

Supporting Information

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Chemical Characterization and Acetylcholinesterase Inhibition Potential of Volatile Components of Aerial Parts of *Pluchea lanceolata* (DC.) Oliv. & Hiern

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1. Essential oil extraction by hydrodistillation

The aerial parts of fresh plants were subjected to hydrodistillation in a Clevenger type apparatus (750 g each) for 5 hrs. The distillate was saturated with NaCl and the oil was extracted with *n*-hexane and dichloromethane. The solvent phase was then dried over anhydrous Na₂SO₄ and then the solvent distilled off at 35°C under vacuum using rotary vacuum evaporator (Buchi, Switzerland). The oil yield of plant material was 0.05% (v/w, fresh wt basis). The oil samples were stored at -20°C until analysis.

2. Gas Chromatography (GC-FID) and gas chromatography-mass spectrometry (GC-MS) analysis

The quantitative and qualitative analyses of the essential oils were performed by capillary GC and GC/MS, respectively. A PerkinElmer Autosystem XL gas chromatograph with flame ionization detector (GC-FID) was used, system fitted with an EQUITY-5 [bonded: poly (5% diphenyl/95% dimethylsiloxane), 60 m x 0.32 mm, film thickness 0.25µm, SUPELCO, USA). The column temperature ranged from 70-250°C, at 3°C/min and 250-320°C, at 6°C/min, with a final hold time of 5 min, using H₂ as carrier gas at 10 psi constant pressure, a split ratio of 1:50, an injection size of 0.03 µL and injector and detector (FID) temperatures of 280°C and 300°C, respectively. The percentage compositions were obtained from electronic integration measurements using flame ionization detection without taking into account relative response factors.

The sample was analyzed by GC-MS/ PerkinElmer turbomass quadrupole mass spectrometer (GC-MS) operating at 70 eV with a mass range of *m/z* 40-450 using bonded poly(5% diphenyl/95% dimethyl siloxane (EQUITY-5, 60 m x 0.32 mm, film thickness 0.25 µm, SUPELCO, USA) column.. The column temperature of 70-300°C was programmed at a rate of 3.0°C /min, with a hold time of 10 min. The oven temperature program was the same in as in GC while the injector temperature was 270°C, transfer line and ion source temperatures were 300°C, injection size 0.03µL neat, split ratio 1:50 using He as carrier gas at 10 psi constant pressure. The identification of the compounds was achieved on the basis of retention time, Kovats Indexes, literature reported retention index using a homologous series of *n*-alkanes (C₈-C₂₅ hydrocarbons, Polyscience Corp. Niles IL), co-injection with standards (Sigma Aldrich), mass spectra library search (NIST, Wiley and Nbs), and by comparing with the mass spectral literature data.

3. NMR spectroscopy

¹H NMR and ¹³CNMR spectral analysis was performed with 300 MHz NMR (Avance, Bruker, Switzerland) equipped with a 5 mm probe, in CDCl₃ with reference to tetramethyl silane (TMS) as internal standard. ¹H NMR spectra of the *Pluchea lanceolata* essential oil (Figure 1S) was recorded with the following parameters: pulse width, 6.7 µs (flip angle 30°); acquisition time, 5.30s for 65K data table; relaxation delay D1: 3.5 s; spectral width (SW) of 6172 Hz (20 ppm); digital resolution of 0.09 Hz/pt. The number of accumulated scans was 20 (around 100 mg of the oil sample in 500µL of CDCl₃). ¹³CNMR spectra of the *P. lanceolata* essential oil (Figure 1S) was recorded with the following parameters: pulse width, 11.5µs (flip angle 30°); acquisition time, 1.82s for 65K data table with a spectral width of 17985 Hz (238ppm); digital resolution, 0.27 Hz/pt. The number of accumulated scans was 7168 (around 100 mg of the oil sample in 500µL of CDCl₃).

The whole essential oil was used for NMR analyses without any prior fractionation, following the previous methodology [1]. The identification was based on comparison of the signals in the oil spectrum with those of reference spectra compiled (Figure 2S), in the laboratory spectral library, with

the help of laboratory-made database (SDBS and ChemDraw Ultra 8.0). Compounds were identified considering three parameters viz. number of identified carbons, number of overlaying of signals, and difference of chemical shift of each resonance in the mixture and in the reference spectra.

