Composition and Antimicrobial Activity of the Essential Oil of *Dicyclophora persica* Boiss. from Iran

Peyman Salehi[a,*], Ali Sonboli[b], and Fatemeh Mohammadi[a]

[a] Department of Phytochemistry, Medicinal Plants and Drugs Research Institute, Shahid Beheshti University, Evin, P.O. Box 19835-389, Tehran, Iran. Fax: (+9821)2241 8679. E-mail: p-salehi@cc.sbu.ac.ir

[b] Department of Biology, Medicinal Plants and Drugs Research Institute, Shahid Beheshti University, Evin, Tehran, Iran

* Author for correspondence and reprint requests

The chemical composition of the essential oil of *Dicyclophora persica* Boiss. was identified by GC and GC-MS analysis. The analysis of the oil resulted in the identification of forty-five components constituting 98.6% of the total oil. The main constituents were α-pinene (31.5%), (Z)-β-ocimene (23.3%), *p*-cymene (6.7%) and (E)-β-ocimene (5.4%). The antimicrobial activity of the oil was tested by the disk diffusion method against four Gram-positive (*Bacillus subtilis, Staphylococcus aureus, Staphylococcus epidermidis* and *Enterococcus faecalis)* and three Gram-negative (*Escherichia coli, Klebsiella pneumoniae* and *Pseudomonas aeruginosa*) bacteria together with a fungus *(Aspergillus niger)*. The oil showed strong inhibition activity toward all the tested microorganisms except for *Pseudomonas aeruginosa*.

Key words: Dicyclophora persica, Antimicrobial Activity, Essential Oil Composition