Antimicrobial Activity of Gentiana lutea L. Extracts

Katarina Šavikin*, Nebojša Menković, Gordana Zdunić, Tatjana Stević, Dragoja Radanović, and Teodora Janković

Institute for Medicinal Plants Research, Tadeuša Košćuška 1, 11000 Belgrade, Serbia. Fax: +38 11 13 03 16 49. E-mail: ksavikin@mocbilja.rs

* Author for correspondence and reprint requests

Z. Naturforsch. 64c, 339–342 (2009); received November 14/December 26, 2008

Methanolic extracts of flowers and leaves of *Gentiana lutea* L., together with the isolated compounds mangiferin, isogentisin and gentiopicrin, were used to investigate the antimicrobial activity of the plant. A variety of Gram-positive and Gram-negative bacteria as well as the yeast *Candida albicans* has been included in this study. Both extracts and isolated compounds showed antimicrobial activity with MIC values ranging from 0.12–0.31 mg/ml. Our study indicated that the synergistic activity of the pure compounds may be responsible for the good antimicrobial effect of the extracts. Quantification of the secondary metabolites was performed using HPLC.

Key words: Gentiana lutea, Antimicrobial Activity, Gentiopicrin