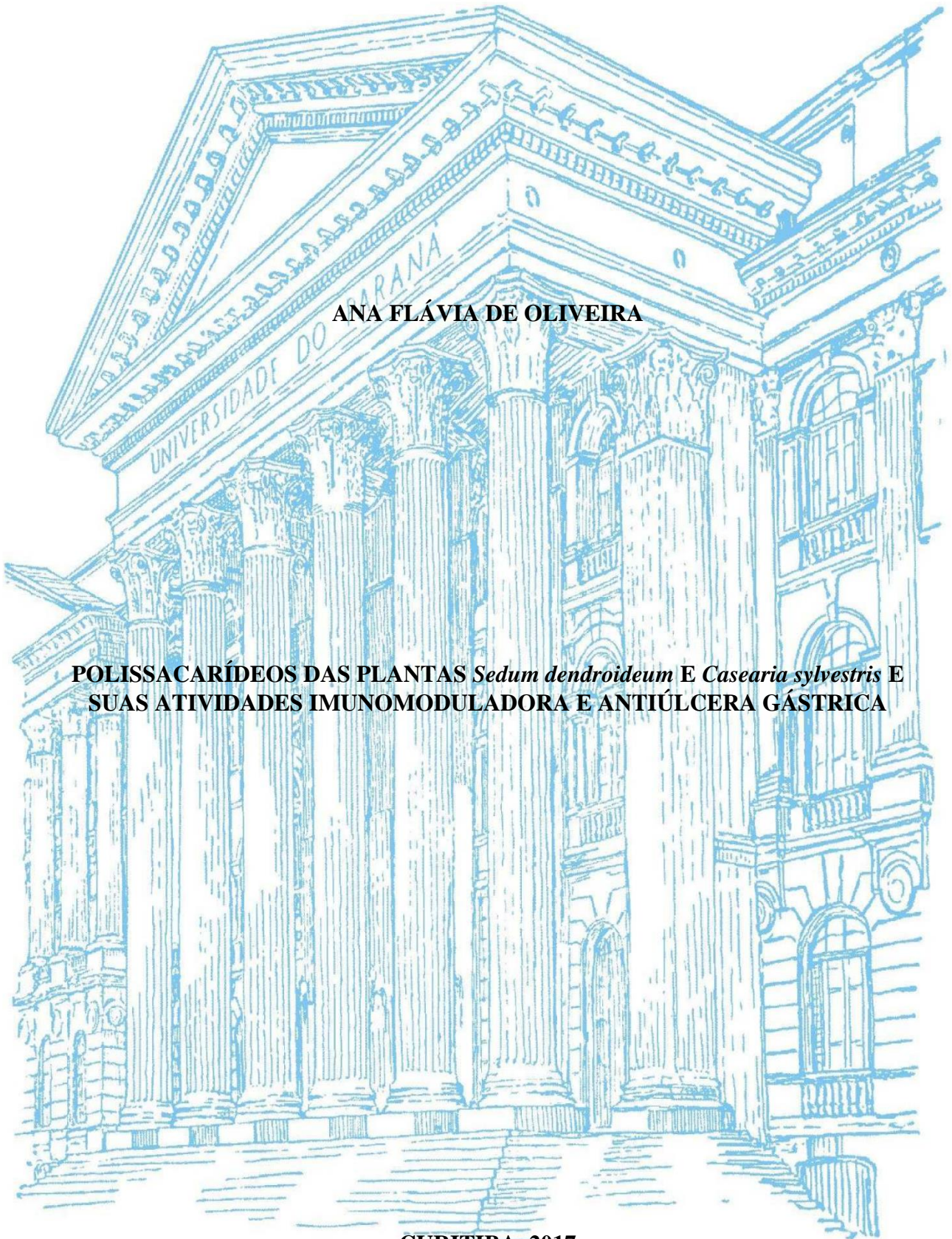


**UNIVERSIDADE FEDERAL DO PARANÁ**

**ANA FLÁVIA DE OLIVEIRA**

**POLISSACARÍDEOS DAS PLANTAS *Sedum dendroideum* E *Casearia sylvestris* E  
SUAS ATIVIDADES IMUNOMODULADORA E ANTIÚLCERA GÁSTRICA**

**CURITIBA, 2017**



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SUAS ATIVIDADES IMUNOMODULADORA E ANTIÚLCERA GÁSTRICA

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Orientador: Prof. Dr. Thales Ricardo Cipriani

Co-orientadora: Profa. Dra. Lucimara M.C. Cordeiro

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## RESUMO

As plantas *Sedum dendroideum* e *Casearia sylvestris*, conhecidas popularmente como bálsamo e guaçatonga, respectivamente, são amplamente utilizadas pela população para diversas enfermidades, incluindo tratamento de úlceras e alterações relacionadas a processos inflamatórios. No presente trabalho foram avaliadas as atividades imunomoduladora e antiúlcera gástrica de polissacarídeos do infuso das folhas de *S. dendroideum* e *C. sylvestris*. O processo de infusão das folhas de *S. dendroideum* e as etapas de purificação (congelamento e degelo, e diálise em membrana de exclusão de 100 kDa), forneceu dois principais polissacarídeos RSBAL e ESBAL. RSBAL foi submetido a cromatografia de troca aniônica, com eluição sequencial por H<sub>2</sub>O e NaCl 0,5 M gerando, respectivamente, as frações RSBAL-H<sub>2</sub>O (25% de rendimento) e RSBAL-0.5 (62% de rendimento). Análises de metilação e RMN-HSQC permitiram caracterizar RSBAL-H<sub>2</sub>O como sendo uma homogalacturonana altamente metil-esterificada, constituída por unidades de  $\alpha$ -D-GalpA (1→4)-ligadas, e RSBAL-0.5 como sendo uma homogalacturonana altamente metil-esterificada, ramificada em O-3 por cadeias de arabinogalactana do tipo II e arabinana. RSBAL-H<sub>2</sub>O e RSBAL-0.5 foram capazes de estimular a secreção das citocinas TNF- $\alpha$ , IL1- $\beta$  e IL-10 por macrófagos THP-1, atuando como agentes imunoestimuladores. Por outro lado, eles reduziram a secreção de TNF- $\alpha$  e IL1- $\beta$  induzida por LPS, um agente pró-inflamatório, mostrando, portanto, efeito anti-inflamatório. Além disso, foi demonstrado que a fração RSBAL (RSBAL-H<sub>2</sub>O + RSBAL-0.5) apresenta efeito gastroprotetor, preservando o muco gástrico e os níveis de GSH em modelo de úlcera induzida por etanol em ratos. Com relação à *C. sylvestris*, a partir da infusão das suas folhas, seguida de processos de purificação (congelamento e degelo, e diálise em membrana de exclusão de 100 e 50 kDa), foram obtidas as frações R100, R50 e E50. Análises de metilação e RMN-HSQC permitiram caracterizar E50 como sendo uma fração constituída por arabinogalactana do tipo II, além de arabinanas com unidades de  $\alpha$ -L-Araf (1→3) e (1→5)-ligadas. O polissacarídeo bruto (R100 + R50 + E50) e a fração E50 foram capazes de promover proteção aguda contra úlcera gástrica induzida por etanol em ratos. Além disso, E50 também inibiu o desenvolvimento de úlcera crônica induzida por ácido acético em ratos. Os resultados obtidos neste trabalho demonstram que os efeitos farmacológicos do infuso das plantas *S. dendroideum* e *C. sylvestris* são, podem ser promovidos por polissacarídeos.

Palavras-chaves: *Casearia sylvestris*, *Sedum dendroideum*, polissacarídeos, atividade gastroprotetora, atividade imunomoduladora

## ABSTRACT

The plants *Sedum dendroideum* and *Casearia sylvestris*, popularly known as balm and guaçatonga, respectively, are widely used by the population to treat various diseases, including ulcers and inflammatory processes. The present study evaluated the immunomodulatory and gastric antiulcer activities of polysaccharides from the infusion of *S. dendroideum* and *C. sylvestris* leaves. The infusion process of *S. dendroideum* leaves, followed by purification steps (freezing and thawing, and dialysis at 100 kDa cut-off membrane) provided two main polysaccharides (RSBAL and ESBAL). RSBAL was subjected to anion exchange chromatography, with sequential elution by H<sub>2</sub>O and 0.5 M NaCl generating the fractions RSBAL-H<sub>2</sub>O (25% yield) and RSBAL-0.5 (62% yield). Methylation and HSQC-NMR analyses allowed the characterization of RSBAL-H<sub>2</sub>O as a highly methyl-esterified homogalacturonan composed of  $\alpha$ -D-GalpA (1 $\rightarrow$ 4)-linked units; and RSBAL-0.5 as a highly methyl-esterified homogalacturonan, branched at O-3 by type II arabinogalactan and arabinan chains. RSBAL-H<sub>2</sub>O and RSBAL-0.5 were able to stimulate the secretion of the cytokines TNF- $\alpha$ , IL1- $\beta$  and IL-10 by THP-1 macrophages, acting as immunostimulatory agents. On the other hand, they reduced the secretion of TNF- $\alpha$  and IL1- $\beta$  induced by LPS, a pro-inflammatory agent, thus showing anti-inflammatory effect. In addition, it was demonstrated that the RSBAL fraction (RSBAL-H<sub>2</sub>O + RSBAL-0.5) has a gastroprotective effect, preserving gastric mucus and GSH levels in ethanol-induced ulcer model in rats. With respect to the *C. sylvestris*, fractions R100, R50 and E50 were obtained after infusion of its leaves, followed by purification processes (freezing and thawing, and dialysis at 100 and 50 kDa cut-off membranes). Methylation and HSQC-NMR analyses allowed characterizing E50 as a fraction consisting of type II arabinogalactan, as well as arabinans with  $\alpha$ -L-Araf units (1 $\rightarrow$ 3) and (1 $\rightarrow$ 5)-linked. The crude polysaccharide (R100 + R50 + E50) and E50 fraction were able to promote acute protection against ethanol-induced gastric ulceration in rats. Furthermore, E50 also inhibited the development of chronic ulcer induced by acetic acid in rats. The results obtained in this work demonstrate that the pharmacological effects of the infusion of the plants *S. dendroideum* and *C. sylvestris* are, can promoted by polysaccharides.

**Keywords:** *Casearia sylvestris*, *Sedum dendroideum*, polysaccharides, gastroprotective activity, immunomodulatory activity

Orientador: Prof. Dr. Thales Ricardo Cipriani

Co-orientadora: Profa. Dra. Lucimara M. C. Cordeiro



Dedicado a Ele...

Pois todas as coisas foram criadas por ele, e tudo existe por meio dele e para ele. Glória

a Deus para sempre! Amém! (Romanos 11:16)

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## LISTA DE SIGLAS E ABREVIATURAS

- AcOEt – Acetado de Etila
- AG I – Arabinogalactana do Tipo I
- AG II – Arabinogalactana do Tipo II
- Ara – Arabinose
- CP – Fração polissacarídica bruta obtida a partir do infuso das folhas de *Casearia sylvestris*.
- D<sub>2</sub>O – Óxido de deutério
- DEPT - Intensificação sem distorção por transferência de polarização
- DMSO – Dimetilsulfóxido
- DPPH – 2,2-diphenyl-1-picrylhydrazyl
- E100 – Fração polissacarídica, eluída em membrana de 100 kDa, obtida dos a partir da fração polissacarídica bruta, a qual foi obtida por infusão das folhas de *Casearia sylvestris*.
- E50 – Fração polissacarídica, eluída em membrana de 50 kDa, advinda da fração E100, a qual foi obtida por infusão das folhas de *Casearia sylvestris*.
- ELISA – (Enzyme Linked Immuno Sorbent Assay) ensaio de imunoabsorção enzimática.
- ESBAL – Eluído em membrana de 100 kDa (*Sedum dendroium*)
- ESI-MS – Espectrometria de massas com ionização por eletrospray
- EtOH – Etanol
- Gal – Galactose
- GalA – Ácido galacturônico
- GC-MS – Cromatografia gasosa acoplada à espectrometria de massas
- Glc – Glucose
- GSH – Glutathiona
- HG – Homogalacturonana
- HOAc – Ácido Acético
- HPSEC – Cromatografia de exclusão estérica de alta eficiência
- HSQC – Espectroscopia de correlação heteronuclear Single-Quantum
- i.p. – Intraperitoneal
- IL-10 – Interleucina 10
- IL-1 $\beta$  – Interleucina -1 $\beta$
- ISC – Fração polissacarídica, obtida por infusão das folhas de *Casearia sylvestris*, a qual, no processo de fracionamento de congelamento e degelo, apresentou-se insolúvel em água fria.
- LPS – Lipopolissacarídeo
- m/z* – Relação massa-carga
- MALLS – detector de espalhamento de laser multiângulo
- MES – [ácido 2-(N-morfolina)-etanosulfônico]
- MTT – (3,4,5-dimetil-2-tiazolil-2,5-difenil-2H-tetrazólio)
- n*-PrOH – 1-Propanol
- P.A. – Para análise

PBAL – Fração polissacarídica, obtida por infusão das folhas de *Sedum dendroideum*, a qual, no processo de fracionamento de congelamento e degelo, apresentou-se insolúvel em água fria.

PBS – Tampão fosfato salino

PCS – Fração polissacarídica, obtida por infusão das folhas de *Casearia sylvestris*, a qual, no processo de fracionamento de congelamento e degelo, apresentou-se insolúvel em água fria.

ppm – Partes por milhão

R100 – Fração polissacarídica retida em membrana de 100 kDa, obtida a partir da fração polissacarídica bruta, a qual foi extraída, por infusão, das folhas de *Casearia sylvestris*

RG I – Ramnogalacturonana do Tipo I

RGII – Ramnogalacturonana do Tipo II

Rha – Ramnose

RMN – Ressonância magnética nuclear

RSBAL – Fração polissacarídica retida em membrana de 100 kDa, obtida a partir da fração polissacarídica bruta, a qual foi extraída, por infusão, das folhas de *Sedum dendroideum*.

RSBAL-0.5 – Fração polissacarídica eluída com solução de NaCl 0,5 Molar, em cromatografia de troca aniônica, obtida a partir da fração RSBAL, a qual foi extraída, por infusão, das folhas de *Sedum dendroideum*.

RSBAL-H<sub>2</sub>O – Fração polissacarídica eluída com água, em cromatografia de troca aniônica, obtida a partir da fração RSBAL, a qual foi extraída, por infusão, das folhas de *Sedum dendroideum*.

SBAL – Fração polissacarídica, obtida por infusão das folhas de *Sedum dendroideum*, a qual, no processo de fracionamento de congelamento e degelo, apresentou-se solúvel em água fria.

SCS – Fração polissacarídica, obtida por infusão das folhas de *Casearia sylvestris*, a qual, no processo de fracionamento de congelamento e degelo, apresentou-se solúvel em água fria.

TFA – Ácido trifluoroacético

TLC – Cromatografia de camada delgada

TNF- $\alpha$  – Fator de necrose tumoral

TRIS – 2-Amino-2-hidroxi-metil-propano-1,3-diol

$\delta$  – Deslocamento químico

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## 1. INTRODUÇÃO

A utilização de plantas medicinais na prevenção e tratamento de doenças é uma prática muito antiga e de grande importância terapêutica. As plantas medicinais podem ser utilizadas como fonte de matérias-primas farmacêuticas, fonte de substâncias ativas isoladas utilizadas como protótipo de fármacos, e na forma de fitoterápicos (SIMÃO, 2013). No Brasil, o uso de produtos naturais sempre teve grande importância, principalmente depois da implantação do Programa Nacional de Plantas Medicinais e Fitoterápicos (PNPMF), que visa o uso de plantas medicinais de forma segura, o desenvolvimento da cadeia produtiva e da indústria, observando cuidados com o meio ambiente.

*Casearia sylvestris* está incluída na Relação Nacional de Plantas Medicinais de Interesse ao Sistema Único de Saúde (RENISUS), cujo intuito consiste em listar plantas medicinais, a fim de nortear estudos e pesquisas para corroborar os conhecimentos populares, podendo assim, ser disponibilizadas para a população.

*C. sylvestris* é conhecida popularmente como guaçatonga, e é utilizada, na medicina popular, como antisséptico, anestésico, antitumoral, antiúlcera (BASILE, et al., 1990; SERTIE, et al., 2000). Diferentes trabalhos têm tratado de avaliações farmacológicas da *C. sylvestris*, demonstrado a importância dos extratos e de compostos obtidos a partir desta planta, corroborando, assim, com os relatos de usos na medicina tradicional. *C. sylvestris* tem possibilidade de tornar-se a base de um medicamento fitoterápico, devido a sua ampla distribuição e grande uso popular, o que estimula investigações farmacológicas e avaliação da segurança do seu uso (SANTOS, 2008).

Outra planta conhecida na medicina tradicional é a *Sedum dendroideum*. Suas folhas são empregadas topicamente para tratamento de inflamações cutâneas e contusões, e internamente para distúrbios gástricos, em razão das atividades emoliente e cicatrizante

(LORENZI e SOUZA, 1995; MILANEZE; GONÇALVES, 2001). As espécies de *Sedum* têm sido usadas na medicina popular (NIEMANN, VISSER-SIMONS e HART, 1976) e são conhecidas por conterem alcaloides, flavonoides, taninos, e compostos cianogênicos (NIEMANN, VISSER-SIMONS e HART et al., 1976; MULINACCI et al., 1995) e apresentarem atividade antinociceptiva e anti-inflamatória (MELO et al., 2009; MALVAR et al., 2004; CAMARGO et al., 2002). Suas folhas são utilizadas no tratamento de úlceras e feridas (CARLINI et al., 1970), e até como contraceptivo (SILVA-TORRES et al., 2003).

Segundo DINIZ (2006), moléculas bioativas de plantas de interesse medicinal têm sido amplamente estudadas nos últimos anos, devido à crescente popularidade dos medicamentos fitoterápicos. Porém, muitos dos compostos químicos responsáveis por diversas atividades biológicas, proveniente de diversas plantas, ainda não estão caracterizados. Os polissacarídeos formam uma importante classe de compostos naturais bioativos (SIMÕES et al., 2003). Algumas das atividades biológicas relatadas para estes compostos são: atividade imunomoduladora, antitumoral, antioxidante, anti-inflamatória e antiúlcera gástrica (NERGARD et al., 2005; CARBONERO et al., 2008; CIPRIANI et al., 2006; JIANG et al., 2010).

## 2. REVISÃO BIBLIOGRÁFICA

### 2.1 POLISSACARÍDEOS DE PAREDE CELULAR

Carboidratos estruturais estão presentes na parede celular, sendo considerados os compostos mais abundantes da Terra (REID, 1997). A parede celular confere resistência e forma para a célula, controla o crescimento celular, participa na comunicação célula-célula e protege a célula contra o ataque de patógenos e predadores (BRETT e WALDRON, 1990). A parede celular dos vegetais é altamente organizada, sendo constituída principalmente de polissacarídeos, além de proteínas e substâncias aromáticas (McNEIL et al., 1984). Os polissacarídeos da parede celular são divididos em pectinas, hemiceluloses e celulose (CARPITA e McCANN, 2000). As microfibrilas de celulose, entrelaçadas com hemiceluloses em uma fase contínua de pectina e, além da lignina em paredes celulares secundárias (WHISTLER, 1970).

Cosgrove (2005) propõe uma parede celular (Fig.1) na qual as microfibrilas de celulose são sintetizadas na membrana plasmática, enquanto as hemiceluloses e pectinas são sintetizadas no complexo de golgi e depositadas na superfície da parede por vesículas. Na maioria das espécies vegetais, a principal hemicelulose é a xiloglucana, e em menores quantidades, as arabinoxilanas e mananas.

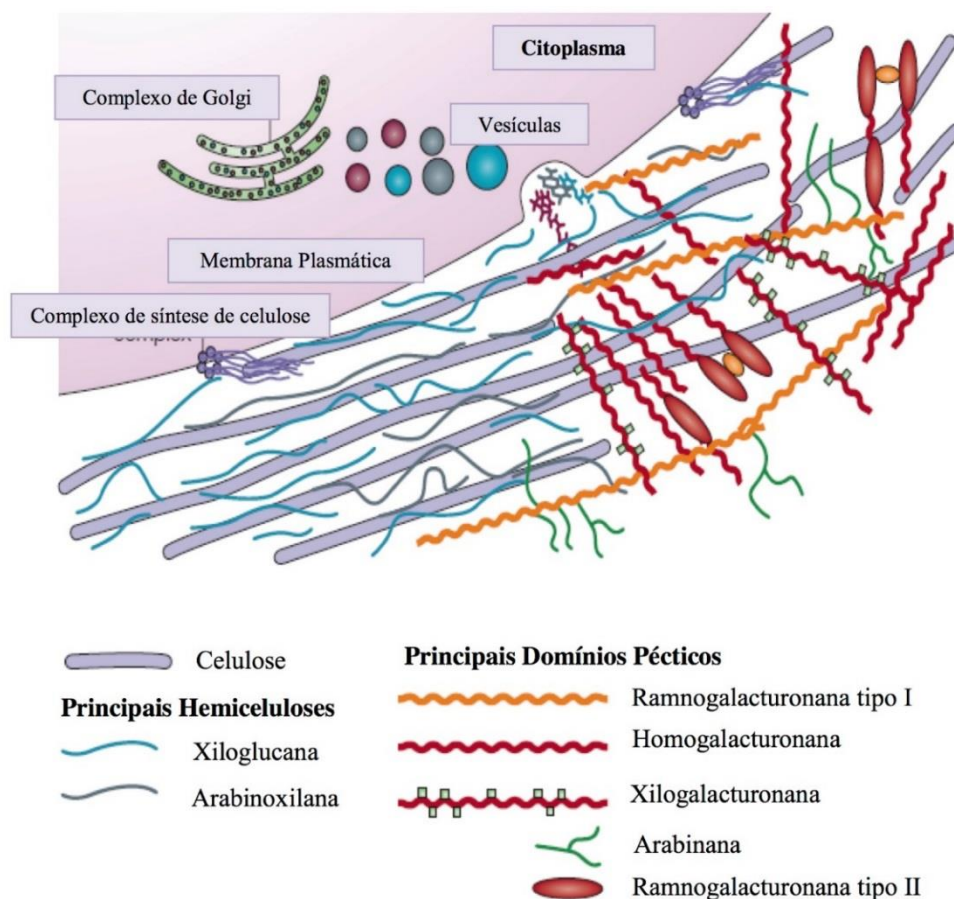


Figura 1. Ilustração esquemática da estrutura da parede celular primária vegetal (Adaptado de COSGROVE, 2005).

