

## *Tetradenia riparia* (Lamiaceae) essential oil: an alternative to *Rhipicephalus sanguineus*

Giuliana Zardeto-Sabec<sup>1</sup>, Renan Almeida de Jesus<sup>1</sup>, Herika Line Marko de Oliveira<sup>1</sup>, Caio Franco de Araújo Almeida Campo<sup>2</sup>, Ezilda jacomassi<sup>4</sup>, José Eduardo Gonçalves<sup>2,3</sup> and Zilda Cristiani Gazim<sup>1\*</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Programa de Pós-Graduação em Biotecnologia Aplicada à Agricultura. Universidade Paranaense - UNIPAR, Praça Mascarenhas de Moraes, 4282, CEP 87502-210, Umuarama-PR, Brasil

<sup>2</sup>Mestrado em Tecnologia Limpas e <sup>3</sup>Instituto Cesumar de Ciência, Tecnologia e Inovação – ICETI. Centro Universitário Cesumar-UNICesumar, Av. Guedner, 1610. Jardim Aclimação, Maringá, Paraná, 87050-900, Brasil

<sup>4</sup>Mestrado Profissional em Plantas Medicinais e Fitoterápicos na Atenção Básica, Universidade Paranaense (UNIPAR), Praça Mascarenhas de Moraes, 4282, Umuarama, PR, 87502-210, Brasil

\*Corresponding author: cristianigazim@prof.unipar.br

### Abstract

In Brazil, *Rhipicephalus sanguineus* resistance to some pyrethroids have been detected, motivating research on new phyto-insecticides such as essential oil from *Tetradenia riparia* leaves (EO<sub>L</sub>) and flower buds (EO<sub>FB</sub>). The essential oils were obtained by hydrodistillation (3h) and identified by GC/MS. In addition, a multivariate exploratory analysis was done to determine the analysis of the major compounds (PCA). The bioassays on *R. sanguineus* larvae were done by immersion test at different EO concentrations which ranged from 50,000 to 0.47 mg/mL (v/v). The action mechanism of EOs were determined by bioautographic method evaluating the inhibitory potential on the acetylcholinesterase enzyme. The EO yield in leaves was 0.29±0.22 (%) and in flower buds 0.38±0.17 (%). The class projections showed oxygenated sesquiterpenes (43.62%) and diterpenes (15.60%) in EO<sub>FB</sub>, and hydrocarbon sesquiterpenes (26.44%) and oxygenated monoterpenes (16.44%) in EO<sub>L</sub>. Four components presented a greater distancing of mass flow: fenchone (11.57 and 6.01 %),  $\alpha$ -cadinol (12.21 and 13.69 %), 14-hidroxy-9-epi-caryophyllene (8.56 and 15.38 %), and caryophyllene oxide (1.32 and 4.50 %) in EO<sub>L</sub> and EO<sub>FB</sub>, respectively. The lethal concentrations (LCs) to kill *R. sanguineus* larvae were (LC<sub>50</sub>: 2.18±0.24 and LC<sub>99.9</sub>: 9.98±0.10 mg/mL) for EO<sub>L</sub>, and (LC<sub>50</sub>: 5.36±2.50 and LC<sub>99.9</sub>: 20.12±0.54 mg/mL) for EO<sub>FB</sub>. The action mechanism of EOs by bioautographic methods indicated an inhibition of 0.70 mg/mL (EO<sub>L</sub>) and 1.40 mg/mL (EO<sub>FB</sub>) on the acetylcholinesterase enzyme (AChE). Therefore, this species can be considered promising to be part of the chemical larvicides to control this ectoparasite.

**Keywords:** dog ticks, monoterpenes, fenchone, limonene, camphor, acetylcholinesterase, bio insecticides, falsa mirra.

**Abbreviations:** GC/MS\_gas chromatographer coupled to mass spectrometer; LC\_lethal concentration; LC99.9\_lethal concentration to eliminate 99.9% of larvae and ticks, LC50\_lethal concentration to eliminate 50% of larvae and ticks.

### Introduction

*Rhipicephalus sanguineus*, a cosmopolitan tick is probably the most distributed ixodid worldwide (Szabó et al., 2009), and has been found more and more often in man's home and peridomiciliary environments of the main urban host of this ectoparasite, the domestic dog *Canis familiaris* (Paz et al., 2008). In dogs, besides the direct damages, this ectoparasite is responsible for the transmission of *Ehrlichia canis*, *Babesia canis*, *Haemobartonella canis* and *Hepatozoon canis*. In humans, it is the vector of *Rickettsia conorii* and *Rickettsia rickettsia*, and this diagnosis is especially important once there have been reports on human parasitism by tick in Brazil (Borges et al., 2007). The growing number of cases of human parasitism by *R. sanguineus* has indicated that the interaction between human beings and *R. sanguineus* may be more common

than it has been imagined (Cunha et al., 2009; Salkeld et al., 2019).

