Antimicrobial Activity of Some *Satureja* Essential Oils

Dilek Azaza, Fatih Demircib, Fatih Satıl a, Mine Kürkçüoğlu b and Kemal Hüsnü Can Başer * b

a Faculty of Science and Letters, Department of Biology, Balikesir University, 10100 Balikesir, Turkey
b Medicinal and Aromatic Plant and Drug Research Centre (TBAM), Anadolu University, 26470-Eskişehir, Turkey

* Author for correspondence and reprint request
Fax: +90 222 335 0127. E-mail: khcbaser@anadolu.edu.tr

Z. Naturforsch. 57c, 817–821 (2002); received May 16/July 1, 2002

*Satureja* sp., Essential Oil, Antimicrobial Activity

The genus *Satureja* is represented by fifteen species of which five are endemic and *Satureja pilosa* and *S. icarica* have recently been found as new records for Turkey. Aerial parts of the *Satureja pilosa*, *S. icarica*, *S. boissieri* and *S. coerulca* collected from different localities in Turkey were subjected to hydrodistillation to yield essential oils which were subsequently analysed by GC and GC/MS. The main constituents of the oils were identified, and both antibacterial and antifungal bioassays were applied. Carvacrol (59.2%, 44.8%, 42.1%) was the main component in the oils of *S. icarica*, *S. boissieri* and *S. pilosa*, respectively. The oil of *S. coerulca* contained β-caryophyllene (10.6%) and caryophyllene oxide (8.0%) as main constituents.