Spearmint (Mentha spicata L) essential oil cultivated in Algerian Sahara (Ouargla): Chemical composition and comparison with other regions of Algeria and Mediterranean area

Spearmint (Mentha spicata L) essential oil cultivated in Algerian Sahara (Ouargla): Chemical composition and comparison with other regions of Algeria and Mediterranean area

Mekhelfi Tarak\*1, Zaoui–Djelloul Daouadji Manel1, Belfar Mohammed Lakhder1, Mekhloufi Nour El Houda2

<sup>1</sup>VPRS Laboratory. Department of chemistry. FMSM Faculty. University of KASDI Merbah, Ouargla, 30000. Algeria

<sup>2</sup>Department of chemistry. FMSM Faculty. University of KASDI Merbah Ouargla, 30000. Algeria

\*Corresponding author: MEKHELFI Tarak, Affiliation: VPRS Laboratory, Department of chemistry, FMSM Faculty, University of KASDI Merbah, Ouargla, 30000, Algeria, tarakmekhelfi@gmail.com

Received: 05/2023, Published: 06/2023

#### **Abstract**

The aim of this work is to study the chemical composition of Algerian Mentha spicata essential oils cultivated in the Algerian Sahara (region of Ouargla). On the other hand, a comparison of Mentha spicata essential oils studied with others growing in different regions in Algeria as well as in the Mediterranean area (Percentage of major components  $\geq$  5%) and in the world (Percentage of major components  $\geq$  1%). The essential oil of Spearmint (Mentha spicata) cultivated in the Algerian Sahara in the region of Ouargla was extracted by hydrodistillation. Seventy-three compounds were identified in the aerial parts of Mentha spicata. The principal components are: D-carvone (28.24%), eucalyptol (19.63%), D-limonene (09.20%), beta.-Myrcene (07.36%), and Cyclohexanone, 2-methyl-5-(1-methyl ethenyl) (05.33%).

Keywords: Mentha spicata L, essential oils, hydrodistillation, Eucalyptol, GC-MS.

Tob Regul Sci. ™ 2023;9(1): 2524-2540 DOI: doi.org/10.18001/TRS.9.1.174

#### INTRODUCTION

Throughout human history, herbal treatments have been used to cure a variety of infectious diseases. Plant-based treatments still play a significant role in primary healthcare today, especially

Spearmint (Mentha spicata L) essential oil cultivated in Algerian Sahara (Ouargla): Chemical composition and comparison with other regions of Algeria and Mediterranean area in developing countries [1] .According to Nikbakht and Kafi [2], medicinal plants include plant components such as leaf, root, flower, and seed that are used to make chemical compounds and medications for humans and animals. Very potent natural physiologically active substances can be found in the essential oils and extracts of several species of edible and medicinal plants, herbs, and spices. An additional intrinsic factor to improve the safety and shelf life of foods may be the use of essential oils as antibacterial agents in food systems [3].

Algeria is one of the richest countries of the Mediterranean area in phylogenetic resources of aromatic and medicinal interest because of the diversity of its bioclimatic stages. There are more than 300 species of therapeutic or aromatic plants use among the 3,150 plant species that our country has. Most of the studies that were interested in the study of medicinal and aromatic plants in Algeria paid great attention to the academic aspect only, and did not highlight the importance of these plants in the revival of the economy as a renewable wealth. Algeria is considered as one of the most important importers of Egyptian medicinal and aromatic plants in spite of its capacity to plant these plants and to realize their export [4].

At this crucial stage in the history of Algeria, all our energies must be directed towards building a real renaissance for Algeria in all fields, especially for strategic fields and projects, of which the project for the production of medicinal raw materials is one of the most important, but in the first stage we will work on developing the division of extracting essential oils from medicinal and aromatic plants.

The genus Mentha, according to the most recent taxonomic, consists of 61 species that are divided into four sections: Pulegium, Tubulosae, Eriodontes, and Mentha [48]. This last is one of the more significant members of the Lamiaceae family; this genus is represented in the flora of Algeria by five important species: Mentha aquatica L., Mentha pulegium L., Mentha spicata L., and Mentha longifolia (L.) [5]. Mentha species are frequently used by locals in El-Tarf region (Algeria), located in the far northeastern corner of Algeria, as a spices, flavoring, or herb in culinary dishes. They are also used for their medicinal capabilities as a carminative, sedative, antispasmodic, and are well recognized for treating stomach pain [6].

Mentha spicata is widely used in phytomedicine as an antifungal, diuretic, carminative, and antioxidant agent as well as for the treatment of colds, the flu, hemorrhoids, respiratory tract issues, and stomachaches. It also offers a number of therapeutic characteristics and health advantages. It is interesting to note that oxygenated monoterpenes, which are abundant in spearmint essential oils (SEOs), have been linked to antibacterial action [7, 8]. It is also a genuine treatment option that is nontoxic for treating patients' emesis and nausea brought on by chemotherapy [9]. When making tea, the dry or fresh spearmint leaf is specifically included. The decoction of spearmint leaves is used to treat biliary problems, menstrual cramps, stomach pain, constipation, gingivitis, and ondotalgies [10] .According to morphological, cytological and biochemical data [11,12,13], M. spicata L. was described as the fertile hybrid resulting from the

Spearmint (Mentha spicata L) essential oil cultivated in Algerian Sahara (Ouargla): Chemical composition and comparison with other regions of Algeria and Mediterranean area M. suaveolens Ehrh cross. x M. longifolia (L.) Huds., two closely related and interfertile diploid species.

