

PHYTOCHEMICAL STUDY OF METHANOL EXTRACT OF *H. CHEIRIFOLIA* WILD IN BOUTALEB REGION.

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Introduction and Objectives:

The genus *Hertia*, which belongs to the Asteraceae family, contains 12 species distributed all over South and North Africa and Southwest Asia. In Algeria, we found only the species *Hertia cheirifolia* L. It is endemic to both Tunisia and Algeria. It grows in large clumps.

Traditionally in Boutaleb, local people use the infusion of vegetative part (leaves + stems) from *H. cheirifolia* to reduce treatment of the pain of stomach and hyperglycemia. But there is no scientific reference in the literature for such use. Previous studies showed that *H. cheirifolia* have important chemicals and biological activities such as spasmolytic, anti-inflammatory and acaricidal effects.

The aim of this work is to evaluate the antioxidant activity of Methanol extract from the aerial part of *Hertia cheirifolia* L.

Methodology:

Chemical determinations were carried out using spectrophotometric methods, whereas antioxidant activity was assessed using DPPH scavenging activity Kelen et Tepe, 2008.

Results and Discussion:

The total polyphenols and flavonoids content in the methanolic maceration extract were 60,18 mg EAG/g of extract and 29,85 mg QE/g, respectively. It seems that the *Hertia cheirifolia* L. methanolic maceration extract has an interesting radical and reducing antioxidant activity total antioxidant capacity in a dose-dependent manner. The results showed that our extract has a very important radical scavenging effect against DPPH radical compared to BHT as a standard.

Conclusion:

Based on the present study, it can be concluded that the plant *Hertia cheirifolia* L. is a promising source of natural antioxidants that presents a therapeutic interest.

Key words: *Hertia cheirifolia* L, Boutaleb, methanol extract. Antioxydant activity.

Bibliographic references

1. Kelen M., Tepe B. (2008). Chemical composition antioxydant and antimicrobial properties of the essential oils of three *Salvia* species from Turkish flora, *Bioresour. Technol.*, 99: 4096-4104

