

## ESSENTIAL OIL COMPOSITION OF TWO *PIMPINELLA* L. SPECIES FROM TURKEY

### TÜRKİYE'DE YETİŞEN İKİ *PIMPINELLA* L. TÜRÜNÜN UÇUCU YAĞ KOMPOZİSYONU

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#### ÖZET

Bingöl'de yetişen *Pimpinella kotschyana* Boiss. ve *Pimpinella corymbosa* Boiss. türlerinin toprak üstü kısımlarından elde edilen yağlar GC-MS tekniği ile analiz edildi ve bu türlerden sırasıyla %94.4 ve %95.9'luk toplam yağ miktarından 24 ve 25 bileşen tespit edildi. *P. Kotschyana*'nın ana bileşenleri b-karyofillen (%26.8), a-humulen (%18.6) ve germakren D (%12.8) olarak belirlendi; *P. corymbosa*'da ise b-farnesen (%28.6), b-bisabolen (%22.7) ve (E)-anethole (%13.9) ana bileşenler olarak bulundu. *P. Kotschyana*'nın kemotipi b-karyofillen; *P. corymbosa*'nın kemotipi b-farnesen olarak belirlendi. Sonuçta bu çalışma ile *P. kotschyana* ve *P. corymbosa* türlerinin uçucu yağ içerikleri bakımından zengin olduğu bulunmuş ve uçucu yağlarının içerikleri yönünden önemli sonuçlar ortaya konulmuştur.

**Anahtar Kelimeler:** *Anason, GC-MS, Pimpinella, Uçucu yağ.*

#### ABSTRACT

The essential oils of aerial parts of *Pimpinella kotschyana* Boiss. and *Pimpinella corymbosa* Boiss. species growing in Bingöl were analyzed by GC-MS technique and 24 and 25 compounds were identified representing 94.4% and 95.9% of the oil respectively. The main constituents of *P. kotschyana* were b-caryophyllene (26.8%), a-humulene (18.6%) and germacrene D (12.8%); whereas b-farnesene (28.6%), b-bisabolene (22.7%) and (E)-anethole (13.9%) were the major constituents of *P. corymbosa*. The chemotypes of *P. kotschyana* and *P. corymbosa* were determined b-caryophyllene and b-farnesene, respectively. Eventually with this study, essential oil contents of *P. kotschyana* and *P. corymbosa* were found to be rich and important results presented in respect to essential oil composition of these species.

**Key words:** *Anise, GC-MS, Pimpinella, Essential oil*

## 1. INTRODUCTION

The Apiaceae or Umbelliferae family comprises 300-455 genera and about 3000-3750 species distributed in the world [1]. Members of this family include economically important plants, and they have particularly flavors and odor which are largely in traditional medicine many parts of world [2].

*Pimpinella* L. is represented about 150 species in the world [3] and 30 taxa in the Flora of Turkey [4,5].

*Pimpinella* have annual, biennial or perennial members; leaves entire or 1-3 pinnate; inflorescence a compound umbel; sepals usually minute; petals white, yellow or pink [4].

Some members of *Pimpinella* were cultivated by Egyptians, Greeks and Romans for their aromatic seeds used in medicine and as a condiment; they have also been used as popular aromatic herbs and spices since antiquity, and have been cultivated throughout Europe [3]. In addition the fruits of *Pimpinella* have been used for medicine, perfumery and in cooking [6,7].

In Turkish folk medicine, some species of *Pimpinella* seeds have been used as appetizers, tranquillizers, diuretic drugs and in liquor production [8].

The most widely known and cultivated *Pimpinella* species is *P. anisum* L. *P. anisum* (Anis) fruits (Aniseed) have been used in Turkish folk medicine as carminative, appetizers, sedative, agents to increase milk secretion and an important agricultural crop of Turkey [9].

