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Chemical composition of the essential oil from *Lippia triplinervis* Gardner (Verbenaceae) from Minas Gerais, Brazil

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The genus *Lippia* (Verbenaceae) comprises about 200 species occurring mainly in Central and South America, as well as in some areas of Tropical Africa [1]. One of the main diversity centers of the genus is located at the "Cadeia do Espinhaço" Mountains, in the State of Minas Gerais, Brazil [2]. During a field trip for plant collecting in the mountains of Aiuruoca (Minas Gerais State) we found a strongly aromatic shrub, growing above the height of 1.800 m. The plant was collected and classified as *Lippia triplinervis* Gardner. As part of our study on Verbenaceae species occurring in Brazil, the volatile oil from fresh leaves of *L. triplinervis* was obtained by hydrodistillation in a Clevenger type apparatus for 2 h, yielding 1.4% of a yellow essential oil, which was analyzed by GC-FID using an Agilent 7890A gas chromatograph fitted with a 5%-phenyl-95%-methylsilicone capillary column (HP5, 30m X 0.32mm X 0.25 μ m), oven temperature program from 60°C to 240°C at 3°C/min, split injection (1:20, 250°C, 1 μ L of a 1% solution in dichloromethane) and hydrogen as the carrier gas (1.5mL/min). GC-MS was performed using the same conditions in an Agilent 5973N (EIMS, 70eV), but helium (1.0mL/min) as the carrier gas and a HP5-MS column (30m X 0.25mm X 0.25 μ m). For identification, both mass spectra and linear retention indices were considered. Fifty-five compounds were detected in the essential oil, of which the major components were myrcenone (57.7%), ipsenone (11.4%), (*E*)-calamenene (4.8%), myrcene (2.6%). Apart from the presence of ipsenone, the chemical composition of this oil closely resembles that of *Lippia lacunosa* previously studied by our group, which had a strong mango-like aroma [1]. The essential oil from *L. triplinervis* displayed similar sensory characteristics. To the best of our knowledge, this is the first report on the chemical composition of *Lippia triplinervis* essential oil.

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References

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