The control of this mite happens with the utilization of chemical acaricides from the classes of Isoxazolines (Afoxolaner, Fluralaner, Sarolaner and Lotilaner), Phenylpyrazoles (Fipronyl), Spinozins (Spinosad), Neonicotinoids (Nitempiram), Carbamates and Organophosphates (Pereira et al., 2008; Raimundo et al., 2017); however, the indiscriminate use of these substances resulted in the selection of resistant populations (Jeyathilakan et al., 2019). In Brazil, *R. sanguineus* resistance to some pyrethroids were recorded by Fernandes (2001), and since then the literature has been reporting that several synthetic acaricides have lost or reduced their efficiency due to the development of resistant strains (Brito et al., 2011). Another problem regards the number of animal and human

poisonings mostly by organophosphates and carbamates (Raimundo et al., 2017; Bortolucci et al., 2018) due to the easy product acquisition and their indiscriminate utilization (Xavier et al., 2007).

Therefore, alternative controls have been studied and, therefore, the exploration of plants as efficient sources of botanical acaricides is promising and must be motivated (Sugauara et al., 2019). The utilization of secondary phytochemical metabolites have been able to interfere in arthropods' physiology such as neuroendocrine systems, feeding, metamorphoses, vulnerable points to population control based on arthropods' life cycle (Garcia and Azambuja, 2004).

Interest in the development of pesticide products with essential oils is based on studies that showed that they have repellent, fumigating, larvicidal and adulticide action (Tripathi and Mishra, 2016). The insecticide effect of essential oils occurs due to the variability of phytochemical standards and the way this phytomolecules penetrate the organism considering that essential oils can be inhaled, ingested or absorbed by the skin of insects (Magalhães et al., 2015). Another advantage to the use of essential oils regards their fast degradation in the environment and their increased specificity that favors benefic insects (Tripathi et al., 2009). Little is known on the physiological actions of essential oils on insects, but Kostyukovsky et al. (2002) suggested a neurotoxic action as it was shown with linalool that acts on the nervous system, affecting the ionic transport and the release of acetylcholinesterase in insects (Junior, 2003). This action mechanism was demonstrated in our study where *T. riparia* essential oil acted out by inhibiting acetylcholinesterase enzyme.

*Tetradenia riparia* (Hochst) Codd, from the Lamiaceae family (Souza and Lorenzi, 2005; Martins et al., 2008), is a plant utilized in popular medicine, and the essential oil extracted from its leaves has been used to treat malaria, criptococosis, candidiasis and respiratory infections (Van Puyvelde et al., 1986; Campbell et al., 1997; Okem et al., 2012, York et al., 2012). Studies carried out with this species have shown antimicrobial activity (Boily and Van Puyvelde 1986; Van Puyvelde et al. 1994; Gazim et al., 2010; Ndamane et al., 2013; Njau et al., 2014; Melo et al., 2015), repellent activity against *Anopheles gambiae* (Omolo et al., 2004), acaricidal and larvicidal (Gazim et al., 2011) and antileishmanial activities (Cardoso et al., 2015, Demarchi et al., 2015). Thus, this study aimed to investigate the larvicidal potential of essential oil from *T. riparia* leaves and flower buds against *Rhipicephalus sanguineus* tick.

## Results

### Physical Aspects and Yield (%)

The essential oil from *T. riparia* leaves (EO<sub>L</sub>) presented orange color, yield of 0.29±0.22 (%), whereas the essential oil from flower buds (EO<sub>FB</sub>) had reddish orange color with yield of 0.38±0.17 (%).

### Chemical Composition and Principal Components analysis (PCA)

Through the chemical analysis by GC/MS 48 compounds were identified in EO<sub>L</sub> and 56 in EO<sub>FB</sub> (Table 1). The class

projection showed oxygenated sesquiterpenes (43.62%) and oxygenated diterpenes (15.60%) in EO<sub>FB</sub>; and hydrocarbon sesquiterpenes (26.44%) and oxygenated monoterpenes (16.44%) in EO<sub>L</sub> (Fig 1).

