



BOOK OF ABSTRACTS

First Legume Society Conference
2013: A Legume Odyssey

9-11 May 2013, Novi Sad, Serbia

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Book of Abstracts

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International Legume Society
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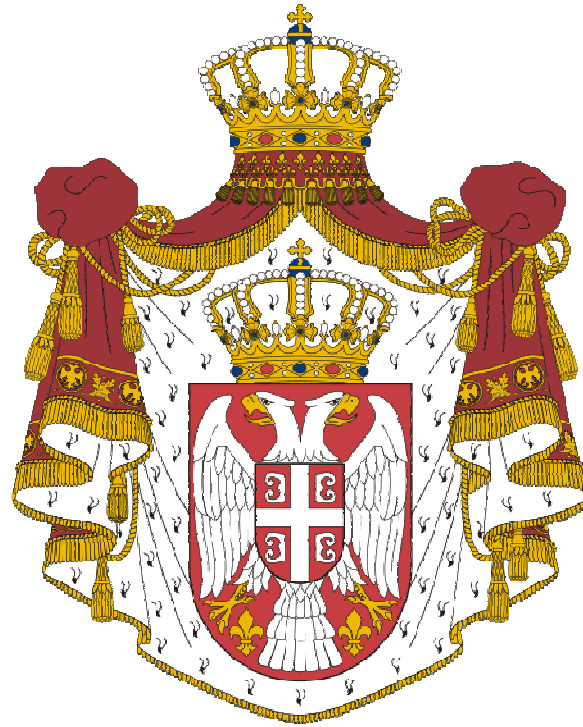
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Getting the message out: grow, use, feed and eat legumes

Antioxidant profile of alfalfa (*Medicago sativa* L.)

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Alfalfa (*Medicago sativa* L.) is one of the most important species of the Leguminosae (Fabaceae) family. Besides being important food for animals, this species is rich source of phytochemicals that play an important role in human health. The alfalfa contains many phenolic compounds such as coumesterol, apigenin, luteolin, quercetin, and isoflavonoids that have a positive effect on the menopausal disorders such as osteoporosis or breast cancer. All these compounds are known as natural antioxidants because of their ability to neutralize free radical species giving them a hydrogen atom. In this study we have determined the antioxidant potential of ethylacetate extracts (different solutions) on several radical and non-radical species such as: DPPH (2,2-diphenyl-1-picrylhydrazyl), $O_2^{\cdot -}$ (superoxide anion radical), $NO \cdot$ and H_2O_2 . All measurement are based on spectrophotometric methods, where RSC (radical species capacity) was determined in percentage: $RSC (\%) = 100 \times (A_{blank} - A_{sample} / A_{blank})$. From the RSC values, there were obtained IC_{50} values, which represented the concentrations of the ethylacetate extracts that caused 50% neutralization and it was determined by linear regression analysis. All results were compared with the commercial synthetic antioxidant BHT (*tert*-butyl hydroxytoluene) as positive control. Ethylacetate extracts was shown the best capacity on the neutralization of DPPH radical, because its IC_{50} value (11.29 $\mu\text{g}/\text{ml}$) is similar to the IC_{50} of positive control BHA ($IC_{50}=11.08 \mu\text{g}/\text{ml}$), while at $O_2^{\cdot -}$ ($IC_{50}=12.90 \mu\text{g}/\text{ml}$) and H_2O_2 ($IC_{50}=11.28 \mu\text{g}/\text{ml}$) was showed moderate activity. The lowest activity showed by $NO \cdot$ radical ($IC_{50}=30.30 \mu\text{g}/\text{ml}$). Generally, extract shows good antioxidant activity, which indicates that it would be useful to extend the research to the field of pharmacy and medicine.

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In the rich world of global agriculture, diverse legumes can play key roles to develop environment-friendly production, supplying humans and animals with the products of high nutritional value.

The Legume Society was initiated in 2011 with two primary missions. One of them was to treasure the rich legume research tradition of the European Association for Grain Legume Research (AEP), with emphasis on carrying out its the triennial legume-devoted conferences. Another one is to fulfill a long-term strategy of linking together the research on all legumes worldwide, from grain and forage legumes pharmaceutical and ornamental ones and from the Old World to the Americas.

We do anticipate that the First Legume Society Conference will be a unique and genuine contribution to our common goals: to promote the legume research and all its benefits into all spheres of the society, linking science with stakeholders and decision-makers, and to demonstrate how an efficient, useful and firm network of the legume researchers of the world is possible and sustainable.

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