

LIPOPHILIC AND HYDROPHILIC EXTRACTIVES FROM STRAWBERRY TREE (*Arbutus andrachne* L.) AND ORIENTAL PLANE (*Platanus orientalis* L.) WOOD

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Abstract. Extractives compose 5-10 % of wood by weight and they have important roles in trees. Extractive composition of different plant species has to be investigated in order to get the broadest sense. Thus, hexane and acetone:water (95:5, v:v) extracts of *Arbutus andrachne* and *Platanus orientalis* wood were analysed by GC-MS and GC-FID to determine lipophilic and hydrophilic extractive composition of these species. Total amount of lipophilic extractives was found 3,39 mg/g in *A. andrachne* wood, whereas it was determined as 16,91 mg/g in *P. orientalis* wood. However, total amount of hydrophilic extractives in *A. andrachne* had higher values. Fatty acids were detected as the dominant group in lipophilic extractives in both wood species. Acid 18:3 in *A. andrachne* wood (0,17 mg/g) and acid 16:0 in *P. orientalis* wood (0,19 mg/g) were determined as the highest fatty acids.

Keywords: *Arbutus andrachne*, *Platanus orientalis*, fatty acids, phenolics, sugars

Introduction

Plants consist of compounds with high molecular weight such as cellulose, hemicelluloses and lignin. They are essential for survival on organism and called primary metabolites. Primary metabolites compose 90-95 % of wood by weight. Absence or deficiency of primary metabolites can cause the death of organism. However, extractives are secondary metabolites of plants that affect such functions as texture, odor, taste and color of the tree. Extractives compose 5-10 % of wood chemical substances by weight and they can be classified according to their morphological site in the tree and the function. In addition, extractives can also be determined according to solubility in some solvents and polarity of those solvents (Fengel and Wegener, 1989; Sjöström, 1993; Holmbom, 1999).

In general, extractives can be divided into two sub-groups: lipophilics and hydrophilics. The lipophilic extractives, water-insoluble extractives, in another term, include the substances soluble in neutral solvents such as dichloromethane, diethyl ether and some hydrocarbon solvents. Lipophilic extractives are mainly composed of fats, fatty acids, sterols, and some chemical substances mostly found in softwoods like resin and resin acids (Holmbom, 1999). Hydrophilic extractives are substances that are soluble in such polar solvents as water, alcohol and acetone. Carbohydrates, phenols, lignans and chalkones are some of the hydrophilic extractives (Holmbom, 1999). There are many papers about plant extractives. In last years, studies have been focused on the wood and bark extractives of trees though (Cunha-Queda et al., 2007; Dönmez et al., 2012a; Ekman and Eckerman, 1985; Hafizoğlu, 1982; Hafizoğlu, 1989; Hafizoğlu and Holmbom, 1987; Balaban and Uçar, 2003; Pietarinen et al., 2006; Ferreira et al., 2015), recently, fruit, berry and cone extractives of the trees have been gaining interest (Kılıç et al., 2010a, 2010b, 2011; Dönmez et al., 2012b; Gönültaş and Uçar, 2013). As it is a

renewable material and the chemicals found in it, tree has important utilization potential in every industrial area.

Analyses of a tree, especially extractives that have minor amount and some sugar compounds like monosaccharides, determines its possible use for other industries (Baptista et al., 2013; Feng et al., 2013). To date, it is known that, extractives can protect wood from decay, add color and odor to wood and enhance the strength properties of wood as well as acting for production of some medicinal products for human health. Thus different kinds of plant species and also different tissues of same species have to be taken into account for more research of chemical composition of trees.

Arbutus andrachne is one of the plant species in Turkey that it is not seen as stand but occurred as soliter along riversides. Moreover it is not utilized in any industrial area except burning its wood in bread producing factories. It is called “sandal” tree in Turkish, but it is officially named as strawberry tree due to its fruits in general. *A. andrachne* is an evergreen tree and has edible fruits that are consumed as jam, jelly and beverage. Fruits of *A. andrachne* have been investigated for their chemical composition because they have rich sugar content. Moreover, protein, ash content and antioxidant properties of *A. andrachne* fruits, extractive composition and suberin monomers of *A. andrachne* bark were previously presented (Alarcao-E-Silva et al., 2001; Şeker and Toplu, 2010; Serçe et al., 2010; Dönmez et al., 2016). However, any papers about chemical composition of wood of *A. andrachne* is out of our knowledge.

Platanus orientalis is a large deciduous tree and named as oriental plane. It is a natural tree species that is grown around the rivers and used in landscapes and parks (Khan et al., 2013). It is named as “çınar” in Turkish and known as a symbol of long and healthy life. Since it has been growing up in parks in city centers, phenolic composition of its leaves and buds and the effects of environmental stress have been studied but there is limited knowledge of the chemical composition of *P. orientalis*. Most studies on its chemical composition have focused on anticancer or antiseptic properties and activity against urinary infections (Dimas et al., 2000; El-Alfy et al., 2008; Mitrocotsa et al., 1993; Mitrocotsa et al., 1999).