Grouping by ACP was done including the major compounds identified in EO from leaves and flower buds. Four compounds out of them presented greater distancing of mass flow: L-fenchone (11.57 % and 6.01 %),  $\alpha$ -cadinol (1.21 % and 13.69 %), 14-hidroxy-9-epi-caryophyllene (8.56 % and 15.38 %) and caryophyllene oxide (1.32 % and 4.50 %), respectively (Fig 2).

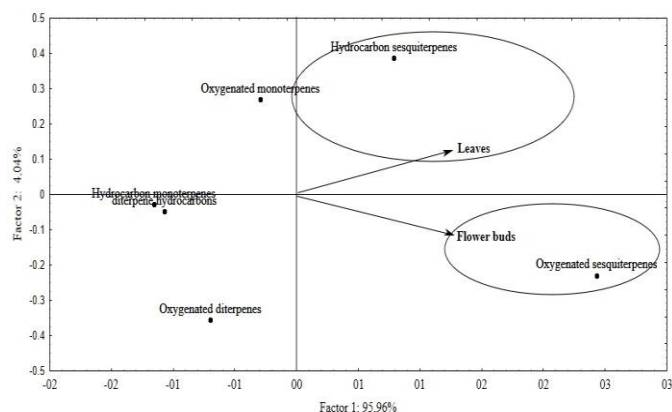
### Larvicidal activity by Larval Packet Test

The results found for larvicidal activity of *T. riparia* EO<sub>L</sub> and EO<sub>FB</sub> on *Rhipicephalus sanguineus* ae shown in Table 2. The lethal concentrations (CLs) found to kill *Rhipicephalus sanguineus* larvae are presented in Table 3. Another important aspect within this study was to determine which action mechanism of the EO acted on *R. sanguineus* larvae. The Utilized protocol was based on the evaluation of the inhibitory capacity of EOS on the acetylcholinesterase enzyme by bioautographic method and whose results are shown on Table 4. The leaves essential oil presented greater larvicidal activity (CL<sub>99.9</sub> 9.98 mg/mL) when compared to the essential oil from flower buds (CL<sub>99.9</sub> 20.12 mg/mL). This difference can be related to the greater amount of hydrocarbon and oxygenated monoterpenes in EO<sub>L</sub> (23.21%) when compare to EO<sub>FB</sub> (10.80%) according to Table 1 and Figures 1 and 2, because, according to Tripathi and Mishra (2016), monoterpenes present insecticide potential and, according to Lee et al. (2004), this potential can be explained by the fact that the compounds are volatile, lipophilic and able to quickly penetrate inside insects interfering in their physiological functions. Analyzing the chemical composition of *T. riparia* essential oil, four monoterpenes are found in greater amount in EO<sub>L</sub> when compared to EO<sub>FB</sub>: L-fenchone (11.57; 6.01%), limonene (1.16; 0.37%), L-camphor (2.38; 1.36%),  $\alpha$ -pinene (1.57; 0.23%) and  $\beta$ -caryophyllene (5.70; 3.85%), respectively, which present potential insecticide by bibliographic review as described in Table 5. Limonene has pytoinsecticide potential and is an active ingredient in commercially available shampoo against fleas (Athea<sup>®</sup> Laboratories, Inc., Cornell, USA) (Tripathi et al., 2009). Also, it can be used in combination with detergent to control aphids, mealybugs, ants, fleas, ticks and mites (Moreira et al., 2006). The utilization of this compound is safe due to its low lethal concentration (LC<sub>50</sub>) which is higher than 5.000 mg/kg. The bio insecticide potential of L-fenchone was studied by Sánchez-Ramos and Castañera (2001) in female *Tyrophagus putrescentiae* (Schrank) mites exposed to inhalation (9.0  $\mu$ l/L) of fenchone for 24 h, resulting in 100 % of mortality. The larvicidal activity of monoterpenes  $\alpha$ - and  $\beta$ -pinene on *R. (B.) microplus* tick was measured by Prates et al. (1993) and the results indicated 100% lethality of larvae in 10 minutes of exposure. Sutherst et al. (1982) attributed the toxic effect that caused the immobilization and death of 100% of *R. (B.) microplus* larvae to a mixture of  $\alpha$ -pinene and  $\beta$ -pinene, found in tropical legumes *Stylosanthes scabra* and *S. viscosa*, after 24 hours of contact with these legumes. In research studies developed by Prates et al. (1998), it took (+)-camphor 60 minutes to