In this study, we aim to determine the chemical composition of Algerian Mentha spicata essential oils cultivated in the Algerian Sahara (region of Ouargla) followed by a comparison with that growth in other regions of Algeria as well as in the Mediterranean area (Percentage of major components  $\geq$  5%) and the other one of the world (Percentage of major components  $\geq$  1%).

#### 2. Experimental part

#### 2.1. Plant material

The aerial parts of cultivated Mentha spicata L., were collected in May 2022, from Ouargla (Algerian Septentrional Sahara). A voucher specimen was deposited at the herbarium of the University of KASDI Merbah - Ouargla, Algeria.

#### 2.2. Extraction

The hydrodistillation of fresh aerial parts using a Clenvenger-style apparatus. (300 g) of Mentha spicata, for 3 hours, yielded 1.5% of a pale yellowish essential oil.

## 2.3. Gas chromatography GC

analyses Gas chromatography GC were performed using the following data analytique : GC Program (GCMS-TQ8040 NX) , column BPX-5 (Length 30 m; 0.25 mm I.D.; df = 0.25  $\mu$ m) The oven temperature was programmed as isothermal at 60°C for 5 min, then Column Flow :0.50 mL/min.

### 2.4. Gas chromatography-Mass spectrometry

GCMS-TQ8040 NX Triple Quad GC/MS/MS Featuring Smart Productivity for high-efficiency sample throughput, Smart Operation for quick and easy method development, and Smart Performance for low detection limits and Scan/MRM, the GCMS-TQ8040 NX provides accurate, cost-effective and user-friendly triple quadrupole GC-MS/MS operation for routine analytical work. Among Features: i Enables analysis of +400 compounds in a single MRM run without sacrificing sensitivity or selectivity, MRM Optimization Tool – seamlessly selects and optimizes MRM transitions for multiple compounds in a single sequence, High-speed MRM analysis up to 800 transitions per second. The MS operating parameters were as follows: Injection Mode: Split Flow Control Mode: Column Flow, Pressure: 10.0 kPa, Total Flow: 28.5 mL/min, Column Flow: 0.50 mL/min, Linear Velocity: 26.0 cm/sec, Purge Flow: 3.0 mL/min, Split Ratio: 50.0. 3.

## **RESULTS AND DISCUSSION**

The oil yield of M. spicata was 1.5%. Our results are in agreement with those of Laggoune et al.

Spearmint (Mentha spicata L) essential oil cultivated in Algerian Sahara (Ouargla): Chemical composition and comparison with other regions of Algeria and Mediterranean area

[14] .These authors found that the yield of essential oil from M. spicata cultivated at Ghardaïa region (Algerian Septentrional Sahara) is 1.8%. However, the extraction yield of aerial parts of this species that was collected of Bangladesh of M. spicata was 0.4% [16] and in India was 0.3% [17]. The extraction yield found by Boukhbti et al. [18] from leaves of spearmint harvested from another location from Algeria (Setif) was 0.9%. The aerial parts of this species that was collected from Saida in the west northern region of Algeria yielded 1.3% [19], another study reported that the yield of essential oil from of M. spicata cultivated in Algerian Saharan Atlas was 1.04% [15]. We can conclude from this yield that the percentage of essential oil extracted from the M. spicata plant grown in the Algerian desert (especially in Ouargla and Ghardaïa) is greater than the percentage of the essential oil extracted from the wild M. spicata plant.

Hussain et al. [20] stated that the largest essential oil yield for Mentha species was observed in the summer when the plants were in full bloom with a yield about 1.2%, as compared to the winter with 0.95% in yield, when the plants had reached the end of their growing season.

The essential oil was extracted by the hydrodistillation of the dried aerial parts of M. spicata cultivated in the Algerian Sahara (Ouargla) and was analyzed by GC-MS. The yield of the oil was 1.50 mL per 100 g plant material, with a pale-yellow color and persistent aromatic-spicy odor. As shown in Table 1, analysis of the essential oil resulted in identification of 73 compounds, representing 100 % of the total oil, The major components of the oil were carvone (28.24%), limonene (09.20%), beta.-Myrcene (7.36%), Cyclohexanone (5.33%), Eucalyptol(19.63%), (-)-8-p-Menthen-2-yl, acetate, trans D (2.62%) and  $\beta$ -pinene (2.81%).

The character component found in this oil is Eucalyptol with high percentage (19.63%). It has many biological activity for this component; a therapeutic potency against bronchial asthma, COPD, gastric inflammation, sinusitis and even several neurodegenerative disorders like Alzheimer's because of its anti-inflammatory activity Eucalyptol depresses CNS and shows anti-nociceptive property, it enhances blood circulation, causes vasodilation and also bronchodilation.

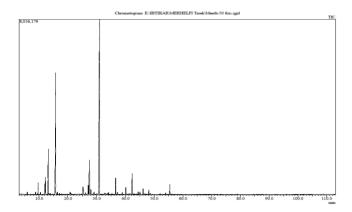


Figure 1. Chromatographic profile of M. spicata L. essential oil from Algeria. Compounds are numbered as listed in Table 1.

