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TANSHINONE COMPOSITIONS IN WILD GROWING *SALVIA XANTOCHEILLA* BOISS. OF IRAN

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Genus *Salvia* is one of the largest members of the Labiatae family, comprising more than 900 species, many of them collected from the wild and a few of them cultivated [1]. Over 58 species of the genus *Salvia* are found in Iran, 17 of which are endemic [2]. It has been reported that tanshinones are the most abundant and important bioactive compounds in the roots some of *Salvia* species [3]. Tanshinones, abietane-type norditerpenoidquinones, have been shown to exhibit diverse pharmacological activities, including, anti-platelet, cardioprotective, antibacterial, antioxidant, antidiabetes, anti-cancerand anti-inflammatory effects [3,4]. This study was focused on identification and determination of some tanshinones in the extracts of roots of *S.xantocheila* present in Iranian flora by HPLC and LC-MS methods. Based on our results, there were tanshinone I, tanshinone IIA and cryptotanshinone in the roots of *S.xantocheila*. This is the first report about tanshinone composition of extract of *S. xanthocheila* and also the first report of these compositions in Iranian *Salvia* species. The natural occurrence of these compounds can be conclusive for the chemotaxonomic characterisation of this genus. In conclusion, some Iranian *Salvia* species could be introduced as new potent sources of rosmarinic acid and its derivatives. In the end, the roots of *S. xantocheila* could be introduced as new potent sources of tanshinone and its derivatives and also potent natural sources for medicinal, food and industrial purposes.

References

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