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ABSTRACTS APSTRAKTI

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Comparison of phenolic profiles of *Satureja kitaibelii* Wierzb. ex Heuff. and *Satureja montana* L. (Lamiaceae)

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Satureja kitaibelii Wierzb. ex Heuff. (Rtanj tea) has distinct morphology and distribution which separate it from highly polymorphic *S. montana* L. In this work, we investigated phenolic composition of *S. kitaibelii* and compared it to that of *S. montana*. Flowering aerial parts of four *S. kitaibelii* samples were collected in Serbia and Bulgaria and one commercial sample of Rtanj tea was obtained from Serbia. Three samples of *S. montana* were collected in North Macedonia and Serbia and the fourth one was cultivated sample. Herbs were extracted with 50% ethanol. Dry extract solutions were analyzed by liquid chromatography with UV and MS detection. Rosmarinic acid (RA) and clinopodic acid O (CAO) were quantified using RA as the external standard. All extracts were characterized by presence of phenolic acids, RA (16.5-47.9 mg/g) and CAO (1.6-29.3 mg/g, calculated as RA), and flavonoids. The extracts of *S. kitaibelii* distinguished by high contents of both RA and CAO, which were present in similar quantities within each extract. On the other hand, extracts of *S. montana* contained at least 3 times less CAO than RA. The obtained results further confirm distinct properties of *S. kitaibelii* and give additional arguments to its status as a separate species.