### 2.1.1 Polissacarídeos pécnicos

Reid (1997) descreve as pectinas como um grupo complexo de polissacarídeos, alguns dos quais podem ser domínios estruturais de moléculas maiores e mais complexas. Segundo o autor, as pectinas estão presentes nas paredes celulares primárias, sendo o principal componente dessas estruturas. As classes das pectinas englobam as homogalacturonanas (HG) e as ramnogalacturonana do tipo I (RG I) (CARPITA e GIBEAUT, 1993). A terceira classe de polissacarídeos pécnicos, ricos em ácidos galacturônico, são as ramnogalacturonana do tipo II (RG II). Arabinanas, galactanas e arabinogalactanas são frequentemente encontradas em frações pécnicas, constituindo cadeias laterais das RG I (ASPINALL, 1980; BRETT e WALDRON, 1990).

As pectinas contêm grandes proporções de ácido  $\alpha$ -D-galacturônico unidos por ligações (1 $\rightarrow$ 4), podendo apresentar grupos metil esterificando o carbono 6 e grupos acetil nas posições O-2 ou O-3 (REID, 1997). As HG são polímeros lineares de  $\alpha$ -D-GalpA (1 $\rightarrow$ 4)-ligados (RIDLEY et al., 2001).

As RG I são constituídas por repetições do dissacarídeo [ $\rightarrow$ 4)- $\alpha$ -D-GalpA-(1 $\rightarrow$ 2)- $\alpha$ -L-Rhap-(1 $\rightarrow$ )] (LAU et al., 1985; CARPITA e GIBEAUT, 1993). As RG I podem ser estendidas por HG em seus terminais. As RG I frequentemente contêm cadeias laterais de arabinanas, galactanas e arabinogalactanas (McNEIL et al., 1984; REID, 1997). Já as RG II são constituídas por cerca de 12 diferentes tipos de monossacarídeos, interligados por mais de 20 diferentes tipos de ligações glicosídicas, o que resulta em macromoléculas altamente complexas (YAPO, 2011).

As arabinogalactanas (AG) podem compor as cadeias laterais das RG I e também serem encontradas independentemente. Conforme a estrutura de sua cadeia principal, elas podem ser classificadas em dois grupos: arabinogalactanas do tipo I (AG I) cujas cadeias principais são formadas por unidades de  $\beta$ -D-Gal (1 $\rightarrow$ 4)-ligadas, substituídas, principalmente, em O-3 por unidades de arabinose, e arabinogalactanas do tipo II (AG II) formadas por unidade de  $\beta$ -D-Gal (1 $\rightarrow$ 3)- e (1 $\rightarrow$ 6)-ligadas (ASPINAL, 1973), conectadas umas às outras por pontos de ramificação em O-3 e O-6, apresentando a maior parte das posições O-3 e O-6 restantes ocupadas por unidades de arabinose (CARPITA e GIBEAUT, 1993). As AG II podem, ainda, estar ligadas a proteínas, constituindo uma classe de glicoproteínas denominadas arabinogalactanas-proteínas. Estas glicoproteínas estão envolvidas no reconhecimento célula-célula e na regulação da expansão e divisão celular (FINCHER et al., 1983; VARNER e LIN, 1989; SCHINDLER et al., 1998).

As arabinanas são polissacarídeos pécnicos altamente ramificados, formados por L-arabinose, principalmente na forma de anel furanosídico. A cadeia principal é,



geralmente, constituída por unidades  $\alpha$ -(1→5)-ligadas, formando cadeias helicoidais curtas, e as cadeias laterais são formadas por unidades de  $\alpha$ -(1→3)- e  $\alpha$ -(1→2)-ligadas (REID, 1997; CARPITA e GIBEAUT, 1993). Um esquema contendo os principais polissacarídeos pécnicos é mostrado na Figura.2

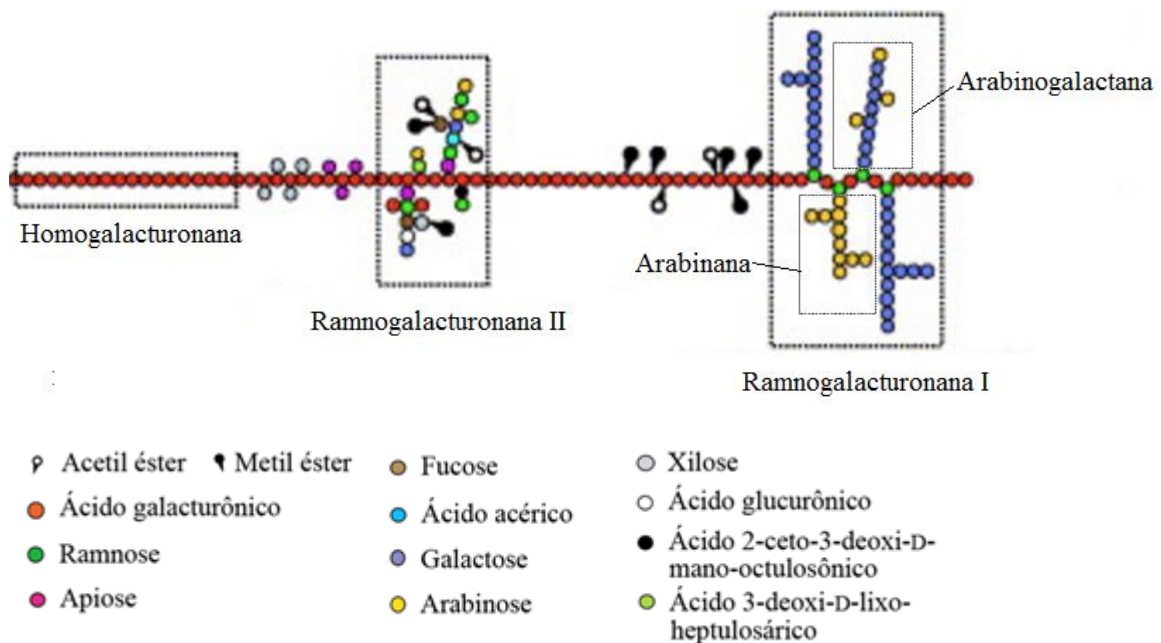


Figura. 2. Polissacarídeos pécnicos da parede celular. Fonte: adaptado de Willats et al. (2006).

### 2.1.2 Atividades farmacológicas de polissacarídeos

Polissacarídeos são considerados uma importante classe de produtos naturais bioativos. Diversos trabalhos têm demonstrado que polissacarídeos de origem vegetal possuem atividade antitumoral (ZONG et al., 2012; GAN, et al., 2004) imunomoduladora (NERGARD et al., 2005; GAN, et al., 2004), anti-inflamatória (BEZERRA, 2016) anticoagulante (BARDDAL et al., 2015; OCHOA, et al., 2017) e, também, atividade antiúlcera gástrica (NERGARD et al., 2005; CIPRIANI et al., 2008; CIPRIANI et al., 2009; NASCIMENTO et al., 2013).

### 2.1.2.1 Atividade antiúlcera de polissacarídeos

A úlcera gástrica é uma lesão profunda da mucosa, que pode destruir tanto os componentes do tecido epitelial como do conectivo, incluindo células do músculo liso, vasos e nervos (MILANI e CALABRO, 2001). O método frequentemente utilizado na avaliação de atividade gastroprotetora consiste na verificação da proteção que as moléculas estudadas proporcionam contra lesões gástricas induzidas por etanol em ratos (ROBERT et al., 1979).

Diversos trabalhos na literatura demonstram polissacarídeos com atividades gastroprotetora. Cordeiro et al., (2012) descreveram uma arabinana (1→5)-ligada e uma pectina rica em arabinana, isolada de *Chenopodium quinoa*, a qual reduziu a área de lesão gástrica, induzida por etanol, em até 72%. Maria-Ferreira et al., (2013) avaliaram o potencial gastroprotetor de uma arabinogalactana do tipo I, isolada de folhas de mate (*Ilex paraguariensis*). Os resultados mostraram que as frações polissacarídicas inibiram as lesões gástricas, induzidas pelo etanol, em até 89%. Cipriani et al., (2009a) isolaram uma homogalacturonana, a partir do extrato aquoso de *Maytenus ilicifolia*. As lesões gástricas induzidas por EtOH foram reduzidas de forma dose-dependente. Cantu-Jungles et al., (2014) isolaram, dos frutos secos de *Prunus domestica*, uma ramnogalacturonana com cadeias laterais de arabinogalactanas de tipo I. As frações polissacarídicas mostram atividade gastroprotetora, reduzindo a área da lesão gástrica em até 84%. Nascimento et al., (2013) obtiveram uma ramnogalacturonana substituída por cadeias laterais arabinogalactanas do tipo II, a qual também foi capaz de inibir, eficazmente, lesões gástricas induzidas pelo etanol.

Vários outros estudos demonstram atividade antiúlcera de pectinas: arabinogalactanas tipo II de *Maytenus ilicifolia* (CIPRIANI, 2006), ramnogalacturonana com cadeia lateral de galactana da *Bupleurum falcatum* (YAMADA, 1994),

arabinogalactana de tipo II de *Cochlospermum tinctorium* (NERGARD et al., 2005), arabinogalactana tipo I de farelo de soja (CIPRIANI et al., 2009b), arabinogalactanas do tipo I (TANAKA et al., 2010).

Possivelmente, os mecanismos responsáveis pelo do efeito gastroprotetor de polissacarídeos, estão relacionados à habilidade destes polímeros formarem uma camada protetora sobre a mucosa gástrica, terem efeito sobre a atividade antissecretora de suco gástrico ou ter capacidade de aumentar da síntese de muco e sequestrar de radicais livres (NERGARD et al., 2005; MATSUMOTO et al., 1993; YAMADA, 1994; CIPRIANI et al., 2006).

#### 2.1.2.2 Atividade imunomodulatória de polissacarídeos.

Estudos sobre os efeitos de pectinas sobre a imunidade são de grande interesse por causa da importância do sistema imunológico de humanos e animais. A regulação do sistema imunológico pode levar a tratamentos profiláticos e possivelmente cura para várias doenças. Portanto, as substâncias que aumentam a imunidade enfraquecida ou diminuem as reações imunes indesejáveis têm sido extensivamente estudadas (POPOV, OVODOV, 2013).

Polissacarídeos podem modular o sistema imunológico de diferentes modos: interferindo na atuação de macrófagos, estimulando da atividade fagocitária, aumentando da produção de espécies reativas de oxigênio, ou alterando a secreção de citocinas que medeiam a imunidade inata (SCHEPETKIN e QUINN, 2006; SCHEPETKIN et al., 2005; KOUAKOU et al., 2013; FREYSDOTTIR, et al., 2016; YAMASSAKI et al., 2015).

Vários trabalhos descrevem atividades biológicas de polissacarídeos de espécies vegetais e de interesse medicinal, os quais estão relacionados com o sistema imune: Sendl et al., 1993, descreveram duas ramnogalacturonanas, obtidas a partir das folhas de *Sedum*

*telephium*, que apresentaram efeito anticomplementar *in vitro*, induziram a produção de TNF- $\alpha$  e aumentaram a fagocitose *in vitro* e *in vivo*. Ghaoui et al., (2008) mostraram o aumento da atividade fagocítica de macrófagos, efeito no sistema complemento, e atividade imunomoduladora de uma ramnogalacturonana obtida a partir das folhas de Malva (*Malva sylvestris*). Yamada et al., (1985) relatam efeitos sobre o sistema complementar de uma arabinogalactana obtida a partir das folhas de *Artemisia princeps*. Hirazumi e Furuzawa, (1999) relataram a produção de citocinas (TNF- $\alpha$ , IL-1 $\beta$ , IL-10, IL-12) e óxido nítrico por macrófagos murinos, estimulados por arabinogalactanas AGs obtidas de *Morinda citrifolia*. Lenzi et al., (2013), observaram atividade imunoestimulante em macrófagos, de uma AGP (arabinogalactana-proteína) obtida de *Uncaria tomentosa*. Schepetkin et al., (2005) obtiveram AGs de *Juniperus scopolorum*, as quais estimularam diretamente a produção de óxido nítrico, por meio da indução de óxido-nítrico sintase e induziram macrófagos a secretarem tanto citocinas pró-inflamatórias (IL-1, IL-6, TNF- $\alpha$  e IL-12) quanto anti-inflamatória (IL-10).

Com os vários efeitos imunomoduladores atribuídos a polissacarídeos obtidos de plantas medicinais, estas moléculas mostram grande potencial para uso no tratamento de disfunções do sistema imunológico, pois podem atuar modificando respostas biológicas por meio da modulação do sistema imunológico.

## 2.2 CASEARIA SYLVESTRIS

*Casearia sylvestris* (Fig. 3) é amplamente distribuída por todo o território nacional, desde o Estado do Amazonas (região do rio Tapajós) até o Estado do Rio Grande do Sul (TORRES e YAMAMOTO, 1986). No Brasil, a *C. sylvestris* é conhecida principalmente como guaçatonga, uma palavra originária do tupi-guarani (ESTEVEES et al., 2005). Vários relatos na literatura têm demonstrado o valor medicinal de extratos e

compostos isolados da *C. sylvestris*, observando o potencial farmacológico, trazendo evidências para seu uso popular e incentivando novos estudos sobre suas moléculas bioativas (FERREIRA et al., 2011).

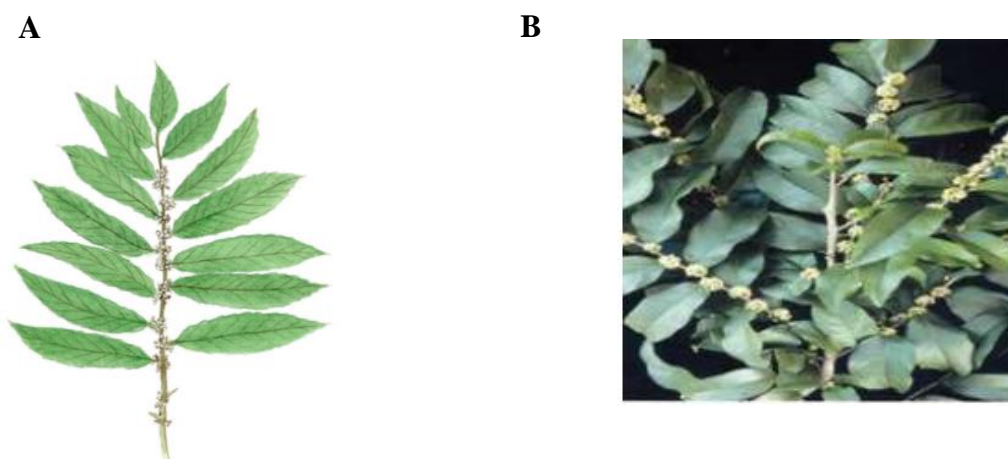


Figura 3. (A) Folhas de *C. sylvestris* (Gandi, 2014); (B) *C. sylvestris* florida (LORENZI, 2002).

Estudos taxonômicos foram desenvolvidos por Torres e Yamamoto (1986), baseados nas obras de Eichler (1871) e Sleumer (1980) com espécies de *Casearia*. A *C. sylvestris* é um subarbusto a árvore com 1,5 a 10 metros de altura. Apresenta ramos com extremidade glabra a pubescente; folhas são lenticelas esparsas a numerosas; folhas geralmente maduras, às vezes jovens na floração, oblongas, elípticas ou ovado-oblongas, de base atenuada, simétrica à assimétrica, com cerca de 5,0-12,0 x 2,0-3,5 cm.

#### 2.2.1 Componentes químicos relatados para *C. sylvestris*

Um grande número de estudos fitoquímico com *Casearia sylvestris* tem mostrado a ocorrência diterpenos clerodânicos (Fig. 4), estes compostos, foram denominados de casearinas (SANTOS et al., 2007; SANTOS, 2008; SANTOS et al., 2010). Além das casearinas, outros diterpenos clerodânicos, conhecidos como casearvestrinas, têm sido identificados nas folhas de *C. sylvestris* (ORBELIES et al., 2002; FERREIRA, 2006).

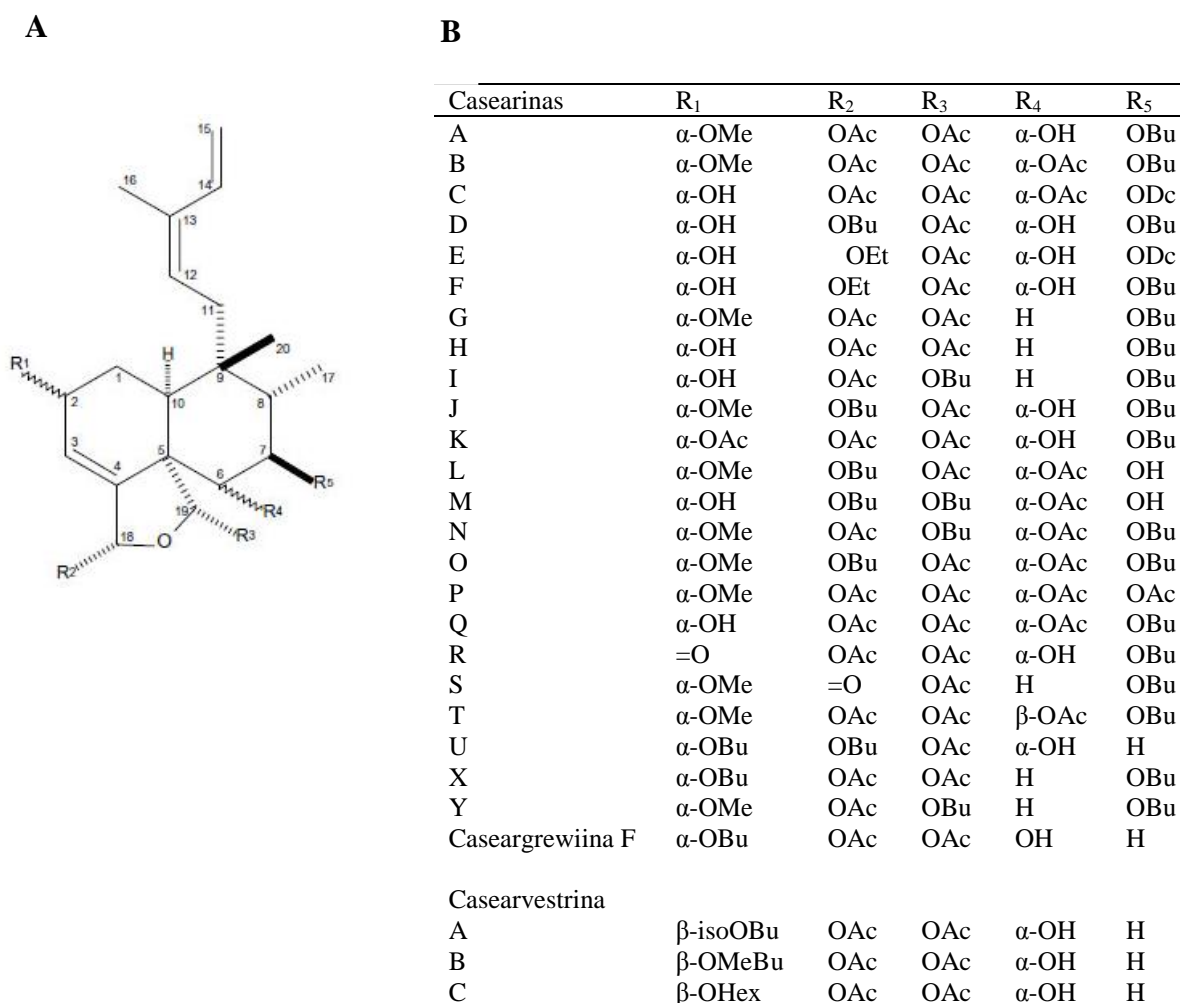


Figura 4. Estrutura química das casearinas e casearvestrina. (A) Estrutura geral das casearinas; (B) Respetivos substituintes: O-Me: O-CH<sub>3</sub>; OAc: CH<sub>3</sub>CO<sub>2</sub>; OBu: C<sub>3</sub>H<sub>7</sub>CO<sub>2</sub>; ODeC: C<sub>9</sub>H<sub>19</sub>CO<sub>2</sub>; IsoOBu: (CH<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub>CHCO<sub>2</sub>;  $\beta$ -OMeBu: CH<sub>3</sub>CH<sub>2</sub>CH(CH<sub>3</sub>)CO<sub>2</sub>;  $\beta$ -OHex: C<sub>5</sub>H<sub>11</sub>CO<sub>2</sub>. Fonte: Adaptação de Passareli, 2010.

