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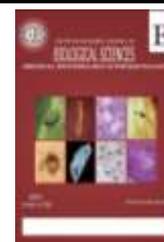


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**Bioassay of Flavonoids *Crataegus oxyacantha* with Plant Bionanosensor**

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**ABSTRACT**

Micro-organisms, tissues, cells, organelles, enzymes, peptides and DNA are used to identify the target substance called as a specific or non-specific biosensor. A bioassay is a biological testing procedure for estimating the concentration of a substance in a formulated product or bulk material. Due to the importance of flavonoids as antioxidants and expensive and time-consuming methods, bioassay of flavonoids via biosensor is growing. Plant bionanosensor is a new approach and a certain type of biosensor that converts the concentration of flavonoids into visible rotation and flavonoids are detected by different rotations of concentration. The rotations of *Ccrataegus oxyacantha* (Hawthorn) extract (flavonoids) with plant bionanosensor were analyzed in a completely randomized design with three replications by sas9.1 software. The different levels of flavonoid rotation are significant with a probability of 99%. So far, no report was made on plant biosensor.

**INTRODUCTION**

Hawthorn extract has a significant amount of flavonoid and is of high importance due to the antioxidant property. Flavonoids have two groups of anthocyanins and antoxantine. Anthocyanin has pigments and antoxantine is colorless (Kin and Young, 1999). Faramarz Moradi began his research of plant biosensors with the patent No. 26299 in Iran with the discovery of rotation organ (Moradi, 1999). Then, in 2000, he was chosen in Qwarizmi's Festival thanks to the invention named intelligent organ and could gain the third place (discovery of smart organ, 2000). He recorded the plant sensor No. 332/421 in Iran's scientific research and industrial organization in 2004. Foundation of the memory material was reported in Iran in 2005 (Moradi, 2005) and a type of bioreactor sensor was built (Moradi et al., 2003). From the intelligent organ, a plant engine generating bioenergy was created under Biotechnology Master's thesis at Tehran University with the participation of Sharif University and was patented in Iran (Moradi, 2005). Moreover, plant anchor cells as storage energy (Moradi, 2005) moisture signal sensor (Moradi, 2005) damp-proof Nano sensor of drugs and materials (Moradi, 2006) Mobile safety sensor (Recipient, grant and License, 2010) industry and materials micro-sensor (Moradi, 2005) were patented in Iran and one file named nanomotor was recorded in the US (Moradi, 2006). Foundation of plant sensors using discovering intelligent organ was accepted at the University of Arkansas of US (Moradi, 2009) and foundation of cellulosic rotating Nano composites, including NanoBiotech were accepted at Switzerland (Moradi, 2009) international nanotechnology

conferences. Mobile safety sensor obtained the bronze medal in the Olympics (Recipient Bronze Medal from novel Technology, 2011) and was verified by the three levels of Iran's National Elite Foundation (Recipient, grant and License, 2011).

Biosensors are based on identifying the target material with high specific detection (Mello and Kubota, 2002) as follows:

1. Bio-recognition elements: in which enzymes, antibodies, a part of DNA, peptides, and even a tissue of microorganism are used (Gooding, 2006).
2. Amperometric biosensors that act based on oxidation and electrode reduction coated with enzymes (Vastarella, 2001). Absorption biosensors bind to a molecule that is to be determined. The electrode with the coated enzyme is one of them.
3. Carbon paste electrodes are widely used initially by Adams (Mailley *et al.*, 2004). Carbon paste electrodes are simple and cheap (Ghobadi *et al.*, 1996; Bolado *et al.*, 2007).
4. Electrochemical analysis of polyphenolic compounds: quality and

quantity of polyphenols are done by spectrometry or HPLC that are expensive and time-consuming. Graphite powder compound with non-electrolytic paste is inexpensive and easy to use. For more polyphenolic compounds, antioxidants containing phenolic groups are commonly used, which are based on electrochemical biosensors activity. They are a. polyphenol in the oil extraction (Capannesi *et al.*, 2000), b. red polyphenol compounds (Gomes *et al.*, 2004), c. polyphenols of various teas (Campanella *et al.*, 2003), d. white and red polyphenols (Campanella *et al.*, 2004a; Campanella *et al.*, 2005) and a type of biosensor with Laccase enzyme for measuring the red polyphenol compounds. Laccase biosensor directly causes the oxidation of phenolic compounds (Freire *et al.*, 2001; Freire *et al.*, 2003a). Figure. 1 shows oxidation of flavonoids with Laccase (Pourcel *et al.*, 2007).

