

## Original Research Article

<https://doi.org/10.20546/ijcmas.2017.612.254>

## Antimicrobial Characteristics of Essential Oil of the *Origanum vulgare* L.

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### ABSTRACT

#### Keywords

Essential oil, *Origanum vulgare*, *Staphylococcus aureus*, *Eseherichia coli*, *Pseudomosa auriginosa*, *Candida albicans*.

#### Article Info

##### Accepted:

17 October 2017

##### Available Online:

10 December 2017

Amount of the essential oil of the *Origanum vulgare* L. (*Lamiaceae* Lindl.) is In the phase of blossoming essential oil was obtained from the fresh mass 0,07-0,2% 1,4-2% and dry mass 0,2-0,7% of its surface part, light refraction rate is  $n_D^{20}$ -1.4980,  $D_{20}^{20}$ - 0,964, Acid number is 0,8-1,28; essence number is 7,6; after acetillation essence number became 54,88. The main components of oil are: timol – about 2,2-6,7%, bisyclic sesquiterpens – 12,5%, free spirits – 12,8-15,4%, heranilacetat – 2,63% and other substances. Antimicrobial properties of the essential oils of the species *O.vulgare* have been studied as well as it was ascertained that essaential oils of the can be used as antifungal means.

### Introduction

About 800 essential oil plants have been formed in the rich and various vegetation cover of Azerbaijan. As a continuation of the conducted experimental investigations essential oils have been obtained from the various bodies of *Lamiateae* Lindl. family in different years (Ibrahimov *et al.*, 1996; Gasymov, 2006; Mammadova *et al.*, 2011). Output rate of the essential oil of the *Origanum vulgare* which are representatives of shizocalis section was defined during all phases of the vegetation.

On medicinal purposes its upper part is used in the period of blossom. It cotains essential oil, carvacrol, independent spirits, tanines,

bitter substances, mineral salts, vitam in C, choline, flavonoids, tanning substances, geranilacetate *Origanum* calms the central nervous system, increases panceras secretion of digestion system as well as bronchial and sweet glands, accelerates peristaltics of guts, renders anesthesia and desodoration effects to them. It is used both as internal and external in the infusion and broth states. In folk medicine it is used at: inflammation of erysipelatous, mouth cavity, larynx, pharyngitis, tooth aches, furuncles, different types of skin eruptions, reumatism, cholecistit, stomach spasm, appetite absence, anti-cough, paralich and epylepsy. It is met in Azerbaijan around botanical and

geographical region of Small Caucasus, in Gekgel, Dashkesan, all regions of the Nakhichevan AR, Talysh as well as towards Shamakhi and Guba-Gusar of the Great Caucasus. *Origanum* L. (*Lamiaceae* Lindl.) in Azerbaijan flora, there is of 1 (*Origanum vulgare* L.) species. There are many essential oil in the leaf of complete.

Many new fields of the essential oils use have been ascertained. As the essential oils consist of compounds, i.e. set of bioactive substances it uniquely affects to human body physiologically, psychologically, curatively (Ibadullayeva *et al.*, 2007). Essential oils don't lose their quality and they continue remaining safe and effective even if they were conserved for a long period.

Accumulation dynamics of the essential oil in these plant were defined in different stages of ontogenesis and it was realised that it occurred during the florescence phase of the generative period most often. In the accumulation dynamics of the essential oil the synthesis runs weakly at first, maximum output of the essential oil occurs in the leaf; recurrent reduce is observed in the next phases.

Essential oils obtained of these species are used in making various canning products of food industry, in perfumery and cosmetics, as well as in medicine. Structure of the essential oils was composed of valuable components as: fenol, terpen, timol (Goryayev, 1952). Separate obtaining of these components is also possible in the production condition by their extraction out of the essential oil. Essential oil of *O. vulgare* is used in making toothpastes, antiseptic substances, as well as balsam and tinctures are used against weakness, in disease of nervous system and respiratory disease, anaemia, gastrointestinal disease, cholagogue, expectorant and other diseases. It is used as indispensable spicery in food industry. From the other hand it is

considered as valuable nectar. People use its top with blossom in fresh and dry states. Amount of vitamin C in the plant is 56mg/%.

## Materials and Methods

The investigated by us species are widely spread mostly in forests, bushy, forest glades, steppes, orchards and meadows of Azerbaijan as: *Origanum vulgare* L. in the low and middle belts of the Shahbuz (Nakhichevan Autonomous Republic), Shaki (The Big Caucasus) and Gedebeiy (The Small Caucasus).

The phenological observations were held on the base of Beydman Methods during the whole season (Beydman, 1974). Output rate of the essential oil was defined by the Ginsberg Method (Ginzberg, 1932).

Essential oils were defined by means of disk diffusion and purification series method applied against microbes.