4. *Ex-vivo* cholinesterase inhibitory activity of the essential oil in the mouse brain homogenate

Male Swiss albino mice (4 in no) of 20g body weight were taken for the study. The protocol of the present study was approved by the Institutional animal ethics committee. The animals were then sacrificed by cerebral dislocation and the frontal cortices were dissected out and kept at -80°C until use. Estimation of cholinesterase activity was performed on the basis of the colorimetric method as described earlier [2-4]. Briefly, the frozen cortex was weighed and homogenized in 10-times volume of 0.1M phosphate buffer (pH 7.4) containing 1% Triton-X-100. After centrifugation at 15,000g at 4°C for 20 min, the clear supernatant was collected and served as the enzyme source. Protein content of the homogenate was estimated by Lowry's method [5]. Cholinesterase inhibitory activity of the essential oils were carried out following a pre-incubation for 30 min of the tissue homogenate with the essential oils serially two fold diluted in 20% cremophore[®]EL in distilled water. Vehicle control samples were treated with 20% cremophore[®]EL in distilled water and physostigmine was used as positive control. Briefly, 3 μL of the drug solution/vehicle/serially diluted oil sample was added to 50 μL of tissue homogenate in a 96-well flat bottom microtitre plate and incubated for 30 mins at 37°C . A parallel set of experiment was carried out in triplicate to estimate the basal cholinesterase activity wherein brain tissue homogenate received no treatment before enzyme assay. The reaction was started by adding 20 μL of 10mM 5,5'-dithiobis-(2-nitrobenzoic acid), 20 μL of 30mM acetylthiocholine, and 160 μL of phosphate buffer. The spectrophotometric absorption at 405nm during a 3-min incubation period at 25°C was quantitatively measured using a microplate reader (Spectramax; Molecular Devices, USA) and expressed as nmol ACh hydrolyzed/min/mg tissue.

5. Statistical analysis

Unless otherwise indicated, all determinations were conducted in triplicate, and results were presented as the mean \pm standard deviation (SD). The statistical analysis was performed using GraphPad Prism version 4.0 for Windows (GraphPad Software, San Diego, CA, USA).

Table S1 : Major volatile composition of Essential oil of *Pluchea* species.

Species	Origin/	Parts	Major component	References
<i>P. carolinensis</i>	Western Cuba	Flower	Selin-11-en-4 α -ol,	[6]
<i>P. quitoc</i>	South of Brazil	Leaves	Sesquilandulyl acetate, sesquilandulol and α -gurjunene	[7]
	Brazil	Leaves	δ -Cadinene, 1,8-cineole	[8]
<i>P. sagittalis</i>	Argentina	Leaves and stem	Camphor, salicylic acid, m-cresol, eugenol and methyleugenol	[9]
	Brazil	Aerial	α -Pinene, β -pinene, limonene, 1,8-cineole, isomenthon	[10]
	Argentina	Aerial	α -Pinene, camphene, β -pinene, d-limonene, 1,8-cineole, p-cymene, linalool, camphor, bornyl acetate, caryophyllene, α -terpineol, borneol, citronellol, geranyl acetate and geraniol	[11]
	Argentina	Aerial	Caryophyllene, α -humulene	[12]
	Argentina	Aerial	α -Pinene, camphene, β -pinene, d-limonene, 1,8-cineole, p-cimene, linalool, l-camphor, bornyl acetate, caryophyllene, α -terpineol, borneol, and geranyl acetate	[13]
	Argentina,	Aerial	α -Pinene, camphene, cineol, p-cymene, linalol, l-camphor, α -terpineol, borneol, caryophyllene, and humulene	[14]
	Argentina	Aerial	d-Camphene, p-cymene, d-camphor, and sesquiterpenes	[15]
<i>P. lanceolata</i>	India	Aerial	Linalool, α -terpineol, linalylacetate, α -copaene, <i>trans</i> -caryophyllene, epicubebol, <i>trans</i> - α -bergamotene, spathulenol, 1,6-dimethyl-4-(1-methylethyl)	present study