### 2.2.1 Atividades farmacológicas relacionadas para *C. sylvestris*

O grande interesse nas propriedades farmacológicas de *C. sylvestris* pode ser comprovado pela elevada quantidade de trabalhos científicos com esta planta. Os estudos compreendem a otimização de métodos de extração, isolamento e identificação de metabólitos secundários responsáveis por atividades biológicas de interesse e, também, a busca de novos compostos bioativos. Na literatura há diversos trabalhos sobre as

propriedades farmacológicas de diferentes extratos da *C. sylvestris*. Alguns dos trabalhos são referidos nas tabelas (1, 2, 3, 4, 5 e 6) a seguir

Tabela 1. Atividade antiulcera relatada para *C. sylvestris*

<b>Extrato/Parte da planta</b>	<b>Compostos responsáveis</b>	<b>Referência bibliográfica</b>
Extrato etanólico das folhas	Óleos voláteis, taninos e triterpenos	Basile et al., (1990)
Extratos brutos das folhas secas e frescas	Óleos voláteis, taninos e compostos relacionados com os triterpenos	Sertié et al., (2000)
Extrato etanólico das folhas	Casearinas B, D, O, X e F	Santos (2008)
Extrato etanólico das folhas	-	Fialho et al., (2010)
Extrato fluido (infusão em água e álcool etílico) e extrato metanólico	Flavonóides (quercetina, rutina, kaempferol) e terpenos (espatulenol, diterpeno clerodânico).	Ameni (2015)

- Os autores não identificaram ou não sugeriram compostos responsáveis pela atividade.

Tabela 2. Atividade antitumoral observada para diferentes extratos da *C. sylvestris*

<b>Extrato/Parte da planta</b>	<b>Compostos responsáveis</b>		<b>Referência bibliográfica</b>
Extrato etanólico das folhas	Diterpenos (casearinas)	clorodanos	Itokawa et al., (1988 e 1990)
Extrato hidroalcolico das folhas	Diterpenos, flavonóides	alcalóides e	Almeida (1999)
Extrato etanólico das folhas	Casearina U		Ferreira (2006)
Extrato hidroalcolico das folhas		-	Lima (2008)
Óleo essencial das folhas	$\beta$ -cariofileno e $\alpha$ -humuleno		Silva et al., (2008)
Óleo essencial bruto das folhas	$\alpha$ -zingibereno em sinergia com as demais substancias presentes no óleo essencial		Bou et al., (2013)
Extrato etanólico das folhas	Derivados de ácido gálico		Da Silva et al., (2009)
Extrato hexânico da casca do caule	Glaucarubinona		Mesquita et al., (2009)
Extrato etanólico das folhas	Casearinas		Ferreira et al. (2010)
Extrato isopropílico das folhas		-	Guil-Guerrero; Campra (2009)
Extrato etanólico das folhas		-	Felipe (2010)
Extrato etanólico das folhas	Casearina X		Dos Santos et al., (2010)
Extrato supercrítico das folhas		-	Bücker (2012)
Extrato hidroalcolico das folhas		-	Santos (2013)
Extrato hidroalcolico das folhas	Ácido gálico		Felipe et al., (2014)
Extrato metanólico das folhas	Casearinas e caseavestrinas		Ameni (2015)
Extrato etanólico das folhas	Casearina D		Lages (2016)
Extrato etanólico das folhas	Casearinas e casearina X isolada		Ferreira et al., (2016)

- Os autores não identificaram ou não sugeriram compostos responsáveis pela atividade.



Tabela 3. Atividades anti-inflamatória e antinociceptiva relatada para *C. sylvestris*

<b>Extrato/Parte da planta</b>	<b>Compostos responsáveis</b>	<b>Referência bibliográfica</b>
Extrato aquoso das cascas e das folhas	-	Ruppelt et al., (1991)
Extrato etanólico das folhas	-	Camargo et al., (1996)
Extrato hidroalcolico das folhas	Diterpenos, alcalóides e flavonóides	Almeida (1999)
Extrato hidroalcolico das folhas	-	Silva et al., (2004)
Decocto das folhas	-	Sassioto et al., (2004)
Óleo essencial de folhas	Compostos terpênicos	Esteves et al., (2005)
Extrato hidroalcolico das folhas	-	Mattos et al., (2007)
Óleo essencial de folhas	Sesquiterpenos	Esteves et al., (2011)
Extrato hidroalcolico das folhas	Terpenos, óleos essenciais e taninos	Albano et al., (2013)
Extrato hidroalcolico das folhas	Terpenos e taninos	Campos et al., (2015)

- Os autores não identificaram ou não sugeriram compostos responsáveis pela atividade.

Tabela 4. Atividade sobre a capacidade de neutralização de venenos

<b>Extrato/Parte da planta</b>	<b>Compostos responsáveis</b>	<b>Referência bibliográfica</b>
Extrato aquoso das folhas	Taninos e flavonoides	Borges et al. (2001 e 2000)
Extrato hidroalcolico das folhas	Flávonoides e compostos fenolicos	Oshima-Franco et al., (2005)
Extrato aquoso das folhas	-	Cavalcante et al. (2007)
Extrato metanólico das folhas	Rutina	Cintra-Francischinelli et al., (2008)
Extrato hidroalcolico das folhas	-	Raslan et al., (2002)
Extrato aquoso das folhas	Ácido elágico	Da Silva et al., (2008b)

- Os autores não identificaram ou não sugeriram compostos responsáveis pela atividade.

Tabela 5. Atividades antifúngica, antiprotozoária, bactericida e antiviral

<b>Atividade farmacológica</b>	<b>Extrato/Parte da planta</b>	<b>Compostos responsáveis</b>	<b>Referência bibliográfica</b>
	Extrato fluido das folhas	-	Camargo et al., (1993)
	Extrato alcoólico das folhas	-	Cury (2005)
	Óleo essencial das folhas	-	Tavares et al., (2008)
	Extrato fluido das folhas	-	Arantes (2002)
	Extrato etanólico, aquoso e óleo essencial das folhas	Flavonoides, saponinas, cumarinas, taninos e alcalóides	Guntzel (2008)
Bactericida e antiviral	Óleo essencial das folhas	$\beta$ -pineno	Schneider et al., (2006)
	Extrato hidroalcoólico e infusão das folhas	-	Weckwerth et al., (2008)
	Óleo essencial das folhas	-	Godoi (2013)
	Extrato hidroalcoólico das folhas	Cumarinas, flavonóides diterpenos clerodânicos	<sup>e</sup> Espinosa et al., (2015)
	Extrato hidroalcoólico das folhas e do óleo essencial	Sesquiterpenos	Cavalheiro (2016)
	Extrato etanólico das folhas	Compostos Fenólicos	Marques (2013)
		Extrato metanólico	Casearinas
Antifúngica	Extrato etanólico das folhas	Ácido gálico	Da Silva et al., (2008)
	Extrato hidroalcoólico das folhas	-	Lopes et al., (2010)
Antiprotozoária	Extrato hexânico da casca da raiz	Diterpeno clerodânicos	Espindola et al., (2004)
	Extratos hexânicos das folhas, das cascas de tronco e cascas das raízes	Diterpeno clerodânicos	Mesquita et al., (2005)
	Extratos hexânicos das folhas, madeira e casca das raízes e caules	Diterpeno clerodânicos	Mesquita et al., (2007)
	Extratos etanólicos das folhas	Flavonoides e taninos	Slomp (2007)
	Óleo essencial das folhas	Casearinas	Bou et al., (2013)
Larvicida	Extrato hexânico do tronco e da casca do tronco	-	Rodrigues et al., (2006)

- Os autores não identificaram ou não sugeriram compostos responsáveis pela atividade.

Tabela 6. Demais atividades testadas para *C. sylvestris*

<b>Atividades farmacológicas</b>	<b>Extrato/Parte da planta</b>	<b>Compostos responsáveis</b>	<b>Referência bibliográfica</b>
Abortivo	Extrato aquoso das folhas	-	Silva et al. (1986)
Genotóxicidade	Extrato etanólico das folhas	-	Maistro et al., (2004)
Imunomodulador	Extrato hexânico dos galhos	-	Napolitano et al., (2005)
Anticlastogênica	Óleo essencial das folhas	Sesquiterpenos e monoterpenos	Sousa et al., (2007)
Proteção de DNA	Extrato etanólico das folhas	Casearina X	Prieto et al., (2012)
	Extrato etanólico das folhas	Casearina B	Prieto et al., (2013)
Hipotrigliceridemiante	Extrato hidroalcólico das folhas	-	Werle et al., (2009)
	Extrato metanólico das folhas	-	Schoenfelder et al., (2008)
	Extrato metanólico	Taninos, antocianinas, flavonóides, catequinas, chalconas, auronas, saponinas, triterpenos	Brant et al., (2014)
Antioxidante	Extrato etanólico das folhas	Casearinas	Araújo et al., (2015)
Cicatrizador	Decocto das folhas	-	Alves et al., (2016)

- Os autores não identificaram ou não sugeriram compostos responsáveis pela atividade.

### 2.3 *SEDUM DENDROIDEUM*

*S. dendroideum* (Fig. 5), popularmente conhecida como bálsamo, é usado como planta ornamental e também na medicina popular contra úlceras gástricas e processos inflamatórios gerais (LORENZI e SOUZA, 2001). Segundo Lorenzi e Souza (1995), *S. dendroideum* pertence à família Crassulaceae, gênero *Sedum*, espécie: *S. dendroideum* [synonym.: *S. praealtum* e *S. dendroideum* ssp]. É uma planta suculenta e subarborescente, e produz flores amarelas. Trata-se de uma espécie perene, sublenhosa e xerófila,

originária da África do Sul, de clima tropical seco (LORENZI e SOUZA, 1995; EPAGRI, 1998).

Entre as espécies de *Sedum*, *S. dendroideum* é bem apreciada por suas propriedades medicinais. O bálsamo é largamente utilizado na medicina tradicional para tratar inflamações de pele, contusões e problemas gástricos, em razão das ações emoliente e cicatrizante, sendo consumido através de sucos ou ingestão das folhas *in natura*.

Duarte e Zanetti (2002) descrevem morfologicamente o *S. dendroideum*. Segundo os autores, tem em média 1 m de altura. Suas folhas, com aproximadamente 1 a 5 cm de comprimento e 1 a 2 cm de largura, são alternas, simples, sésseis, glabras, brilhantes e discoloradas, apresentando a face abaxial com tonalidade verde mais clara. Têm formato oboval, levemente assimétrico, com ápice obtuso, base decurrente e margem lisa, sendo apenas a nervura central aparente.

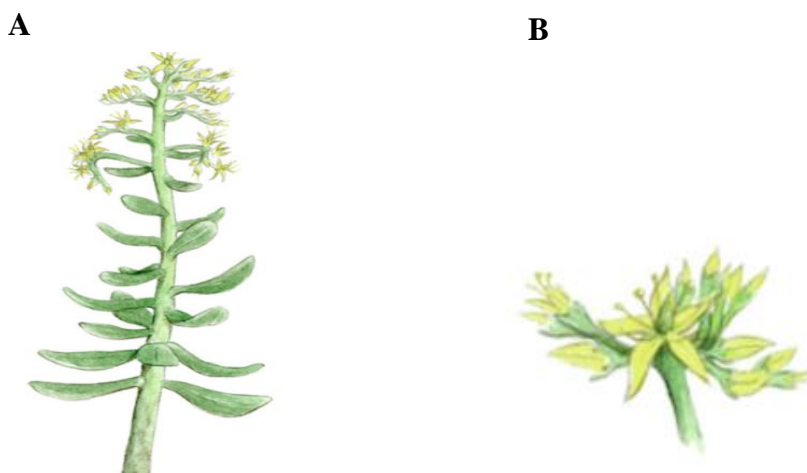


Figura 5. (A) *Sedum dendroideum*; (B) Flores de *Sedum dendroideum*. Fonte: Grandi, 2014.

A presença de metabólitos secundários (flavonóides, flavonóides glicosilados, e triterpenóides) em plantas do gênero *Sedum* (Crassulaceae) já foi descrita (NIEMANN et al., 1976; WOLBIŚ, 1989; STEVENS et al., 1996; MULINACCI et al., 1995;

BENSOUICI et al., 2016). Estudos com este gênero, já evidenciaram as atividades anti-inflamatória das folhas de *S. praealtum* e *S. telephium* (CAMARGO et al., 2002; SENDL et al., 1993), efeitos antimicrobianos relatados para *S. aizoon* e *S. Tatarinowii* (HU e XU, 2012).

### 2.3.1 Constituintes químicos e atividades farmacológicas de *S. dendroideum*

Metabolitos secundários já foram relatados para *Sedum dendroideum* (Fig. 5), sendo estes fenóis, taninos e flavonóides com esqueleto de kaempferol e derivados de quercetina (De MELO et al., 2005; De MELO et al., 2009; CARRASCO, 2014).

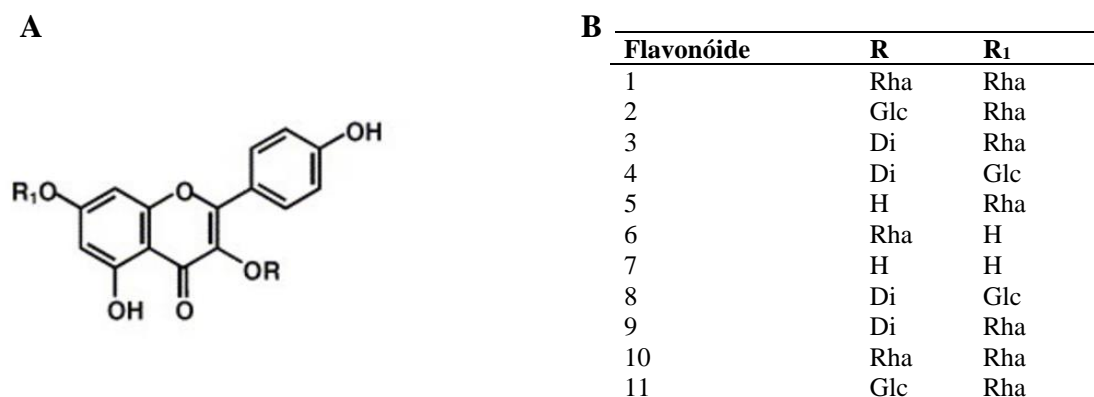


Figura. 6 Estrutura química de flavonóides isolados das folhas de *Sedum dendroideum*.

(A) Estrutura geral; (B) Respectiveos substituintes: Rha: ramnonose; Glc: glucose; Di: Rha(1→2)Glc. Fonte: Adaptação de De Melo et al., 2005; De Melo et al., 2009.

Estudos com esta espécie evidenciaram atividades antinociceptiva e anti-inflamatória das folhas frescas (MALVAR et al., 2004; MELO et al., 2005), potencial antimicrobiano do extrato hidroalcolico das folhas (MARQUES 2015), efeito inibidor sobre a motilidade de espermatozoides humanos, atividade antifertilização em ratos e,

atividade espermicida dos extratos etanólicos das folhas (SILVA-TORRES et al., 2003; GARCIA-PINEDA et al., 1986).

O uso de extratos das folhas de *S. dendroideum* como agentes antiulcerogênicos têm se mostrado eficaz. Carrasco (2014), investigou os efeitos antiulcerogênicos do extrato hidroalcoólico das folhas, mostrando redução das lesões gástricas agudas e crônicas em até 70,8% e 92,9% respectivamente. Gaspi et al., (2015) demonstraram o potencial antiulcerogênico, do extrato hidroalcoólico do sumo foliar, no tratamento de úlceras pépticas. O extrato reduziu as lesões agudas induzidas por etanol em até 88%.

Ao contrário de *C. sylvestris*, há poucos trabalhos que relatam atividades farmacológicas de *S. dendroideum*, logo, é possível observar que esta planta não recebeu muita atenção em relação à sua composição fitoquímica de metabólitos secundários e primários, os quais poderiam corroborar com os conhecimentos populares a respeito do seu uso. Plantas medicinais podem ser utilizadas como alimentos e medicamentos, separadamente ou num mesmo ato, como o bálsamo, onde as folhas são ingeridas como salada para tratar úlceras (SÁ, 2008). Polissacarídeos são consumidos quando plantas são ingeridas como alimento ou quando as mesmas são usadas na preparação de chás, uma vez que alguns podem ser facilmente obtidos por extração em água quente.

### 3. OBJETIVOS

#### 3.1 OBJETIVO GERAL

Verificando a importância medicinal da *Casearia sylvestris*, do *Sedum dendroideum* e dos polissacarídeos, este trabalho teve como objetivo isolar, purificar e caracterizar estruturalmente polissacarídeos destas plantas, além de avaliar propriedades farmacológicas destas moléculas.

#### 3.2 OBJETIVOS ESPECÍFICOS

- Obter e purificar os polissacarídeos dos extratos aquosos das folhas da *Casearia sylvestris* e *Sedum dendroideum*;
- Caracterizar estruturalmente os polissacarídeos isolados;
- Avaliar a atividade antiúlcera gástrica *in vivo* de frações polissacarídicas isoladas destas plantas;
- Investigar a ação imunomoduladora dos polissacarídeos obtidos do extrato aquoso das folhas de *Sedum dendroideum*, em modelo *in vitro*, utilizando células THP-1 diferenciadas em macrófagos.
- Gerar resultados que comprovem cientificamente os usos populares destas plantas.

**ARTIGO I**

Chemical structure and anti-inflammatory effect of polysaccharides obtained from  
infusion of *Sedum dendroideum* leaves

Publicado na International Journal of Biological Macromolecules



**Chemical structure and anti-inflammatory effect of polysaccharides obtained from infusion of *Sedum dendroideum* leaves**

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**Abstract**

*Sedum dendroideum* is popularly known as balsam and used for treatment of inflammatory disorders. Two polysaccharides (RSBAL-H<sub>2</sub>O and RSBAL-0.5) were isolated from infusion of its dried leaves, using dialysis at 100 kDa cut-off membrane and anion exchange chromatography. Methylation and NMR analyzes showed that RSBAL-H<sub>2</sub>O is a highly methyl-esterified homogalacturonan, constituted by (1→4)- $\alpha$ -D-GalA residues, whereas RSBAL-0.5 is a highly methyl-esterified homogalacturonan, branched at O-3 by type II arabinogalactan and arabinan side chains. In this study is showed that these balsam polysaccharides stimulates secretion of the cytokines TNF- $\alpha$ , IL1- $\beta$  and IL-10 by THP-1 macrophages, acting as immunostimulatory agents. But, on the other hand, they reduce TNF- $\alpha$  and IL1- $\beta$  secretion induced by a pro-inflammatory agent (LPS), showing anti-inflammatory effect.

**Keywords:** *Sedum dendroideum*, polysaccharides, cytokines.

## 1. Introduction

*Sedum* (Crassulaceae family) is a large genus, with many species used pharmaceutically. *Sedum* species have showed spermicide [1], antioxidant, anticholinesterase, antibacterial [2] and anti-inflammatory activities [3].

*Sedum dendroideum* is a subshrub succulent plant, originally from semi desert areas of Africa, and acclimated in various parts of the world. In Brazil it is popularly known as balsam and used in folk medicine to treat gastric ulcers and general inflammatory processes [4]. Extracts of *S. dendroideum* are popularly used to treat ulcers, inflammation disturbances and wounds [5]

Previous studies have showed different pharmacological activities for extracts of *S. dendroideum*, as antiulcer [6], antinociceptive, anti-inflammatory [7,5,8], contraceptive [9,10], antidiabetic [11,12], and antibiotic [13].

The medicinal properties attributed to *S. dendroideum* are associated with its secondary metabolites, mainly flavonoids, flavonoid glycosides, phenols, tannins and cyanogenic compounds [7,6,14,15]. However, when *S. dendroideum* is popularly used in the form of tea (infusion or decoction) or as a juice made from its leaves, other chemical compounds, such as polysaccharides, are also ingested. Among other properties, polysaccharides may have antiulcer [16,17], antinociceptive, anti-inflammatory [18,19,20,21], antioxidant, and anticancer activities [22,23]. Thus, polysaccharides could contribute for the medicinal properties of *S. dendroideum*.

THP-1 cell line is widely used for studying functions or responses of monocytes and macrophages and the effects that external stimuli exert on them [24]. The inflammation process is mediated by cytokines such as TNF- $\alpha$  and IL-1 $\beta$ , which play major roles in the initiation and amplification of inflammatory processes [25]. Considering the medicinal importance of polysaccharides and *S. dendroideum*, this study

reports the isolation and structural characterization of *S. dendroideum* polysaccharides, and their influence on the TNF- $\alpha$ , IL-1 $\beta$  and IL-10 secretion, by THP-1 macrophages.