Mekhelfi Tarak et. al Spearmint (Mentha spicata L) essential oil cultivated in Algerian Sahara (Ouargla): Chemical composition and comparison with other regions of Algeria and Mediterranean area

Peak #	R.Tim e	Area	Area %	Height	Height %	Similarit y	Name		
1	3.020	22840	0.01	20545	0.07	78	4-Nonene, 5-butyl-		
2	3.981	106055	0.04	29605	0.10	95	Butanoic acid, 2-methyl-, methyl ester		
3	5.770	109340	0.04	26517	0.09	90	Butanoic acid, 2-methyl-, ethyl ester		
4	5.862	448879	0.18	105429	0.37	96	2-Hexenal		
5	8.817	579479	0.23	112940	0.40	96	5,5-Dimethyl-1- vinylbicyclo[2.1.1]hexane		
6	9.635	2900733	1.18	543554	1.91	95	2-Pinene		
7	10.46	542364	0.22	100311	0.35	94	Camphene		
8	11.98	2697750	1.09	100311	0.35	96	Bicyclo[3.1.0]hexane, 4-methylene-1-(1-methylethyl)-		
9	12.15	4605133	1.87	479454	1.69	94	2(10)-Pinene		
10	13.14	11846821	4.80	799221	2.81	95	.betaMyrcene		
11	13.42	326672	0.13	2091227	7.36	93	3-Octanol		
12	13.90	289578	0.12	48597	0.17	78	Myrtanyl 2-Methylbutyrate		
13	15.63	16291742	6.60	39290	0.14	92	D-Limonene		
14	15.76	37021433	15.01	2612074	9.20	90	Eucalyptol		
15	16.34	660763	0.27	5575167	19.63	97	(3E)-3,7-dimethylocta-1,3,7-triene		
16	17.05	307994	0.12	124103	0.44	96	1,3,6-Octatriene, 3,7-dimethyl-, (E)-		
17	17.72	105890	0.04	56647	0.20	94	gammaTerpinene		
18	18.28	123970	0.05	19018	0.07	94	5-Isopropyl-2- methylbicyclo[3.1.0]hexan-2-ol		
19	19.82	182267	0.07	20406	0.07	91	Cyclohexene, 1-methyl-4-(1-methylethylidene)-		
20	20.70	1021692	0.41	31107	0.11	96	Linalool		

Mekhelfi Tarak et. al Spearmint (Mentha spicata L) essential oil cultivated in Algerian Sahara (Ouargla): Chemical composition and comparison with other regions of Algeria and Mediterranean area

	compo	ortion and com	parison	With other r	0510115 01 11	ingerra ama ri	iculterranean area
21	21.03	424258	0.17	108198	0.38	89	Butanoic acid, 2-methyl-, 2-methylbutyl ester
22	22.53	168287	0.07	68839	0.24	82	2,7-Octadiene-1,6-diol, 2,6-dimethyl-
23	25.25	2342906	0.95	27490	0.10	91	Borneol
24	25.37	1415474	0.57	340872	1.20	91	Cyclohexanemethanol, .alpha.,.alphadimethyl-4-methylene-
25	26.09	554575	0.22	244253	0.86	92	3-Cyclohexen-1-ol, 4-methyl-1-(1-methylethyl)-, (R)-
26	26.89	120044	0.05	84095	0.30	87	5-Hepten-1-ol, 2-ethenyl-6-methyl-
27	27.08	2806470	1.14	20731	0.07	94	alphaTerpineol
28	27.48	16595338	6.73	410566	1.45	94	Cyclohexanone, 2-methyl-5-(1-methylethenyl)-, (2S-cis)-
29	27.99	1502244	0.61	1514870	5.33	96	Cyclohexanone, 2-methyl-5-(1-methylethenyl)-, trans-
30	28.77	138320	0.06	236452	0.83	94	Acetic acid, octyl ester
31	29.13	1084507	0.44	23650	0.08	94	2-Cyclohexen-1-ol, 2-methyl-5-(1-methylethenyl)-, cis-
32	30.05	185587	0.08	118559	0.42	84	Carveol
33	30.99	108382632	43.94	25239	0.09	95	D-Carvone
34	31.67	126968	0.05	8020650	28.24	95	Geraniol
35	32.22	287431	0.12	17310	0.06	90	3-hydroxy-2-methyl-5-(prop-1-en-2-yl)cyclohexanone
36	32.70	647037	0.26	30521	0.11	95	(2E)-3,7-Dimethyl-2,6-octadienal
37	33.13	412923	0.17	67001	0.24	91	Piperitenone oxide
38	33.71	526370	0.21	52723	0.19	95	1,3,3-Trimethylbicyclo[2.2.1]hept-2-yl acetate
39	34.15	603799	0.24	53527	0.19	88	2H-1-Benzopyran, 3,4,4a,5,6,8a-hexahydro-2,5,5,8a-tetramethyl-,

Mekhelfi Tarak et. al Spearmint (Mentha spicata L) essential oil cultivated in Algerian Sahara (Ouargla): Chemical composition and comparison with other regions of Algeria and Mediterranean area

	T		iparison	T T	T	Aigeria ain	(2.alpha4a			
							(2.alpha.,4a			
40	35.20	290686	0.12	91466	0.32	92	(-)-8-p-Menthen-2-yl, acetate, trans			
41	35.55	175688	0.07	44489	0.16	85	Acetic acid, nonyl ester			
42	36.60	4547657	1.84	25229	0.09	94	(-)-8-p-Menthen-2-yl, acetate, trans			
43	37.22	688279	0.28	743522	2.62	86	2-Cyclohexen-1-one, 3-methyl-6-(1-methylethylidene)-			
44	38.94	861883	0.35	97410	0.34	95	Rotundifolone			
45	39.58	167974	0.07	89020	0.31	86	Copaene			
46	40.16	2296303	0.93	12746	0.04	96	Cyclobuta[1,2:3,4]dicyclopentene, decahydro-3a-methyl-6-methylene-1-(1-me			
47	40.67	157237	0.06	305479	1.08	92	1-Methyl-1-ethenyl-2,4-bis(1'-methylethenyl)cyclohexane			
48	41.05	225706	0.09	21043	0.07	90	2-Cyclopenten-1-one, 3-methyl-2-(2-pentenyl)-, (Z)-			
49	41.52	324571	0.13	19978	0.07	83	1H-Cycloprop[e]azulene, 1a,2,3,5,6,7,7a,7b-octahydro-1,1,4,7- tetramethyl-, [			
50	41.75	218483	0.09	33893	0.12	91	1H-Cyclopropa[a]naphthalene, 1a,2,3,3a,4,5,6,7b-octahydro- 1,1,3a,7-tetramet			
51	42.33	6098145	2.47	27814	0.10	95	Caryophyllene			
52	42.95	269570	0.11	923933	3.25	94	(1R,2S,6S,7S,8S)-8-Isopropyl-1- methyl-3- methylenetricyclo[4.4.0.02,7]decan			
53	43.17	224353	0.09	36426	0.13	77	9,10-			

