Seeds of *Trichosanthes kirilowii*, an Energy-Rich Diet

Yi Huang\textsuperscript{a}, Ping He\textsuperscript{b}, Klaus P. Bader\textsuperscript{c}, Alfons Radunz\textsuperscript{c} and Georg H. Schmid\textsuperscript{c,*}

\textsuperscript{a} Peking University, Beijing, People’s Republic of China
\textsuperscript{b} Central South Forestry University, Zhuzhou/Hunan, People’s Republic of China
\textsuperscript{c} Lehrstuhl für Zellphysiologie, Fakultät für Biologie, Universität Bielefeld, Postfach 10 01 31, 33501 Bielefeld, Germany. Fax: (0521) 106–6410.
\textsuperscript{E-mail: G.Schmid@Biologie.Uni-Bielefeld.DE}

* Author for correspondence and reprint requests

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*Trichosanthes kirilowii* Seeds, Triglycerides, Glycolipids, Phospholipids

The kernels of *Trichosanthes kirilowii* seeds contain a green oil which makes up for 62% of their dry matter. This oil consists up to 95% of triglycerides, 2% of glycolipids, 1.3% of phospholipids and 1.8% of chlorophylls. As fatty acid components the triglycerides, glycolipids and phospholipids contain the unsaturated fatty acids linoleic and oleic acid and the saturated palmitic acid. In the triglycerides 19% of the C\textsubscript{18:3} acid occur with the configuration \(\Delta^9\text{\textit{cis}}, \Delta^{11}\text{\textit{trans}}, \Delta^{13}\text{\textit{cis}}\). This acid is called trichosanic acid and is absent in glycolipids and phospholipids which contain instead another C\textsubscript{18:3} fatty acid, which has conjugated double bounds and occurs with an amount of 21% and 3%, respectively. Typically, these oil seeds contain in addition up to 30% of their dry matter proteins and up to 2.5% mono- and oligosaccharides. The monosaccharides consist of rhamnose, galactose and glucose and the oligosaccharides represent a mixture of tri- and tetrasaccharides.