**Table 1.** Chemical composition of essential oil from *Tetradenia riparia* leaves and flower buds.

Peak	Compounds	Relative Area (%)		RI	Identification methods
		Leaves	Flower buds		
1	$\alpha$ -pinene	1.57	0.23	901	a,b,c
2	Camphene	1.22	0.16	913	a,b,c
3	Sabinene	1.41	0.34	930	a,b,c
4	$\beta$ -pinene	0.73	0.23	935	a,b,c
5	Limonene	1.16	0.37	973	a,b,c
6	<i>Cis</i> -ocimene	0.49	0.09	976	a,b,c
7	<i>Trans</i> - $\beta$ -ocimene	-	0.30	977	a,b,c
8	$\delta$ -terpinene	0.20	-	996	a,b,c
9	L-fenchone	11.57	6.01	1111	a,b,c
10	Fenchol	0.81	0.55	1122	a,b,c
11	L-camphor	2.38	1.36	1136	a,b,c
12	Borneol L	0.82	0.61	1145	a,b,c
13	Terpinene-4-ol	0.46	0.16	1150	a,b,c
14	L- $\alpha$ -Terpineol	0.40	0.39	1155	a,b,c
15	Bicycloelemene	0.34	0.31	1314	a,b,c
16	$\alpha$ -copaene	0.88	0.47	1334	a,b,c
17	$\beta$ -elemene	0.68	0.53	1342	a,b,c
18	$\alpha$ -gurjunene	1.69	1.33	1350	a,b,c
19	$\beta$ -caryophyllene	5.70	3.85	1354	a,b,c
20	<i>Trans</i> - $\alpha$ -bergamotene	0.83	0.69	1461	a,b,c
21	Aromadendrene	0.36	-	1468	a,b,c
22	$\alpha$ -humulene	0.59	0.24	1468	a,b,c
23	<i>Trans</i> - $\beta$ -farnesene	0.31	0.23	1471	a,b,c
24	<i>Allo</i> -aromadendrene	0.30	0.42	1478	a,b,c
25	$\alpha$ -amorphene	0.61	0.16	1481	a,b,c
26	Zingiberene	1.24	0.45	1482	a,b,c
27	Viridiflorene	-	1.83	1484	a,b,c
28	Bicyclogermacrene	3.68	3.55	1486	a,b,c
29	$\alpha$ -muurolene	0.84	0.48	1487	a,b,c
30	<i>Trans</i> - $\alpha$ -farnesene	0.51	0.33	1489	a,b,c
31	<i>Cis</i> - $\alpha$ -bisabolene	1.15	0.67	1492	a,b,c
32	$\gamma$ -cadinene	1.29	2.07	1494	a,b,c
33	$\delta$ -cadinene	4.60	2.61	1495	a,b,c
34	<i>Trans</i> -cadina-1,4-diene	0.84	1.41	1496	a,b,c
35	Elemol	0.23	-	1501	a,b,c
36	Palustrol	-	0.18	1530	a,b,c
37	1,6-germacradien-5-ol	2.93	-	-	a,b,c
38	Caryophyllene oxide	1.32	4.50	1538	a,b,c
39	Globulol	-	1.08	1545	a,b,c
40	Viridiflorol	0.25	0.26	1553	a,b,c
41	Ledol	0.54	0.53	1563	a,b,c
42	$\beta$ -oplophenone	0.21	0.32	1573	a,b,c
43	$\alpha$ -muurolol	3.69	1.73	1595	a,b,c
44	T-cadinol	1.60	2.05	1596	a,b,c
45	T-muurolol	3.43	3.90	1609	a,b,c
46	$\alpha$ -cadinol	12.21	13.69	1622	a,b,c
47	14-hidroxy-9-epi-caryophyllene	8.56	15.38	1645	a,b,c
48	Abietadiene	7.29	7.45	2012	a,b,c
49	n.i	-	0.29	2016	a,b,c
50	Caliculone	0.28	0.22	2016	a,b,c
51	S-Indacene-1,7-dione, 2,3,5,6-tetrahydro-3,3,4,5,5,8-hexamethyl-	-	0.51	2075	a,b,c
52	Manoyl oxide	1.43	2.90	2089	a,b,c
53	Cembrene	-	0.16	2097	a,b,c
54	9 $\beta$ ,13 $\beta$ -epoxy-7-abietene	0.31	0.45	2097	d*
55	n.i	-	0.20	2136	a,b,c
56	13- $\alpha$ ,15- $\alpha$ -epoxyabiet-8-ene	-	0.16	2161	a,b,c
57	(1E,3Z,11E)-Cembra-1,3,11-trien-6-one	-	0.60	2173	a,b,c
58	6-7-dehidroroleanone	5.80	9.61	2192	d*
59	Anthracene, 1,4-dimethoxy-9-phenyl	-	0.99	2244	a,b,c
60	n.i	-	0.15	2256	a,b,c
61	Gibberellin A3	-	0.28	2225	a,b,c
Total identified		99.74	99.38		
Hydrocarbon Monoterpenes		6.78	1.72		
Oxygenated Monoterpenes		16.44	9.08		
Hydrocarbon Sesquiterpenes		26.44	21.63		
Oxygenated Sesquiterpenes		34.97	43.62		
Diterpene hydrocarbons		7.29	7.45		
Oxygenated diterpenes		7.82	15.60		
Not identified (n.i)		-	0.64		
Other Compounds		-	0.28		