Leaves of *P. anisetum* Boiss.& Bal. are used in salads and its seeds are used in pickling in Central Turkey; *P. isaurica* Matthews, *P. aurea* DC., *P. corymbosa* are used in animal feeds to increase milk production in eastern and southeastern parts of Turkey [10]. *P. saxifraga* L. roots are used as demulcent, stomachic, expectorant and tonic in Turkey [11].

The objective of the present study was to examine the chemical composition of the essential oil of *P. kotschyana* and *P. corymbosa*, growing wild in the eastern part of Turkey.

## 2. MATERIALS AND METHODS

### 2.1. Plant Source

*P. kotschyana* was collected from Şaban village vicinity, steppe and stony areas, Bingol/Turkey, on 30.06.2013, at an altitude of 1550-1600 m., by O. Kiliç, collect no: 5053. *P. corymbosa* was collected from south of Dikme village, steppe and stony areas, Bingol/Turkey, on 15.07.2013, at an altitude of 1600-1650 m., by O. Kiliç, collect no: 5266. Voucher specimens of plant samples kept at the Bingol University Herbarium (BIN) with 2925 and 2926 herbarium numbers, respectively.

### 2.2. Gas Chromatography/Mass Spectrometry (GC-MS)

100 gram air-dried aerial parts of *Pimpinella* species were subjected to hydrodistillation using a Clevenger-type apparatus for 2-3 h. The essential oil was analyzed using HP 6890 GC equipped with and FID detector and an HP- 5 MS column (30 m×0.25 mm i.d., film thickness 0.25 µm) capillary column was used. The column and analysis conditions were the same as in GC-MS. The percentage composition of the essential oils was computed from GC-FID peak areas without correction factors [12].

The oils of studied samples were analyzed by GC-MS, using a Hewlett Packard system. HP-Agilent 5973 N GC-MS system with 6890 GC in Plant Products and Biotechnology Research Laboratory (BUBAL) in Firat University. HP-5 MS column (30 m×0.25 mm i.d., film thickness (0.25 µm) was used with helium as the carrier gas. Injector temperature was 250 °C split flow was 1 mL/min. The GC oven temperature was kept at 70 °C for 2 min. and programmed to 150 °C at a rate of 10 °C/min and then kept constant at 150 °C for 15 min to 240 °C at a rate of 5 °C/min. Alkane were used as reference points in the calculation of relative retention indices (RRI). MS were taken at 70 eV and a mass range of 35-425. Component identification was carried out using spectrometric electronic libraries (Wiley, Nist) [12]. The identified constituents of *Pimpinella* species are listed in Table 1.

**Table 1.** The identified constituents of *Pimpinella* species (%).

Constituents	RRI*	<i>P. kotschyana</i>	<i>P. corymbosa</i>
$\alpha$ -pinene	1030	-	1.2
Camphene	1055	1.8	0.6
$\beta$ -pinene	1100	2.6	-
Sabinene	1125	4.5	3.7
Myrcene	1165	0.2	0.5
$\beta$ -phellandrene	1128	-	1.6
$\alpha$ -cineole	1153	0.3	-
Limonene	1203	4.5	3.2
$\beta$ -phellandrene	1218	-	0.1
$\beta$ -ocimene	1242	0.2	-
$\alpha$ -Terpinene	1253	0.1	-
<i>p</i> -cymene	1275	-	2.3
Terpinolene	1288	-	0.4
Longipinene	1455	0.3	-
<i>trans</i> -sabinene hydrate	1476	0.1	0.2
Bicycloelemene	1489	-	0.4
$\beta$ -copaene	1493	0.3	-
$\beta$ -cubebene	1539	0.7	-
Linalool	1550	-	0.6
Bornyl acetate	1592	1.2	0.5
$\beta$ -caryophyllene	1610	26.8	3.6
$\beta$ -farnesene	1665	4.8	28.6
$\beta$ -humulene	1672	18.6	3.9
Germacrene D	1715	12.8	4.9
$\beta$ -bisabolene	1745	4.3	22.7
(E)-anethole	1842	5.8	13.9
$\beta$ -calacorene	1935	-	0.2
Caryophyllene oxide	2005	2.5	-
Elemol	2092	0.2	0.1
Spathulenol	2140	-	0.3
$\beta$ -bisabolol	2230	1.2	0.5
Carvacrol	2245	-	1.3
$\beta$ -cadinol	2262	0.2	0.6
Octadecanal	2351	0.4	-
*RRI: Relative Retention Index	<b>Total</b>	<b>94.4</b>	<b>95.9</b>

