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Essential Oil Compositions of Subspecies of *Scutellaria Brevibracteata* Stapf from Turkey

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Scutellaria L., with nearly 400 species, is one of the largest genera of the family Lamiaceae. In the last taxonomic treatment conducted by the first author, the genus *Scutellaria* has been evaluated as a genus with 33 taxa consisting of 25 species, 1 hybrid species and 13 subspecies in the Flora of Turkey. Turkish *Scutellaria* species are classified under three sections: section *Scutellaria*, section *Salviifoliae* and section *Lupulinaria*. We have here studied essential oil composition of the subspecies of *S. brevibracteata* belonging to the section *Scutellaria*. In the Anatolian traditional medicine, there is no more information on usage of *Scutellaria* except for the usage for constipation, hemostatic, tonic and wound healing, due to lack of its aromatic odour.

Dried the aerial parts of three subspecies of *Scutellaria brevibracteata* Stapf from Turkey were hydrodistilled. The chemical compositions of the essential oils obtained by hydrodistillation were analyzed by gas chromatography (GC) and gas chromatography/mass spectrometry (GC/MS), simultaneously. The subspecies of *S. brevibracteata* investigated here as follows: *S. brevibracteata* Stapf subsp. *brevibracteata*, *S. brevibracteata* Stapf subsp. *subvelutina* (Rech.f.) Greuter & Burdet and *S. brevibracteata* Stapf subsp. *pannosula* (Rech.f.) Greuter & Burdet.

According to the results of analyzing, β -caryophyllene (22.8%) and caryophyllene oxide (16.0%) were determined as the main components in *S. brevibractetata* subsp. *brevibractetata* oil. In *S. brevibractetata* subsp. *subvelutina* oil, β -caryophyllene (28.3%), linalool (12.4%), hexadecanoic acid (10.8%) were found as major constituents. β -caryophyllene (36.4%), a-cadinol (9.8%), d-cadinene (7.0%) linalool (5.3%) were identified as major component in the oils of *S. brevibractetata* subsp. *pannosula*.

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