It was aimed to determine the amount and the composition of lipophilic and hydrophilic extractives of *A. andrachne* and *P. orientalis* wood. Thus new data about extractive composition of *A. andrachne* and *P. orientalis* was presented to the literature.

Material and Method

A. andrachne and *P. orientalis* samples were taken from the altitude of 375 m. from Aşağıgökdere-Eğirdir, Isparta, Turkey. Diameters of the trees were 27 cm. and 29 cm. for *A. andrachne* and *P. orientalis* respectively. Samples were taken according to TAPPI-T-257 cm-02 standard. Debarked samples were stored at -24 °C until analyses. All of the samples were freeze-dried and grounded by Wiley mill to 1 mm (Ekman, 1983). To prevent the effect of volatile compounds, a second drying procedure was treated to the grounded samples.

Extraction

Approximately 5 g of grounded wood from each sample was sequentially extracted with an accelerated solvent extractor (ASE) apparatus (ASE 200, Dionex Inc., Sunnyvale, CA, USA). Samples were successively extracted with n-hexane,

acetone:water (95:5, v:v), and finally distilled water. After extraction, aliquots of extractives were completed to 100 ml with the same solvent used in extraction so gravimetric analyses were carried out. For gravimetric analyses, 10 ml of the aliquot was evaporated to dryness, i.e, constant weight, leaving a film of extractives in the solvent container. The containers were weighed before and after extraction to determine the extractive yield in mg/g. An internal standard (heneicosanoic acid and betulinol) was added to the hexane and acetone:water (95:5, v:v) extracts. The mixture was evaporated under nitrogen prior to silylation. Hexane and acetone:water (95:5, v:v) extracts were injected to GC-MS and GC-FID for identifying lipophilics and hydrophilics.

Identification

Quantitative analyses of both extractives from the wood of *A. andrachne* and *P. orientalis* were performed with a Perkin Elmer Autosystem XL gas chromatograph (GC-FID; PerkinElmer Inc., Waltham, MA, USA) equipped with an HP-1 25 m × 0.2 mm (0.11 µm film thickness) column and flame ionization detector. The carrier gas was H₂ added at 0.8 mL/min. The temperature program began at 120 °C, which was raised by steps of 6 °C/min to 320 °C. The injector temperature was 260 °C, and the FID temperature was 320 °C. One µL of each sample was injected (split ratio: 1:24). Individual compounds were identified with an HP 6890-5973 gas chromatography/mass spectrometry (GC-MS) instrument (Agilent Technologies Inc., Santa Clara, CA, USA) equipped with an HP-1 column. The temperature program was the same as above.

Results and Discussions

Lipophilic and hydrophilic components of *A. andrachne* and *P. orientalis* wood were analysed by GC-MS and GC-FID after extraction with different solvents. The amount of soluble substances in the solvents and water was determined gravimetrically and shown in *Figure 1*.

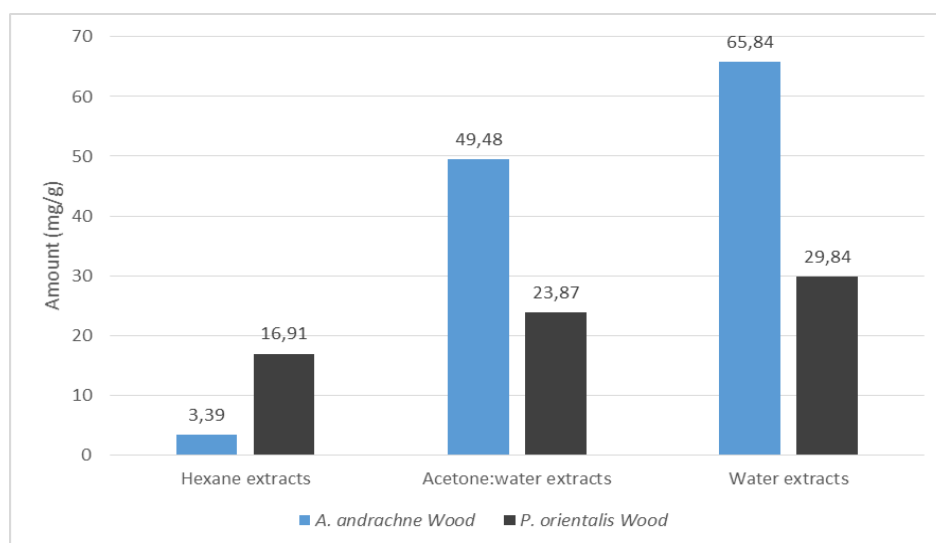


Figure 1. Gravimetric amount of extractives from *A. andrachne* and *P. orientalis* wood (mg/g of dry weight)