<sup>a</sup>Compounds listed according to the elution order in HP-5ms column; <sup>b</sup>retention index (RI) calculated utilizing *n*-alkanes C<sub>6</sub> to C<sub>20</sub> in a capillary column (HP-5ms); <sup>c</sup>identification based on the comparison with mass spectrum from Wiles 275L library; Relative area (%): percentage of the area occupied by the compounds in the chromatogram. n.i. = not identified. t = traces. (-) = Absent; d\*: identification by Nuclear Magnetic Resonance (NMR) (Gazim et al., 2014).



**Fig 1.** Biplot of PCA scores and loadings for the GC-MS representing the projection of chemical classes of the essential oil from *Tetradenia riparia* (Hochst.) (Lamiaceae) leaves and flowers buds.

**Table 2.** Larval mortality (%) of essential oil from *Tetradenia riparia* leaves and flower buds on *Rhicephalus sanguineus* larvae.

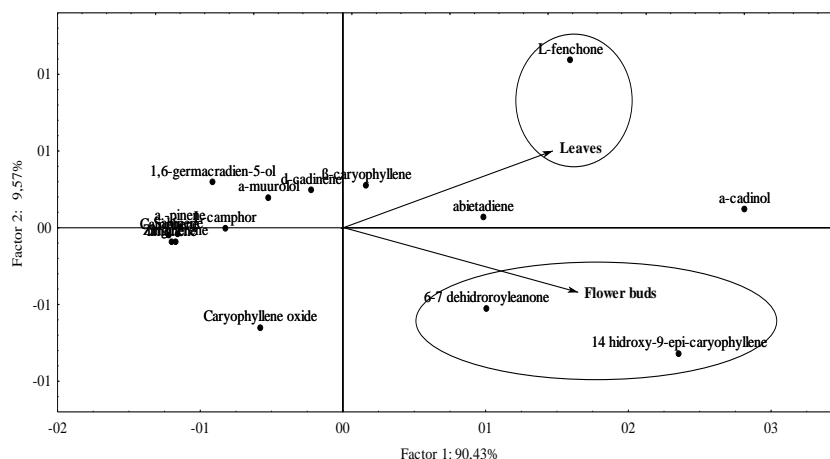
Concentration (mg/mL)	Essential Oil from leaves	Essential Oil from flower buds
Positive control	100 <sup>A,a</sup>	100 <sup>A,a</sup>
25.00	100 <sup>A,a</sup>	100 <sup>A,a</sup>
12.50	100 <sup>A,a</sup>	90.64±2.71 <sup>AB,b</sup>
6.25	90.61±1.21 <sup>AB,a</sup>	70.48±2.24 <sup>BC,b</sup>
3.12	80.77±0.72 <sup>BC,a</sup>	65.85±6.47 <sup>C,b</sup>
1.50	69.59±6.38 <sup>C,a</sup>	36.68±4.18 <sup>C,b</sup>
0.70	30.46±1.92 <sup>D,a</sup>	18.88±1.92 <sup>D,b</sup>
0.39	0.00 <sup>E,c</sup>	0.00 <sup>E,c</sup>
Negative control	0.00 <sup>E,c</sup>	0.00 <sup>E,c</sup>

Values presented with average ± standard deviation. Different capital letters in the same column and small letters in the same row indicate significant difference by Tukey's test ( $p \leq 0.05$ ). Positive control: commercial organophosphorus (cypermethrin 15%; chlorpyrifos 25%; citronellal 1%). Negative control: polysorbate 80 aqueous solution 2%.

**Table 3.** Lethal concentrations (LC<sub>50</sub> and LC<sub>99.9</sub> mg/mL) of essential oil from *Tetradenia riparia* leaves and flower buds on *Rhicephalus sanguineus* larvae by Probit analysis.

