Quantitative Analysis of Phenolic Compounds and Mineral Contents of *Rosa canina* L. Waste Seeds

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**ARTICLE INFO**

**A B S T R A C T**

Natural products play an important role in medicine. They have been used extensively in folk medicine to treat various illnesses. In this work, quantitative analysis of phenolic compounds in methanol, acetonitrile and dichloromethane extracts of *Rosa canina* L. waste seeds were investigated by liquid chromatography coupled with tandem mass spectrometry (LC-MS/MS). Mineral analysis of *R. canina* seeds was determined by inductively coupled plasma–atomic emission spectrometry (ICP-OES). Fe, Mn, K and Zn were found as chief elements. Quantitative analysis revealed that catechin was the major flavonoid in all extracts. This work offers a viewpoint for recycling the *R. canina* waste seeds into the economy due to their bioactive content.

**Keywords:** Phenolic compounds, Macro-micro elements, ICP-OES, LC-MS/MS, *Rosa canina* waste seed

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**Introduction**

Plants have gained great importance in the drug discovery and development process due to their secondary metabolite contents (Erenler et al., 2016; Sevindik et al., 2017; Bose et al., 2019; Fascella et al., 2019; Mamat et al., 2020). After the development of spectroscopy in 19th century, the secondary metabolites were identified in the plants and usage of these compounds in pharmacy has accelerated. The bioactive compounds are found in root, steam, leaf, fruit and seeds (Mohammed et al., 2019; Ungurean et al., 2020). The identification and quantification of bioactive compounds into the plants play a significant role for usage in the food and pharmacy (Dąbrowska et al., 2019; Mohammed et al., 2020). Moreover, most of these compounds are beneficial for human diet (Parikh and Patel 2017; Mohammed et al., 2021). Although a lot of waste products including bioactive compounds form from the factories, the effective usage of these waste products is limited (Szentmihályi et al., 2002; Ahmed et al., 2016).

These waste materials have increased steadily with the population growth worldwide. Most of these waste materials are generally converted into fertilizers or animal feed low economic value by simple technology (Rostamizadeh et al., 2020). In addition, these waste materials cause serious environmental problems during disposal, transportation and storage due to their volatile and moisture content. Indeed, these wastes contain bioactive compounds which are used in food and medicinal industry (Engels et al., 2012; Flavio Ortega-Arellano et al., 2019; Choudhary et al., 2020) However, these bioactive compounds have been garbage without being evaluated. Converting these waste materials into valuable products is important in terms of the country's economic and environmental problems. *Rosa canina* L. is a shrub distributed throughout Europe, West Asia, northwest Africa, and Europe (Selahvarzian et al., 2018). This plant has been used effectively in traditional medicine to treat various diseases such as infection, common cold, gastrointestinal disorders, urine disease and inflammation.
Herein, quantitative analysis of phenolic compounds, mineral analysis and antioxidant activity of *R. canina* seeds were investigated. *R. canina* seeds are the waste products from the factory. This study provides a perspective on recycling waste products to the economy.

**Material and Methods**

**Material and Reagents**

Solvents and reagents were analytical grade and purchased from Sigma-Aldrich Co. (St. Louis, MO, USA) Merck KGaA (Darmstadt, Germany). Deionized water was obtained from a Milli-Q water purification system (Millipore, USA).

**Plant Material and Extraction**

*R. canina* fruits were collected from Tokat-Turkey in August/2019. Seeds were manually separated, washed, dried then ground to powder prior to use. Samples were extracted using methanol (MeOH), dichloromethane (DCM), acetonitrile (ACN). 0.5 g seed powder was extracted in a tube with 10 mL solvent. The sample was vortexed for 2 min and centrifuged for 10 min. The obtained supernatant was filtered and stored at +4 °C for further analysis.

For quantitative analysis, a calibration curve was obtained by injection of known concentrations (0.25-10 ppm) of mix phenolic standards (R² = 0.99). Concentration of the standard compound in the methanol extract was determined using the peak area in the standard chromatogram. The analysis was carried out in triplicate for each concentration.