## 2. Materials and methods

### 2.1. Plant material

*S. dendroideum* was obtained in Campina Grande do Sul, State of Paraná (PR), Brazil, in December 2013. The plant was identified in the Municipal Botanical Museum of Curitiba, State of Paraná (PR), Brazil. Carboxyl-reduction of polysaccharides (5 mg) was carried out using three successive cycles of the 1-ethyl-3-(3-dimethylaminopropyl)-carbodiimide method [26], to give carboxyl-reduced polysaccharide fractions. Sodium borohydride was used as reducing agent.

### 2.2. General analytical methods

All extracts were evaporated at  $<60$  °C under reduced pressure. Centrifugation was at 8,000 rpm, at 10 °C, for 10 min.

### 2.3. Extraction and fractionation of polysaccharides from *S. dendroideum* leaves

Freeze-dried *S. dendroideum* leaves (1.25 kg) were submitted to extraction with H<sub>2</sub>O (100 g/L) by infusion in boiling water. After adding water, the material was lightly stirred and allowed to rest until cooling. The aqueous extracts were combined, filtered, concentrated to a small volume (300 mL), and added to cold ethanol (900 mL). The resulting precipitate was separated by centrifugation, dissolved in H<sub>2</sub>O, dialyzed at a 6-8 kDa cut-off membrane against running water for 2 days and freeze-dried, to give the crude polysaccharide fraction (11.3 g). This fraction was dissolved in H<sub>2</sub>O (200 mL) at room temperature, and submitted to freeze-thawing process [27], resulting in insoluble (PBAL) and soluble (SBAL) fractions. SBAL was dialyzed at a 100 kDa cut-off membrane to give

a retained (RSBAL) and an eluted (ESBAL) fraction. RSBAL (100 mg) was then submitted to anion exchange chromatography, using a column with 25 mL of DEAE-Sepharose Fast Flow (10 x 2.1 cm, height x i.d.), with sequential elution by H<sub>2</sub>O and 0.5 M sodium chloride, until no carbohydrates were detected by the phenol-sulfuric method [28], to give the fractions RSBAL-H<sub>2</sub>O and RSBAL-0.5. RSBAL-0.5 was dialyzed against distilled water at a 6-8 kDa cut-off membrane to remove the salt. All fractions obtained were freeze-dried.

#### 2.4. HPSEC analysis

Homogeneity and average molar mass ( $M_w$ ) of the polysaccharides were determined by high-performance size-exclusion chromatography (HPSEC). The analyses of the samples were performed on a Waters chromatograph equipped with four Ultrahydrogel columns connected in series (2000, 500, 250, 120; with exclusion sizes of  $7 \times 10^6$ ,  $4 \times 10^5$ ,  $8 \times 10^4$ , and  $5 \times 10^3$  Da respectively) and attached to a multi detection system, which consisted of a Waters 2410 differential refractometer (RI). The eluent was 0.1 M aq. sodium nitrite containing 0.5 g/L sodium azide, at 0.6 mL/min. The samples, at a concentration of 1 mg/mL, previously filtered through a membrane (0.22  $\mu$ m), were injected (100  $\mu$ L loop), and analyzed at 25 °C. The specific refractive index increment ( $dn/dc$ ) was determined using the same equipment with the columns uncoupled. Samples at concentrations of 0.2, 0.4, 0.6, 0.8 and 1.0 mg/mL, previously filtered through a membrane (0.22  $\mu$ m), were injected (500  $\mu$ L loop) and analyzed at 25 °C using the RI detector only. The eluent was the same described above. Results were analyzed using the Wyatt Technology ASTRA software, version 4.70.07.

### 2.5. Monosaccharide analysis

The polysaccharides (2 mg) were hydrolyzed with 1 M trifluoroacetic acid (1 mL) at 100 °C for 16 h, the solution was then evaporated, and the residue dissolved in H<sub>2</sub>O (500 µL). The resulting monosaccharide mixture was examined by silica-gel 60 thin layer chromatography (TLC; Merck), the plates being developed with ethyl acetate:acetic acid:1-propanol:water (4:2:2:1 v/v) and stained with orcinol-sulfuric acid at 100 °C [29]. The hydrolyzate was also treated with sodium borohydride (2 mg) and, after 18 h, acetic acid (0.5 mL) was added for neutralization, the solution evaporated to dryness and the resulting boric acid removed as trimethyl borate by co-evaporation with methanol. Acetylation was carried out with acetic anhydride-pyridine (1:1 v/v, 0.5 mL) at room temperature for 18 h, and the resulting alditol acetates were extracted with chloroform. These were analyzed by GC-MS (Varian Saturn 1000 gas chromatograph coupled to a ion-trap mass spectrometer), using a DB1-MS column (30 m x 0.25 mm i.d.) programmed from 100 to 220 °C at 5 °C/min and 220 to 280 °C at 5 °C/min, with He as carrier gas at 1 mL/min. Components were identified by their typical retention times and electron impact spectra, compared to alditol acetates prepared from standard monosaccharides (Sigma-Aldrich). The results were given as mol%, calculated according to Pettolino et al. [30]. Uronic acid contents of polysaccharides were determined using the colorimetric *m*-hydroxybiphenyl method [31].

### 2.6. Methylation analysis

The polysaccharides (5 mg) were per-*O*-methylated according to the method of Ciucanu and Kerek [32], using powdered sodium hydroxide in dimethyl sulfoxide and methyl iodide. The product was hydrolyzed with 0.5 mL of 72% sulfuric acid (w/v) for 1 h at 0 °C, followed by addition of H<sub>2</sub>O (4.0 mL) and heating at 100 °C for 16 h. The

hydrolyzates were neutralized with barium carbonate, filtered, then reduced with sodium borohydride (2 mg) and acetylated as described above to give a mixture of partially *O*-methylated alditol acetates. These were analyzed by GC-MS using the same conditions as described for alditol acetates. They were identified by their typical retention times and electron impact spectra, compared to partially *O*-methylated alditol acetates according to Sasaki et al. [33]. The results were given as mol%, calculated according to Pettolino et al. [30].

### 2.7. NMR analysis

$^1\text{H}/^{13}\text{C}$  HSQC-DEPT analyses were performed in a 400 MHz Bruker model Avance III spectrometer with a 5 mm inverse probe, at 70 °C in  $\text{D}_2\text{O}$  or 0.1 M deuterated sodium hydroxide. Chemical shifts ( $\delta$ ) were expressed in ppm relative to acetone, at  $\delta$  30.2/2.22 ( $^{13}\text{C}/^1\text{H}$ ). The degree of methyl-esterification was determined by integration of the cross peak volumes of C-5/H-5 of 6-*OMe*- $\alpha$ -D-GalpA and  $\alpha$ -D-GalpA units on HSQC experiment, while the acetylation degree was determined using the integration of the H-1 areas of the 6-*OMe*-D-GalpA and  $\alpha$ -D-GalpA units, with of the hydrogen of acetyl groups in the  $^1\text{H}$ -NMR spectrum according to Nguyen et al. [34].

### 2.8. Cell line

THP-1 cells (human acute monocytic leukemia cell line) were maintained in RPMI 1640 liquid culture medium (Sigma-Aldrich), supplemented with 10% fetal calf serum, streptomycin (100  $\mu\text{g}/\text{mL}$ ) and penicillin (100 U/mL), at 5%  $\text{CO}_2$ , at 37 °C.

### 2.9. Differentiation of THP-1 cells

The mature macrophage-like state was induced by treating THP-1 cells ( $2 \times 10^5$  cells/mL) for 48 h with 5 ng/mL phorbol 12-myristate 13-acetate (PMA), in 24-wells polystyrene tissue culture plates with 1 mL cell suspension in each well. After differentiation, cells adhered to the surface allowing removal of the culture medium with PMA. The wells were then washed twice with PBS (phosphate buffered saline), and new medium, PMA free, was added. The THP-1 macrophages (differentiated cells) were incubated for 24 h at 5% CO<sub>2</sub>, at 37 °C, for rest.

### 2.10. Cytotoxicity assay

Metabolic activity of THP-1 macrophages was evaluated by MTT (3,4,5-dimethyl-2-thiazolyl-2,5-diphenyl-2H-tetrazolium) assay. The culture medium of THP-1 macrophages was removed and replaced with fresh medium containing polysaccharide fractions (RSBAL-H<sub>2</sub>O or RSBAL-0.5) at different concentrations (2, 10, and 50 µg/mL) or PBS (50 µL). The cells were then incubated for 24 h at 5% CO<sub>2</sub>, at 37 °C. Three hours before completing those 24 h, MTT (20 µL; at 5 mg/mL) was added. After 3 h of incubation, unreacted MTT was removed, formazan crystals were solubilized in DMSO (100 µL/well), and optical density was evaluated in microplate reader at 570 nm.

### 2.11. Treatment of THP-1 macrophages with polysaccharides and quantification of TNF- $\alpha$ , IL-1 $\beta$ and IL-10

The culture medium of THP-1 macrophages was removed and replaced with fresh medium containing polysaccharide fractions (RSBAL-H<sub>2</sub>O or RSBAL-0.5) at different concentrations (2, 10, 50 µg/mL), or PBS (50 µL), or lipopolysaccharide (LPS; 1 µg/mL) from *Escherichia coli*, 0111:B4 (Sigma), as negative and pro-inflammatory controls

respectively. The cells were then incubated for 18 h at 5% de CO<sub>2</sub>, a 37 °C. According to Chanput et al. [35], a maximal secretion of cytokines by THP-1 macrophages occurs in 18 h, on LPS-induced inflammation. The supernatants were collected and the pro-inflammatory (TNF- $\alpha$ , IL-1 $\beta$ ) and anti-inflammatory (IL-10) cytokines quantified by ELISA (eBioscience kits), according to the manufacturer's instructions.

### 2.12. Statistical analysis

The results are expressed as mean  $\pm$  standard error of the mean of triplicate cultures. Each concentration was tested in quintuplicate. Statistical significance was determined using one-way analysis of variance (ANOVA) followed by Tukey's test. Data were considered different at a significance level of  $p < 0.05$ . The graphs were drawn and the statistical analyses were performed using GraphPad Prism version 5.01 for Windows.

## 3. Results and discussion

### 3.1. Fractionation and structural analysis of the polysaccharides

Polysaccharides were obtained from infusion of *S. dendroideum* leaves and were fractionated according to Fig. 1. The soluble fraction obtained after the freezing-thawing process (SBAL; 4.1 g) presented two peaks in HPSEC-RI analysis (Fig. 2A). It was then fractionated by dialysis at a 100 kDa cut-off membrane, resulting in a retained (RSBAL; 62%) and an eluted fraction (ESBAL; 38%), which showed HPSEC-RI elution profiles containing a single peak (Fig. 2A).



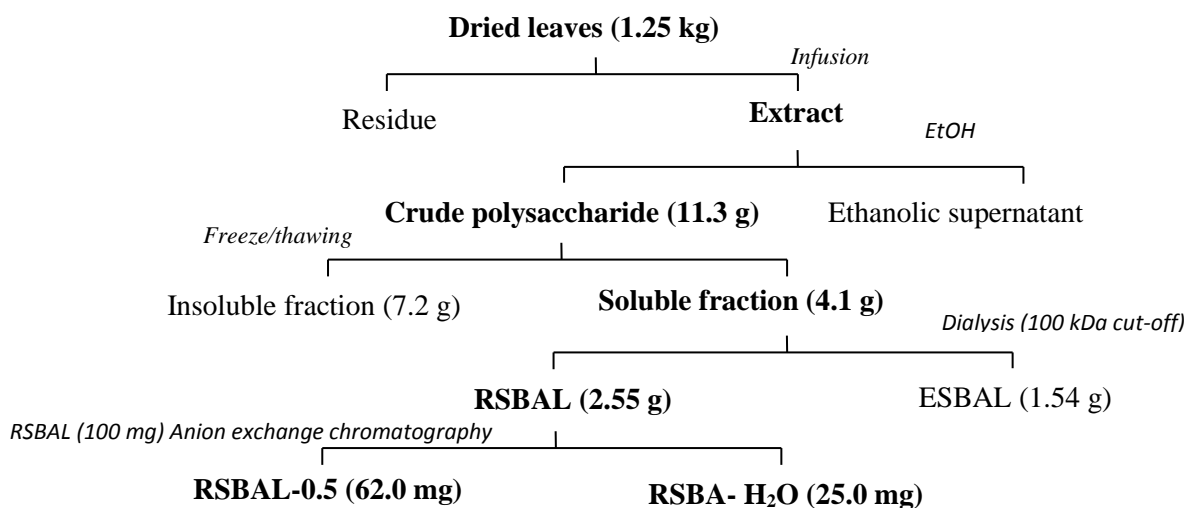


Fig 1. Flowchart of the extraction and fractionation process of polysaccharides from *Sedum dendroideum* leaves.

The main fraction (RSBAL) contained uronic acid, rhamnose, arabinose, galactose and glucose in a 31:3:2:3:1 molar ratio. TLC analysis of the monosaccharide mixture obtained by acid hydrolysis of RSBAL indicated the presence of galacturonic acid. Galacturonic acid residues are usually present in two kinds of pectic polysaccharides, namely homogalacturonan and rhamnogalacturonan. In pectic polysaccharide fractions there is frequently the presence of neutral structures like arabinans, galactans and arabinogalactans, which can be covalently attached to the acidic polysaccharide [36,37].

To confirm that the neutral components are linked to the acidic polysaccharide, RSBAL (100 mg) was submitted to anion exchange chromatography. Two fractions were obtained: one eluted with H<sub>2</sub>O (RSBAL-H<sub>2</sub>O; 25%) and another eluted with 0.5 M sodium chloride (RSBAL-0.5; 62%). Thus, although RSBAL eluted as a single peak in HPSEC, the anion exchange chromatography showed that RSBAL is constituted by two different polymers. Both RSBAL-H<sub>2</sub>O and RSBAL-0.5 showed HPSEC-RI elution profiles containing a single peak (Fig. 2B).

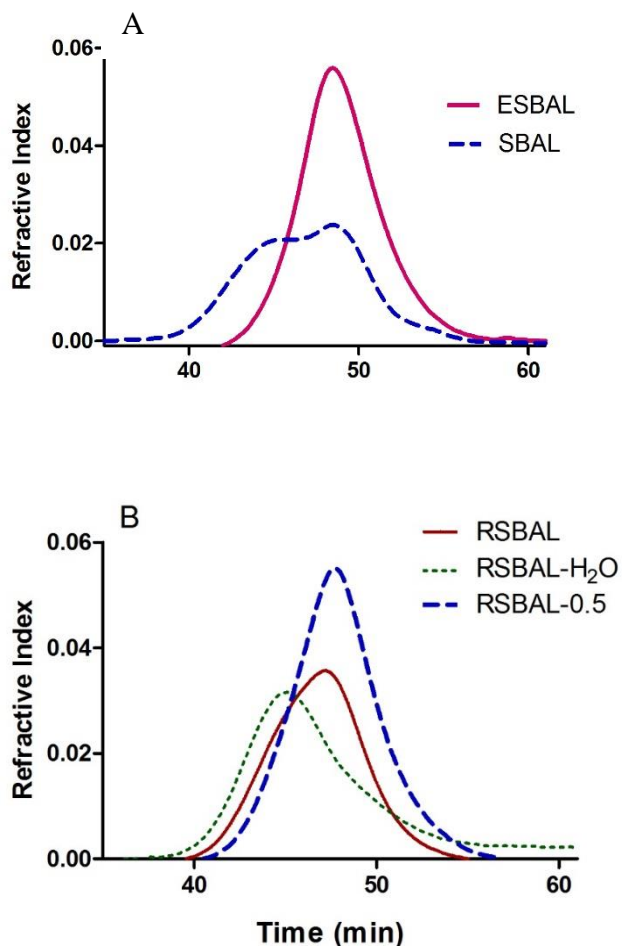


Fig 2. HPSEC-RI elution profiles of (A) SBAL and ESBAL; (B) RSBAL, RSBAL-H<sub>2</sub>O and RSBAL-0.5.

RSBAL-H<sub>2</sub>O had a  $M_w$  of 54,700 g/mol ( $dn/dc = 0.132$ ), and contained galacturonic acid, rhamnose, arabinose, galactose and glucose in a 57:1:1:2:1 molar ratio. Despite the high content of galacturonic acid, the elution of RSBAL-H<sub>2</sub>O with H<sub>2</sub>O in an anion exchange chromatography could be explained by the presence of methyl-ester groups, which are commonly present in homogalacturonans and rhamnogalacturonans [36,37]. Methyl-ester groups prevent the interaction of the polysaccharide with the anion exchange resin.

HSQC-DEPT of RSBAL-H<sub>2</sub>O (Fig. 3A) showed <sup>1</sup>H/<sup>13</sup>C correlations at  $\delta$  99.2/5.11 (C-1/H-1), 68.6/3.70 (C-2/H-2), 69.3/4.01 (C-3/H-3), 78.1/4.45 (C-4/H-4) and 71.8/4.71 (C-5/H-5) of  $\alpha$ -1,4-linked D-GalpA units [21,20]. Besides, a <sup>1</sup>H/<sup>13</sup>C correlation at 49.3/3.38, of methanol, was also observed. Due to its low D<sub>2</sub>O solubility, RSBAL-H<sub>2</sub>O

was solubilized in 0.1 M deuterated sodium hydroxide for NMR analysis. In this alkaline condition, the  $-\text{CO}_2\text{-CH}_3$  groups of galacturonic acid residues were de-esterified, forming methanol. The presence of a low amount of free carboxyl groups in RSBAL-H<sub>2</sub>O could justify its elution with water, in an anion exchange chromatography. Thus, these results suggested that RSBAL-H<sub>2</sub>O is constituted by a highly methyl-esterified homogalacturonan.

RSBAL-0.5 had a  $M_w$  of 85,700 g/mol ( $dn/dc = 0.165$ ), and contained galacturonic acid, rhamnose, arabinose, galactose and glucose in a 18:1:7:6:1 molar ratio. Methylation analysis of the neutral structures of RSBAL-0.5 (Table 1) showed the presence of 3-, 5-, and 3,5-linked *Araf* units, in accordance with the formation of alditol acetates of 2,5-Me<sub>2</sub>-Ara (3.7%), 2,3-Me<sub>2</sub>-Ara (11.5%) and 2-Me-Ara (2.5%) respectively, suggesting the presence of arabinan. Moreover, 3,6- and 3,4,6-linked *Galp* units were observed, as demonstrated by the presence of alditol acetates of 2,4-Me<sub>2</sub>-Gal (18.4%) and 2-Me-Gal (13.0%), suggesting the presence of type II arabinogalactan in RSBAL-0.5 [30,37]. Non-reducing end-units of arabinose (46.1%) and galactose (4.8%) were also observed. Partially *O*-methylated alditol acetates derivatives of uronic acids are less volatile and resistant to analysis by GC-MS. Thus, to determine the substitution profile of the galacturonic acid residues in RSBAL-0.5, this fraction was submitted to carboxyl-reduction prior to methylation analysis, which showed the appearance of 2,3,6-Me<sub>3</sub>-Gal (54.6%) and 2,6-Me<sub>2</sub>-Gal (4.5%) (Table 1). This result indicated that 4- and 3,4-linked *GalpA* residues are present in RSBAL-0.5, which suggests that this fraction is a homogalacturonan branched at O-3, probably by side chains of arabinans and type II arabinogalactans.

Table 2 Profile of partially O-methylated alditol acetates and monosaccharide structures of native and carboxyl-reduced RSBAL-05.

<i>O</i> -Me-alditol acetate	Linkage	RSBAL-0.5 Mol %	
		Native	Carboxyl-reduced
2,3,5-Me <sub>3</sub> -Araf	Araf-(1→	46.1	22.5
2,5-Me <sub>2</sub> -Araf	→3)-Araf-(1→	3.7	-
2,3-Me <sub>2</sub> -Araf	→5)-Araf-(1→	11.5	-
2-Me-Araf	→3,5)-Araf-(1→	2.5	-
2,3,4,6-Me <sub>4</sub> -Galp	Galp-(1→	4.8	10.1
2,3,6-Me <sub>3</sub> -Galp <sup>(1)</sup>	→4)-GalpA-(1→	-	54.6
2,6-Me <sub>2</sub> -Galp <sup>(1)</sup>	→3,4)-GalpA-(1→	-	4.5
2,4-Me <sub>2</sub> -Galp	→3,6)-Galp-(1→	18.4	3.2
2-Me-Galp	→3,4,6)-Galp-(1→	13.0	5.1

(1) Derivatives that appeared after carboxyl-reduction. Uronic acids after carboxyl-reduction was < 2%.

Arabinans and arabinogalactans are frequently linked to O-4 of Rhap residues of type I rhamnogalacturonans, which can be interspersed with homogalacturonans, according to Pettolino et al. [30], Popov et al. [40], Carpita and Gibeau [36], Lerouge et al. [41], Renard et al. [42], Mohnen [37]. However, the low amount of Rhap residues in RSBAL-0.5 and the absence of 4-*O*-substituted Rha units according to the methylation analysis corroborate that the arabinans and type II arabinogalactans chains branch the homogalacturonan in its O-3 position. Some homogalacturonans branched at O-3 position have been described, for example, the pectic polysaccharide GOA2 from *Glinus oppositifolius* [38], and the apple pectin [39].