### 3. RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

In this study, the main constituents of *P. kotschyana* were b-caryophyllene (26.8%), a-humulene (18.6%) and germacrene D (12.8%). b-farnesen (28.6%), b-bisabolene (22.7%) and (E)-anethole (13.9%) were the major constituents of *P. corymbosa* (Table 1). Arslan *et al.*, (2004) also recorded that trans-anethole was the main compound of anise essential oil [13]. b-caryophyllene (26.8%) was found to be the main compound of *P. kotschyana* (Table 1); similarly, b-caryophyllene was detected the main compound different part of *P. kotschyana* from Iran [14]; fruits-stem and leaves of *P. corymbosa* from Turkey [15]. Whereas b-caryophyllene was not reported among the main constituents of *P. anisetum* and *P. flabellifolia* (Boiss.) Benth. & Hook. ex Drude from Turkey [16].

The major constituents stem/leaves (SL) and flowers (F) of *P. aurea* DC. (Askari *et al.*, 2005) were b-pinene (SL: 13.0%; F: 1.6%), limonene, (SL: 21.0%; F: 9.0%), viridiflorol (SL: 13.0%; F: 33.0%) and b-bisabolene (SL: 4.0%; F: 30.0%). Viridiflorol, was not found *P. kotschyana* and *P. corymbosa* oil; in addition, b-pinene, limonene and 1,8-cineole was not or found low amounts in this research (Table 1). The aerial parts of *P. anisetum* Boiss. & Ball. and *P. flabellifolia* (Boiss.) Benth. ex Drude were analysed by GC and GC/MS and the main compounds of *P. anisetum* were (E)-anethole (82.8%) and methyl chavicol (14.5%), whereas limonene (47.0%), (E)-anethole (37.9%) and b-pinene (6.0%) were the major constituents of *P. flabellifolia*. In our research, the main constituents of *P. kotschyana* were b-caryophyllene (26.8%), a-humulene (18.6%) and germacrene D (12.8%). b-farnesen (28.6%), b-bisabolene (22.7%) and (E)-anethole (13.9%) were the major constituents of *P. corymbosa* (Table 1). Chavicol (91.96%), (E)-anethole (7.22%) and  $\alpha$ -pinene (0.12%) were characterized the oil of *P. aromatica* Bieb. growing in Turkey [17]. In our study methyl chavicol wasn't detected in two *Pimpinella* species and (E)-anethole (13.9%) was the main

compounds only in *P. corymbosa* (Table 1). b-caryophyllene is the main sesquiterpene of *Humulus lupulus* L. (hops) and are being used as cosmetic additives in soaps and fragrances [18]. In herbal medicine, the mild sedative properties of hops are due to the presence of b-caryophyllene [19]. Furthermore, b by *in vitro* studies it was demonstrated the cytotoxic activity of the b-caryophyllene against breast cancer cells [20]. In our study b-caryophyllene was determined high amount from *P. kotschyana* (26.8%) and *P. corymbosa* (3.6%); so these results demonstrating their applicability for medicinal, cosmetic and pharmaceutical purposes.

In conclusion, b-caryophyllene / a-humulene in *P. kotschyana*; b-farnesene/b-bisabolene were found to be the chemotypes of *P. corymbosa*. According to these results, studied *Pimpinella* species were found to be rich in respect to essential oils and to enlarge usable of these species important results presented with this study.

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