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Determination of Six Lignans in *Saururus chinensis* Rhizome from Different Harvesting Seasons by HPLC-DAD

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SUMMARY. A high-performance liquid chromatography-photodiode array was employed to simultaneously determine six lignans, namely saucernetin (**1**), sauchinone (**2**), rel-(7R,8R,7'R,8'R)-3',4'-methylenedioxy-3,4,5,5'-tetramethoxy-7,7'-epoxylignan (**3**), saucernetin-8 (**4**), saucerneol D (**5**) and saucernetin-7 (**6**) in *Saururus chinensis* rhizome from different harvesting seasons. The results indicated that the established HPLC-DAD method could be considered as a suitable quality control method for *S. chinensis* rhizome. The samples harvested in May, August and November contain higher contents of lignans than other months, and the best harvesting season of *S. chinensis* rhizome might be in November.

RESUMEN. Se utilizó una matriz de cromatografía líquida de alta resolución de fotodiodos para determinar simultáneamente seis lignanos, a saber saucernetina (**1**), sauchinona (**2**), rel-(7R,8R,7'R,8'R)-3',4'-metilendioxi-3,4,5,5'-tetrametoxi-7,7'-epoxilignano (**3**), saucernetina-8 (**4**), saucerneol D (**5**) y saucernetina-7 (**6**) en rizomas de *Saururus chinensis* de diferentes estaciones de cosecha. Los resultados indicaron que el método HPLC-DAD establecido podría considerarse como un método de control de calidad adecuado para el rizoma de *S. chinensis*. Las muestras cosechadas en mayo, agosto y noviembre contienen mayores contenidos de lignanos que otros meses y la mejor estación de cosecha del rizoma de *S. chinensis* podría ser en noviembre.

KEY WORDS: accumulation regularity, HPLC-DAD, *Saururus chinensis* rhizome, simultaneous quantification.

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