Mekhelfi Tarak et. al Spearmint (Mentha spicata L) essential oil cultivated in Algerian Sahara (Ouargla): Chemical composition and comparison with other regions of Algeria and Mediterranean area

	Trans						Dimethyltricyclo[4.2.1.1(2,5)]decane-
							9,10-diol
54	43.89	296200	0.12	32810	0.12	92	(S,1Z,6Z)-8-Isopropyl-1-methyl-5- methylenecyclodeca-1,6-diene
55	44.44	884862	0.36	27129	0.10	97	alphaHumulene
56	44.83	171413	0.07	116927	0.41	92	(E)betaFamesene
57	45.04	831315	0.34	26054	0.09	94	cis-Muurola-4(15),5-diene
58	45.28	203621	0.08	113377	0.40	89	(-)-Germacrene D
59	46.15	1810867	0.73	26545	0.09	97	(-)-Germacrene D
60	46.56	284334	0.12	266220	0.94	93	Butanoic acid, 2-methyl-, 2-phenylethyl ester
61	47.12	246380	0.10	36011	0.13	91.	Di-epialphacedrene
62	48.17	1411810	0.57	35520	0.13	96	Naphthalene, 1,2,3,4,4a,5,6,8a-octahydro-7-methyl-4-methylene-1-(1-methyle
63	48.65	635119	0.26	216596	0.76	94	94 cis-Calamenene
64	49.56	117921	0.05	54269	0.19	93	93 Naphthalene, 1,2,4a,5,6,8a-hexahydro-4,7-dimethyl-1-(1-methylethyl)-, [1S-(1
65	51.71	78318	0.03	17651	0.06	87	87 (2E,4S,7E)-4-Isopropyl-1,7-

Mekhelfi Tarak et. al Spearmint (Mentha spicata L) essential oil cultivated in Algerian Sahara (Ouargla): Chemical composition and comparison with other regions of Algeria and Mediterranean area

							dimethylcyclodeca-2,7-dienol
66	52.10	345424	0.14	9548	0.03	92	92 5- Oxatricyclo[8.2.0.04,6]dodecane, 4,12,12-trimethyl-9-methylene-, (1R,4R,6
67	53.30	91974	0.04	45494	0.16	84	84 Cycloheptane, 4-methylene-1-methyl-2-(2-methyl-1-propen-1-yl)-1-vinyl-
68	53.99	477953	0.19	11076	0.04	95	95 4a(2H)-Naphthalenol, 1,3,4,5,6,8a-hexahydro-4,7-dimethyl- 1-(1-methylethyl)
69	54.53	181814	0.07	69634	0.25	84	84 .alphaPatchoulene
70	55.44	3033884	1.23	10688	0.04	95	95 .tauCadinol
71	56.19	172394	0.07	454835	1.60	91	91 .alphaCadinol
72	58.11	211502	0.09	25835	0.09	91	91 Cyclohexanol, 3-ethenyl-3-methyl-2-(1-methylethenyl)-6-(1-methylethyl)-, [1
73	78.93	121699	0.05	21433	0.08	94	2-Hexadecen-1-ol, 3,7,11,15- tetramethyl-, [R-[R*,R*-(E)]]-

**Table 1.** Chemical composition of M. spicata L. essential oil from Algeria.

If one look on table 2, one can conclude that the major component of Mentha spicata is carvone (48.4%-59.4%) except for Ouargla region that has a percentage of 28.24% in carvone. The most component found in the mentha spicata essential oil of algeria is: Limonene(5.80%-24.99%),  $\beta$ -pinene(1.1%-2.81%), 1,8 — Cineole (3.8%-15.32%), B-caryophyllene (2.1%-3.4%),  $\beta$ -myrcene (0.8%-24.99%), Eucalyptol was found just in two essential oil and with great percentage(17.6% and 19.63%). In our study, we identified largest number of component (73 components).

Mekhelfi Tarak et. al Spearmint (Mentha spicata L) essential oil cultivated in Algerian Sahara (Ouargla): Chemical composition and comparison with other regions of Algeria and Mediterranean area