HSQC-DEPT of RSBAL-0.5 (Fig. 3B) showed <sup>1</sup>H/<sup>13</sup>C correlations at δ 99.9/4.95 (C-1/H-1), 78.7/4.45 (C-4/H-4), 70.6/5.08 (C-5/H-5) and 52.7/3.80 (–CO<sub>2</sub>–CH<sub>3</sub>) typical of α-1,4-linked 6-OMe-D-GalpA units [16,20,40], and at δ 99.2/5.12 (C-1/H-1),

78.7/4.45 (C-4/H-4) and 71.1/4.77 (C-5/H-5) of non-methyl-esterified  $\alpha$ -1,4-linked D-GalpA units [20,40,42]. According to integration of the cross peak volumes of C-5/H-5 of 6-OMe-D-GalpA and D-GalpA units on HSQC experiment, the degree of methyl-esterification was 74%, and to integration of the H-1 cross-peak volumes of 6-OMe-D-GalpA, D-GalpA units and the acetyl group, acetylation degree determined was 12.9%. These signals of acetyl groups were observed at  $\delta$  20.4/2.09 [16,20]. They can be present in homogalacturonans and rhamnogalacturonans, frequently substituting GalpA units at O-2 or O-3 [36,37,40].

HSQC-DEPT of RSBAL-0.5 (Fig. 3B) also showed  $^1\text{H}/^{13}\text{C}$  correlations of C-1/H-1 at  $\delta$  109.1/5.24 and 108.1/5.42 of  $\alpha$ -L-Araf units, and correlations of C-1/H-1, C-3/H-3 and C-6/H-6 of 3,6-linked  $\beta$ -D-Galp units at  $\delta$  103.1/4.50, 80.2/3.85 and 69.5/4.06 respectively [16,20,43].

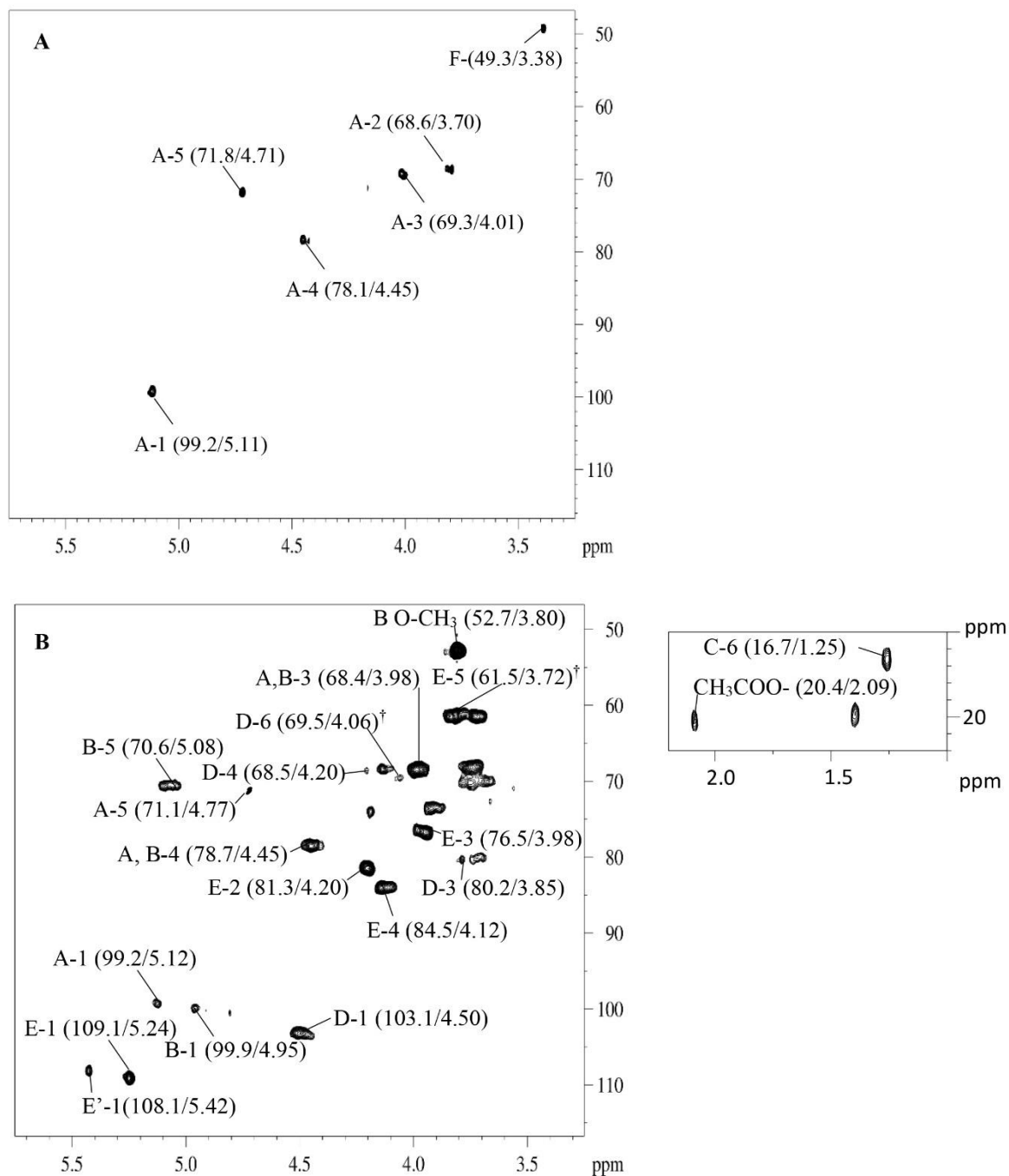


Fig 3. HSQC-DEPT correlation map of RSBAL-H<sub>2</sub>O (A) and RSBAL-0.5 (B). Solvents were NaOD 0.1M and D<sub>2</sub>O respectively; at 70 °C; numerical values are in  $\delta$  ppm. A ( $\alpha$ -D-GalpA), B (6-OMe- $\alpha$ -D-GalpA), C ( $\alpha$ -L-Rhap), D ( $\beta$ -D-Galp), E and E' ( $\alpha$ -L-Araf), and F (Methanol). The letters are followed by the carbon number of the monosaccharide unit.

† Inverted signals representing C-6/H-6.

The results obtained from NMR analysis confirmed the methylation data, indicating that RSBAL-0.5 is a high methyl-esterified homogalacturonan branched by side chains of arabinans and type II arabinogalactans.

The minor sugar components of RSBAL-0.5, rhamnose and glucose, were not identified in the methylation analysis. Rhamnose is generally present interspersed with GalpA units in pectic polysaccharides [36,37], and glucose is probably from traces of starch.

### 3.2. Immunostimulatory activity of RSBAL-H<sub>2</sub>O and RSBAL-0.5

Immunostimulatory activity of *S. dendroideum* polysaccharides was evaluated through analysis of cytokines secretion (TNF- $\alpha$ , IL1- $\beta$  and IL-10) by macrophage-differentiated THP-1 cells. TNF- $\alpha$  and IL1- $\beta$  are pro-inflammatory cytokines, while IL-10 is an anti-inflammatory cytokine. RSBAL-H<sub>2</sub>O and RSBAL-0.5 at 2, 10 and 50  $\mu$ g/mL were not toxic to THP-1 macrophages according to MTT assay (Fig. 4).

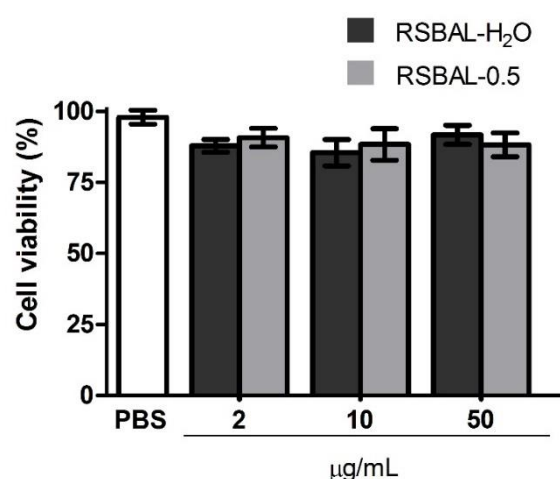


Fig 4. Viability of THP-1 macrophages exposed for 24 h to RSBAL-H<sub>2</sub>O and RSBAL-0.5, determined by MTT assay.

Both RSBAL-H<sub>2</sub>O and RSBAL-0.5 stimulated cytokines secretion by THP-1 macrophages in a dose dependent way at 2, 10 and 50 µg/mL (Fig. 5 and Fig. 6 respectively). As expected, LPS (1 µg/mL) also induced cytokines secretion. However, when THP-1 macrophages were simultaneously incubated with LPS (1 µg/mL) and polysaccharides (50 µg/mL), TNF-α and IL-1β secretion was lower than when incubated with LPS (1 µg/mL) only (Fig. 5 and Fig. 6), indicating that the polysaccharides RSBAL-H<sub>2</sub>O and RSBAL-0.5 have anti-inflammatory effect when in the presence of a pro-inflammatory agent as LPS. On the other hand, IL-10 secretion was not influenced by the presence of polysaccharides together with LPS.

The ratio between pro-inflammatory (TNF-α and IL-1β) and anti-inflammatory (IL-10) cytokines induced by LPS alone and by LPS plus polysaccharides was calculated. The ratios TNF-α/IL-10 and IL-1β/IL-10 with LPS were 25.0 and 19.6 respectively, while for LPS plus RSBAL-H<sub>2</sub>O, they were 20.1 and 6.5, and for LPS plus RSBAL-0.5, were 22.7 and 6.0 respectively. The lower ratio of pro-/anti-inflammatory cytokines by the LPS-stimulated THP-1 macrophages, in the presence of RSBAL-H<sub>2</sub>O and RSBAL-0.5, demonstrated anti-inflammatory effect of these polysaccharides.

These results suggest that, although the polysaccharides from *S. dendroideum* induce secretion of pro-inflammatory cytokines (TNF-α and IL-1β), when the assay is performed in the presence of LPS, the presence of the polysaccharide reduces the secretion of them, reaching an anti-inflammatory result. This characteristic is also observed for other polysaccharides which have both pro-inflammatory and anti-inflammatory effects and, therefore, an immunomodulatory activity [44,45,46,47,48].

From the results obtained in this study it is possible suggest that polysaccharides could contribute for the anti-inflammatory properties of *S. dendroideum* extracts,



justifying the popular use of this plant to treat ulcers, inflammation disturbances and wounds.

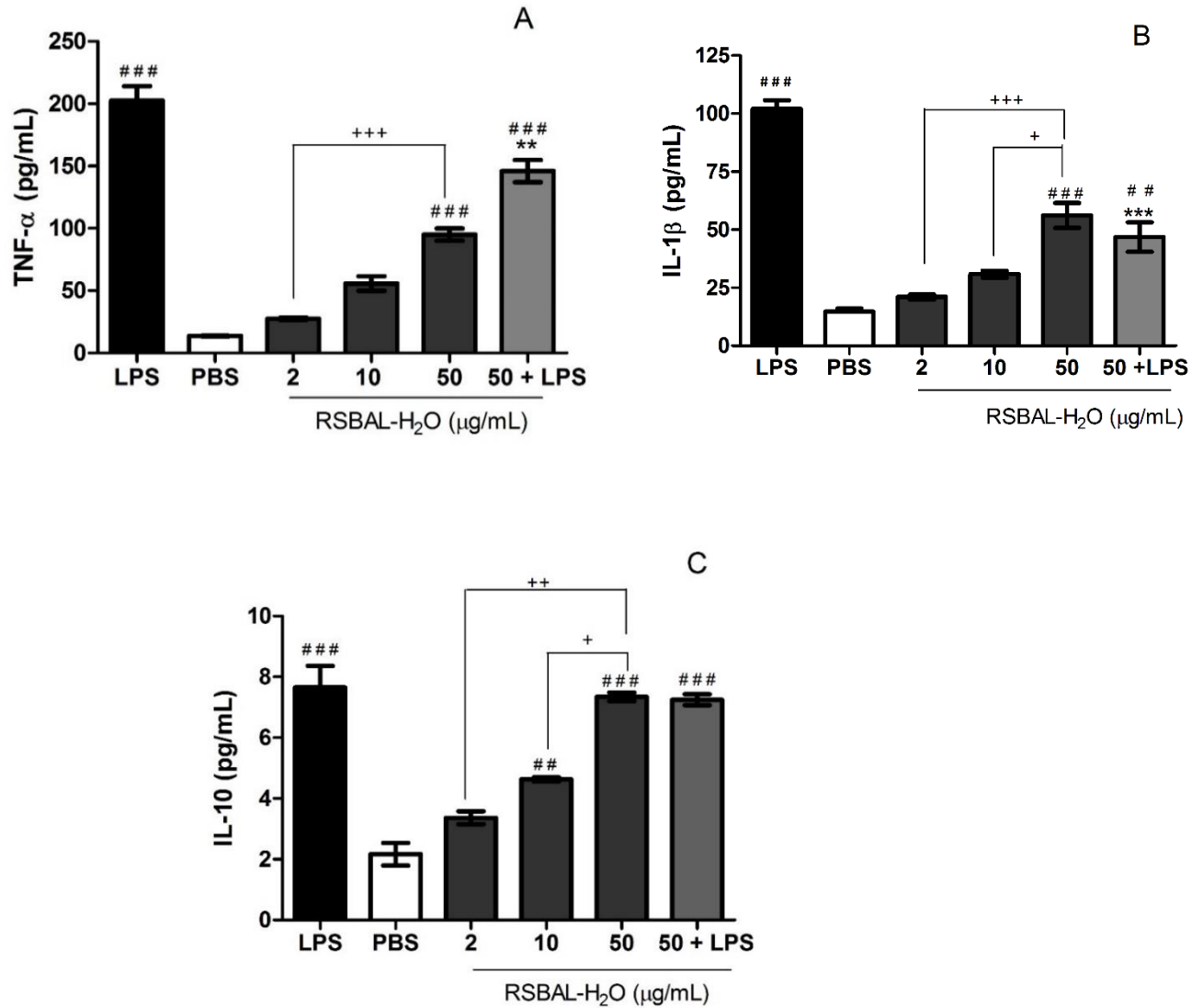


Fig 5. Ability of RSBAL-H<sub>2</sub>O to stimulate the secretion of TNF- $\alpha$  (A), IL-1 $\beta$  (B) and IL-10 (C) by THP-1 macrophages. Cells were incubated with LPS (1  $\mu$ g/mL), PBS, RSBAL-H<sub>2</sub>O (2, 10 and 50  $\mu$ g/mL), or RSBAL-H<sub>2</sub>O + LPS (50  $\mu$ g/mL + 1  $\mu$ g/mL respectively). Statistical difference in comparison with LPS group (\*), PBS group (#), and between the polysaccharide concentrations (+).  $p < 0.05$  (#),  $p < 0.01$  (##) and  $p < 0.001$  (###).

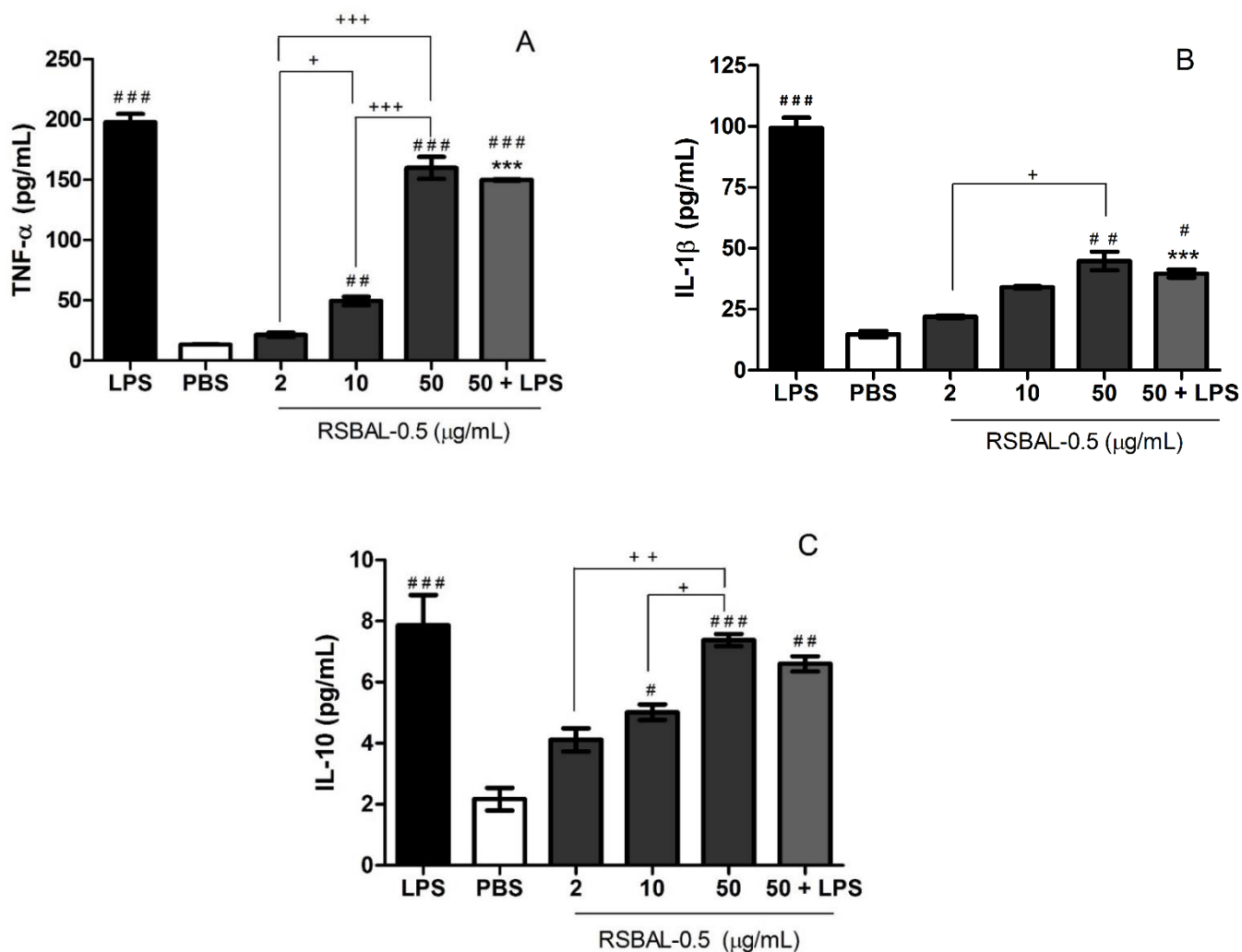


Fig 6. Ability of RSBAL-0.5 to stimulate the secretion of TNF- $\alpha$  (A), IL-1 $\beta$  (B) and IL-10 (C) by THP-1 macrophages. Cells were incubated with LPS (1  $\mu$ g/mL), PBS, RSBAL-0.5 (2, 10 and 50  $\mu$ g/mL), or RSBAL-0.5 + LPS (50  $\mu$ g/mL + 1  $\mu$ g/mL respectively). Statistical difference in comparison with LPS group (\*), PBS group (#), and between the polysaccharide concentrations (+). p < 0.05 (#), p < 0.01 (##) and p < 0.001 (###).

#### 4. Conclusions

In this study we showed that the pectic polysaccharides RSBAL-H<sub>2</sub>O and RSBAL-0.5, obtained from infusion of *S. dendroideum* leaves, influence the secretion of both pro- and anti-inflammatory cytokines by macrophages. In the presence of a pro-inflammatory agent these polysaccharides exhibited an anti-inflammatory effect, preventing secretion of pro-inflammatory cytokines and maintaining secretion of an anti-inflammatory cytokine. Therefore, the anti-inflammatory effects of *S. dendroideum* could be, at least in part, due to its polysaccharides.

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**ARTIGO II**

Gastroprotective activity of a pectic polysaccharide fraction obtained from infusion of  
*Sedum dendroideum* leaves

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**Gastroprotective activity of a pectic polysaccharide fraction obtained from  
infusion of *Sedum dendroideum* leaves**

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**Abstract**

*Sedum dendroideum*, popularly known in Brazil as balsam, is traditionally used to treat gastric problems. In the present study was showed the gastroprotective effects of a pectic polysaccharide fraction obtained by infusion of *S. dendroieum* leaves. It acted preserving gastric mucus and glutathione levels in an ethanol-induced ulcer model in rats. HSQC analysis showed that the polysaccharide fraction contains a homogalacturonan and a homogalacturonan branched by side chains of arabinans and type II arabinogalactans. This study demonstrate, for the first time, that a polysaccharide fraction from *S. dendroideum* is effective in prevent gastric ulcer.

**Keywords**

*Sedum dendroideum*; Polysaccharide; Gastroprotective

## 1. Introduction

*Sedum dendroideum*, locally known as balsam, is a succulent plant popularly used in Brazil to treat earache, gastritis, bronchitis, anemia, as cicatrizing and to make syrups and ointments for wounds (Battisti et al., 2013; Haeffner et al., 2012).

