



## Dissolution Profiles of Herbal Medicines Containing *Maytenus ilicifolia* Mart ex Reiss

Ana Flavia V.B. LEAL, Mariana de O. BERRETA, José R. de PAULA,  
Danielle G.A. DINIZ & Maria T.F. BARA \*

*Faculty of Pharmacy, Federal University of Goiás, C P 131, 74001-970. Goiânia, GO, Brazil.*

---

**SUMMARY.** *Maytenus ilicifolia* is used against gastric disorders and ulcers. The dissolution test is an essential tool to assess the quality of herbal medicines in the solid dosage form for oral use. This work aimed to evaluate the dissolution behavior of eleven herbal medicines containing *M. ilicifolia*, produced with powder or dry extract. The assay of catechin and epicatechin by high-pressure liquid chromatography (HPLC) and dissolution methods were validated. Through the dissolution profiles, the mathematical model of release (first order), the percentage of markers dissolved at 45 min, and the efficiency of dissolution have been determined. It was found that only 45.5 % of the analyzed herbal medicines products provided satisfactory results. The obtained data demonstrated the need to implement these tests in the quality control of herbal medicines by investigating the release of the active ingredients.

---

**KEY WORDS:** Catechin, Dissolution test, Herbal medicines, *Maytenus ilicifolia*, Natural products, Quality control.

\* Author to whom correspondence should be addressed. E-mail: mbara@farmacia.ufg.br