**LC-MS/MS Analysis**

The UHPLC (Thermo Fisher Scientific Inc. Boston, USA) system consisting of Ultimate 3000 RSIL system with binary pumps and S surveyor autosampler (Thermo Scientific Inc. San Jose, CA, USA) was used for the chromatographic separation of phenolic compounds (Wu et al., 2007; Yaman, 2020). Chromatographic separation was performed on a ODS HYPERSIL column (4.6×250 mm 5 μm, Thermo Fisher Scientific Inc. Boston, USA). The mobile phase was made up from solvent A (water with 0.1% formic acid) and solvent B (methanol). The gradient profile was set as follows: the method started at 100% mobile phase A and was held for the first 1.0 min. 25 min 5% A, 30 min 100% mobile phase B. The pump flow rate was 0.7 mL/min, the column temperature was held at 30°C. The sample injection volume was 20 μL. The analysis was carried out in triplicate for each concentration.

Mass spectrometric detection was performed with a TSQ Quantum Access Max API mass spectrometer (Thermo Fisher Scientific Inc. Boston, USA) equipped with electrospray ionisation (ESI). The operating conditions in negative/positive ionization mode were as follows: capillary temperature at 300°C, vaporizer temperature at 350°C, sheat gas pressure (Arb) at 30, aux gas pressure (Arb) at 13, sprey voltage (V) (positive polarity) at 4000, sprey voltage (V) (negative polarity) at 2500, discharge current (μA) at 4.0. The internal standards were used for calibration.

**Determination of the Mineral Elements**

Mineral analysis of *R. canina* waste seeds were determined by inductively coupled plasma–atomic emission spectrometry on a Thermo Scientific iCAP 6500 (ICP-OES) (Zhang et al., 2017). The calibration curve was represented using different concentrations (from 1ppb to 2000 ppb) of each element (Ca, Cd, Co, Ni, Mo, Pb, Mg, P, K, Na, Cu, Fe, Mn, Zn, Cr, Se) before analysing the plant samples. Microwave digestion technique was used for ICP analysis. Samples (0.5 g) were weighted and digested in concentrated HNO₃/H₂O₂ (Ngigi and Muraguri, 2019). The digest solutions were analysed as triplicates. The amounts of macro/micro elements in the samples are expressed as mg g⁻¹ and mg kg⁻¹(Ercisli, 2007).

**Results and Discussion**

Several studies reported to chemical composition in different rose seeds. *R. canina* seeds are very common because they are a rich source of bioactive metabolites. However, to our knowledge currently few report is available on the chemical composition, and nutritional value of *R. canina* waste seeds.

**Multi Element Analysis**

Methods of acid digestion and quantification by ICP-OES were proposed to calculate the content of Ca, Cd, Co, Ni, Mo, Pb, Mg, P, K, Na, Cu, Fe, Mn, Zn, Cr, Se in *R. canina* seed samples (Table 1.)

The quantification of macro and micro elements is exceedingly important, because there has been an increase in their consumption as a functional food. Some of these elements were given beloved as the limit of detection (LOD). Macro elements (Ca, Mg, P, K, Na) are in the concentration range of 0.236 to 11.71 mg g⁻¹. Micro elements (Cu, Fe, Mn, Zn, Se) were determined in the concentration range of 2.47 to 17.52 mg kg⁻¹. While macro elements are acting directly muscle and nervous system, micro elements are important for biochemical reactions such as immune and hormone system (Maatallah et al., 2020).

**Table 1.** Mineral element content of *R. canina* waste seeds estimated from dried samples by ICP-OES

| Mineral          | Mean ± SD*          | Macro-mineral (mg g⁻¹.D.W) | Micro-mineral (mg kg⁻¹.DW) |
|------------------|---------------------|-----------------------------|---------------------------|
| Calcium (Ca)     | 2.47 ± 13.25        |                             |                           |
| Magnesium (Mg)   | 0.43 ± 1.47         |                             |                           |
| Phosphorus (P)   | 2.56 ± 0.03         |                             |                           |
| Potassium (K)    | 11.71 ± 0.73        |                             |                           |
| Sodium (Na)      | 0.236 ± 0.24        |                             |                           |
| Copper (Cu)      | 6.67 ± 0.01         |                             |                           |
| Iron (Fe)        | 17.52 ± 0.02        |                             |                           |
| Manganese (Mn)   | 13.43 ± 0.002       |                             |                           |
| Zinc (Zn)        | 9.78 ± 0.002        |                             |                           |
| Selenium (Se)    | 2.47 ± 0.007        |                             |                           |

