

Evaluation of Lipxygenase Inhibitory Activity of Anacardic Acids

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6-Alkylsalicylic acids inhibit the linoleic acid peroxidation catalyzed by soybean lipoxygenase-1 (EC 1.13.11.12, type 1) competitively and without pro-oxidant effects. This activity is largely dependent on the nature of their alkyl side chains. Inhibitory activities of anacardic acids, *viz.* 6-pentadec(en)ylsalicylic acids, isolated from the cashew *Anacardium occidentale*, were initially used for comparison because their aromatic head portions are the same. Consequently, the data should be interpreted to mean that changes in the hydrophobic side chain tail portions of the molecules evaluated correlate with the specific activity determined.

Key words: Lipxygenase, Anacardic Acids, Inhibitory Activity, Hydrophobicity