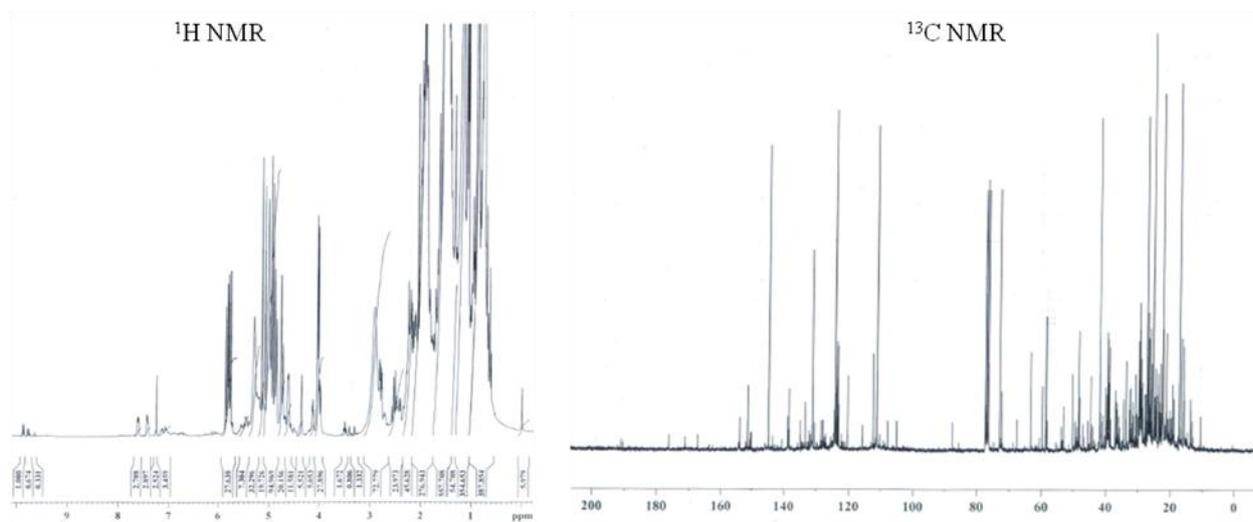
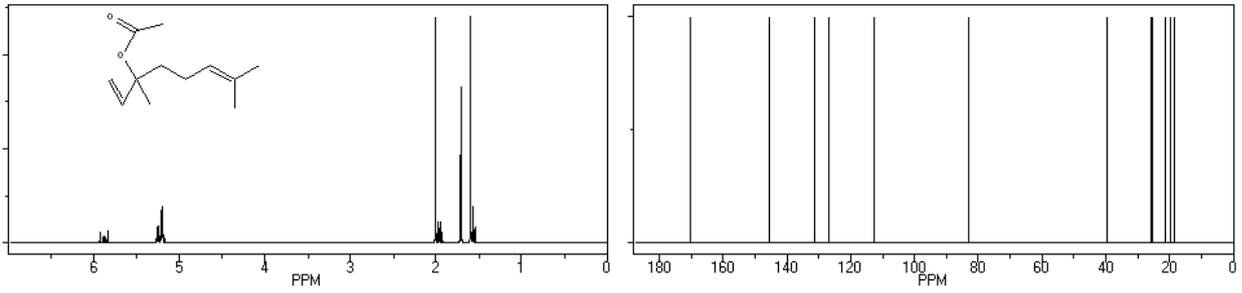
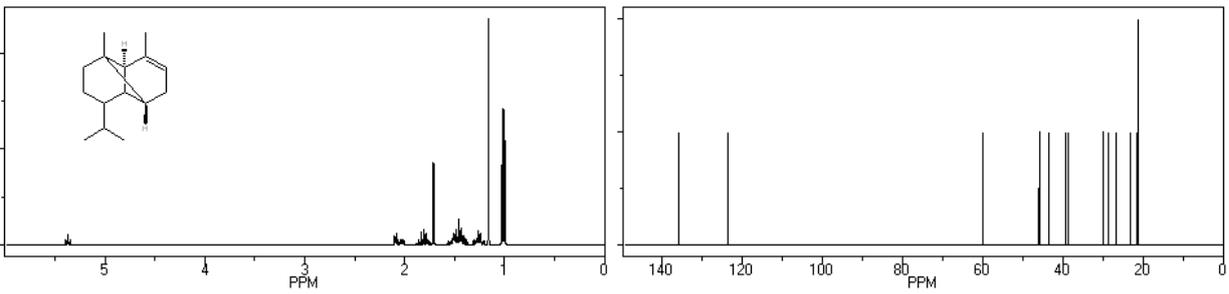


