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Evaluation of in vitro and in situ *Antemiss nobilis* essential oil antimicrobial activity

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Anthemiss nobilis (*Chamaemelum nobile*), the so-called Roman chamomile, is a perennial herb of the Asteraceae family. It possessed antibacterial, antifungal, insecticidal, hypotensive, antiplatelet aggregation, antiinflammatory, hypoglycaemic, antioxidant, nervous, cytotoxic, bronchodilatory, endocrine and many other effects. The aim of the research was to evaluate in vitro and in situ antimicrobial of the essential oil produced in Slovakia. The in vitro and in situ antimicrobial activity against Gram-positive bacteria (*B. subtilis* CCM 1999, *E. faecalis* CCM 4224, *S. aureus* subsp. *aureus* CCM 8223), Gram-negative bacteria (*P. aeruginosa* CCM 3955, *S. enterica* subsp. *enterica* ser. *Enteritidis* CCM 4420, *S. marcescens* CCM 8588, *Y. enterocolitica* CCM 7204), and yeasts (*C. krusei* CCM 8271, *C. albicans* CCM 8261, *C. tropicalis* CCM 8223, *C. glabrata* CCM 8270) were evaluated with disc, diffusion method,

broth microdilution method and in vapor phase on vegetable and fruit models. The antimicrobial activity was either moderate or very strong with inhibition zones ranging from 8.67 to 16.67 mm in gram-positive and gram-negative bacteria and from 7.67 to 17.33 mm in yeasts. Among the tested bacteria and fungi, the lowest values of MIC were determined for *Staphylococcus aureus* and *Candida glabrata*. The vapor phase of *Anthemiss nobilis* essential oil (ANEO) inhibited the growth of the yeasts of the genus *Candida* when tested in situ on pears. The strongest effect of yeasts in a pear model was observed against *C. glabrata* at concentrations of 250 and 500 µL/mL. The best antimicrobial activity of ANEO in the carrot model was found against *S. aureus*. The findings indicate that, besides being safe ANEO has antimicrobial activity, which makes it a potential substitute for biological food preservatives.

Biography

Natalia Cmikova is a PhD student at the Slovak University of Agriculture in Nitra. She works in the microbiology laboratory, where they study the biological activity of essential oils, micro and macro algae. They perform various microbiological analyses for including microbial, antioxidant and antibiofilm activity and try to find alternative sources to inhibit microorganisms and to extend the shelf life of agricultural products.

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