

Review of: "Haematological and Biochemical Patterns in the Liver Function of a Syrup Made From *Vitex Doniana* Fruit"

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Potential competing interests: No potential competing interests to declare.

The manuscript analyzes the acute effects of consuming a *Vitex doniana* fruit syrup in rodents. The results support previous studies and introduce added value to the regional cultivation of this species.

Introduction

-Please rewrite the objective of the work more clearly so that it adequately reflects the study carried out.

Materials and methods

-Please consider including in the first point the description of the *V. doniana* syrup under study: origin and chemical composition (formula), provide a reference, or its commercial origin.

-It is suggested to indicate the weight/age and sex of the animals used. Also, the origin and/or place of housing of the animals (institution) and the type and origin of the diet supplied.

-The experimental design does not coincide with the described results. An acute toxicity test (14 days) is mentioned, and a 3-day design is described, but the results mentioned cover 21 days. The description of the experimental design should be improved by clearly detailing: the type of study carried out (acute toxicity?/subchronic?/both?), the justification of the selected syrup doses, and the route and mode of administration (before or with food; single or multiple doses). How the diet is administered during the experiment (restricted?/ad libitum?). Clarify the value of conducting a three-day syrup consumption study (if applicable) and not a subchronic or chronic study.

-Please indicate if you performed a post-test for the ANOVA statistical analysis.

Results

-It is suggested to review the wording of the results and rewrite them more clearly, without repeating in the text the numerical information that is already expressed in the tables, indeed, its interpretation.

-Please enter ($P \geq 0.05$) when referring to non-significant results.

-Please indicate a bibliographic citation for the reference ranges (normal values) of the parameters analyzed in the different tables.

-The authors mention a dose of 100 mg/kg body weight administered to the mice, but this dose is not described in the M&Ms.

-The text specifies that "*no significant differences were observed*" in the antioxidant system of the animals that consumed syrup, *in vivo*. However, this statement does not seem to agree with some data in Table 4, especially at high doses.

-When mentioning "*permissible levels for a normal health system*", please keep in mind that values obtained in rodents

cannot always be extrapolated to those found in humans.

-It is suggested that the authors reorganize the text of Figure 1. Example:

Figure 1. Effects of *V. doniana* syrup on liver structure. Representative H&E-stained liver tissues from control mice (A), and mice treated with 25 mg/kg (B), 30 mg/kg (C), 35 mg/kg (D), 40 mg/kg (E) and 45 mg/kg (F) of fruit syrup. Magnification: ×100. central vein (CV), hepatic artery (HA), bile duct (BD), sinusoids (SS).

Please, note that letters in the images and the acronyms would look better without the text box.

-When reporting the results of histomorphological evaluation, please replace the terms "*absence of pathological effects*", not "*histological defects*".

Discussion

-It is suggested to focus the discussion around the results found, and add references when hypothesizing based on the already described effects of the plant/syrup.

-Please replace "*health system*" with "*body health*"; and "*body system*" for "*body*."