqueous methanol (from 70 % to 100 % methanol v/v). The fractions 2 and 3 (70 % methanol, 8.8 g) contained mostly two compounds which were separated on a LiChroprep[®] NH₂ (40–63 μ m) column using CH₃CN and increasing the polarity up to 30 % aqueous CH₃CN. They were identified as fructose and sucrose (50:50) by comparison of FAB-MS and ¹³C NMR spectral data and Co-TLC with authentic samples on silica gel thin layer plates in CHCl₃:CH₃OH:H₂O:HOAc (5:3:1:1 v/v/v/v), and in the same system replacing CHCl₃ by EtOAc. The rest of the fraction was predominant in chlorogenic acid (**1**), which was identified by Co-TLC on silica gel thin layer plates (eluent: CHCl₃:CH₃OH:H₂O:HOAc, 5:3:1:1 v/v/v/v) in comparison to an authentic sample. FAB mass spectrum, ¹H and ¹³C NMR spectral data confirmed the structure of **1**.

Identification of the constituents of the acidic layer of the aqueous acetone fraction

The HPLC chromatogram of the acidic fraction, recorded using an RP HPLC using MeOH:H₂O:HOAc (40:60:2 v/v/v) showed two main compounds **1** and **2** at 3.92 min and 7.92 min, respectively. The UV detector was set at 326 nm and the flow rate was 1.5 ml/min. The major compounds were identified as chlorogenic acid (**1**) and 3,5-dicaffeoyl quinic acid (**2**) by comparison of FD-MS, ¹H and ¹³C NMR and CD spectral data with those reported in the literature (Chuda *et al.*, 1996; Basnet *et al.*, 1996).

Constituents of the aqueous methanol extract of the leaves of S. integra

The fresh leaves (650 g) of *S. integra* collected in October 2000, once extracted with ethyl acetate were soaked in 70 % methanol in water for one week. Evaporation of the aqueous solvent under vacuum resulted in a brown syrup, which was then dissolved in ethyl acetate (13 g) and the residue was dissolved in water (48 g). The ethyl acetate soluble part of the extract was subjected to silica gel CC using chloroform with increasing amounts of methanol (0–100 %). The fractions checked by TLC, revealed that the less polar fractions were identical with those in the hexane soluble part of the first ethyl acetate extract. The latter fractions 11–13 (3.45 g) contained mostly the glycolipids. The major compound was purified by repeated flash silica CC using chloroform: ethyl acetate: acetone: methanol (3:1:1:0.2 v/v/v/v). The structure was determined using HRFAB-MS, ^1H and ^{13}C NMR spectroscopy as 1,2-di [(9Z, 12Z, 15Z)-octadeca-9,12,15-trienoyl]-3- β -D-galactopyranosyl-sn-glycerol (**3**, MGDG) (Adebodun *et al.*, 1992; Coddington *et al.*, 1981).

Spectral data and physical constants for compounds 1–3 isolated from Salix integra

Chlorogenic acid (**1**): FAB- MS: 353 ($\text{M}-1$) $^-$. $[\alpha]_{\text{D}}^{25}$ – 16.6° (c, 0.6 in CH_3OH). ^1H NMR (CD_3OD , 270 m Hz): δ 7.54 (d, J = 15.9 Hz), 7.04 (s), 6.93 (d, J = 7.7 Hz), 6.77 (d, J = 7.7 Hz), 6.26 (d, J = 15.9 Hz), 5.34 (m), 4.16 (br s), 3.72 (brd, J = 7.5 Hz), 2.0–2.20 (m, 4H). ^{13}C NMR (CD_3OD , 67.5 m Hz): δ 175.2, 168.7, 149.5, 147.0, 146.7, 127.7, 122.9, 116.4, 115.3, 115.2, 73.7, 72.1, 71.7, 39.1, 38.3.