Some pharmacological properties of *S. dendroideum* have been demonstrated. The juice of *S. dendroideum* leaves acted as an antinociceptive agent, inhibiting abdominal contortions induced by acetic acid in mice (Malvar et al., 2004), and as an anti-inflammatory agent, promoting both antinociceptive and antiedematogenic effects, after oral administration in mice submitted to the carrageenan-induced paw edema (De Melo et al., 2005). Considering its wound healing effects, Schmidt et al., (2009) described a moderate effect for the *n*-hexanic and ethanolic extracts of *S. dendroideum* on the fibroblasts migration and proliferation in the *in vitro* scratch assay. Also, previous studies demonstrate that hydroalcoholic extract of *S. dendroideum* leaves presents gastroprotective and antisecretory activity in rats models (Carrasco et al., 2014).

Gastric ulcer is a deep lesion in the gastric wall, which involves the whole thickness of the mucosa, reaching the muscle layer (Tarnawski et al., 1991). Studies showed that herbals presented therapeutic effects against gastric ulcer (Dos Reis Lívero et al., 2016; Potrich et al., 2010), and there is pharmacological response can be equivalent to commercial drugs available, besides the cost of herbal treatments is lesser than the traditional protocols established for the population.

Few studies validating the folk medicinal use of *S. dendroideum* have been done. When *S. dendroideum* is used medicinally in the form of tea (infusion or decoction) or as a juice made from its leaves, several active compounds including secondary metabolites and polysaccharides are ingested. The polysaccharides are widely known for their gastroprotective properties (Cipriani et al., 2006, Nascimento et al., 2013), however there

are no study describing this activity for polysaccharides of *S. dendroideum*. Therefore, considering the popular use of this plant to treat gastric problems and the properties of polysaccharides, we isolated a pectic polysaccharide fraction from the infusion of *S. dendroideum* leaves, that was chemically characterized and tested about its gastroprotective activity.

## **2. Experimental**

### *2.1 Plant material*

*S. dendroideum* was obtained in Campina Grande do Sul, State of Paraná (PR), Brazil, in December 2013. The plant was identified in the Municipal Botanical Museum of Curitiba, State of Paraná (PR), Brazil.

### *2.2 General analytical methods*

All extracts were evaporated at <60 °C under reduced pressure. Centrifugation was at 8,000 rpm, at 10 °C, for 10 min. Carboxyl-reduction of polysaccharides (5 mg) was carried out using three successive cycles of the 1-ethyl-3-(3-dimethylaminopropyl)-carbodiimide method (Taylor et al., 1972), to give a carboxy-reduced polysaccharide fraction. NaBH<sub>4</sub> being used as reducing agent.

### *2.3 Extraction and fractionation of polysaccharides from leaves of S. dendroideum*

Freeze dried leaves of *S. dendroideum* (1.25 kg) were ground and submitted to extraction with H<sub>2</sub>O (100 g/L) by infusion. The aqueous extracts were combined, filtered, concentrated to a small volume (300 mL), and added to cold EtOH (3 volumes). The resulting precipitate was separated by centrifugation, dissolved in H<sub>2</sub>O, dialyzed at a 6-8 kDa cut-off membrane in running water, for 2 days and freeze-dried, to give the crude

polysaccharide fraction (11.3 g). This fraction was dissolved in H<sub>2</sub>O (200 mL) at room temperature, and submitted to freeze-thawing (Gorin et al., 1984), until no more precipitate appear. The soluble portion (SBAL) was recovered by centrifugation and dialyzed at a 100 kDa cut-off membrane to give a retained (RSBAL) and an eluted (ESBAL) fraction, which were freeze-dried (Fig. 1).

#### 2.4 HPSEC analysis

Homogeneity and average molar mass ( $M_w$ ) values of the polysaccharides were determined by high-performance size-exclusion chromatography (HPSEC). The analyses of the samples were performed on a Waters chromatograph equipped with four Ultrahydrogel columns connected in series (2000, 500, 250, 120; with exclusion sizes of  $7 \times 10^6$ ,  $4 \times 10^5$ ,  $8 \times 10^4$ , and  $5 \times 10^3$  Da respectively) and attached to a multidetection system, which consisted of a Waters 2410 differential refractometer (RI). The eluent was 0.1 M aq. NaNO<sub>2</sub> containing 0.5 g/L NaN<sub>3</sub>, with flow of 0.6 mL/min. The samples, at a concentration of 1 mg/mL, previously filtered through a membrane (0.22 μm), were injected (100 μL loop), and analyzed at 25 °C. The molar mass specific refractive index increment ( $dn/dc$ ) was determined using the same equipment with the columns uncoupled. Samples at concentrations of 0.2, 0.4, 0.6, 0.8 and 1.0 mg/mL, previously filtered through a membrane (0.22 μm), were injected (500 μL loop) and analyzed at 25 °C using only the RI detector. The eluent was the same described above. Results were analysed using the Wyatt Technology ASTRA software, version 4.70.07.

#### 2.5 Monosaccharide analysis

The polysaccharides (2 mg) were hydrolyzed with 1 M TFA (1 mL) at 100 °C for 16 hours, the solution was then evaporated, and the residue dissolved in H<sub>2</sub>O (500 μL).

The resulting monosaccharide mixture was examined by silica-gel 60 thin layer chromatography (TLC; Merck), the plates being developed with AcOEt:OHAc:*n*-PrOH:H<sub>2</sub>O (4:2:2:1 v/v) and stained with orcinol-H<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub> at 100 °C (Sasaki et al., 2008). The hydrolyzate was also treated with NaBH<sub>4</sub> (2 mg), and after 18 h, HOAc (0.5 mL) was added for neutralization, the solution evaporated to dryness and the resulting boric acid removed as trimethyl borate by co-evaporation with MeOH. Acetylation was carried out with Ac<sub>2</sub>O-pyridine (1:1 v/v, 0.5 mL) at room temperature for 18 h, and the resulting alditol acetates were extracted with CHCl<sub>3</sub>. These were analyzed by GC-MS (Varian Saturn 2000R - 3800 gas chromatograph coupled to a Varian Ion-Trap 2000R mass spectrometer), using a VFS MET column (30 m x 0.25 mm i.d.) programmed from 100 to 280 °C at 10 °C/min, with He as carrier gas. Components were identified by their typical retention times and electron impact spectra, compared to alditol acetates prepared from standard monosaccharides (Sigma-Aldrich). The results were given as mol%, calculated according to Pettolino et al., (2012). Uronic acid contents of polysaccharides were determined using the colorimetric *m*-hydroxybiphenyl method (Filisetti-Cozzi et al., 1991).

## 2.6 NMR analysis

<sup>1</sup>H/<sup>13</sup>C HSQC-DEPT analyses were performed in a 400 MHz Bruker model Avance III spectrometer with a 5 mm inverse probe, at 70 °C in D<sub>2</sub>O. Chemical shifts (δ) were expressed in ppm relative to acetone, at (C<sup>13</sup>/H<sup>1</sup>) δ 30.2/2.22. The degree of methyl-esterification was determined by integration of the cross peak of C-5/H-5 of 6-OMe-α-D-GalpA and α-D-GalpA units on HSQC experiment.



## 2.7 Animals

Female Wistar rats weighing between 180-200 g, obtained from the Biotery of Federal University of Paraná were kept under standard laboratory conditions. Animals were housed in collective plastic cages (maximum of 5 rats per cage) with pine shavings bedding and free access to water and food (Nuvi-Lab CR-1, Quimtia S/A, Brazil), under a 12 h light/dark cycle and at controlled temperature ( $22 \pm 2$  °C). All experiments were conducted in agreement with the “Guide for the Care and Use of Laboratory Animals” (8th edition, National Research Council, 2011) and approved by the Committee of Animal Experimentation of the Federal University of Paraná (CEUA/BIO – UFPR; approval number 1010).

## 2.8 Induction of gastric lesion by ethanol

The experimental procedure to induce gastric lesions by oral administration (p.o.) of ethanol was performed according Robert et al., (1979). The rats fasted (16 h) with free access the water, were pretreated with a single oral dose of water (vehicle (V): 1 mL/kg), omeprazole (O: 40 mg/kg) or the polysaccharide fraction isolated from *Sedum dendroideum* (RSBAL: 0.35, 0.70 and 1.4 mg/kg). After 1 h of treatments, all animals (N=10) received ethanol P.A. (1 mL/rat) and then, animals were euthanized 1 h later by thiopental overdose (100 mg/kg, i.p.) followed by cervical dislocation. To analyze the gastric lesions, the stomachs were immediately excised, opened along the greater curvature, cleaned with cold saline, stretched flat and then photographed for provides visual evidence of hemorrhagic ulcers. All ulcer wound were drawing and measure by computerized planimetry using the program Image Tool<sup>®</sup> 3.0, and the lesion area was expressed in mm<sup>2</sup>.

### *2.9 Determination of gastric wall mucus*

The gastric mucus barrier is a protective factor of the mucosa and was determined through the model proposed by Corne et al., (1974). A half sample of the glandular portion of the stomach were complexed with a dye solution 0.1% Alcian Blue during 2 h. Then, the tissue was washed with 250 mM sucrose twice for 15 and 45 min respectively, and then complex mucus-dye was extracted adding 500 mM magnesium chloride and stirred intermittently for 2 h. The solution extracted was mixed with the same ether volume and centrifuged for 10 min at 3600 rpm. The aqueous layer was separated and absorbance was measured at 580 nm. The concentration of Alcian blue was calculated and the results were expressed in mg Alcian blue/g of glandular tissue.

### *2.10 Analysis of biochemical parameter of gastric tissue*

For determine glutathione (GSH) levels on the gastric tissue, samples were homogenized with ice cold 200 mM potassium phosphate buffer (pH 6.5) in a volume equal to three times of the fresh weight of gastric tissue. According to the method described by Sedlak and Lindsay (1968) with some modifications, aliquots of the samples were mixed with 12.5 % trichloroacetic acid (ATC) and vigorously shaking before being centrifuged at 3000 rpm for 15 min at 4 °C. In a 96-well plate was pipette the supernatant of the samples and added for colorimetric reaction 400 mM TRIS-HCl buffer (pH 8.5) and 10 mM 5,5'-dithiobis-(2-nitrobenzoic acid) (DTNB). Then, the absorbance of reaction was read at 412 nm. The values obtained were interpolated with a standard curve of GSH and results were expressed as  $\mu\text{g}$  GSH/g of tissue.

### *2.11 Statistical analysis*

Data were expressed as mean  $\pm$  standard error of the mean (S.E.M.). Statistical differences between experimental groups (n= 5-10 animals per group) were analyzed with

one-way ANOVA followed by Bonferroni's multi-comparison post-hoc test, using the GraphPad Prism® version 6.0 (GraphPad Software, San Diego, USA). Differences were considered to be significant when  $P \leq 0.05$ .

### 3. Results and discussion

#### 3.1 Fractionation and structural analysis of polysaccharides

Freeze dried leaves of *S. dendroideum* were submitted to infusion, and the extract obtained was added to 3 volumes of cold EtOH to give a crude precipitate of polysaccharides. This was subjected to the freeze-thawing process to give a soluble polysaccharide fraction (SBAL; 4.1 g), which presented two peaks in the HPSEC-RI analysis (Fig. 2). It was then fractionated by dialysis at a 100 kDa cut-off membrane, resulting in a retained (RSBAL; 62%) and an eluted fraction (ESBAL; 38%), which showed HPSEC-RI elution profiles containing a single peak (Fig. 2).

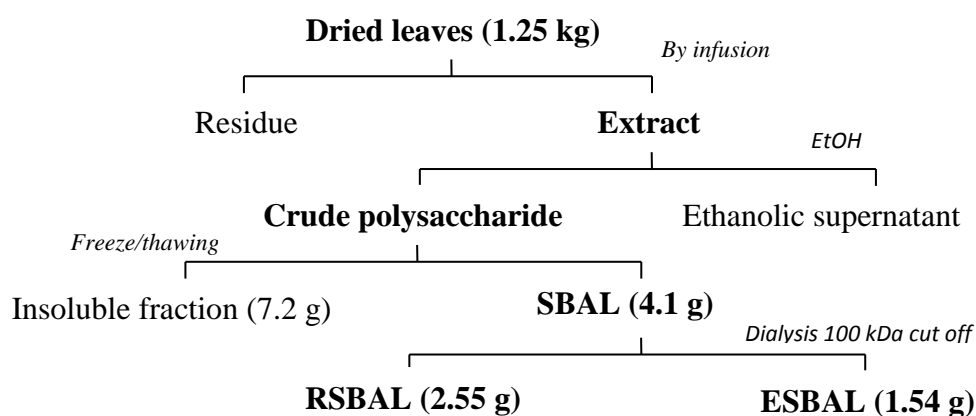


Figure. 1. Flowchart of the extraction and purification process of polysaccharides of *Sedum dendroideum* leaves.

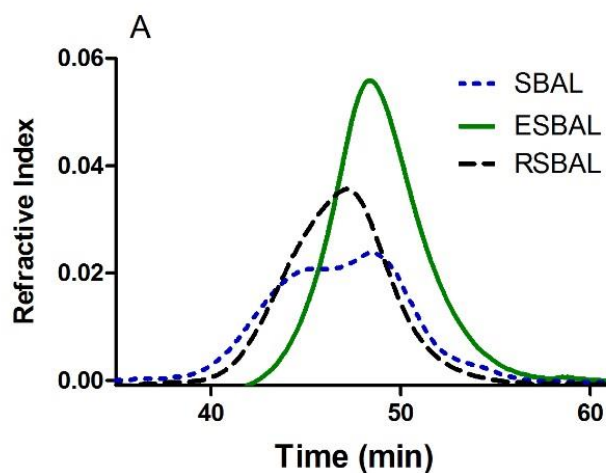


Figure 2. Elution profiles of SBAL, RSBAL and ESBAL on HPSEC, using RI detection.

The main fraction (RSBAL) had a  $M_w$  of 116,000 g/mol ( $dn/dc = 0.146$ ), and contained galacturonic acid, rhamnose, arabinose, galactose and glucose in a 31:3:2:3:1 molar ratio. TLC analysis of the monosaccharide mixture obtained by acid hydrolysis of RSBAL indicated presence of galacturonic acid. Galacturonic acid residues are usually present homogalacturonans and rhamnogalacturonans, with the latter frequently being substituted by side chains of neutral polysaccharides. (Mohnen et al., 2008)

HSQC-DEPT of RSBAL (Fig. 3) showed  $^1\text{H}/^{13}\text{C}$  correlations at  $\delta$  99.8/4.96 (C-1/H-1), 78.4/4.44 (C-4/H-4), 70.5/5.06 (C-5/H-5) and 52.8/3.81 ( $-\text{CO}_2-\underline{\text{CH}}_3$ ) typical of  $\alpha$ -1,4-linked 6-OMe-D-GalpA units (Nascimento et al., 2013), and at  $\delta$  99.0/5.13 (C-1/H-1), 78.4/4.44 (C-4/H-4) and 71.4/4.67 (C-5/H-5) of non-methyl-esterified  $\alpha$ -1,4-linked D-GalpA units (Renard et al., 1998). Moreover, typical signals of acetyl group were observed at  $\delta$  20.1/2.10 (Nascimento et al., 2013). Acetyl groups can be present in homogalacturonans and rhamnogalacturonans, frequently substituting GalpA units at O-2 or O-3 (Mohnen et al., 2008). HSQC-DEPT of RSBAL also showed  $^1\text{H}/^{13}\text{C}$  correlations of 3,6-linked  $\beta$ -D-Galp units at  $\delta$  103.0/4.50 (C-1/H-1), 80.1/3.78 (C-3/H-3) and 69.4/4.06 (C-6/H-6) (Delgobo et al., 1998; Nascimento et al., 2013), and  $^1\text{H}/^{13}\text{C}$  correlations of C-

1/H-1 of  $\alpha$ -L-Araf units at  $\delta$  108.3/5.42 and 109.1/5.25 (Delgobo et al., 1998), and of C-6/H-6 of  $\alpha$ -L-Rhap units observed at 16.6/1.26 (Renard *et al.*, 1998).

In a previous work (Oliveira et al., 2017) the polysaccharide RSBAL was fractionated by anion exchange chromatography, resulting in two polysaccharides – a high methyl-esterified homogalacturonan (RSBAL-H<sub>2</sub>O) and a high methyl-esterified homogalacturonan branched by side chains of arabinans and type II arabinogalactans (RSBAL-0.5). The correlations obtained in the HSQC-DEPT of RSBAL are in agreement with those obtained previously for RSBAL-H<sub>2</sub>O and RSBAL-0.5.

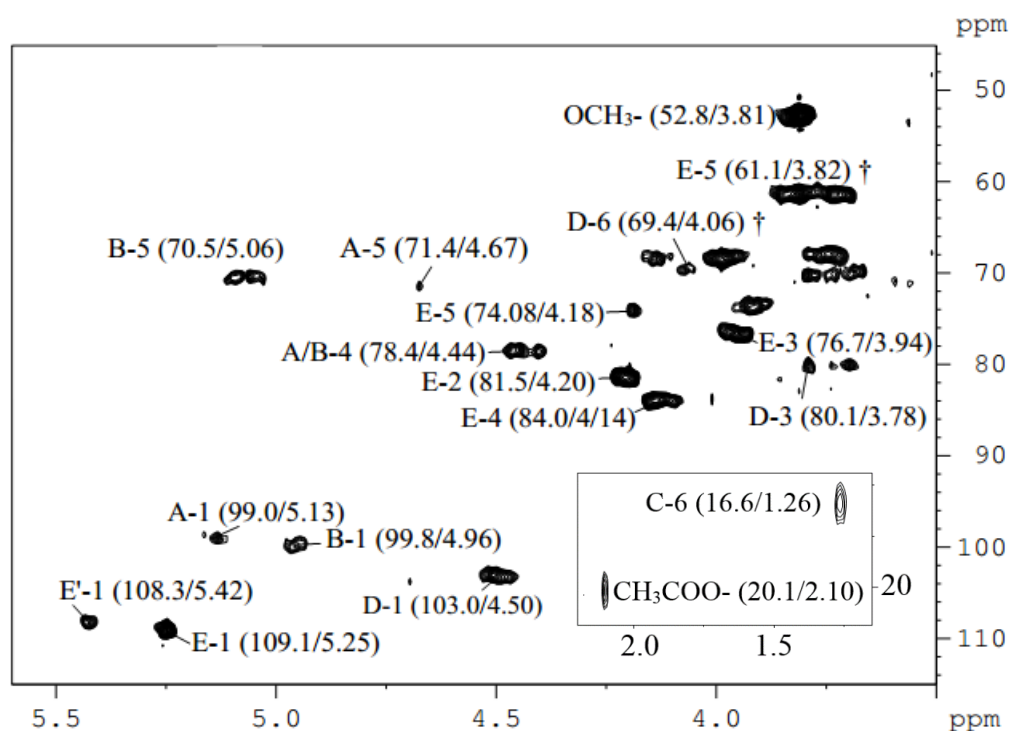


Figure 3.  $^1\text{H}/^{13}\text{C}$  HSQC-DEPT of RSBAL. Solvent D<sub>2</sub>O, at 70 °C; numerical values are in  $\delta$  ppm. A ( $\alpha$ -D-GalpA), B (6-OMe- $\alpha$ -D-GalpA), C ( $\alpha$ -L-Rhap), D ( $\beta$ -D-Galp), E and E' ( $\alpha$ -L-Araf). The letters are followed by the carbon number of the monosaccharide unit. † Inverted signals representing.

### 3.2 Gastroprotective activity of RSBAL

The ethanol-induced ulcer model is very used to study acute gastric lesions, which resembles a hemorrhagic gastritis in humans (Robert et al., 1979). It is well recognized that the main drugs used for treatment of peptic ulcers and gastroesophageal reflux disease are the suppressors of gastric acid secretion, namely H<sub>2</sub> receptor antagonists and proton pump inhibitors, such as ranitidine and omeprazole respectively (Malfertheiner et al., 2009). The polysaccharide fraction RSBAL, isolated from infusion of *S. dendroideum* leaves, when administered by oral route at doses of 0.35, 0.70 and 1.4 mg/kg significantly reduced gastric ulceration induced by ethanol in rats when compared with the vehicle in 45.81, 41.99 and 64.95 % respectively (V:  $137.7 \pm 25.77 \text{ mm}^2$ ) (Fig. 4). In our study, omeprazole (40 mg/kg) was used as positive control and reduced ethanol-induced gastric ulceration in 93.3% when compared with the vehicle group (Fig. 4).

However, the prolonged use of proton pump inhibitors modify the colonic microflora, increasing the predisposition to *Clostridium difficile* infections (Kostrzevska et al., 2017). Other harmful effect of gastric acid suppression is associated with low absorption of iron and calcium that in turns causes nutritional deficiencies such as anemia and contributes to the onset of osteoporosis, respectively (Lam et al., 2016).