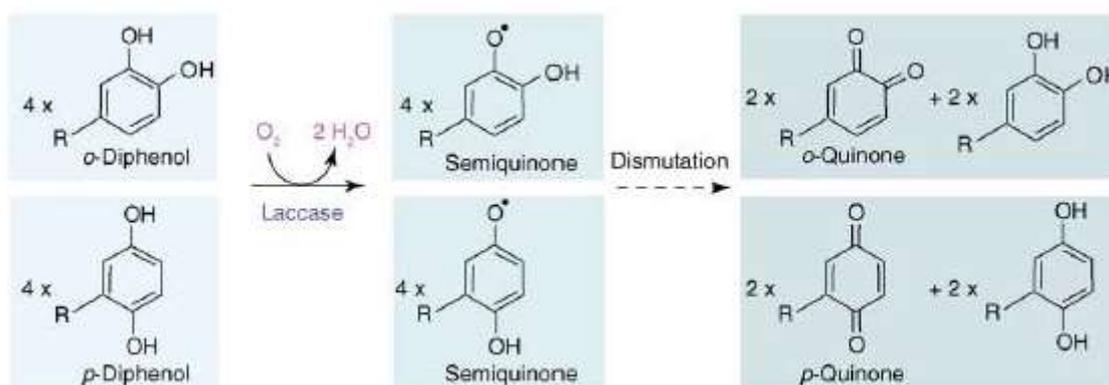


Figure. 1. Oxidation of flavonoids with Laccase

There are various methods for measuring antioxidant biological compounds. Qualitative and quantitative techniques of polyphenols measurement include chromatography such as HPLC and GC-MS. These techniques are expensive and time-

consuming so the development of biosensors can overcome these limitations. In order to prevent damage by free radicals, the body has a defense system of antioxidants (Antolovich *et al.*, 2002). Some plants have

antioxidant properties, especially biological flavonoids are considered as neutralizing free radicals due to the antioxidant, natural origin and the effective ability of activity (Katalinic et al., 2006). The flavonoids (Urquiaga and Leighton. 2000), which can be seen in Fig. 2 are used to eliminate free radicals (Simone, 1992) which can be seen in Fig. 3. Plant bionanosensor is a certain type and new

approach of biosensors that has been used by the Faramarz Moradi as inventor of this paper. The study was used to determine two types of concentrations of flavonoids in hawthorn extract through the rotation. So far, no report was made about such a plant biosensor at international level from other researchers.

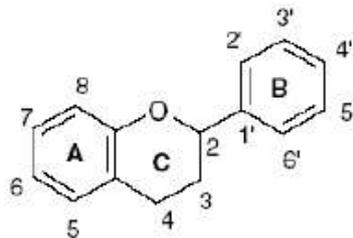


Fig. 2. Flavonoid structure: Ourkoyaga & Layton, 2000)

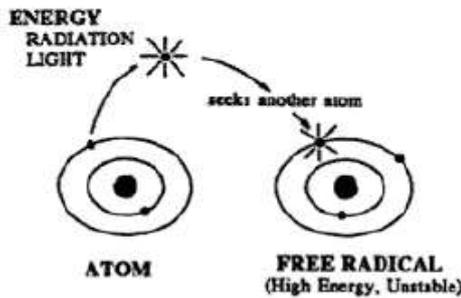


Figure. 3. Simon's free radicals (1992)

**MATERIALS AND METHODS**

Plant Nano-structure used in plant bionanosensor is the rotating Nano-structures as storage (i.e., it can turn to its previous memory such as memory metal) that has been fabricated by the Faramarz Moradi.

According to the following figure, plant bionanosensor has a graded plane divided by 310 sections, in which the amount of rotation could be read by a hand connected to a plant nano-structure (Figure 4 and Figure 6). In the bottom of the bionanosensor, test site of the extract flavonoids can be seen (Figure. 5).

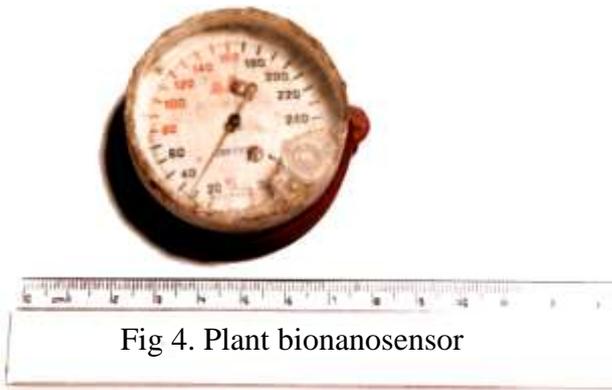


Fig 4. Plant bionanosensor



Fig 5. The site of flavonoids test

Using insulin syringe, a drop of treatment inserted at the test site and the test site was placed on the paper to read the degree of each treatment. 2-2.5 mg, 1-1.25 mg, 0.625-0.5 mg and 0 mg of flavonoid on hyperoside/1 ml of hawthorn (*Crataegus oxyacantha*) in ethanol 70% was purchased by a pharmaceutical company of Iran Daru.

With regard to injection of 1.100 cc, the treatments were divided into 100 and the

effect of treatments was analyzed by 02-0.025 mg, 0.0125- 0.01 mg, 0.0625-0.005 mg and 0 mg flavonoid in 1.100 cc as a completely randomized experiment with three iterations by software sas9.1. Comparison of average rotation was performed with LSD test at 1% level.

## RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Table 1 shows the results of the rotation bioassay.

Table 1. The Degree of plant bio nanosensor rotation

0 mg flavonoids in 70% ethanol as control	0.005-0.00625 mg of flavonoids as hyperozoid in 0.01 ml <i>crataegus oxyacantha</i> extract	0.01-0.125 mg of flavonoids as hyperozoid in 0.01 ml <i>crataegus oxyacantha</i> extract	0.02-0.025 mg of flavonoids as hyperoside in 0.01 ml <i>crataegus oxyacantha</i> extract
261	230	150	80
262	200	140	70
255	215	135	75

Table 2. Analysis of variance of the treatments rotation of flavonoids extract

F**	Mean Square	Sum of squares	df	Source of changes
245.40	19802.97	59408.91	3	Treatment
	80.66	645.33	8	Error

R<sup>2</sup>=0.97 c.v= 5.19 \*\*sig=1%

According to Table 2, at least two of the four treatments are statistically different from each other at 1% in order to decide

which one of the treatments have a significant difference with other treatments. LSD method was used to compare means

Table 3. Comparison of the mean treatments of Flavonoid concentrations in ethanol (70% ethanol and 30% water)

Rank	The average degree of rotational memory	Flavonoid mg as hyperoside in 0.01 ml of <i>crataegus oxyacantha</i> extract
A	295.33	0 (control)
B	215.00	0.005-0.00625
C	141.66	0.01-0.125
D	75.00	0.02-0.025

Table 3 shows that the A treatment has the greatest effect on rotational memory that is related to control and showed the greatest rotation by the greatest uptake by bio-nanosensor and the D treatment has the

lowest effect on the rotational memory because it has the highest concentration. Therefore, it has low absorption and low rotation.

According to above tables, plant bionano sensor is capable to detect hawthorn extract with a probability of 99% (70% ethanol as a control), 0.025-0.02 mg, 0.0125-0.01 mg, 0.00625-0.005 mg and 0 mg flavonoid on hyperosioide. The higher the flavonoid concentration, the lower the degree

of rotation sensors will be. To examine the cause of rotation through an electron microscope manufactured by Zeiss German Factory, model 60A at Tehran University by SEM of plant sensor used in plant biosensor, a scan was run. The following picture is one of the images obtained.

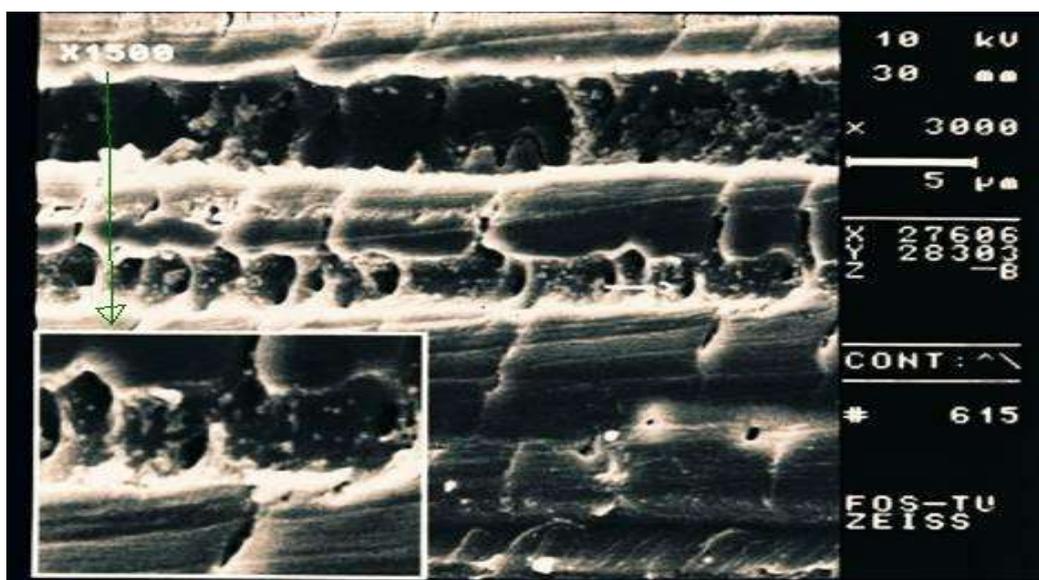


Fig. 6. Longitudinal section- electron microscopic image of plant nanostructure by SEM

The picture shows that the lower part of the picture magnified 1,500 times, in which nanoparticles less than the mean diameter of a nanometer or nano-holes can be seen that contribute to its rotation. Plant sensor longitudinal section shows that nano-holes and nanoparticles with absorption treatments convert the absorption treatment energy into the rotation with the help of specific structural features.

Plant bio-nanosensor advantage includes:

1. It is inexpensive compared to chromatography, spectroscopy techniques and other biosensors.
2. It has been the result of years of research since 1999.
3. It is simple and easy transportation makes its use in the desert.
4. It does not use any electrical energy source unlike other methods use it as flavonoid extract acts as an energy source of the biosensor.
5. If it is recorded at the international level, it can be commercialized

at the international level. 6. If it is optimized, plant secondary metabolites can be directly studied by intact leaves and other physiological properties. 7. It is inexpensive and easy to use. 8. Any material is used in its performance. 9. The use of other methods requires purification of flavonoids.

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