36.	Ouargla		Laghou	771				Tlemce	
Major components (≥ 1%)	(our study)	Setif [21]	at [22]	Tlemce n 01 [23]	Laghouat [24]	Tipaza [25]	Ghardai a [14]	n 02 [26]	Bejaya [27]
α-pinene	1.91	-	-				1.30	-	-
β-pinene	2.81	-	1.1		1.1	1.97	3.23	-	1.3
β-myrcene	7.36	-	-				5.11	-	20.8
Limonene	9.20	6.1	16.1	21.9	16.1	24.99	5.80	-	-
tauCadinol	1.60	-	-					-	-
1,8 – Cineole	19.63	3.8	8.7		8.7	7.22	15.32	17.6	5.4
α-Terpineol	1.45	1.9	-						
(-)-8-p- Menthen-2-yl, acetate, trans	2.62	-	-						
Borneol	1.20	-	_						
β-bourbonène	2.70	-	-			1.87		1.2	1.4
Germacrène	4.66	-	2.1						3.4
Carvone	28.24	59.4	49.5	54.1	49.5	52.60	44.6	48.4	48.5
Terpinen – 4 – ol	-	-	1.5	1.3	1.5	1.22		-	1.5
Pulegone	-	-	-					-	-
t-Cadinol	-	-	-				3.28	-	-
β-phellandrene	-	-	-				1.96	-	-
cis- Dihydrocarvone	-	1.55	3.9				8.85		
Menthone	-	-	-						

Mekhelfi Tarak et. al Spearmint (Mentha spicata L) essential oil cultivated in Algerian Sahara (Ouargla): Chemical composition and comparison with other regions of Algeria and Mediterranean area

B-caryophyllene	3.25	2.9	2.7	2.7	1.53	2.1	3.4
Bicyclo[3.1.0]he xane, 4-methylene-1-(1-methylethyl)-	1.69	-				-	-
Neoiso- dehydro-Carveol	-	-	-			11,7	1.3
trans-hydrate Sabinene	-	-	-			1.5	-
3-Octanol	-	-	-			1.4	1
β-phellandrene	-	-	-		1.96		

**Table 2** Percentage of major components (≥ 1%) of essential oil of Mentha spicata growing in algeria.

From table 3, representing the major components (≥5%) of the studied essential oils of M. spicata, growing in the Mediterranean area, one can conclude that the couple eucalyptol/ carvone is a chemotype of M. spicata collected from Algeria (Our study), Turkey [32], Morocco [33] and Tunisia [28], the highest content (40.8, 17.0%) is found in Tunisia [28]. When checking table 3, we find that each essential oil contain eucalyptol the yield of caravone low than usual especially in Algeria (Ouargla) and Tunisia. The second chemotype in the essential oils of M. spicata is limonene/ carvone, it is also chemotype of M. spicata collected from Portugal [34], Egypt 01 [35], Tunisia [28] and Greece [30]. The highest content (68.58, 16.4%) is found in Egypt 01[35] whereas the lowest content (40.8, 20.8%) was found in plants collected from Tunisia [28]. The essential oil of the species collected from Morocco [33] is mainly characterized by carvone (29.0%) and trans-carveol (14.0%) [16]. Pulegone (26.71-29.56%), piperitone (22.17-28.16%) dominated in the composition of essential oil of M. spicata from Turkey followed by 1, 8-cineole (6.84-7.76%) and trans-β-caryophyllene (5.2-8.0%) [32].

Compounds	Algeria	Greec	Turke	Morocc	Portuga	Egypt0	Egypt0	Tunisi	Ital	Greec
	(Ouargla	e [31]	y	О	1	1	2	a	у	e
	)		[32]	[33]	[34]	[35]	[36]	[28]	[29]	[30]
Limonene	9.20	-	-	-	20.1	16.4		20.8	-	20.8

Mekhelfi Tarak et. al Spearmint (Mentha spicata L) essential oil cultivated in Algerian Sahara (Ouargla): Chemical composition and comparison with other regions of Algeria and Mediterranean area

		· · · · ·								
1,8-Cineole	19.63	14.5	6.84-	7.30	-	-	19.55	17.0	_	-
(Eucalyptol)			7.76							
trans-Carveol	-	-	-	14.0	-	-	-	-	-	
Pulegone	-	-	26.7- 29.5	-	-			-	34.1	
Carvone	28.24	-	-	29.0	41.1	68.58		40.8	-	67.1
Piperitone	-	-	22.1- 28.1	-	-	-		-	-	-
Piperitenone oxide	-	35.7	1	1	-	-	-	-	32.9	-
Copaene	-	-	-	-	5.6	-	-	-	-	-
trans-β- Caryophyllen e	-	-	5.2-8.0	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
β-myrcene	7.36	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
<b>α</b> -Pinene	-	_	-	-	-	-	5.26	-	-	1
4-Terpineol	-	-	-	-	-	-	6.28	-	-	-
α -Terpineol	-	-	-	-	-	-	5.38	-	-	-
trans-p- Menthan-8- ol, acetate	-	-	-	-	-	-	6.42	-	-	-
trans-Cadina- 1,4-diene Spathulenol		5.2								
1		). <u>∠</u>								

**Table 3:** Percentage of major components (≥ 5%) of essential oil of Mentha spicata growing in the Mediterranean area.

One can see from the table 4, that M. spicata growing in Ouargla (Our study) contain the biggest number of chemotype  $\geq$  5% (Carvone, eucalyptol, Limonene and  $\beta$ -myrcene). In other studies the major components of M. spicata growing in most countries are the couple carvone/limonene, which is also a chemotype of most reported essential oils [38-39;41-42; 45-47], its highest yield was (76.65; 22.31%) growing in both North-West Himalayan, and India

Spearmint (Mentha spicata L) essential oil cultivated in Algerian Sahara (Ouargla): Chemical composition and comparison with other regions of Algeria and Mediterranean area regions [41]. However, menthone (21.9%) was a chemotype of M. spicata, collected from Serbia [19]. In addition,  $\beta$ -bourbonene (11.23%),  $\alpha$ -humulene (0.1-29.9%) and pulegone (72.1%), were mainly exclusive from Iran [38], Uttarakhand, India [40] and Karnataka, India [43] respectively. In addition, menthone (21.9%) was a chemotype of M. spicata collected from Serbia [37]. In another part, piperitenone oxide (52.3%) was mainly exclusive from Cuba [30] whereas cis- carveol (21.3%) was the major compound collected from Tamilnadu, India [39]. Furthermore, eucalyptol was a chemotype of M. spicata, collected from Ouargla (Algeria).