3,5-dicaffeoyl quinic acid (**2**): FAB- MS: 515 ($\text{M}-1$) $^-$. $[\alpha]_{\text{D}}^{25}$ – 81.4° (c, 0.7 in CH_3OH). ^1H NMR (CD_3OD , 270 m Hz): δ 7.52 (d, J = 15.9 Hz), 7.48 (d, J = 15.9 Hz), 6.96 (s, 2H), 6.85 (d, J = 8.3 Hz), 6.68 (d, J = 8.3 Hz), 6.24 (d, J = 15.9 Hz), 6.16 (d, J = 15.9 Hz), 5.30 (m, 2H), 3.89 (dd, J = 3.3, 7.5 Hz), 2.0–2.30 (m, 4H). ^{13}C NMR (CD_3OD , 67.5 m Hz): δ 177.4, 168.8, 168.4, 149.3, 149.2, 147.2, 147.0, 146.4, 127.7, 127.5, 123.0, 122.9, 116.4, 115.4, 115.2, 115.1, 114.9, 74.7, 72.5, 71.8, 70.7, 37.7, 35.9.

1,2-di[(9Z,12Z,15Z)octadec-9,12,15-trienoyl]-3- β -D-galactopyranosyl-sn-glycerol] (MGDG, **3**): FD MS: 797 ($\text{M}+\text{Na}$) $^+$, 775 ($\text{M}+\text{H}$) $^+$, 612 ($\text{M}-162$) $^+$. $[\alpha]_{\text{D}}^{25}$ + 2.3° (c, 6 in CHCl_3). ^1H NMR (CDCl_3 ,

270 m Hz): 5.39 (m, 12H), 4.40 (dd, J = 3.2, 11.9 Hz), 4.28 (d, J = 11.9 Hz), 4.20 (dd, J = 6.9, 11.9 Hz), 4.01 (brd), 3.95 (dd, J = 5.9, 12.2 Hz), 3.88 (d, J = 5.7 Hz, 2 H), 3.74 (dd, J = 6.2, 11.3 Hz), 3.67 (d, J = 9.5 Hz), 3.60 (m, 2H), 2.80 (m, 8H), 2.31 (m, 4H), 2.10 (m, 8H), 1.60 (m, 4H), 1.30 (m, 16 H), 0.97 (t, J = 7.5 Hz, 6H). ^{13}C NMR (CDCl_3 , 67.5 m Hz): 173.5, 173.1, 131.7, 129.9, 128.1, 127.9, 127.5, 126.8, 103.9, 73.4, 70.9, 70.0, 68.7, 67.8, 62.8, 61.2, 34.2, 34.0, 29.7, 29.6, 29.2, 29.1, 29.1, 29.0, 27.1, 25.6, 25.5, 24.8, 20.5, 14.3.

Bioassay-guided fractionation of the 80 % acetone extract of the leaves of S. integra

The willow beetles were subjected to agar disk feeding tests using different fractions of the aqueous acetone extract of *S. integra*. The weight of the crude aqueous acetone extract from each Φ 1 cm disk of the leaves (10–15 mg) was about 1–2 mg. The above-mentioned amount (1–2 mg) of the extract was charged on each agar disk (Φ 1 cm). The aqueous acetone extract of the leaves of *S. integra* collected in August 2001 (220 mg) was partitioned between water/ether and water/hexane separately and each of the ethereal (40 mg) and hexane (46 mg) fractions was used for the feeding tests. The bioassay showed antifeeding for the water (– 30 %) and ether (– 26.5 %) extract while the feeding of the beetles were stimulated (7.4 %) by charging the hexane fractions on the agar disks. In order to find the active constituents, the hexane fraction (88 mg) was subjected to a silica gel flash column chromatography using hexane, with increasing polarity up to pure ethyl acetate. The fractions containing compound **3** (5 mg) were the stimulant active ones. The major constituents of ether fraction and water layer were compounds **2** and **3**, by separation on an RP 18 reverse phase TLC using 1 % acetic acid in 40 % solution of methanol in water as the mobile phase. The amount of **2** and **3** separated from 26 mg of the 80 % aqueous acetone extract was 6 and 3 mg, respectively. The pure compounds, **1**, **2**, **3** and **4** were used in different doses in the agar disk bioassay to evaluate their effect on the feeding behavior of *P. versicolora*.