*Values are means and standard deviation (SD) of 3 replicates.
**Determination of Phenolic Compounds**

The LC-MS/MS analysis of 18 phenolics resulted in quantification of 14 compounds. Sample was extracted in methanol (MeOH), acetonitrile (ACN), and dichloromethane (DCM). The most phenolic compounds were found in methanol extract.

Qualification of phenolic compounds was possible by comparison with retention time. Quantification of selected compounds was made based on calibration curves of available standards. 12 compounds were identified in the methanol extract of seeds. The catechin was found as a major compound in *R. canina* waste seeds (Takahashi et al., 2019). It was reported that catechin revealed significant biological activities including antioxidant, anti-diabetic, antimicrobial, anticancer, anticoagulant, antihypertensive, anti-inflammatory, anticancer, antimutagenic, allergic, anti-viral potential. Materials Science and Engineering C, 112.

Choudhary S, Kumar R, Dalal U, Tomar S, Reddy SN. 2020. Green synthesis of nanometal impregnated biomass – antiviral potential. Materials Science and Engineering C, 112.

**Conclusions**

Quantitative analysis of phenolic compounds and mineral contents of *R. canina* waste seeds were investigated. *R. canina* waste seeds were presented to contain important bioactive compounds that could be a raw material in pharmacy and food industry. However, *R. canina* waste seeds are not being used effectively nowadays. This study provides a perspective in recycling the *R. canina* waste seeds into the economy.

**Notes**

The authors declare no competing financial interest.

**Acknowledgment**

The author gratefully thanks to Prof. Dr. Ramazan Erenler for providing Plant Research Laboratory facilities and for his scientific support on this work.

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**Table 2. Representative phenolic compounds in different solvents of *Rosa canina* seed waste as determined by LC-MS/MS (mg/kg)**

| RT  | Phenolics        | ACN  | DCM  | MeOH | LOD | LOQ |
|-----|------------------|------|------|------|-----|-----|
| 10.21 | Gallic acid      | 3.262 | 0.300 | 35.959 | 0.058 | 0.091 |
| 13.32 | Catechin         | 59.705 | 20.040 | 297.831 | 0.097 | 0.121 |
| 13.82 | Protocatechuic acid | 0.700 | 0.840 | 2.489 | 0.422 | 1.405 |
| 13.90 | Gentisic acid    | nd   | nd   | 2.365 | 0.026 | 0.039 |
| 14.36 | Chlorogenic acid | nd   | nd   | nd   | 0.051 | 0.072 |
| 14.67 | p-hydroxybenzoic acid | 6.412 | 0.910 | 5.336 | 0.243 | 0.519 |
| 14.83 | Epicatechin      | nd   | nd   | nd   | 0.003 | 0.006 |
| 15.20 | Caffeic acid     | 0.298 | nd   | 1.180 | 0.042 | 0.058 |
| 15.27 | 4-OH benzaldehyde | 1.138 | nd   | 1.149 | 0.032 | 0.059 |
| 17.09 | p-Coumaric acid | 3.063 | nd   | 4.561 | 0.069 | 0.109 |
| 18.25 | Rutin            | 0.003 | 0.001 | 0.260 | 0.022 | 0.034 |
| 20.50 | Naringenin       | 1.514 | 0.326 | 1.275 | 0.052 | 0.068 |
| 20.73 | Quercetin        | 3.920 | nd   | 6.251 | 0.141 | 0.181 |
| 22.06 | Kaempferol       | 2.273 | 1.406 | 7.999 | 0.188 | 0.447 |

RT, Retention time. nd, Not detected.
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