Compounds	Algeria (Ouarg la)	Serbia [37]	Iran [38]	India 01[39 ]	India 02[40]	India 03[41]	Indi a04[ 42]	Indi a05[ 43]	USA [44]	Chi na [45]	Yeme n [46]	Pakist an [47]
Limonene	9.20	-	11.5	11.3	-	9.5- 22.3	10.1	-	-	18.1 9	18.2	5.3
Menthone	-	21.9	-	-	-	-	-	18.6	-	-	-	-
cis-Carveol	-	-	-	213	-	-	-	-	-		-	24.3
Pulegone	-	-	-		-	-		72.1	-	-	-	-
Carvone	28.24	69.5	78.76	48.6	15.3- 68.5	49.6- 76.6	57.1		40.1	65.3 3	65.3	51.7
Piperitenone oxide	-	-	-	-	24.0- 79.2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
β- Bourbonene	-	-	11.23	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
<b>α</b> -Humulene	-	-	-	-	0.1- 29.9	-	-	-	-	1	-	-
1,8-Cineole (eucalyptol)	19.63	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		-
β-myrcene	7.36	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

**Table 4**: Percentages of major components (≥ 5%) of essential oil of M. spicata growing in Ouargla (Algeria) and other countries.

Spearmint (Mentha spicata L) essential oil cultivated in Algerian Sahara (Ouargla): Chemical composition and comparison with other regions of Algeria and Mediterranean area

#### **ACKNOWLEDGMENTS**

The authors express their sincere gratitude to the DGRSDT (Direction Générale de la Recherche Scientifique et du Développement Technologique), the entire staff at the Scientific adTechnical Research Center in Physico-Chemical Analyses (CRAPC) in Ouargla, Algeria.

#### **DECLARATION OF INTEREST**

There is no conflict of interest.

#### **REFERENCES**

- 1. Nezhadali A, Zarrabi Shirvan B. Separation, Identification and Determination of Volatile Compounds of Ziziphora persica Bunge Using HS-SPME/GC-MS. Inter. J. Environ. Sci. Develop. 2010; 1: 115-118. Nickavar B, Abolhasani FAS. Screening of antioxidant properties of seven umbelliferae fruits from Iran. Pak. J. Pharm. Sci. 2009; 22: 30-35.
- 2. Nikbakht A, Kafi M. The history of herbal medicine and medicinal plants in Iran. Proceeding of the 8<sup>th</sup> international plant-people relationship symposium (IPPS), Hyogo, Japan. (2004).
- 3. Nejad Ebrahimi S, Hadian J, Mirjalili MH, Sonboli A, Yousefzadi M. Essential oil composition and antibacterial activity of Thymus caramanicus at different phenological stages. Food Chemistry. 2008; 110: 927-931.
- 4. Morales. 2002. The history, botany and taxonomy of the genus Thymus. In: Thyme: the Thymus. Ed. Taylor & Francis, London. évolutive des composés secondaires. Thèse de doctorat-Ecole nationale supérieure d'Agronomie de montpellier. pp. 1-43
- 5. Quezel, P, Santa, S., 1962. Nouvelle flore de l'Algérie et des régions désertiques méridionales. Tome II. Edition de centre national de la recherche scientifique. Paris, pp. 611–1170.
- 6. A. Benabdallah, M. Boumendjel, O. Aissi, C. Rahmoune, M. Boussaidc, C. Messaoud. Chemical composition, antioxidant activity and acetylcholinesterase, South African Journal of Botany 116 (2018);131–139.
- 7. Scherer. R, Lemos. M. F, Lemos, M. F, Martinelli, G. C, Martins, J. D. L, & da Silva, A. G. Antioxidant and antibacterial activities and composition of Brazilian spearmint (Mentha spicata L.). Ind Crops Prod.2013; 50: 408-413.
- 8. Nikšić. H, Durić. K, Omeragić. E, Nikšić. H, Muratović. S, & Bečić. F. Chemical characterization, antimicrobial and antioxidant properties of Mentha spicata L.(Lamiaceae) essential oil. Bull Chem Technol Bosn Herzeg. 2018; 43-48.
- 9. Bardaweel, S. K., Bakchiche, B., ALSalamat, H. A., Rezzoug, M., Gherib, A., & Flamini, G. Chemical composition, antioxidant, antimicrobial and antiproliferative activities of essential oil of Mentha spicata L.(Lamiaceae) from Algerian Saharan atlas. BMC Compl Altern Med. 2018; 18: 201.

Spearmint (Mentha spicata L) essential oil cultivated in Algerian Sahara (Ouargla): Chemical composition and comparison with other regions of Algeria and Mediterranean area