After performance of the feeding tests the results were analyzed statistically. The average, standard deviation and standard errors of the means were calculated for each experiment with at least

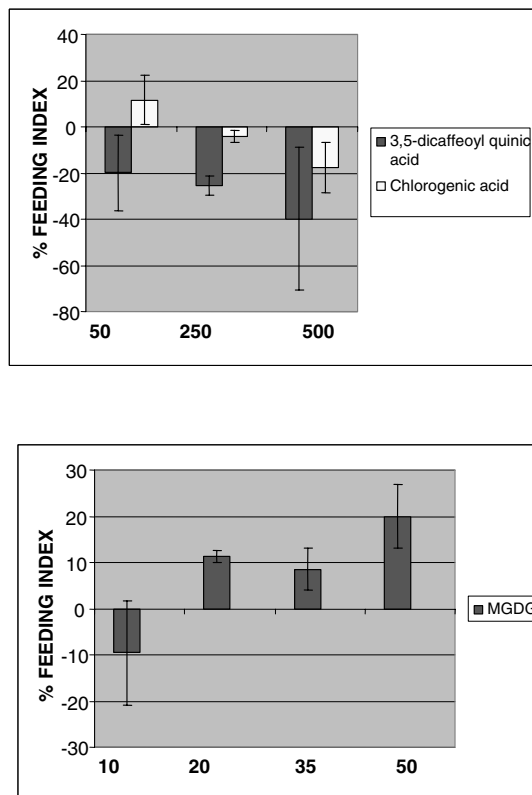


Fig. 2. The results of feeding tests with different doses (μg) of compounds **1** and **2** (upper part) and **3** (lower part) charged on each agar disk. The vertical bars shows standard errors of the mean values, obtained from 6 replicates ($n = 6$). Dose: mean value of feeding index (standard error of the mean value) for **1** [50 μg : 11.5 (10.6), 250 μg : -4.2 (2.6), 500 μg : -17.8 (10.9)], **2** [50 μg : -19.8 (16.4), 250 μg : -25.5 (4.1), 500 μg : -39.8 (30.8)] and **3** [10 μg : -9.6 (11.2), 20 μg : 11.3 (1.4), 35 μg : 8.5 (4.5), 50 μg : 20.0 (6.9)].

six replicates for each dose (Lowry, 1998–2003). The analytical results of the tests are presented in Figs. 2 and 3.

Results and Discussion

The results of the tests showed antifeeding activity for chlorogenic acid (**1**) and 3,5-dicaffeoyl quinic acid (**2**) (Fig. 2) in the range of 50–500 μg per agar disk. The higher activity of compound **2** in comparison to **1** may be due to the incorporation of another caffeoyl moiety in position 5 of **2**. To the best of my knowledge, compound **2** is reported as an antifeeding agent to *P. versicolora* isolated for the first time from *S. integra*. Accord-

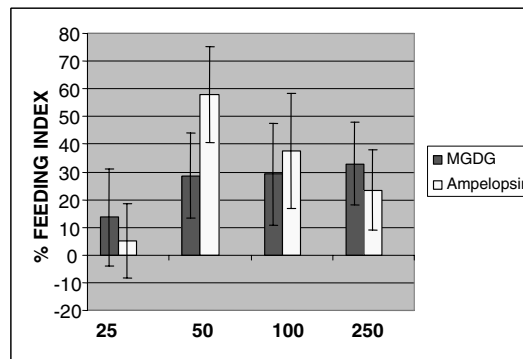


Fig. 3. Feeding stimulant activity of MGDG (**3**): dose: mean value of feeding index (standard error of the mean value) [25 μg : 13.6 (17.5), 50 μg : 28.7 (15.3), 100 μg : 29.3 (18.4), 250 μg : 33.0 (15.1)] isolated from *S. integra* and ampelopsin (**4**) [25 μg : 5.3 (13.4), 50 μg : 57.9 (17.3), 100 μg : 37.5 (20.9), 250 μg : 23.5 (14.4)] from *S. sachalinensis* at different doses (μg). The vertical bars shows standard errors of the mean values, obtained from 6 replicates ($n = 6$).