Figure 1S : A representative ^1H and ^{13}C NMR spectra of essential oil of *P. lanceolata*.

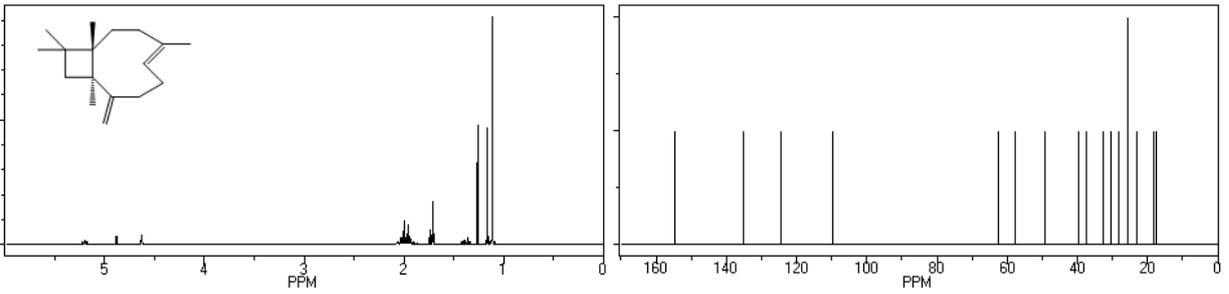
Linalylacetate



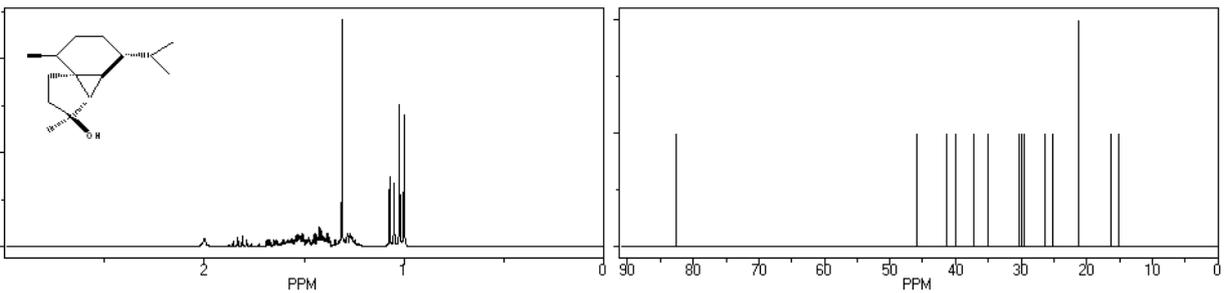
Alpha-copaene



Trans caryophyllene