## Experimental part

In the phase of blossoming essential oil was obtained from the fresh mass 0,07-0,2% 1,4-2% and dry mass 0,2-0,7% of its surface part, light refraction rate is  $n_D^{20}$ -1.4980,  $D_{20}^{20}$ -0,964. Essential oil of the plant is a grayish and yellow substance. It is dissoluble (1:7) in the 90% spirit. When increasing amount of essential oils in spirit its colour changes and grows turbid. Essential oil of *Origanum vulgare* L. is pleasant-smelled and has got a pritty bitter taste. Acid number is 0,8-1,28; essence number is 7,6; after acetillation essence number became 54,88. The main components of oil are: timol – about 2,2-6,7%, bisyclic sesquiterpens – 12,5%, free spirits – 12,8-15,4%, heranilacetat – 2,63% and other substances. Taking into account all of these essential oils obtained of the abovementioned plants have been microbiologically investigated.

The investigation was held in the Microbiology Department of the (AMU) Azerbaijan Medical University and in the Ethnobotany Laboratory of (IB ANAS) the Institute of Botany of the Azerbaijan National Academy of Sciences as a component a joint research works conducted according to the agreement on the scientific collaboration signed between AMU and IB of the ANAS.

Disk diffusion and purification series method were applied. E-coli have been taken as a test-culture. A suspension with 1 mgr microcell in 1ml has been made from a microorganism culture of a day (24 hours). Then the suspension was added into Petri vessel with Sabouraud's peptone agar in it as well this was equally spread onto medium surface. The rest fluid was sucked by a pipet and this vessel has being dried in a thermostate during 10-15 minutes. A sterile filter paper put the disks onto that surface wetting them by preparations plased it into a thermostate; the result has been registered after its cultivation in the thermostate for 18-24 hours at 37<sup>0</sup> C temperature. A sterile space of 20mm was obtained in the *Origanum vulgare*.

In the purification series method 5 sterile sample bottles were taken, 1ml substans was poured into the 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> bottles, 1mg abacterial liquid petrolatum was added into all sample bottles beginning from the 2<sup>nd</sup> one. Then 1ml mixture was taken out of the 2<sup>nd</sup> bottle was poured into the 3<sup>rd</sup> one, it was passed out of the 3<sup>rd</sup> into the 4<sup>th</sup> one, and out of the 4<sup>th</sup> into the 5<sup>th</sup> sample bottle; 1ml mixture from the 5<sup>th</sup> bottle was poured away. So, essential oils in the sample bottles got: in the 1<sup>st</sup> bottle – pure, i.e., as it was before; in the 2<sup>nd</sup> bottle – twice purified; in the 3<sup>rd</sup> one – 4 times purified; in the 4<sup>th</sup> one – 8 times purified; and in the 5<sup>th</sup> bottle – 16 times purified.

After the purification a drop of the microbe suspension was added into each sample bottle by means of a Paster pipette. Then, after the expositions for: 10 minutes, 20 minutes, 40 minutes, and 60 minutes sowing was conducted onto the located in the Petri vessel in each sample bottle. The results were registered after keeping the sowings in a thermostat of 37<sup>0</sup>C for 24 hours.

**Table.1** Effect of *Origanum vulgare* essential oils onto bacilli (*E. coli*)

Exposition duration	<i>Origanum vulgare</i>					vaseline (controle) oil				
	1	2	3	4	5	1	2	3	4	5
10 minutes	-	-	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
20 minutes	-	-	-	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
40 minutes	-	-	-	-	+	+	+	+	+	+
60 minutes	-	-	-	-	-	+	+	+	+	+

Notation conventions:

“+” – shows the growing

“-” – shows the absence of the growing

1 2 3 4 5 – are the sequence number of the vessel

**Table.2** Antimicrobial effect of newly synthesised essential oils

Test cultures	Exposition duration (in min.)	<i>Origanum vulgare</i>					Vaseline oil (control)				
		1	2	3	4	5	1	2	3	4	5
<i>E. coli</i>	10	-	-	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
	20	-	-	-	+	+	+	+	+	+	
	40	-	-	-	-	+	+	+	+	+	
	60	-	-	-	-	-	+	+	+	+	
<i>S. aureus</i>	10	-	-	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	
	20	-	-	-	-	+	+	+	+	+	
	40	-	-	-	-	+	+	+	+	+	
	60	-	-	-	-	-	+	+	+	+	
<i>P. aeruginosa</i>	10	-	-	-	+	+	+	+	+	+	
	20	-	-	-	+	+	+	+	+	+	
	40	-	-	-	-	+	+	+	+	+	
	60	-	-	-	-	+	+	+	+	+	
<i>Candida albica</i>	10	-	-	-	-	+	+	+	+	+	
	20	-	-	-	-	+	+	+	+	+	
	40	-	-	-	-	+	+	+	+	+	
	60	-	-	-	-	+	+	+	+	+	

Notation conventions:

“+” – shows the complete growing

“-” – shows the absence of the growing

1, 2, 3, 4, 5 – are the maintenance number of the vessel

*Origanum vulgare* out of the newly synthesised oils can be considered as active ones with antimicrobial property. So the 2<sup>nd</sup> bottle and the 4<sup>th</sup> bottle in sterile state killed bacilli at onse. The 2<sup>nd</sup> bottle – the purified form (4 times) killed bacilli in 20 minutes; and the 4<sup>th</sup> bottle effecting more actively killed *E. coli* in 20 minutes even when it was purified 8 times. Purification of *Origanum vulgare* for 16 times took life activities of the bacilli in an hour. The results are shown in the Table 1.

