

RESEARCH ARTICLE

## Chemical composition of *Artemisia squamata* L. essential oil

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### Abstract

The genus *Artemisia* L. (Apiaceae) is represented in Turkey by 485 species and altogether 511 taxa. The rate of species endemism in Turkey is 37.7%. The plant material was collected from the province of Kahramanmaraş, Turkey. The essential oils from fruits and aerial parts were obtained by hydrodistillation using a Clevenger type apparatus. Chemical compositions of the oils were analysed using the GC-FID and GC-MS techniques. The main components of fruits oil were characterized as 1-octadecanol (16.4%), hexadecanoic acid (16.2%), 1-hexadecanol (6.0%), spathulenol (5.5%), caryophyllene oxide (5.0%), bicyclogermacrene (4.1%) and dillapiol (3.0%). Major compounds of the oil from aerial parts were determined as  $\alpha$ -pinene (39.0%), sabinene (36.0%) and terpinen-4-ol (3.2%).

**Keywords:** *Artemisia squamata*, essential oil, GC-FID, GC-MS.

### Introduction

The family Apiaceae is represented by 101 genera and 485 species (511 taxa) in Turkey. The endemism rate on species basis is 37.3% (Davis, 1972; 1988). Apiaceae family is rich in commercial essential oils and has wide traditional use. Essential oils of many species belonging to Apiaceae family have been investigated (Baser and Kirimer, 2014).

*Artemisia squamata* L. is the only representative species of the genus *Artemisia* L. (Apiaceae) (Davis, 1972). *A. squamata* is known and used locally as 'Karabenek'. An infusion of *A. squamata* leaves is internally used as antihypertensive in folk medicine (Bulut et al., 2014). Likewise, an infusion of *A. squamata* seeds is internally used for indigestion (Baydoun et al., 2015; Arnold et al., 2015). Extracts of the aerial parts of *A. squamata* were previously investigated for antioxidant and enzyme (cholinesterase, butyrylcholinesterase, tyrosinase,  $\alpha$ -amylase,  $\alpha$ -glucosidase) inhibitory activities (Zengin et al., 2015; Orhan et al., 2016).

There is not enough study on essential oil composition of *A. squamata*. In this study, the composition of essential oil of fruits and aerial parts of *Artemisia squamata* collected from province of Kahramanmaraş, Turkey was investigated.

### Materials and Methods

#### Plant material

*Artemisia squamata* was collected from Kahramanmaraş in Turkey on 12 June 2015. The voucher specimen has been deposited at the Herbarium in Selçuk University (KNYA), Konya, Turkey (Voucher specimen no: A. Duran 10294).

The fruits and aerial parts of *A. squamata* were hydrodistilled for 3 hours with the Clevenger apparatus. Essential oils of fruits and aerial parts were obtained trace amounts, trapped in *n*-hexane. Oil yields were less than 0.1%. The essential oil samples were kept at 4°C until chemical composition analysis.

### GC-FID and GC-MS analyses

GC-FID and GC-MS analytical conditions were performed according to Öztürk et al. (2020). GC-MS chromatograms of essential oil of aerial parts and fruits of *A. squamata* are given Figure 1 and Figure 2. GC analysis results are reported in Table 1.

### Results and Discussion

As a result of GC-FID and GC-MS analyses, the main compounds of the fruits oil were identified as 1-octadecanol (16.4%), hexadecanoic acid (16.2%), 1-hexadecanol (6.0%), spathulenol (5.5%), caryophyllene oxide (5.0%), bicyclogermacrene (4.1%) and dillapiol (3.0%). Forty-three compounds were determined constituting 91.9% of the total oil of the fruits. Diterpenes (30.0%) were the main compounds group of the oil of the fruits, followed by fatty acid (21.9%), oxygenated monoterpenes (12.9%), oxygenated sesquiterpenes (12.3%), sesquiterpene hydrocarbons (10.9%) and monoterpene hydrocarbons (3.2%). Major compounds of the oil from aerial parts were determined as  $\alpha$ -pinene (39.0%), sabinene (36.0%) and terpinen-4-ol (3.2%). Thirty-six components were detected comprising 97.3% of the essential oil of the aerial parts. Monoterpene hydrocarbons (87.6%) were the major group of components of the aerial parts oil, followed by oxygenated monoterpenes (7.9%) and others components (1.8%).