Epi-cubebol



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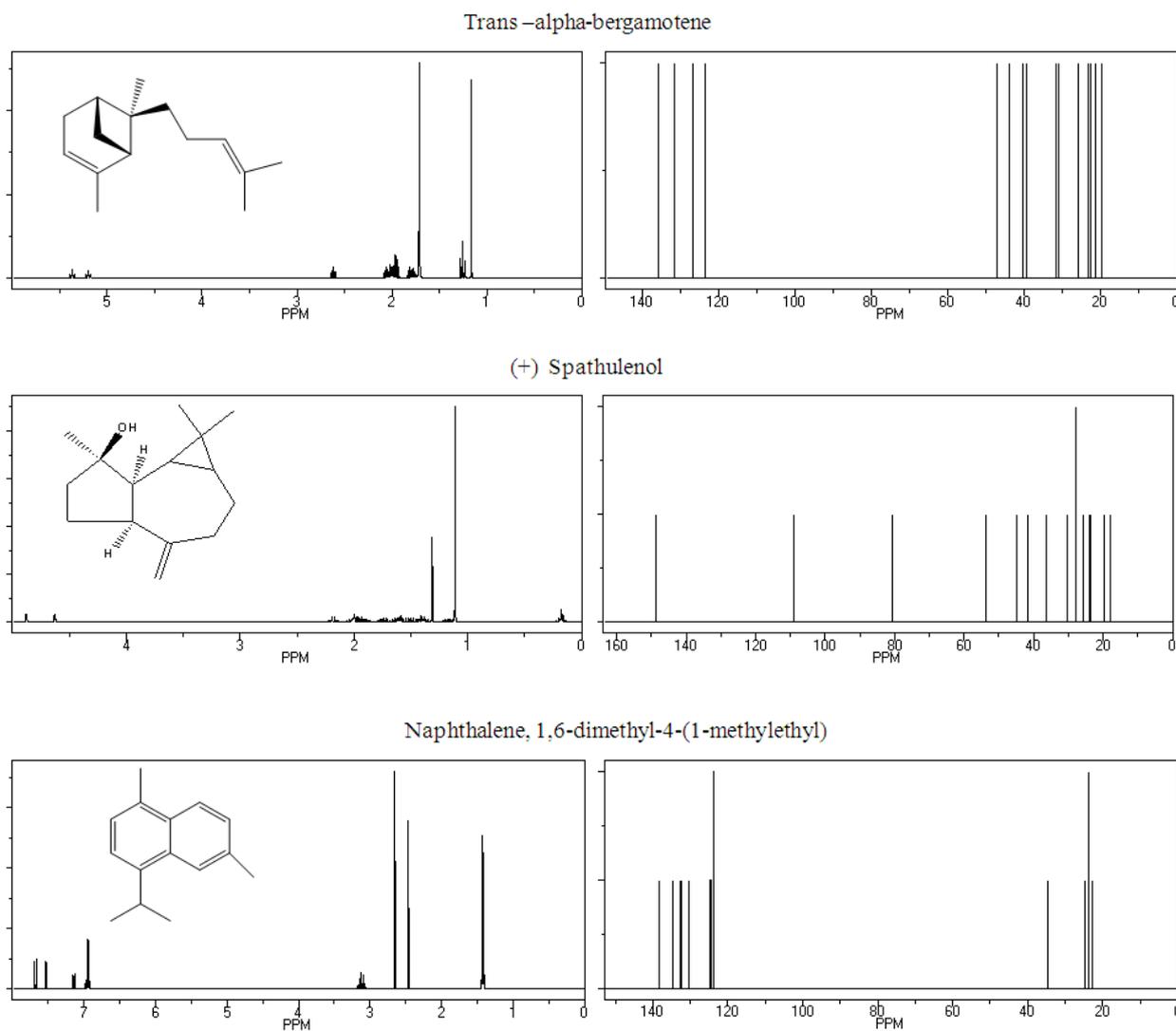


Figure 2S : Computer generated (Chemdraw Ultra 8.0) ^1H and ^{13}C NMR spectra of major components of essential oil of *P. lanceolata*.

