Chemical Composition and Antimicrobial Activity of European Propolis

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Z. Naturforsch. 55c, 70–75 (2000); received September 17/November 10, 1999

Propolis, GC/MS, Polyphenols, Antimicrobial Activity

Three propolis samples from Austria, Germany and France were investigated by GC/MS, where eleven compounds were being new for propolis. The samples showed some similarities in their qualitative composition. Phenylethyl-\textit{trans}-caffeate, benzyl ferulate and galangin were predominant in German propolis. Benzyl caffeate was predominant in French sample. Pino-cembrin was predominant in French and Austrian propolis and \textit{trans}-p-coumaric acid was predominant in all samples.

The antimicrobial activity against \textit{Staphylococcus aureus}; \textit{Escherichia coli}, and \textit{Candida albicans} was evaluated. German propolis showed the highest antimicrobial activity against \textit{Staphylococcus aureus} and \textit{Escherichia coli}. While Austrian propolis has the highest activity against \textit{Candida albicans}. French propolis was effective against all pathogens but less than German and Austrian propolis.