	CL <sub>50</sub>	LC <sub>99.9</sub>
<b>Positive Control</b>	0.019 ± 0.001 <sup>a</sup> (* )	0.20 ± 0.015 <sup>a</sup> (* )
<b>Essential oil From leaves</b>	2.18 ± 0.24 <sup>b</sup> (1.73 – 2.63)	9.98 ± 0.10 <sup>b</sup> (9.49 – 10.46)
<b>Essential oil from flower buds</b>	5.36 ± 0.50 <sup>c</sup> (2.51 – 8.21)	20.26 ± 0.59 <sup>c</sup> (19.77 – 20.75)

Values presented with average ± standard deviation. Different letters in the same column indicate significant difference by Tukey's test ( $p \leq 0.05$ ). LC<sub>50</sub>: lethal concentration 50%; LC<sub>99.9</sub>: lethal concentration 99.9%; CI: confidence interval. Positive control: commercial organophosphorus.



**Fig 2.** Biplot of PCA scores and loadings for the GC-MS representing the projection of chemical compounds of the essential oil from *Tetradenia riparia* (Hochst.) (Lamiaceae) leaves and flowers buds.

**Table 5.** Bioinsecticidal activities of monoterpenes found in essential oil from *Tetradenia riparia* leaves and flower buds.

Monoterpenes	Chemical structure	bioinsecticidal activities
Limonene		Insecticide (Nakatani 1999, Prates & Santos 2000, Trumble 2002, Júnior 2003, Lee et al. 2003, Moreira et al. 2006, Tripathi et al. 2016, Niculau et al. 2013). Larvicide (Santos et al. 2011). Acaricide (Jaenson et al. 2005, Badawy et al. 2010, Roh et al. 2013, Abdelgaleil et al. 2019).
Fenchona		Acaricide (Sánchez-Ramos & Castañaera 2001, Lee 2004, Lage et al. 2015, Abdelgaleil et al. 2019). Insecticide (Kim & Ahn 2001).
$\alpha$ -pinene		Insecticide (Harborne & Baxter 1993, Júnior 2003).
$\beta$ -pinene		Insecticide (Nakatani et al. 1998, Júnior 2003). Larvicide (Pohilt et al. 2011).
L-camphor		Repellent (Negahban et al. 2007; Jeon et al. 2014)
$\beta$ -caryophyllene		Larvicide (Santos et al. 2012).

**Table 4.** Inhibiting activity of acetylcholinesterase enzyme at different concentrations of essential oil (EO) from *Tetradenia riparia* leaves and flower buds by bioautographic method.

Inhibition of acetylcholinesterase enzyme			
Concentration (mg/mL)	EO from <i>Tetradenia riparia</i> leaves	EO from <i>Tetradenia riparia</i> flower buds	CP
45.00	+++	+++	+++
22.50	++	++	+++
11.25	++	+	+++
5.62	++	+	++
2.81	+	+	++
1.40	+	+	+
0.70	+	-	+

PC: Positive control: commercial organophosphorus (cypermethrin 15%; chlorpyrifos 25%; citronellal 1%); (+++): strong inhibition of acetylcholinesterase enzyme; (++) : moderate inhibition; (+): weak inhibition; (-): absence of inhibition. EO: essential oil.

cause mortality to 100% of *R. (B.) microplus* larvae while it took (+)-isopinocampor 45 minutes of contact. According to Wright (1975), the action mechanism of camphor is already known, blocking the olfactory receptors of insects. Another monoterpene found in *T. riparia* EO<sub>L</sub> and EO<sub>FB</sub> is  $\beta$ -caryophyllene; this compound is also found in *Alpinia purpurata* essential oil and showed activity against *A. aegypti* larvae (LC<sub>50</sub> 0.071 mg/mL) (Santos et al., 2012). Therefore, the results found in our experiment, along the data found in the literature, suggest that monoterpenes may have been responsible for the larvicidal activity which was found.