ing to Fig. 2, compounds **1** and **2** showed antifeeding activities above 50 μg per agar disk. The deterrent doses were consistent with the concentration of these substances in the leaf of the plant based on the same area as for the agar disk.

The feeding stimulant activity of ampelopsin (**4**), the major flavonoid of *S. sachalinensis* (Matsumoto and Tahara, 2001; Matsumoto, 2000) to *P. versicolora*, is compared to that of MGDG (**3**) from *S. integra* (Fig. 3). Ampelopsin has been reported as an abundant flavonoid in *S. phyllifolia* leaves but with no strong antiherbivore activity against *A. alni* (Ikonen, 2001). The presence of a feeding stimulant (**3**) in the leaves of *S. integra* may overcome the antifeeding effect of other compounds (**1** and **2**) so that the beetles consume the leaves (Ikonen *et al.*, 2002). This can be a reason why the beetles still consume the leaves of *S. integra*. When the leaves of *S. integra* and *S. sachalinensis* were exposed to willow beetles, although the growing diet for the beetles was the leaves of *S. sachalinensis*, the beetles ate the young leaves of both willows equally. They did not consume the older (harder) leaves. This might be due to high quality or existence of more nutrient constituents in the younger leaves (Ikonen, 2002).

S. sachalinensis is the major host plant of *P. versicolora* in Sapporo area while in the Honshu Island several species of willow were found to be

the host plants for *P. versicolora* (Matsuda and Matsuo, 1985; Matsuda and Senbo, 1986). This might be due to the presence of some stimulants such as salicin and its derivative populin or the flavonoid glucoside, luteolin-7-glucoside in the leaves of different *Salix* species. The feeding stimulant activity of chlorogenic acid in *Salix integra* of Honshu Island, to *P. versicolora* might be the result of the adaptation of the insects to use this compound in Honshu Island (Matsuda and Senbo, 1986).

Two chemical races for *S. sachalinensis* have been reported so far (Mizuno *et al.*, 1991). However we could not detect significant differences in the chemical constituents of the leaves of different clones of *S. integra* collected from various places of Sapporo (Shinkawa, Atsubetsu and Ishikari). Chlorogenic acid is determined as the major active constituent in both Sapporo and Sendai specimens of *S. integra* (Matsuda and Senbo, 1986). Some secondary metabolites such as salicin and related phenolic glycosides have both feeding deterrent activity for some non-adapted insects and feeding stimulant activity for some adapted insects (Matsuda and Senbo, 1986; Ikonen, 2002). The present paper reports chlorogenic acid as a compound, which has two opposite effects on the feeding beha-

vior of *P. versicolora* in different climates. Besides the defensive role of chlorogenic acid to phytophagous insects, it shows a positive or negative effect on growth of different insects (Todd *et al.*, 1971; Chawla *et al.*, 1974; Matsuda and Senbo, 1986). I observed faster growth and less mortality for the willow beetles using the leaves of *S. sachalinensis* (prominent in ampelopsin) instead of *S. integra* (prominent in chlorogenic acid) as the rearing diet.

The presence of two kinds of stimulants and antifeedants in the leaves of *S. integra* may lead us to assume that the presence and absence of *P. versicolora* on *S. integra* might be due to a balance of these compounds in different seasons. To confirm this phenomenon the leaves of *S. integra* should be quantitatively analyzed for compounds **1**, **2** and **3** from May to September.

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