In order to study antibacterial and antifungal properties of the newly synthesised essential oils *Staphylococcus aurens* of gram positive bacteria as a test-culture, *Eseherichia coli* (bacilli) and *Pseudomosa auriginosa* (dark blue & green bacilluae pyogenic (hot) abscesses) of gram negative bacteria as well as *Candida albicans* that is leaven-shaped fungus as a representative of fungus were taken.

To study the antimicrob properties disk-diffusion and purification series methods were used. In the disk-diffusion method a suspension (posessing 1mGr cell in 1ml) was prepared of microorganism’s culture of a day. Then a little suspension was added into the Petri vessel with Sabouraud's peptone agar in it and it was equally spread onto the medium surface. The rest liquid was sucked by means of pipette and the vessel was dried in the thermostat for 10-15 minutes. Sterile filter paper disks were put on that surface wetting them by the preparations, then were placed into the thermostat; the result was registered after their cultivasion at 37<sup>0</sup>C temperature for 18-24 hours there. So a sterile zone of 20mm was origioned in the *Eseherichia coli* and dark blue and green bacilluae pyogenic (hot) abscesses around the disks wetted by *N.velutina* and *N.grosshemi*. A zone of 18mm was registered at *Candida 22* and stafilacoc. zone of 18mm was registered at *Candida 22* and stafilacoc *Origanum vulgare Eseherichia coli*

(bacilli) and *Pseudomosa auriginosa* (dark blue and green bacillae pyogenic (hot) abscesses). Also a sterile zone (vaseline saturated) was not met in control and 5 sterile vessels were taken from the purification series methods 1ml of the examined substance was flowed into the 1<sup>st</sup> and the 2<sup>nd</sup> bottles. 1ml of sterile vaseline was added into each vessel beginning from the 2<sup>nd</sup> one. Consequently, getting 1ml of mixture out of the 2<sup>nd</sup> bottle poured into the 3<sup>rd</sup> one, getting 1ml of mixture out of the 3<sup>rd</sup> into the 4<sup>th</sup> one, getting 1ml of mixture out of the 4<sup>th</sup> into the 5<sup>th</sup> one; 1ml of mixture was thrown away out of the 5<sup>th</sup> bottle. So essential oils in the sample bottles got: in the 1<sup>st</sup> bottle – pure, i.e as it was before; in the 2<sup>nd</sup> bottle – twice purified; in the 3<sup>rd</sup> one – 4 times purified; in the 4<sup>th</sup> one – 8 times purified; and in the 5<sup>th</sup> bottle – 16 times purified. So, after the purification a drop of the microbe suspension possessing 500mln microbe particles in 1ml solid was added into each sample bottle by means of a sterile Paster pipette. Then, after the expositions for: 10 minutes, 20 minutes, 40 minutes, and 60 minutes sowing was conducted onto the nourishing medium surface located in the Petri vessel in each sample bottle. The results were registered after keeping the sowings in a thermostat under 37<sup>o</sup>C for 24 hours (concerning to fungi they were registered after keeping them under temperature of 28<sup>o</sup>C for 48 hours). The obtained results were shown in the Table 2. As it is indicated in the Table 2 this characteristics seems enough at all essential oils which antimicrobial effect were investigated. *Origanum vulgare* have rendered more effective antimicrobial effect among them. Thereby in the case of purification of *Origanum vulgare* by means of vaseline oil for 4 times *Escherichia coli* (bacilli) and *Pseudomosa auriginosa* were killed in 20 minutes, but in the case of its purification for 8 times life activity of those bacteria was stopped in 40 minutes. Only after its purification for 16 times

*Origanum vulgare* effected to the bacilli in an hour. *Candida albicans* effected onto *Origanum vulgare* most actively. Its purified form for 8 times could stop development of leaven-shaped fungus in 10 minutes.

It is realised from the obtained results according to antimicrobial effect *Origanum vulgare* are considered as the most active preparations. That is why they can be recommended as antimicrobial substance.

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### How to cite this article:

Agayeva, N.A., S.R. Rafiyeva, G.Sh. Shiraliyeva and Ibadullayeva, S.J. 2017. Antimicrobe Characteristics of Essential Oil of the *Origanum vulgare* L. *Int.J.Curr.Microbiol.App.Sci*. 6(12): 2214-2218. doi: <https://doi.org/10.20546/ijemas.2017.612.254>