

Microorganism and *Laurus nobilis* from Mascara - Algeria

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Abstract : *Laurusnobilis* is an aromatic plant, common in Algeria and widely used by local people as a source of spice and for medicinal purposes. The essential oil of this plant is the subject of this work in a physicochemical and microbiological study. The extraction of the essential oil was carried by steam distillation and the highest yield (1.5%) was determined in May. The organoleptic and physico-chemical characters are consistent with those obtained in the literature with some differences that can be attributed to certain factors. Evaluation of antibacterial activity showed a sensitivity of *Salmonella* spp. with an MIC of 2,5 mg.ml⁻¹, and other bacteria of the intestinal flora of Wistar rats: *E. coli* and *Lactobacillus* sp. have a high potential for resistance with MICs respectively equal to 10 and 20 mg.ml⁻¹.

Keywords : *laurus nobilis*, essential oil, physicochemical character, MIC, intestinal flora, antibacterial activity

Conference Title : ICSRD 2020 : International Conference on Scientific Research and Development

Conference Location : Chicago, United States

Conference Dates : December 12-13, 2020