Egg White, a Favourable Solvent to Extract the Active Ingredient of *Mylabris phalerata*

Bing-Ji Ma* and Yuan Ruan

Department of Traditional Chinese Medicine, Agronomy College of Henan Agricultural University, Zhengzhou 450002, P. R. China. E-mail: mbj123@sina.com

* Author for correspondence and reprint requests


To characterize the role of hen eggs used for analyzing the insect *Mylabris phalerata* a traditional Chinese medicine for curing liver cancer, egg white was separated from the whole egg and added to *M. phalerata*. The volatile compounds found in egg white when added to *M. phalerata* and therefore in *M. phalerata* itself were analyzed by GC. Cantharidin was detected both in egg white added to *M. phalerata* and *M. phalerata* itself. Egg white can be used as a favourable solvent for extracting the active ingredient of *M. phalerata*.

**Key words:** Egg White, *Mylabris phalerata*, Cantharidin