



RESEARCH OF BIOACTIVE COMPOUNDS FROM FOUR DIFFERENT BRANDS OF ERVA-MATE

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INTRODUCTION

Erva-mate (*Ilex paraguariensis*) is a species native to South America and found in a large quantity in southern Brazil. In its chemical composition stand out bioactive compounds such as phenols and tannins. These compounds have antioxidants properties which protect the body against oxidative damage. Thus, aiming at the importance of these compounds, the objective of the present work is to analyze the qualitative presence of tannins and the quantitative presence of phenols using four different brands of Erva-mate (A, B, C and D).

MATERIAL AND METHODS

Four different brands of Erva-mate (A, B, C and D) were used for evaluation. Solutions were prepared and then qualitatively compared the presence of tannins bioactive compounds according to the methodology described by (SBF, 2009) and the total phenols evaluation, according to the methodology described by (SOMENSI, 2015).

RESULTS

It was possible to evaluate the presence of tannins in the four types of Erva-mate, both hydrolyzed and condensed. Only the "A" Erva-mate presented less precipitate. The

presence of phenols was also seen in the different types of Erva-mate. The quantitative result determined a higher quantity of phenols in the "A" Erva-mate comparing to the other types of Erva-mate.

CONCLUSIONS

Through this study, it was possible to conclude that the four different brands of Erva-mate analyzed have considerable quantity of phenols and tannins. Thus, the presence of these bioactive compounds in the Erva-mate helps in the neutralization of free radicals, resulting in great benefits to health.

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