



Title: Botanical authentication and certification for consumer safety

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Botanical authentication has to be considered a fundamental step to guarantee the consumer safety of botanical food supplements. Nowadays, National and International Pharmacopoeia as well as EMEA, ESCOP, and WHO commissions provide monographs on several medicinal and aromatic plants to get information on their traditional uses and quality control guidelines. EFSA compendium establishes the list of medicinal and aromatic plants which it is possible to include in botanical food supplements sold in the European market.

Due to the enhancing industrial interest consistent with the continuous customer's trusted approach to "natural products", the scientific research community has required urgently to provide suitable protocols and procedures in the quality control of the plant raw material and derivatives during the whole productive and marketing chains.

Multidisciplinary research studies combining botanical, agronomic, and phytochemical analysis should be promoted in order to guarantee important results in the establishment of feasible and effective quality control procedures, international certification and, consequently, in the identification of customers' health risks.

Biography

Researcher at University of Pisa-Department of Pharmacy (SSD Pharmaceutical biology; ERC Plant Science). Educational Background: Master Degree on "The Quality System in the Analytical Chemistry Laboratory" (University of Parma); Post Doctoral Position at the Department of Pharmaceutical Sciences-Faculty of Pharmacy (University of Calabria); PhD on Science and Tecnology in Medicinal Plants (University of Pisa); Degree in Pharmaceutical Chemistry and Technologies (University of Pisa). Involved in National and International Research Projects and invited lecturer, she is co-author of more than 100 pubblications (book chapters, articles, posters and oral communications).

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