- 10. Brahmi. F, Madani. K, Dahmoune. F, Rahmani. T, Bousbaa. K, Oukmanou. S, Chibane. M. Optimization of solvent extraction of antioxidants (phenolic compounds) from Algerian mint (Mentha spicata L.). Phcog Commn. 2012; 2 (4), 72–86.
- 11. Heimans J. Chromosomes in the genus Mentha. Chronica Botanica 4.1938; 389-390.
- 12. Schürhoff P. N. Zytologische und genetische Untersuchungen an Mentha und ihre Bedeutung für die Pharmakognosie. Archiv der Pharmazie. Berlin 1929; 267: 515-526.
- 13. Harley, R. M. 1967. The spicate mints. Proceedings of the Botanical Society of the British Isles. 6: 369-372.
- 14. S. Laggoune1, M. Öztürk2, E. Erol2, M. E.Duru2, I. Abaza3, A. Kabouche1, Z. Kabouche1. Chemical composition, antioxidant and antibacterial activities of the essential oil of Mentha spicata L. from Algeria, J. Mater. Environ. Sci. 7 (11) (2016); 4205-4213.
- 15. Sanaa K. Bardaweel , Boulanouar Bakchiche, Husam A. ALSalamat, Maria Rezzoug, Abdelaziz Gherib2and Guido Flamini. Chemical composition, antioxidant, antimicrobial and Antiproliferative activities of essential oil of Mentha spicata L. (Lamiaceae) from Algerian Saharan atlas, BMC Complementary and Alternative Medicine (2018) ;18:201.
- 16. J.U. Chowdhury, N.C. Nandi, M. Uddin and M. Rahman. Chemical constituents of essential oils from two types of spearmint (Mentha spicata L. and M. cardiaca L.) introduced in Bangladesh. Bangladesh. J. Sci. Ind. Res. (2007); 42, 79–82.
- 17. N.M. Mkolo, J.O. Olowoyo, K.B. Sako, S.T.R. Mdakane, M.M.A. Mitonga and S.R. Magano, Repellency and toxicity of essential oils of Mentha piperita and Mentha spicata on larvae and adult of Amblyomma hebraeum (Acari: Ixodidae). Sci. J. Microbiol. (2011);1,1–7.
- 18. H. Boukhebti, A.N Chaker, H. Belhadj, F. Sahli, M. Ramdhani, H. Laouer and D. Harzallah, Chemical composition and antibacterial activity of Mentha pulegium L. and Mentha spicata L. essential oils. Der Pharmacia Lettre. (2011); 3, 267–275.
- 19. H. Allali, I. Chikhi, M.E. Dib, A. Muselli, N. Fekih, N. Meliani, M.A. Kamal, B. Tabti and J. Costa, Antioxidant activity and chemical analysis of Mentha spicata cultivated from west northern region of Algeria by headspace solid phase micro-extraction and hydro-distillation. Nat Prod I. J. (2013); 9(6), 258–263.
- 20. A.I. Hussain, F. Anwar, P.S. Nigam, M. Ashraf and A.H. Gilani, 2010. Seasonal variation in content, chemical composition and antimicrobial and cytotoxic activities of essential oils from four Mentha species. J Sci Food Agric. (2010); 90, 1827–1836.
- 21. Boukhebti, H. C. Chemical composition and antibacterial activity of Mentha pulegium L. and Mentha spicata L. essential oils. Der Pharmacia Lettre. (2011); 267-275.
- 22. Sanaa K. Bardaweel , Boulanouar Bakchiche, Husam A. ALSalamat, Maria Rezzoug, Abdelaziz Gherib and Guido Flamini; Chemical composition, antioxidant, antimicrobial and Antiproliferative activities of essential oil of Mentha spicata L. (Lamiaceae) from Algerian Saharan atlas; BMC Complementary and Alternative Medicine (2018) ;18:201.
- 23. Benomari, F. Z. Essential oils from Algerian species of Mentha as new bio-control agents

29889-29900.

- Spearmint (Mentha spicata L) essential oil cultivated in Algerian Sahara (Ouargla): Chemical composition and comparison with other regions of Algeria and Mediterranean area against phytopathogen strains. nvironmental Science and Pollution Research, (2018);
- 24. Bardaweel, S. B.-S. Chemical composition, antioxidant, antimicrobial and Antiproliferative activities of essential oil of Mentha spicata L. (Lamiaceae) from Algerian Saharan atlas. BMC Complement. Altern. Med. (2018); 1-7.
- 25. Kehili, S. B. Spearmint (Mentha spicata L.) essential oil from tipaza (Algeria): in vivo antiinflammatory and analgesic activities in experimental animal models. Acta Pharmaceutica Hungarica. (2020); 15-26.
- 26. Hocine Allali, Ilyas Chikhi, Mohamed El Amine Dib, Alain Muselli, Nadia Fekih, Nawel Meliani, Mohammad A. Kamal, Boufelfja Tabti, Jean Costa. Antioxidant activity and chemical analysis of Mentha spicata cultivated from west northern region of Algeria by headspace solid phase micro-extraction and hydro-distillation; NPAIJ, 9(6), 2013; [258-263].
- 27. Brahmi Fatihaa, Hauchard Didierb, Guendouze Naimaa, Madani Khodira, Kiendrebeogo Martinc, Kamagaju Léocadied, Stévigny Carolined, Chibane Mohamede, Duez Pierred,f; Phenolic composition, in vitro antioxidant effects and tyrosinase inhibitory activity of three Algerian Mentha species: M. spicata (L.), M. pulegium (L.) and M. rotundifolia (L.) Huds (Lamiaceae); Industrial Crops and Products. (2015); 74-722–730.
- 28. Snoussi. M, Noumi. E, Trabelsi. N, Flamini .G, Papetti .A, De Feo .V. Mentha spicata Essential Oil: Chemical Composition, Antioxidant and Antibacterial Activities against Planktonic and Biofilm Cultures of Vibrio spp. Strains, Molecules. (2015); 20(8) 14402.
- 29. Guido Flamini, Pier Luigi Cioni, and Ivano Morelli. Composition of the Essential Oil of Mentha microphylla from the Gennargentu Mountains (Sardinia, Italy), J. Agric. Food Chem. 2003; 51, 3614–3617.
- 30. Eliopoulos P. A, Hassiotis C. N, Andreadis S. S, Porichi A.E. Fumigant Toxicity of Essential Oils from Basil and Spearmint Against Two Major Pyralid Pests of Stored Products, J. Econ. Entomol. (2015);108(2) 805.
- 31. Koliopoulos. G, Pitarokili .D, Kioulos. E, Michaelakis. A, Tzakou. O, Parasitol. Chemical composition and larvicidal evaluation of Mentha, Salvia, and Melissa essential oils against the West Nile virus mosquito Culex pipiens, Res. (2010); 107 (2) 327.
- 32. Telci. I, Demirtas .I, Bayram. E, Arabaci. O, Kacar .O. Environmental variation on aroma components of pulegone/piperitone rich spearmint (Mentha spicata L.). Ind. Crops Prod. (2010); 32(3) 588.
- 33. Znini M.,. Bouklah M, Majidi L., Kharchouf S., Aouniti A., Bouyanzer A., Hammouti B., Chemical Composition and Inhibitory Effect of Mentha Spicata Essential Oil on the Corrosion of Steel in Molar Hydrochloric Acid., Int. J. Electrochem. Sci. 6 (2011) 691.
- 34. Martins M. R., Tinoco M. T., Almeida A. S., Cruz-Morais J., Chemical structure, antioxidant and antimicrobial properties of three essential oils of portuguese flora., J. pharmacogn. 3(1) (2012) 39.