Previously, only two studies were reported on the essential oil chemistry, namely; Habibi et al. (2006) found main components as  $\alpha$ -pinene (79.9%), camphene (4.7%),  $\delta$ -3-carene (3.2%),  $\beta$ -pinene (3.0%) and limonene (2.4%) from the aerial parts of *A. squamata* collected from Iran. Twenty-five constituents were identified, comprising 99.6% of the total oil (Habibi et al., 2006). Bağcı and Dogan (2015) characterized  $\alpha$ -pinene (57.8%), camphene (9.0%), myrcene (5.7%),  $\delta$ -3-carene (5.3%) and limonene (5.3%) as major components of the oil from aerial parts of *A. squamata* from Elazığ, Turkey. Fifty-three compounds constituting 99.7% of the essential oil of *A. squamata* were determined (Bağcı and Dogan, 2015).

In this study, essential oil composition of the fruits and aerial parts of *A. squamata* were analysed. According to literature reviews, this is the first study of the essential oil of *A. squamata* fruits with GC-FID and GC-MS analysis.

Table 1. Essential oil composition of the fruits and the aerial parts of *Artemisia squamata* L.

RRI	Constituent	A (%)	B (%)
1014	Tricyclene	0.2	-
1032	$\alpha$ -Pinene	38.6	0.2
1035	$\alpha$ -Thujene	0.8	-
1076	Camphene	3.8	-
1118	$\beta$ -Pinene	0.3	-
1132	Sabinene	35.5	0.7
1135	Thuja-2,4(10)-diene	0.7	-
1159	$\delta$ -3-Carene	0.3	-
1174	Myrcene	0.8	-
1188	$\alpha$ -Terpinene	1.3	0.2
1203	Limonene	0.8	-
1213	$\beta$ -Phellandrene	0.1	-

1215	<i>p</i> -Mentha-1,3,6-triene	0.1	-
1255	$\gamma$ -Terpinene	2.6	1.2
1280	<i>p</i> -Cymene	1.1	0.5
1290	Terpinolene	0.6	0.4
1499	$\alpha$ -Campholene aldehyde	0.8	1.8
1586	Pinocarvone	0.6	0.2
1590	Bornyl acetate	-	0.4
1611	Terpinen-4-ol	3.2	3.8
1612	$\beta$ -Caryophyllene	0.1	1.1
1642	Thuj-3-en-10-al	0.2	tr
1648	Myrtenal	0.5	0.9
1667	<i>cis</i> -Verbenol	0.1	-
1670	<i>trans</i> -Pinocarveol	0.3	-
1690	<i>trans</i> -Verbenol	-	2.5
1704	$\gamma$ -Curcumene	-	0.6
1706	$\alpha$ -Terpineol	0.1	-
1725	Verbenone	0.3	0.3
1726	Germacrene D	-	0.5
1744	Phellandral	1.1	-
1751	Bicyclogermacrene	-	4.1
1772	$\delta$ -Cadinene	-	1.0
1786	<i>ar</i> -Curcumene	0.1	2.6
1802	Cuminaldehyde	0.2	0.9
1804	Myrtenol	0.1	0.5
1814	<i>p</i> -Mentha-1,5-dien-7-ol	0.2	-
1849	Cuparene	-	1.0
2008	Caryophyllene oxide	0.3	4.5
2029	Perilla alcohol	-	1.6
2073	<i>p</i> -Mentha-1,4-dien-7-ol	0.2	-
2131	Hexahydro farnesyl acetone	-	0.9
2144	Spathulenol	tr	5.5
2179	1-Tetradecanol	-	0.7
2187	<i>T</i> -Cadinol	-	tr
2209	<i>T</i> -Muurolol	-	0.3
2247	<i>trans</i> - $\alpha$ -Bergamotol	-	0.6
2255	$\alpha$ -Cadinol	-	1.4
2384	Dillapiol	tr	2.6
2384	1-Hexadecanol	-	5.9
2500	Pentacosane	-	0.6
2503	Dodecanoic acid	-	0.6
2607	1-Octadecanol	-	16.4
2622	Phytol	-	1.0
2670	Tetradecanoic acid	-	2.8
2700	Heptacosane	-	2.6
2822	Pentadecanoic acid	-	2.3
2900	Nonacosane	-	tr
2931	Hexadecanoic acid	1.3	16.2
<b>Total</b>		<b>97.3</b>	<b>91.9</b>

RRI Relative retention indices calculated against *n*-alkanes; % calculated from FID data; tr Trace (< 0.1%); A: Aerial parts; B: Fruits

Figure 1. GC-MS total ion chromatogram of essential oil of aerial parts of *Artemisia squamata* L.