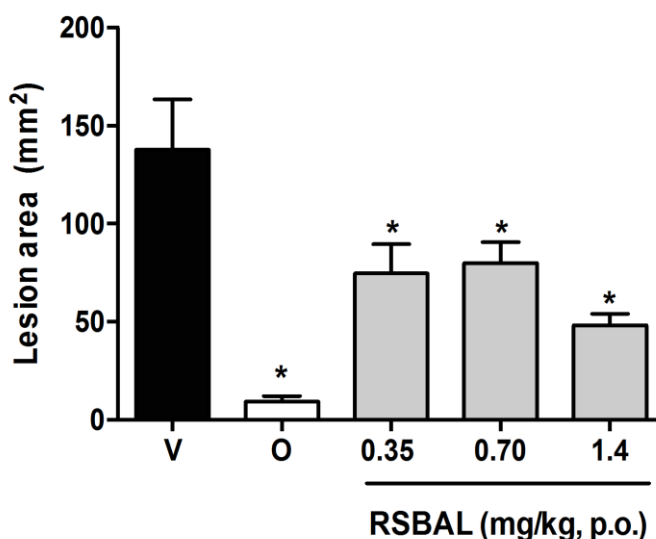


Figure 4. Effect of oral pretreatment with polysaccharide fraction RSBAL of leaves from *Sedum dendroideum* on gastric ulcers induced by ethanol in rats. The animals (n= 10) were orally treated with vehicle (V: water 1mL/kg), Omeprazole (O: 40 mg/kg) or RSBAL (0.35, 0.70 and 1.4 mg/kg), 1 h before oral ethanol P.A. (1 mL/animal) administration. The results are expressed as mean  $\pm$  S.E.M. \*P <0.05 when compared to vehicle group (V).

As previously mentioned, ethanol causes hemorrhagic lesions on gastric mucosa (Masuda et al., 1995), which results in significantly decrease of the gastroprotective factors, such as depletion of wall mucus and GSH, the most abundant and important endogenous antioxidant (Bhattacharyya et al., 2014). Here, the ethanol administration depleted ~ 60.1% of gastric mucus when compared with the naive group (not injured animals), while the positive control (omeprazole) prevented depletion in 83.59 % in relation to naive. (N: 2981  $\pm$  191.8  $\mu$ g Alcian Blue/g of tissue). However, the pretreatment of animals with RSBAL at 0.35, 0.70 and 1.4 mg/kg significantly prevented in 45.38, 41.14 and 41.03 % the gastric mucus depletion when compared to the vehicle control group (V: 1190  $\pm$  95.58  $\mu$ g Alcian blue/g of tissue) (Fig. 5A). In relation to the antioxidant system, the vehicle control group decreased GSH levels in 81.1% after the ethanol administration, when compared with the naive group (N: 2877  $\pm$  663.0  $\mu$ g GSH/g of

tissue). In sharp contrast, the administration of RSBAL in all tested doses (0.35, 0.70 and 1.4 mg/kg) promotes the preservation of GSH levels in 72.84, 72.43 and 70.53 % in the gastric tissue when compared to the vehicle control group (V:  $544.5 \pm 36.08 \mu\text{g GSH/g}$  of tissue), very similarly to the GSH preservation promoted by omeprazole (71.38 %) (Fig. 5B).

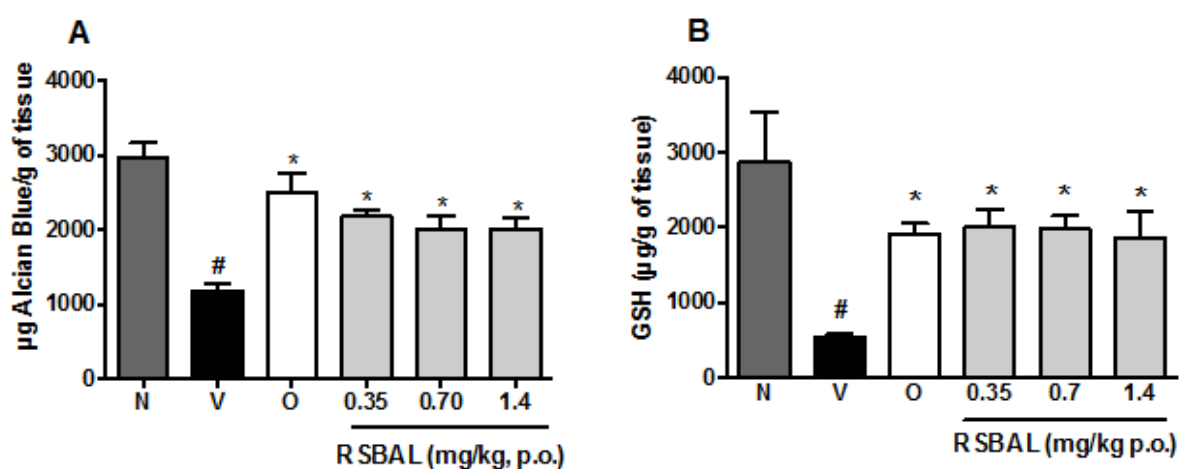


Figure 5. Effect of oral pretreatment with polysaccharide fraction RSBAL of leaves from *Sedum dendroideum* on wall mucus (A) and on glutathione (GSH) level (B) in gastric ulcers induced by ethanol in rats. The animals were orally treated with vehicle (V: water 1mL/kg), Omeprazole (O: 40 mg/kg), RSBAL (0.35, 0.70 and 1.4 mg/kg) and group Naive (N), 1 h before oral ethanol P.A. (1 mL/animal) administration. The results are expressed as mean  $\pm$  S.E.M (n=5). \*P <0.05 when compared to vehicle group (V). # P <0.05 when compared to Naive group.

In a previous study, a rhamnogalacturonan isolated from *Tamarindus indica* L. showed antioxidant activity *in vitro* (Sharma et al., 2015). Furthermore, Maria-Ferreira et al., (2014) demonstrated that a rhamnogalacturonan isolated from *Acmella oleracea* (L.) R.K. Jansen presented gastroprotective effect, through gastric mucus preservation and the



GSH levels conservation, which resembles the present data obtained with RSBAL, confirming and reinforcing the gastroprotective property of pectic polysaccharides.

#### **4. Conclusion**

The results showed that the infusion of *S. dendroideum* contain a pectic polysaccharide fraction (RSBAL), constituted by homogalacturonans and neutral structures of arabinan and type II arabinogalactan, which present gastroprotective activity, significantly prevented mucus gastric and GSH depletion. Thus, the gastroprotection related to the *S. dendroideum* could be attributed to polysaccharides.

#### **Conflict of interest**

The authors declare that they have no conflict of interest.

#### **Acknowledgments**

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**ARTIGO III**

Polysaccharides with anti-ulcer protective effects isolated from infusion of *Casearia sylvestris* leaves.

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**Bioguided fractionation for gastroprotective activity of polysaccharides isolated from infusion of *Casearia sylvestris* leaves.**

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**Abstract**

*Casearia sylvestris*, popularly known in Brazil as “guaçatonga”, is used in folk medicine for treatment of inflammatory and gastrointestinal diseases. A polysaccharide fraction (E50) was isolated from infusion of *C. sylvestris* leaves. Methylation and NMR analysis showed E50 polysaccharide fraction is constituted of type II arabinogalactan. The crude polysaccharide fraction (CP) and E50 were able to promote acute protection against ethanol-induced gastric ulcer, with E50 also inhibiting development of acetic acid-induced chronic ulcer in rats. The pharmacological effects of CP and E50 show that at least part of the gastrointestinal effects of *C. sylvestris* are due to polysaccharides.

**Keywords:** *Casearia sylvestris*; Polysaccharide; Arabionogalactan; Gastroprotective.

## 1. Introduction

Leaves of *Casearia sylvestris*, popularly known as “guaçatonga”, are widely used in folk medicine for treatment of inflammatory and gastrointestinal diseases, as antiseptic, anesthetic and antitumor [1-3]. Different pharmacological studies have demonstrated the importance of *C. sylvestris* extracts and its compounds, corroborating with reports about traditional use of the plant.

*C. sylvestris* leaves contain compounds with anti-inflammatory properties [4], observed in venom-evoked inflammatory models [5], paw edema and pleurisy induced by carrageenan [6], and antinociceptive effects in conditions associated with inflammatory pain [7]. Healing action and efficacy in the treatment of second-degree burns have been described for extracts of *C. sylvestris* [4, 8-10]. It was also effective against some tumor cell lines [11-17], and had antioxidant action [18, 19]. In addition, Basile et al. [1] and Sertié et al. [2] demonstrated the antiulcer activity of crude extract and ethanolic extract respectively of *C. sylvestris* leaves and Esteves et al. [20] showed gastric antiulcer and anti-inflammatory activities of the essential oil from *C. sylvestris* leaves.

The studies found in the literature suggest that the antiulcer activity of *C. sylvestris* is attributed to the presence of volatile oils, tannins, triterpene, terpenes and other secondary metabolites in leaves extracts [1, 2, 24]. However, plant polysaccharides are obtained in tea preparations (infusion, decoction) and are widely known for their gastroprotective properties [25-28]. Therefore, the objective of the present study was to investigate the antiulcer activity of a polysaccharide obtained from the infusion of *C. sylvestris* leaves, using models of acute and chronic gastric ulcer.



## 2. Materials and methods

### 2.1. Plant material

Leaves of *Casearia sylvestris* were collected in the city of Curitiba/PR, in the region of the Brazilian Atlantic Forest. The plant was identified in the herbarium of the Botany Department, of the Federal University of Paraná. The plant is deposited in the Herbarium of the Botany Department of Federal University of Paraná, as voucher no. 86694.

### 2.2. General analytical methods

The leaves were dried in an oven with circulation of air at 45 °C for 2 days. All extracts were evaporated at <60 °C under reduced pressure. Centrifugation was at 8,000 rpm, at 10 °C, for 10 min.

### 2.3. Extraction and purification of the polysaccharides from *C. sylvestris* leaves

Dried leaves of *C. sylvestris* (567 g) were submitted to extraction with water (100 g/L) by infusion. After adding boiling water, the material was lightly stirred and allowed to rest until cooling. The aqueous extract was filtered, concentrated to 100 mL, and added to cold EtOH (300 mL). The resulting precipitate was separated, dissolved in distilled water, dialyzed at a 6-8 kDa cut-off membrane in running water, and freeze-dried, to give the crude polysaccharide fraction. This fraction was dissolved in H<sub>2</sub>O (200 mL), and submitted to the freeze-thawing process [29], resulting in insoluble (PCS) and soluble (SCS) fractions. SCS was dialyzed at 100 kDa cut-off membrane, to give retained (R100) and eluted (E100) fractions. E100 was then submitted to a new dialysis at a 50 kDa cut-off membrane, to give retained (R50) and eluted (E50) fractions.

#### 2.4. HPSEC analysis

Homogeneity and average molar mass ( $M_w$ ) values of the polysaccharides were determined by high-performance size-exclusion chromatography (HPSEC). The analyses of the samples were performed on a Waters chromatograph equipped with four Ultrahydrogel columns connected in series (2000, 500, 250, 120; with exclusion sizes of  $7 \times 10^6$ ,  $4 \times 10^5$ ,  $8 \times 10^4$ , and  $5 \times 10^3$  Da respectively) and attached to a Waters 2410 differential refractometer (RI). The eluent was 0.1 M aq.  $\text{NaNO}_2$  containing 0.5 g/L  $\text{NaN}_3$ , with flow of 0.6 mL/min. The samples, at a concentration of 1 mg/mL, previously filtered through a membrane (0.22  $\mu\text{m}$ ), were injected (100  $\mu\text{L}$  loop), and analyzed at 25 °C. The molar mass specific refractive index increment ( $dn/dc$ ) was determined using the same equipment with the columns uncoupled. Samples at concentrations of 0.2, 0.4, 0.6, 0.8 and 1.0 mg/mL, previously filtered through a membrane (0.22  $\mu\text{m}$ ), were injected (500  $\mu\text{L}$  loop) and analyzed at 25 °C using only the RI detector. The eluent was the same described above. Results were analysed using the Wyatt Technology ASTRA software, version 4.70.07.

#### 2.5. Monosaccharide analysis

The polysaccharides (2 mg) were hydrolyzed with 1 M TFA (1 mL) at 100 °C for 18 hours, the solution was then evaporated, and the residue dissolved in  $\text{H}_2\text{O}$  (500  $\mu\text{L}$ ). The resulting monosaccharide mixture was examined by silica-gel 60 thin layer chromatography (TLC; Merck), the plates being developed with ethyl acetate:acetic acid:1-propanol:water (4:2:2:1 v/v) and stained with orcinol- $\text{H}_2\text{SO}_4$  at 100 °C [30]. The hydrolyzate was also treated with  $\text{NaBH}_4$  (2 mg), and after 18 h, HOAc (0.5 mL) was added for neutralization, the solution evaporated to dryness and the resulting boric acid removed as trimethyl borate by co-evaporation with MeOH. Acetylation was carried out

with Ac<sub>2</sub>O-pyridine (1:1 v/v, 0.5 mL) at room temperature for 18 h, and the resulting alditol acetates were extracted with CHCl<sub>3</sub>. These were analyzed by GC-MS (Varian Saturn 2000R - 3800 gas chromatograph coupled to a Varian Ion-Trap 2000R mass spectrometer), using a VFS MET column (30 m x 0.25 mm i.d.) programmed from 100 to 280 °C at 10 °C/min, with He as carrier gas. Components were identified by their typical retention times and electron impact spectra, compared to alditol acetates prepared from standard monosaccharides (Sigma-Aldrich). The results were given as mol%, calculated according to Pettolino et al. [31].

## 2.6. Methylation analysis

The polysaccharides (10 mg) were per-*O*-methylated according to the method of Ciucanu and Kerek [32], using powdered NaOH in DMSO-MeI. The product was hydrolyzed with 0.5 mL of 72% H<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub> (w/v) for 1 h at 0 °C, followed by addition of H<sub>2</sub>O (4.0 mL) and heating at 100 °C for 16 h [33]. The hydrolyzates were neutralized with BaCO<sub>3</sub>, filtered, then reduced with NaBD<sub>4</sub> (2 mg) and acetylated as described above to give a mixture of partially *O*-methylated alditol acetates. These were analyzed by GC-MS using the same conditions as described for alditol acetates. They were identified by their typical retention times and electron impact spectra, compared to partially *O*-methylated alditol acetates according to [34]. The results were given as mol%, calculated according to Pettolino et al. [31].

## 2.7. NMR analysis

<sup>13</sup>C/<sup>1</sup>H HSQC-DEPT analyses were performed in a 400 MHz Bruker model Avance III spectrometer with a 5 mm inverse probe, at 70 °C in D<sub>2</sub>O. Chemical shifts (δ) were expressed in ppm relative to acetone, at (C<sup>13</sup>/H<sup>1</sup>) δ 30.2/2.22.

## 2.8. Animals

All experiments were conducted using female Wistar rats weighing between 180-200 g, housed 5 per cage with soft pine wood shaving bedding with free access to food (Nuvi-Lab CR-1, Quimtia S/A, Brazil) and water, kept in 12 h light/dark cycle in a controlled temperature environment ( $22 \pm 2$  °C). Animals were obtained from the Biotery of Federal University of Paraná, and all protocols and procedures and were conducted in agreement with the “Guide for the Care and Use of Laboratory Animals” (8th edition, National Research Council, 2011) and approved by the Committee of Animal Experimentation of the Federal University of Paraná (CEUA/BIO – UFPR; approval number 821).

## 2.9. Acute gastric ulcer induced by ethanol

Acute gastric lesions were induced in overnight (18 h) fasted rats (N=6-8) with free access to drinking water by oral administration (p.o.) of absolute EtOH (1 mL/animal) as previously described by Robert et al [35], with minor modifications. Animals were pretreated orally with water (Control (C): 1 mL/kg), omeprazole (40 mg/kg) and with crude polysaccharide of *C. sylvestris* (CP: 0.003, 0.03 and 0.3 mg/kg). In the following experiments, polysaccharide fractions ISC (0.2 mg/kg), R100 (0.005 mg/kg), E50 (0.03 mg/kg) and R50 (0.006 mg/kg), which doses were calculated according to their respective yield were also administrated by oral route. When ISC and E50 were administrated by intraperitoneal route (i.p.), we employed the doses of 0.02 and 0.003 mg/kg, respectively. After 1 h for p.o. or 30 min for i.p. treatments, all groups received ethanol P.A. (1 mL/rat) and then, animals were euthanized 1 h later by thiopental overdose (100 mg/kg, i.p.) followed by cervical dislocation. The stomachs were removed and

opened through the small curvature and the area of the gastric lesion (mm<sup>2</sup>) was evaluated using the software ImageTool 2.0®, as previously described by Nascimento et al, [36].

#### 2.10. Chronic gastric ulcer induced by acetic acid

The model of chronic acetic acid-induced gastric ulcers in rats was performed according to Okabe et al. with modifications [37], to evaluate the gastric ulcer healing. Animals were anesthetized with a combination of xylazine and ketamine (10 and 5 mg/kg, i.p. respectively) and after a laparotomy, the stomach was exposed and a cylinder (6 mm of diameter) containing 500 µL of a solution of 80% acetic acid was applied to the serosal surface of the stomach. After 1 min, acetic acid was aspirated, the stomach washed with sterile saline and replaced, the abdomen was sutured and then rats returned to their cages. Following the surgery, animals were fasted for 24 h and on second day after ulcer induction, they received restricted feed twice a day for 1 h until the end of experiment. Animals were orally treated twice daily 1 h after feeding, with water (Control, C: 1 mL/kg), omeprazole (O: 40 mg/kg) or with E50 (0.003, 0.03 and 0.3 mg/kg) during 5 days.

On the day following the last treatment, rats were euthanized and the stomach was removed and opened for calculate the ulcer area (mm<sup>2</sup>), measured as length (mm) × width (mm). The ulcerated gastric tissue was fixed in ALFAC solution (85 % alcohol 80 °GL, 10 % of formaldehyde at 40 % and 5 % glacial acetic acid), dehydrated with alcohol and xylene and embedded in paraffin. After that, ulcer tissue was cut into 5-µm sections on a microtome, placed in glass slides and stained with hematoxylin/eosin (HE) for histological evaluation. The ulcers sections were observed and photographed using a slide scanner (Meta Viewer Version 2.0 20X, MetaSystems, North Royalton, OH, USA).

#### 2.11. Statistical analysis

Data were expressed as mean  $\pm$  standard error of the means (S.E.M.) (n = 6-8 animals per group). Statistical comparisons were analyzed with one-way ANOVA followed by Bonferroni's multi-comparison post-hoc test, using the GraphPad Prism version 6.0 (GraphPad Software, San Diego, USA). In all cases, differences were considered to be significant when  $P \leq 0.05$ .

### **3. Results and discussion**

#### **3.1. Isolation and structural analysis of the polysaccharides from *C. sylvestris* leaves**

Polysaccharides were obtained from infusion of *C. sylvestris* leaves (567 g) and were fractionated according to Fig. 1. The crude polysaccharides precipitate obtained after treatment with excess EtOH (CP; 12.0 g) was submitted to freeze-thawing until no more precipitate appeared. The soluble portion (SCS; 2.80 g) presented a heterogeneous elution profile on HPSEC-RI analysis (Fig. 2) and was fractionated by dialysis at a 100 kDa cut-off membrane, resulting in a retained (R100; 0.28 g) and an eluted fraction (E100; 1.91 g). The R100 fraction presents a single peak on HPSEC-RI, whereas E100 was subjected to a new dialysis, now at a 50 kDa cut-off membrane, to give a retained (R50; 0.33 g) and an eluted fraction (E50; 1.57 g). The latter eluted as a single peak on HPSEC-RI (Fig. 2).

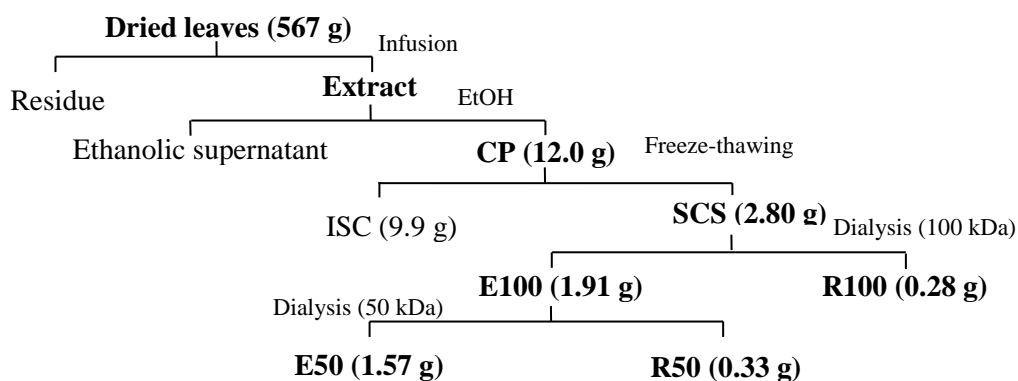


Fig. 1. Flowchart of the extraction and fractionation of polysaccharides from *Casearia sylvestris* leaves.

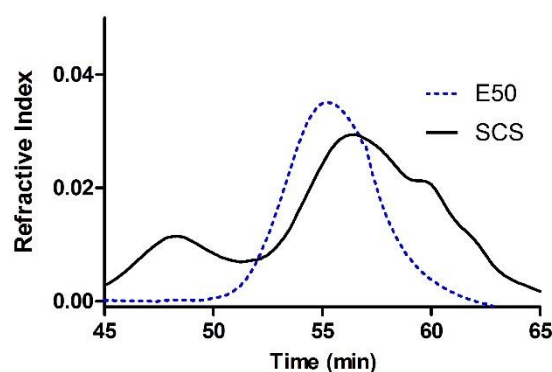


Fig. 2. Elution profiles of SCS and E50 on HPSEC, using RI detection.

