



BOOK of **ABSTRACTS**

4th INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON PLANT BIOLOGY (23rd SPPS Meeting)



**6-8 OCTOBER 2022
BELGRADE**

Serbian Plant Physiology Society

**Institute for Biological Research “Siniša Stanković”
National Institute of Republic of Serbia, University of Belgrade**

Faculty of Biology, University of Belgrade

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Belgrade, 2022

CIP - Каталогizacija u publikaciji - Narodna biblioteka Srbije, Beograd

581 (048)

INTERNATIONAL Conference on Plant Biology (4 ; 2022 ; Belgrade)

Book of Abstracts / 4th International Conference on Plant Biology [and] 23rd SPPS Meeting, 6-8 October 2022, Belgrade ; [organized by] Serbian Plant Physiology Society [and] Institute for Biological Research "Siniša Stanković", University of Belgrade [and] Faculty of Biology, University of Belgrade ; [editor Milica Milutinović]. - Belgrade : Serbian Plant Physiology Society : University, Institute for Biological Research "Siniša Stanković" : University, Faculty of Biology, 2022 (Zemun : Alta Nova). - 169 str. : ilustr. ; 24 cm

Tiraž 30. - Registar.

ISBN 978-86-912591-6-7 (SPPS)

1. Društvo za fiziologiju biljaka Srbije. Sastanak (23 ; 2022 ; Beograd)

a) Ботаника - Апстракти

COBISS.SR-ID 74996233

4th International Conference on Plant Biology
(23rd SPPS Meeting)
6-8 October, Belgrade

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Publishers

Serbian Plant Physiology Society
Institute for Biological Research "Siniša Stanković" – National Institute of Republic of Serbia,
University of Belgrade
Faculty of Biology, University of Belgrade

Editor

Milica Milutinović

Graphic design

Dejan Matekalo

Prepress

Marija G. Gray

Printed by

Alta Nova, Zemun

Print run

30 pcs

Belgrade, 2022

POSTER PRESENTATIONS

Sesquiterpene lactones content in lettuce cultivars affected by microbiological fertilisers and seasons

PP1-1

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The principal sesquiterpene lactones (lactucin, lactucopicrin, and its dihydro forms), known as contributors to bitter taste, were measured in green and red coloured lettuce using Ultra-performance liquid chromatography. Six lettuce cultivars ('Kiribati', 'Murai', 'Aquino', 'Gaugin', 'Aleppo' and 'Carmesi') were grown in a greenhouse experiment using microbiological fertilisers (EM Aktiv, Vital Tricho, and their combination) during three successive growing seasons (autumn, winter, and spring). The major sesquiterpene lactone was lactucopicrin with the highest level found in cultivar 'Carmesi' (0.65 mg/g dry weight) in autumn with the combination of fertilisers. The concentrations of lactucin, dihydrolactucin and dihydrolactucopicrin ranged from 0.001-0.085, 0.003-0.015, and 0.001-0.056 mg/g dry weight, respectively, and were not found in all lettuce samples. Generally, red cultivars showed higher content of lactones compared to green. Application of Vital Tricho and the combination of fertilisers led to an increased level of lactucopicrin, in some cultivars, in the range of 77-800% compared to unfertilised plants. Higher levels of lactucopicrin were found in the autumn trial compared to spring and winter. The present study suggests that genotype, fertilisers and season jointly affected the quantity of sesquiterpene lactones with emphasis on Vital Tricho, and/or the combination of fertilisers.

Keywords: Lactucopicrin, Lettuce, Microbiological fertiliser, Season, Sesquiterpene lactones

Acknowledgment: The authors are grateful to the company Iceberg Salat Centar, Belgrade, Serbia, for technical support during experiments. Also, this work was supported by the Serbian Ministry of Education, Science and Technological Development under Contracts No. 451-03-68/2022-14/200053 and 451-03-68/2022-14/200216.