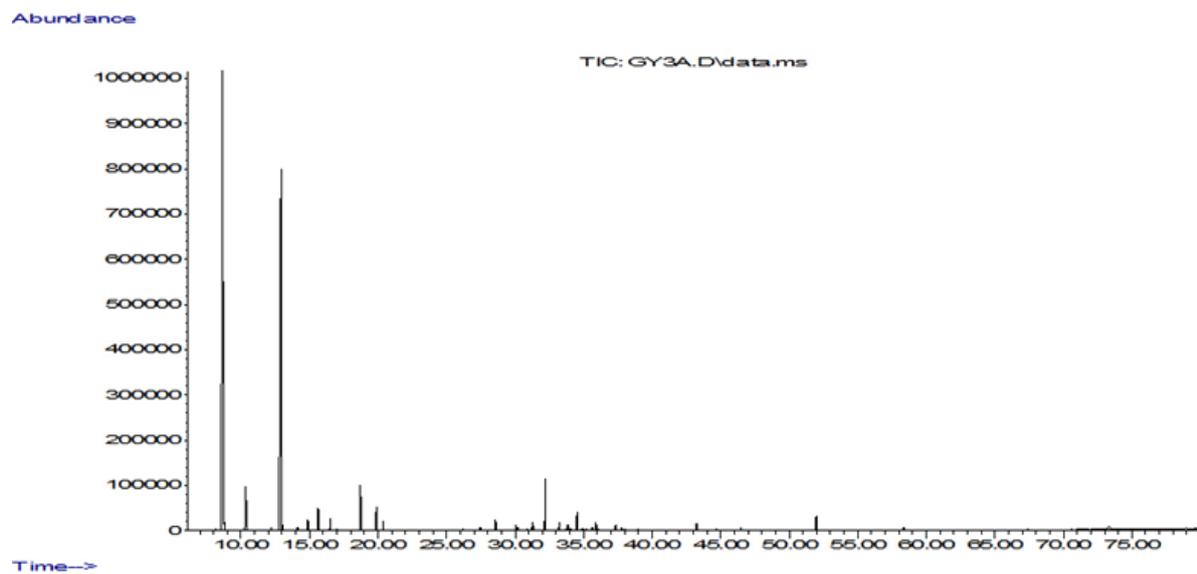
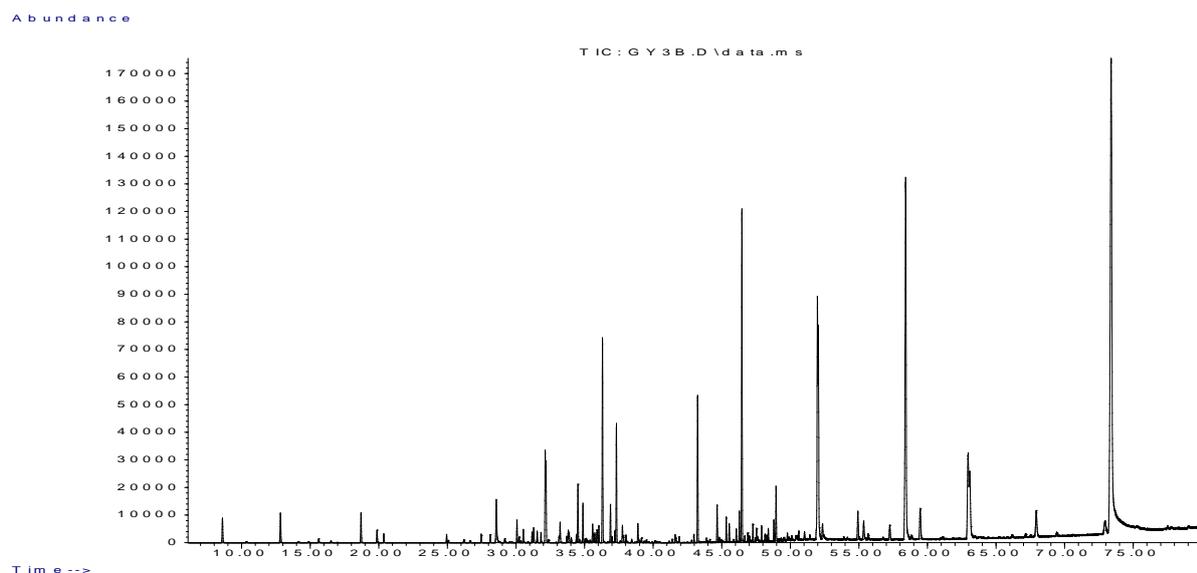


Figure 2. GC-MS total ion chromatogram of essential oil of fruits of *Artemisia squamata* L.



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