Another aspect refers to recent research studies with other plant species in order to propose new biomolecules with biocide potential against *R. sanguineus*. In this context, Goode, Ellse and Wall (2018) utilized *Curcuma longa* (Zingiberaceae) essential oil at the concentration of 25 mg/mL, observing some *R. sanguineus* detachment from the animal body. Godara et al. (2013) evaluated chloroform extract of Absinthe (*Artemisia absinthium*) (Asteraceae) aerial parts at the concentration of 200 mg/mL indicating a mortality rate of 93.3% for adult tick and also reducing the hatching of *R. sanguineus* eggs at the concentrations of 50, 100 and 200 mg/mL. Perpetua et al. (2009) tested Neem (*Azadirachta indica*) (Meliaceae) oil at the concentration of 100 mg/mL at the dose of 0.6 mL/kg under top spot applications every 5 days for a 30-day period, showing to be efficient to control *R. sanguineus* tick. Studies developed by Silva et al. (2007) evaluated the effect of Neem (*Azadirachta indica*) and lemongrass (*Cymbopogon citratus*) (Poaceae) alcoholic extract against *R. sanguineus* engorged females and found a decrease of reproductive efficiency (27.6%) for *Azadirachta indica* and 28.6% for *Cymbopogon citratus*. The efficiency of Neem was also evaluated in a field test by Weeb and David (2002), because engorged females submitted to the action of this substance presented partial lay with 0% hatchability and 100% efficiency.

Our experiment also evaluated the probable action mechanism of EOs, measuring the inhibitory power of acetylcholinesterase enzyme. The results (Table 4) indicated that the EO from leaves inhibited the enzyme up to 0.70 mg/mL and the EO from flower buds up to 1.40 mg/mL. The *in vitro* bioautographic results were superior to the LCs on *in vivo* larvae (Table 4), justified by the absence of physiological conditions that interfere in the biochemical reactions of mite because the bioautographic protocol is carried out in controlled environment with all pre-established conditions, without interference of the cellular wall permeability, molecule size and solubility of these molecules in hydrophilic and lipophilic media (Brain et al., 2007).

The importance to establish the action mechanism of *T. riparia* EOs is related to the action mechanism of chemical acaricides and larvicides utilized in the control of fleas and ticks in dogs that act by inhibiting the receptor of the neurotransmitter gamma-aminobutyric acid (GABA) and glutamate receptor that act on the neuromuscular joint of insects. Therefore, because it presents the inhibitory effect of acetylcholinesterase (Ache), *T. riparia* EO becomes an alternative for the resistance these chemical acaricides may present since the excessive utilization, without understanding the ecology and epidemiology of ticks with the detection flaws, caused resistance development to almost all drug classes (Pereira et al., 2008).

## Materials and methods

### Plant material

*Tetradenia riparia* flower buds and leaves were manually collected at the Medicinal Garden of the Paranaense University (UNIPAR) (23° 46.225'S 53°16.730'W, 391m), state of Paraná – Brazil, in the beginning of the morning from 8:00 to 10:00 am. The collection time happened with the emergence of flower buds that occurred in the winter (June 21, 2017 to July 13, 2017). A sample was authenticated and deposited in the educational herbarium of the Paranaense University (HEUP), under the number 2502. This species is recorded in the National System of Genetic Patrimony Management and Associated Traditional Knowledge (SisGen) under the registration number AA6C8A8.

### Essential oil extraction

The extraction of *T. riparia* essential oil was by hydro distillation (3 hours) (Gazim et al., 2014). The essential oil was withdrawn with *n*-hexane, filtered with anhydrous sodium sulfate (Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>), stored in flasks and kept under refrigeration at -4 °C until total evaporation of *n*-hexane. The essential oil yield was determined through the ratio of dry leaves mass and fresh flower bud (g) by essential oil mass (g) (%).

### Essential oil chemical characterization

The essential oil chemical identification was carried out by GC-MS using a Gas Chromatographer, Agilent 7890B, coupled to a Mass Spectrometer, Agilent 5977 A MSD, and a HP5-MS UI - Agilent fused silica capillary (30×250µm×0.25µm; Agilent Technologies), with initial oven temperature from 80 °C (1 min), followed by increased to 185 °C at 2 °C/min and maintained for 1 min, followed by an increase to 275 °C at 9 °C/min and maintained for 2 min and finally increase to 300 °C at 25 °C/min and maintained for 1 min. Helium was utilized as the carrier gas at the linear speed of 1 mL/min up to 300 °C, and pressure release of 56 kPa. The injector temperature was 280°C; the injection volume was 1 µL; the injection occurred in split mode (2:1). The temperatures of the transfer line, ion source and quadrupole were 280, 230 and 150°C, respectively. The EM detection system was utilized in “scan” mode, at the mass/charge rate/load (*m/z*) of 40-600, with “solvent delay” of 3 min. The compounds were identified by comparing the mass spectra found in NIST 11.0 libraries and by comparing the retention indices (RI) obtained by a homologous series of *n*-alkane standard (C7-C28) (Adams, 2017).

