Composition and biological activity of the essential oil from leaves of *Plinia cerrocampanensis*, a new source of α-bisabolol

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**ARTICLE INFO**

Article history:
Received 28 July 2009
Received in revised form 28 October 2009
Accepted 5 November 2009
Available online 15 December 2009

Keywords:
*Plinia cerrocampanensis*
Essential oil
α-Bisabolol
Antimicrobial activity
*Aedes aegypti*

**ABSTRACT**

The essential oil from fresh leaves of *Plinia cerrocampanensis* Barrie (Myrtaceae), obtained by hydrodistillation, was analysed by GC–FID and GC–MS. Forty components, representing more than 91% of the oil, were identified. Oxygenated sesquiterpenes represented the main fraction with α-bisabolol (42.8%) as the major constituent, making this plant a new and good source of this substance.

Biological activity of the essential oil was evaluated against several bacterial and fungal strains as well as larvae from *Aedes aegypti*. The highest activity was found against *Staphylococcus aureus*, *Pseudomonas aeruginosa*, *Microsporum gypseum*, *Trichophyton mentagrophytes* and *Trichophyton rubrum* with MIC values from 32 to 125 μg/ml. The essential oil also showed potent inhibitory and bactericidal activities against three *H. pylori* strains, with MIC and MBC values of 62.5 μg/ml, and caused 100% mortality of *A. aegypti* larvae at a concentration of 500 μg/ml.