



Chemical Composition and Antifungal Activity of the Essential Oil from *Piper amalago* L.

Vanessa da S. CARRARA ¹, Amanda de SOUZA ³, Benedito P. DIAS FILHO ^{1,2},
Celso V. NAKAMURA ^{1,2}, Luís F. de PAULO ², Maria C.M. YOUNG ³,
Terezinha I.E. SVIDZINSKI ² & Diógenes A. GARCIA CORTEZ ^{1*}

¹ Departamento de Farmácia e Farmacologia, Universidade Estadual de Maringá,
Maringá, 87020-900, Paraná, Brazil.

² Departamento de Ciências Básicas da Saúde, Universidade Estadual de Maringá,
Maringá, 87020-900, Paraná, Brazil.

³ Instituto de Botânica de São Paulo, São Paulo, SP, Brazil.

SUMMARY. The essential oil obtained from the leaves of *Piper amalago* L. by hydrodistillation was analyzed by CG-MS. The yield essential oil from fresh plant material was 0.1%. The main compounds found were β -copaen-4- α -ol (26 %), 7-epi- α -eudesmol (21.84 %), epi- α -cadinol (12.70 %), and n-hexyl-benzoate (12.29 %). The essential oil demonstrated antifungal activity against nine *Candida* strains, as shown using the agar-diffusion method.

KEY WORDS: *Piper amalago* L., Essential oil, Antifungal activity.

* Author to whom correspondence should be addressed. *E-mail:* dagcortez@uem.br