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Evaluation of the diversity of monoterpene synthase coding genes among natural populations of *Salvia officinalis* of northern Albania

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A homology based PCR strategy was adopted to amplify a central region of monoterpene synthase (MTPs) coding genes from aromatic medicinal plant species *Salvia officinalis*. Aim of the study was to evaluate the extent of variation of MTPs coding genes at natural populations of northern Albania which based on Gas Chromatography were previously described as rich in composition of the essential oils content. Genomic DNA was extracted based on a modified CTAB protocol and used as template for the amplification of a truncated portion of MTP coding fragments. These fragments were cloned in pTOPO2.1 plasmids, transformed in *E.coli* TOP10 and the already cloned inserts were analyzed by restriction analyses after being excised from the plasmids. Unique fragments were sequenced and analysis of them is being performed in order to judge on the level of similarity.

Biography

Stela Papa is a student of PhD program in Plant Biotechnology at the Faculty of Natural Sciences, University of Tirana, Albania for a period of 2011-2015. She is also working at the Faculty of Natural Sciences, University of Tirana, Albania, as a Lecturer-Researcher in the Department of Biotechnology. She has presented more than 17 presentations of scientific research, 2 of them as first author; 4 original research papers as a co-author.

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