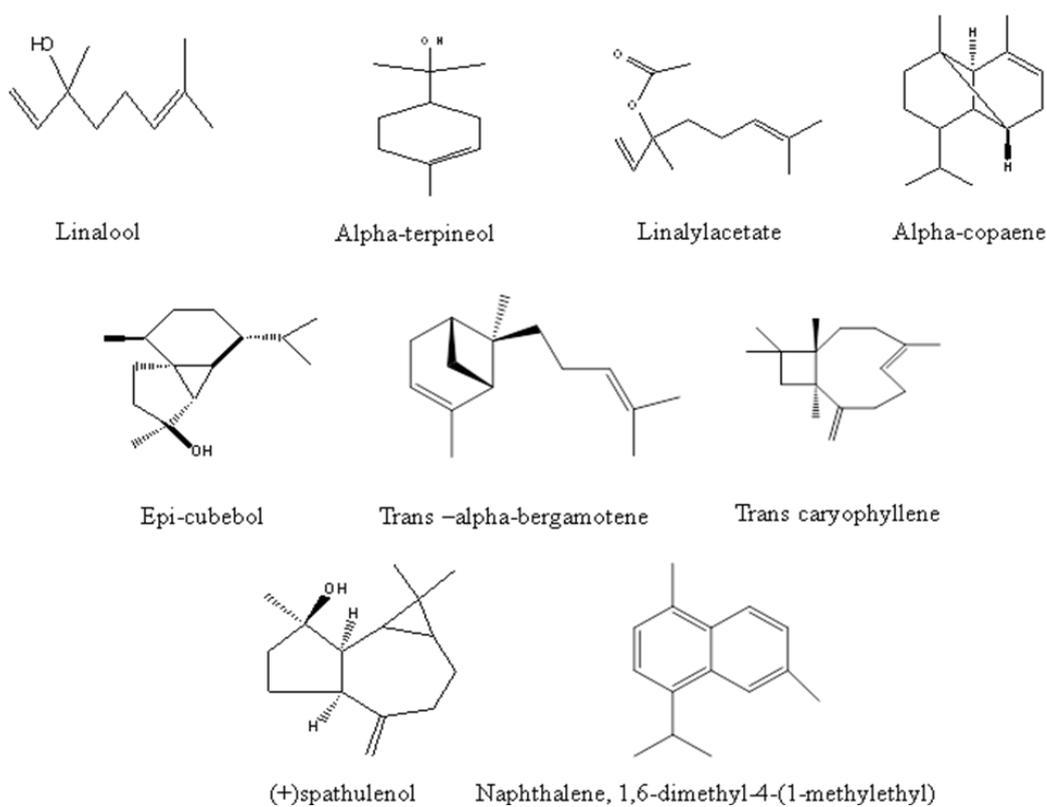


Figure 3S : Major compound of essential oil of *P. lanceolata* aerial part identified using RI, GC-MS (NIST, Wiley & Nbs libraries) and NMR spectral database (laboratory made).

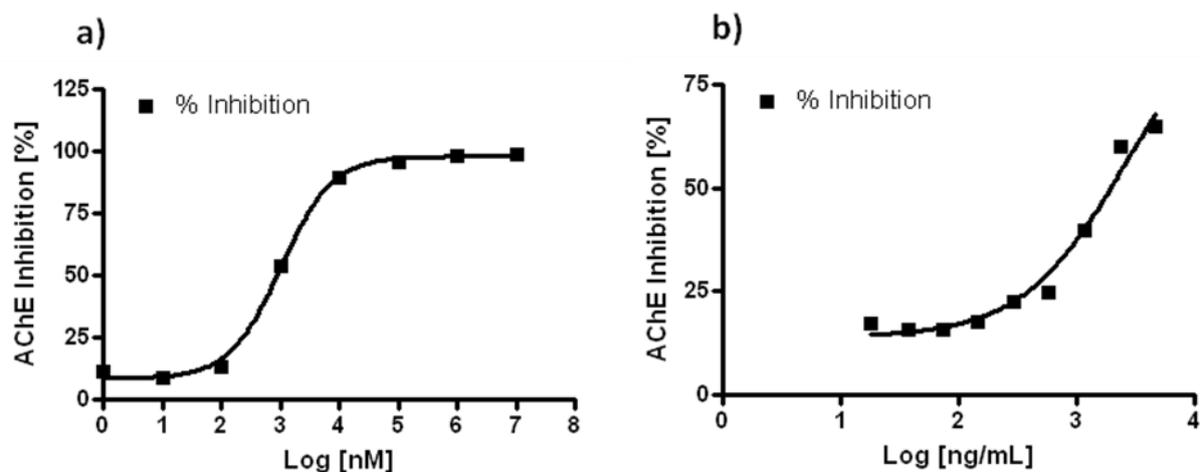


Figure 4S : Acetylcholinesterase inhibition by (a) physostigmine and (b) non-polar fraction of *P. lanceolata*

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