Gravimetric analyses results of *A. andrachne* wood were found higher than *P. orientalis* wood results. It was also observed in our previous study that bark samples of both species had the same results for gravimetric analyses (Dönmez et al., 2016). Acetone:water (95:5, v:v) and water solubility in *A. andrachne* wood was seen two-times more comparing to *P. orientalis* wood. While acetone:water (95:5, v:v) was determined as 49,48 mg/g in *A. andrachne* wood, it was found as 23,87 mg/g in *P. orientalis* wood. Hot water solubility in *A. andrachne* wood was determined as 65,84 mg/g though, it was identified as 29,84 mg/g in *P. orientalis* wood. It is known that fruits and bark of *A. andrachne* have rich sugar content (Serçe et al., 2010; Şeker and Toplu, 2010; Dönmez et al., 2016). Moreover, this work shows that wood of *A. andrachne* is rich in its sugar content. Contrary to this results, only *P. orientalis* wood hexane solubility (16,91 mg/g) was found higher than *A. andrachne* wood hexane solubility (3,39 mg/g).

Hexane and acetone:water (95:5, v:v) extracts were firstly injected to GC-MS for qualitative identification, secondly to GC-FID for quantative determination just after suitable amounts of mixture of solvent and extracts was determined for chromatographic analyses. Extractive composition and the amount can be seen in *Table 1*.

Table 1. Extractive composition of *A. andrachne* and *P. orientalis* wood (mg/g of dry weight)

	<i>A. andrachne</i>	<i>P. orientalis</i>
Fatty Acids		
Acid 16:0	0.05	0.19
Acid 18:3	0.17	0.08
Acid 18:1	0.02	0.08
Acid 18:0	0.09	0.10
Acid 18:2	0.05	0.09
Sugars		
D-xylose	0.03	0.03
D-fructose	0.29	0.22
Sorbopyranose	1.15	0.46
α -d-glucopyranose	0.07	0.03
Pinitol + D-glucose	1.39	4.61
L-rhamnose	0.03	0.10
Mannose	0.02	0.04
Sucrose	0.48	0.04
Myo-inositol	0.14	0.08
Unidentified sugar compounds	4.36	1.91
Maltitol	0.02	0.04
Phenolics		
3,4-dihydroxybenzoic acid	0.01	0.03
Catechin	3.74	1.46
Phytosterol		
Sitosterol	0.17	0.15
Other		
Hydroquinone-beta d glucopyranoside	0.01	0.08
Betulinic acid	0.01	0.98
Sinapyl alcohol	0.08	0.08
Lupeol	0.02	0.01

5 different fatty acids were detected in both samples. While acid 16:0 was determined as the highest amount in *P. orientalis* wood (0.19 mg/g), acid 18:3 was seen as the dominant fatty acid in *A. andrachne* wood (0.17 mg/g).

β -sitosterol was found as the only phytosterol in the sterols group that was the second lipophilic substances group after fatty acids detected in samples. It was found both in *A. andrachne* (0.17 mg/g) and in *P. orientalis* (0.15 mg/g) wood.

The compounds in sugar group, a hydrophilic group, was determined by injecting of acetone:water (95:5, v:v) extracts. Total amount of sugar group was found as 7,98 mg/g and 7,56 mg/g in *A. andrachne* and *P. orientalis* wood respectively. There are not any research on the literature about extractive structure of *A. andrachne* and *P. orientalis* wood. However, chemical composition of bark of same trees was reported by Dönmez et al. (2016). It was seen that total amount of sugar group in wood was lower than their bark.

Phenolics were the other hydrophilic group and only two components (3,4-dihydroxybenzoic acid and catechin) were detected in both samples. Catechin was seen as the dominant component and had the highest proportion in both *A. andrachne* (3,74 mg/g) and *P. orientalis* (1,46 mg/g) wood.

Besides, hydroquinone- β -d glucopyranoside, a glycoside, betulinic acid, a triterpenic acid, and sinapyl alcohol, an organic compound, were also determined in all samples.

Conclusions

Hexane, acetone:water (95:5, v:v) extracts of *A. andrachne* and *P. orientalis* after successive extraction were analysed by GC-MS and GC-FID to obtain lipophilic and hydrophilic extractives. Total amount of lipophilic extractives was lower (3,39 mg/g) in *A. andrachne* wood than *P. orientalis* wood (16,91 mg/g). However, hydrophilic extractives was found two-times more in *A. andrachne* wood (49,48 mg/g) than *P. orientalis* wood (23,87 mg/g). Fatty acids were the dominant lipophilic extractive group in both wood species. While acid 18:3 in *A. andrachne* wood was detected as the most abundant compound, acid 16:0 had the highest amount in *P. orientalis* wood. Sugars were seen as the main hydrophilic extractive group both in *A. andrachne* and in *P. orientalis* wood. It is seen that wood of the both species have same extractive composition with their bark but the amount of wood extractives is lower comparing to their bark (Dönmez et al., 2016).

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