- Spearmint (Mentha spicata L) essential oil cultivated in Algerian Sahara (Ouargla): Chemical composition and comparison with other regions of Algeria and Mediterranean area
- 35. Foda M. I., El-Sayed M. A., Hassan A. A., Rasmy N. M., El-Moghazy M. M., Effect of Spearmint Essential Oil on Chemical Composition and Sensory Properties of White Cheese., J. Am. Sci. 6 (2010) 272.
- 36. Samia M.M. Mohafrash (Mohafrash), Sahar Ahmed Fallatah (Fallatah), Shaimaa Mahmoud Farag (Farag), Abdel-Tawab H. Mossa (Mossa). Mentha spicata essential oil nanoformulation and its larvicidal application against Culex pipiens and Musca domestica, Industrial Crops & Products 157 (2020) 112944.
- 37. Soković M.D., Vukojević J., Marin P. D., Brkić D. D., Vajs V., Van Griensven L. J., Chemical Composition of Essential Oilsof Thymus and Mentha Speciesand Their Antifungal Activities., Molecules 14(1) (2009) 238.
- 38. Shahbazi Y., Chemical Composition and In Vitro Antibacterial Activity of Mentha spicata Essential Oil against Common Food-Borne Pathogenic Bacteria.; J. Pathog. (2015). doi: 10.1155/2015/916305
- 39. Govindarajan M., Sivakumar R., Rajeswari M., Yogalakshmi K., Chemical composition and larvicidal activity of essential oil from Mentha spicata (Linn.) against three mosquito species., Parasitol. Res. 110(5) (2012)
- 40. Chauhan S. S., Prakash O., Padalia R. C., Vivekanand, Pant A. K., Mathela C. S., Chemical Diversity in Mentha spicata: Antioxidant and Potato Sprout Inhibition Activity of its Essential Oils., Nat. Prod. Commun. 6(9) (2011) 1373.
- 41. Chauhan R. S., Kaul M. K., Shahi A. K., Kumar A., Ram G., Tawa A., Chemical composition of essential oils in Mentha spicata L. accession [IIIM(J)26] from North-West Himalayan region, India., Ind. Crop. Prod. 29(2-3) (2009) 654.
- 42. Chauhan R. S., Nautiyal M. C., Aldo Tava Aldo., Essential oil composition from aerial parts of Mentha spicata L.,J. Essent. Oil Bear. Plants 13(3) (2013) 353.
- 43. Joshi R. K., Pulegone and Menthone Chemotypes of Mentha spicata Linn. from Western Ghats Region of North West Karnataka, India., Nati. Acad. Sci. Lett. 36(3) (2013) 349.
- 44. Rafii F., Shahverdi A. R., Comparison of Essential Oils from Three Plants for Enhancement of Antimicrobial Activity of Nitrofurantoin against Enterobacteria., Chemotherapy 53(1) (2007) 21.
- 45. Liu K. H., Zhu Q., Zhang J. J., Xu J. F., Wang X. C., Chemical Composition and Biological Activities of the Essential Oil of Mentha spicata Lamiaceae., Adv. Mater. Res. (2012); 524-527 2269,
- 46. Bhuwan K., Chhetri N. A., Awadh A., A Survey of Chemical Compositions and Biological Activities of Yemeni Aromatic Medicinal Plants., William N. S. Medicines 2 (2015) 67.
- 47. Hussain A. I., Anwar F., Shahid M., Ashraf M., Przybylski R. Chemical Composition, and Antioxidant and Antimicrobial Activities of Essential Oil of Spearmint (Mentha spicata L.) From Pakistan. J. Essent. Oil Res. (2010); 22(1).
- 48. Kew 2010. The Plant list: <a href="http://www.theplantlist.org/tpl/search=Mentha+species">http://www.theplantlist.org/tpl/search=Mentha+species</a> Kivilompolo, M., Hyotylainen, T., 2007. Comprehensive two-dimensional liquid

Spearmint (Mentha spicata L) essential oil cultivated in Algerian Sahara (Ouargla): Chemical composition and comparison with other regions of Algeria and Mediterranean area

chromatography in analysis of Lamiaceae herbs: Characterisation and quantification of antioxidant phenolic acids. J. Chromatogr. 1145, 155–164.