### Principal component analysis (PCA)

A multivariate analysis was also done to determine the principal component analysis (PCA) which allowed the evaluation of the major chemical compounds and chemical class of all compounds found in the essential oil from leaves and floral bud. The analysis result was graphically presented (biplot), helping the characterization of the analyzed variable groups (Moita Neto and Moita, 1998).

For each sample of the essential oil from leaves and floral buds, the identified major chemical compounds and their respective chemical classes (Table 1) were plotted. Data

were transformed in orthogonal latent variables called principal components which are linear combinations of original variables created with the eigenvalues of the data covariance matrix (Hair et al., 2005). Kaiser's criterion was utilized to choose the principal components and an eigenvalue preserved the relevant information when it was greater than the unit. This analysis was carried out in two ways: the former contained only data referring to the chemical composition of major compounds obtained in three periods, and the latter analyzed the grouped chemical classes to which those compounds belong to (Ferré, 1995; Camacho et al., 2010). Both analyses were done utilizing Statistica 7 software. (Statsoft Inc, 2018).

#### Essential oil larvicidal activity

The larval sensitivity was determined by Larval Packet Test, described by Leite et al. (1995) and Fernandes et al. (2008) where approximately 100 larvae were placed on 2 x 2 cm filter paper recently impregnated with dilutions of *T. riparia* EO forming a "sandwich", sealed and stored in a Petri dish. The EO dilutions ranged from 500 to 0.47 mg mL<sup>-1</sup>. For this bioassay, two control groups were made: a positive control utilizing a conventional acaricide with (cypermethrin 15%; chlorpyrifos 25%; citronellal 1%) at the concentration of 0.005%, and a negative control using an aqueous solution of polysorbate (80) at 2.0%. The envelopes were stored at ambient temperature and the readings were done after 24 h, separating live larvae from the dead ones, utilizing an entomological loupe. The assays were carried out in triplicate for each EO dilution used in larvae. The calculation of larval mortality was done through Equation I.

$$\text{Mortality (\%)} = \frac{\text{dead larvae} \times 100}{\text{total larvae}} \quad (\text{Equation I})$$

#### Essential oil anticholinesterase activity

The anticholinesterase activity was determined by bioautographic method described by Marston et al., (2002), with modifications (Yang et al., 2009). *T. riparia* EOs were tested from a concentration ranging from 45.00 to 0.70 mg/mL, diluted in methanol. The samples were plotted in aluminum chromatoplates (10 x 10 cm, silica gel 60 F254 with 0.2 mm of thickness), after plotting the plates were dried and a solution of acetylcholinesterase enzyme buffer solution was sprayed on them; next, a solution of  $\alpha$ -naftyl acetate was sprayed. The plates were kept at 37 °C during 20 minutes. After this period, the chromatoplates were sprayed with Fast Blue B salt reagent, resulting in a purple color surface. The larvicide (cypermethrin 15%; chlorpyrifos 25%; citronellal 1%) was used as negative control. The tests were done in triplicate and the results were expressed as averages and their corresponding standard deviation. The data were processed and submitted to analysis of variance (ANOVA), and the differences between the averages were determined by Tukey's test or Scott-Knott's test at 5% significance level.

#### Statistical analysis

The experimental design was completely randomized. The data were processed and submitted to analysis of variance (ANOVA) and the differences between the arithmetical averages and the standard deviation were determined by

Tukey's test at 5% of significance. The lethal concentrations that killed 50% (LC<sub>50</sub>) and 99.9% (LC<sub>99</sub>) of tick larvae and the respective CI (5%) were calculated by Probit analysis (ED 50 Plus 1.0). All the tests were carried out in triplicate.

#### Conclusion

The essential oil extracted from *Tetradenia riparia* leaves and flower buds were tested against *Rhipicephalus sanguineus* larvae. The presence of monoterpenes: limonene, L-fenchone,  $\alpha$  and  $\beta$ -pinene and L-camphor in greater amount in leaves provided greater potential against *Rhipicephalus sanguineus* larvae (LC<sub>99,9</sub>: 9.98±0.10 mg/mL) when compared to the essential oil extracted from flower buds (LC<sub>99,9</sub>: 20.12±0.54 mg/mL). The action mechanism through which the oil killed larvae was by inhibition of the acetylcholinesterase enzyme at the concentration of 0.70 mg/mL (leaves) and 1.40 mg/mL (flower buds), indicating the presence of molecules in the essential oil from *T. riparia* leaves with biocide potential.

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#### Conflict of interest

The authors have no conflicts of interest to declare

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