R100 contained galactose, arabinose, glucose, and rhamnose in a 23:21:4:1 molar ratio, R50 contained galactose, arabinose, glucose, manose, and rhamnose in a 8:2:2:1:1 molar ratio, while E50 showed galactose, arabinose, glucose, and rhamnose in a 2:5:6:1 ratio. In TLC analysis of the monosaccharide mixture obtained after acid hydrolysis, only R100 indicated the presence of acid monosaccharides (galacturonic acid). Fractions R50 and E50 contained only neutral polysaccharides.

The soluble polysaccharide fraction that presented the highest yield (E50) was structurally analyzed. It had  $M_w$  22,440 g/mol ( $dn/dc = 0.211$ ) and its methylation analysis (Table 1) showed presence of 3- and 5-linked Araf units, in accordance with the formation of alditol acetates of 2,5-Me<sub>2</sub>-Ara (4.5%), 2,3-Me<sub>2</sub>-Ara (3.0%), moreover, 3-, 6-, and 3,6-linked Galp units were observed, as demonstrated by the presence of alditol acetates of

2,4,6-Me<sub>3</sub>-Galp (2.1%), 2,3,4-Me<sub>3</sub>-Galp (8.2%), and 2,4-Me<sub>2</sub>-Galp (3.3%) suggesting the presence of type II arabinogalactan and/or arabinan in E50 [38, 31].

Table 1. Profile of partially O-methylated alditol acetates and monosaccharide structures of E50.

<b>O-Me-alditol acetate</b>	<b>Linkage</b>	<b>%</b>
2,3,5-Me <sub>3</sub> -Ara	Araf-(1→	11.6
2,5-Me <sub>2</sub> -Ara	→3)-Araf-(1→	4.5
2,3-Me <sub>2</sub> -Ara	→5)-Araf-(1→	3.0
2,3,4-Me <sub>2</sub> -Rha	Rhap-(1→	12.0
2-Me <sub>2</sub> -Rha	→3,4)-Rhap-(1→	1.1
4-Me-Rha	→2,3)-Rhap-(1→	3.0
2,3,4,6-Me <sub>4</sub> -Gal	Galp-(1→	11.0
2,4,6-Me <sub>3</sub> -Gal	→3)-Galp-(1→	2.1
2,3,4-Me <sub>3</sub> -Gal	→6)-Galp-(1→	8.2
2,4-Me <sub>2</sub> -Gal	→3,6)-Galp-(1→	3.3
2,3,4,6-Me <sub>4</sub> -Glc	Glc-(1→	33.0
2,3,6-Me <sub>3</sub> -Glc	→4)-Glc-(1→	1.2
2,3,4-Me <sub>3</sub> -Glc	→6)-Glc-(1→	6.0

Type II arabinogalactans are constituted by backbones of (1→6)-linked Galp units, and short branches of (1→3)-linked Galp units at O-6. The most of the remaining O-3 and O-6 positions of the Galp units are substituted by terminals of Araf, 5- and/or 3,5-linked Araf units [39, 40, 41]. Moreover, the 2-Me-Rhap (1.1%) and 4-Me-Rhap (3.0%) derivatives demonstrated the presence of 3,4- and 2,3-linked Rhap units, and the 2,3,6-Me<sub>3</sub>-Glc (1.2%) and 2,3,4-Me<sub>3</sub>-Glc (6.0%) derivatives were of 4- and 6-linked Glc units. The high content of non-reducing terminals of glucose (33.0%), rhamnose (12.0%), galactose (11.0%) and arabinose (11.6%) are in disagreement with the amount of branching points observed in the polysaccharide fraction E50 (7.4%). Therefore, these



results need to be further confirmed, but the presence of type II arabinogalactan and/or arabinan in the fraction is notable.

HSQC spectrum of E50 (Fig. 3) showed  $^{13}\text{C}/^1\text{H}$  correlations at  $\delta$  103.6/4.51 and 103.0/4.46 of (C-1/H-1), 76.9/3.95 (C-3/H-3 substituted), and 66.7/3.84 (C-6/H-6 substituted) of  $\beta$ -D-Galp units of type II arabinogalactan [36, 42, 43]. C-1/H-1 correlations of non-reducing terminals of  $\alpha$ -L-Araf of the type II arabinogalactan was observed at  $\delta$  108.7/5.22 ppm, while those at  $\delta$  107.5/5.08 and 106.9/5.13 were from substituted  $\alpha$ -L-Araf units of the arabinan chains [36, 42, 43].

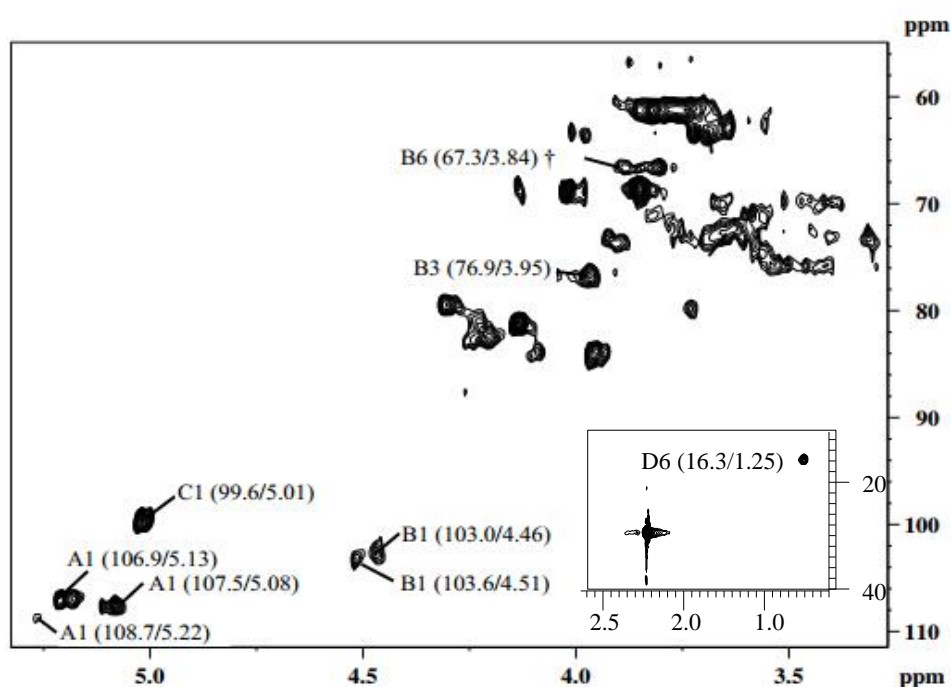


Fig. 3.  $^{13}\text{C}/^1\text{H}$  HSQC-DEPT of E50. Solvent  $\text{D}_2\text{O}$  at  $70^\circ\text{C}$ ; numerical values are in  $\delta$  ppm.

A ( $\alpha$ -D-Arap), B ( $\alpha$ -D-Galp), C ( $\alpha$ -L-Glcp), D ( $\alpha$ -L-Rhap) The letters are followed by the carbon number of the monosaccharide unit. † Inverted signals representing C-6/H-6.

The results obtained from NMR analysis confirmed the presence of type II arabinogalactan and arabinan in the polysaccharide fraction E50. The intense C-1/H-1 correlation observed at  $\delta$  99.6/5.01 probably is from the Glc units of E50.

### 3.2. Anti-ulcer activity

The present investigation was on the structural characterization of a polysaccharide belonging to a class of polymers whose several studies have been demonstrated the antiulcer activity [27, 44, 45, 46]. This activity was determined for oral administration of crude polysaccharide (CP) isolated from of *C. sylvestris* leaves. Doses of 0.003, 0.03 and 0.3 mg/kg of CP significantly reduced, not in a dose-dependent manner, acute gastric ulceration induced by ethanol in 46, 63 and 55%, respectively. The positive control for ulcer prevention, omeprazole (40 mg/kg), reduced the gastric ulcer size by 90% when compared to control group (C:  $75.82 \pm 11.48$  mm<sup>2</sup>) (Fig. 4).

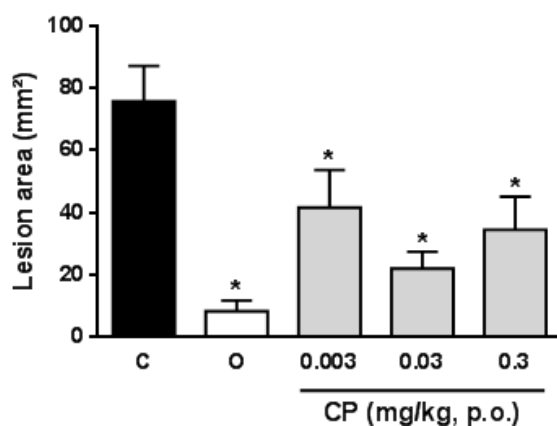


Fig. 4. Effect of oral pretreatment with crude polysaccharide (CP) from *C. sylvestris* leaves on acute gastric ulcers induced by ethanol in rats. The animals were orally treated with vehicle (C: water 1 mL/kg), Omeprazole (O: 40 mg/kg) or CP (0.003, 0.03 and 0.3 mg/kg) 1 h before oral administration of ethanol P.A. (1 mL/animal). The results are expressed as mean  $\pm$  S.E.M. \*P < 0.05 when compared to control group (C).

The ethanol-induced gastric lesions are a well-characterized model that comprises widespread damage of the glandular mucosa, observed macroscopically due to the

hemorrhagic and necrotic aspects of ulcer injury [37]. As previously reported, it has been shown that polysaccharides derived from medicinal plants may decrease the gastric mucosal damage induced by ethanol [36, 42, 47]. Similarly, polysaccharide fractions obtained from CP (ISC: 0.2 mg/kg; R100: 0.005 mg/kg; E50: 0.03 mg/kg and R50: 0.006 mg/kg) also were evaluated to investigate which protect against gastric damage induced by ethanol. In this experiment, the ethanol promoted a typical widespread gastric lesion that covered  $161.1 \pm 24.69 \text{ mm}^2$  of total stomach area of control group. Only oral pretreatment with ISC (0.2 mg/kg) and E50 (0.03 mg/kg) significantly reduced the ethanol evoked gastric lesions in 72% e 63%, respectively, resembling omeprazole data (89%), while R100 and R50 not showed gastroprotective activity (Fig. 5A).

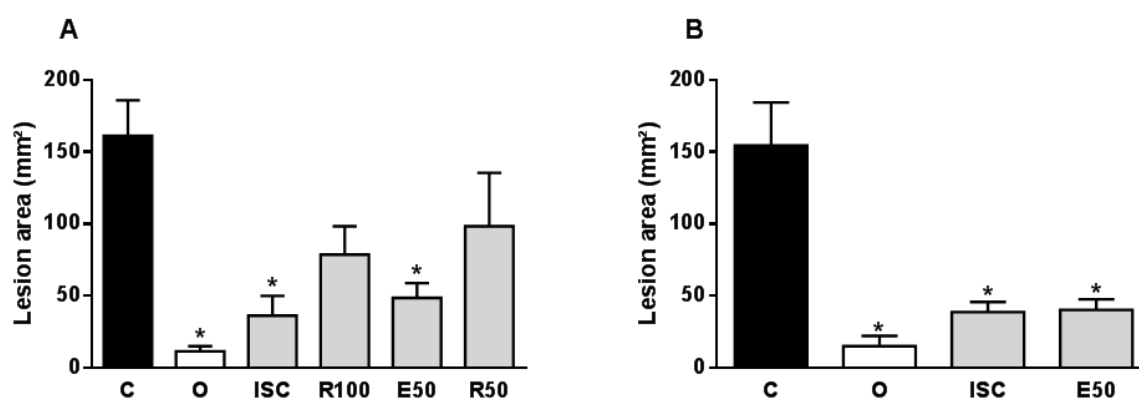


Fig. 5. Effect of pretreatment with polysaccharide fractions (ISC, R100, E50, R50) obtained from CP of *C. sylvestris* leaves on acute gastric ulcers induced by ethanol in rats. (A) The animals were treated orally with vehicle (C: water 1 mL/kg), Omeprazole (O: 40 mg/kg), ISC (0.2 mg/kg), R100 (0.005 mg/kg), E50 (0.03 mg/kg) or R50 (0.006 mg/kg) 1 h before oral administration of ethanol P.A. (1 mL/animal). (B) The animals were treated by intraperitoneal route with vehicle (C: water 1 mL/kg), Omeprazole (O: 40 mg/kg), ISC (0.02 mg/kg) or E50 (0.003 mg/kg) 0.5 h before oral administration of ethanol P.A. The results are expressed as mean  $\pm$  S.E.M. \* P < 0.05 when compared to control group (C).

To discard that the gastroprotection promoted by oral administration of ISC and E50 were due to the formation of a physical barrier on the gastric mucosa, we pretreated the animals by intraperitoneal route. Likewise, intraperitoneal administration of ISC (0.02 mg/kg) and E50 (0.003 mg/kg) significantly reduced the formation of ethanol-induced gastric lesions in 83% and 84%, when compared to control group (C:  $154.4 \pm 29.83$  mm<sup>2</sup>) (Fig. 5B). Interestingly, although the exact mechanism underlie gastroprotective activity is unknown, it is possible to discard that ISC and E50 suppresses the development of gastric mucosal damage acting as sucralfate, a well known gastroprotective drug which exerts a local effect forming an antiulcer adherent barrier [48].

Usually, in addition to sucralfate, drugs currently available for the treatment of gastric ulcers include proton pump inhibitors such as omeprazole and histamine H<sub>2</sub>-receptor antagonists such as ranitidine [49]. However, the long-term therapy with these antisecretory drugs is strongly associated to side effects, such as iron and calcium deprivation that causes nutritional deficiencies, increasing the risk of anemia and bone fractures, respectively [50, 51]. In addition, it is well known that the stomach mucosa treated for gastric ulceration frequently did not return completely to a normal state, which could account to an ineffective ulcer healing process [52]. Therefore, based on the results of previous studies [47], new strategies involving the use of natural products such as polysaccharides could reduce the side effects and improve the treatment of gastric ulcers.

Additionally, it is important to mention that toxicology studies concluded that *C. sylvestris* is safe for use over a long period [3], and considering this aspect, we decided to evaluate the ulcer healing property of the E50 fraction in the acetic acid chronic ulcer model. Seven days after acetic ulcer induction, both macroscopic and microscopic examination revealed the presence of a crater in the glandular ulcer site of stomach (Fig. 6A), reinforcing the severity of gastric mucosal damage induced by acetic acid in the control

group. Oral administration of E50 (0.003, 0.03 and 0.3 mg/kg, twice a day for 5 days) reduced the gastric ulcer induced by acetic acid in 49, 66 e 80%, respectively, when compared to control group ( $141 \pm 20.4 \text{ mm}^2$ ). The positive control employed, Omeprazole (40 mg/kg, p.o.), also reduced the gastric ulcer size in 78%, when compared to ulcerated group (Fig. 6C). In accordance with the macroscopic examination, the histological analysis showed that the animals chronically treated with E50 (0.3 mg/kg; Fig. 6B) exhibited gastric tissue healing when compared with the control group (Fig. 6A).

Representative macroscopic and histological data regarding omeprazole and E50 at 0.003 and 0.03 mg/kg are not shown.

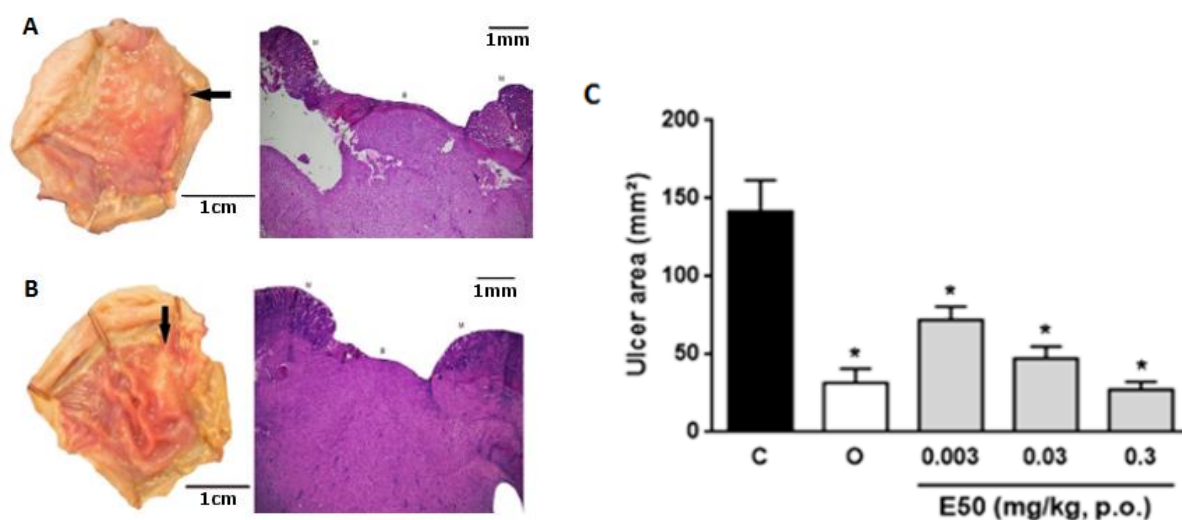


Fig. 6. Effect of treatment with polysaccharide fraction E50 obtained from CP of *C. sylvestris* leaves on chronic gastric ulcers induced by 80% acetic acid in rats. (A) Representative macroscopic photograph and histological hematoxylin/eosin (HE) sections of stomachs of control groups. (B) Representative macroscopic photograph and histological hematoxylin/eosin (HE) sections of stomachs of E50 0.3 mg/kg groups. (C) Gastric ulcers areas (mm<sup>2</sup>) of animals orally treated with vehicle (C: water 1 mL/kg),

Omeprazole (O: 40 mg/kg) and E50 (0.003, 0.03 and 0.3 mg/kg). The results are expressed as mean  $\pm$  S.E.M. \* P <0.05 when compared to group control (C).

In the ethanol-induced ulcer model, is possible to study acute gastric lesions, which resembles a hemorrhagic gastritis. Nevertheless, in the chronic gastric ulcer model induced by acetic acid, the erosion persists for a long time and is characterized by a scar formation, quite resembling the human chronic ulcer condition taking into account its pathological features and healing mechanisms [53]. In a previous study working with *in vitro* conditions, Zippel et al. [54] demonstrated that the polysaccharide arabinogalactan, isolated from *Mimosa tenuiflor*, presented healing activity, increasing the dermal fibroblast activity levels and its proliferation.

#### **4. Conclusions**

In this study was showed that polysaccharides from infusion of *C. sylvestris* leaves avoid formation of ethanol-induced ulcers and accelerate the healing of acetic acid-induced ulcers, demonstrating the gastroprotective potential of polysaccharides, and associating the pharmacological effect of *C. sylvestris* with this class of compounds.

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## 4. RESULTADOS COMPLEMENTARES

A seção de resultados complementares tem como objetivo adicionar resultados que não foram incluídos nos artigos científicos redigidos até o momento, que estão dentro dos objetivos propostos de caracterização química de polissacarídeos das plantas em estudo.

### 4.1. Material de Estudo

As folhas de *C. sylvestris* foram coletadas na cidade de Curitiba-PR, na região da Mata Atlântica brasileira e identificadas no Herbário do Departamento de Botânica da Universidade Federal do Paraná. As folhas de *S. dendroideum* foram adquiridos na região metropolitana de Curitiba, e sua identificação foi realizada no Museu Botânico Municipal (MBM) de Curitiba. As folhas para a extração de polissacarídeos foram separadas, lavadas e secas ou liofilizadas. No caso da *C. sylvestris*, a secagem foi realizada em estufa com circulação de ar a 45 °C, por 2 dias e, para o *S. dendroideum*, as folhas foram liofilizadas. Após a secagem as folhas de ambas as plantas foram trituradas com auxílio de um liquidificador.

### 4.2. Extração, fracionamento e purificação de polissacarídeos

#### 4.2.1 Extração de polissacarídeos

As folhas secas e trituradas (567 g de *C. sylvestris* e 1.25 kg de *S. dendroideum*) foram submetidas à extração por infusão, utilizando uma proporção de 10 g de amostra para cada 100 mL de água. Após o resfriamento da infusão até a temperatura ambiente, o extrato aquoso (infuso) foi filtrado e concentrado em rotaevaporador até um volume menor (100 mL). O material concentrado foi tratado com 3 volumes de etanol, deixado em repouso no freezer por 24 h, e centrifugado (10.000 rpm /15 min a 10 °C). O material

precipitado foi solubilizado em água e dialisado, contra água corrente, utilizando membranas com limite de exclusão de 6-8 kDa, por 2 dias, e liofilizado.

#### 4.2.2. Fracionamento dos polissacarídeos por congelamento e degelo

As frações polissacarídicas foram solubilizadas em pequeno volume de água e, então, submetidas ao congelamento e posterior descongelamento à temperatura ambiente. O precipitado (insolúvel em água fria) foi separado do sobrenadante por centrifugação (9.000 rpm / 15 min a 10 °C). Esse processo foi repetido até que a partir do sobrenadante aquoso não se formasse mais precipitado após congelamento e descongelamento (GORIN e IACOMINI, 1984). Após essas etapas, as frações sobrenadante solúvel e precipitada insolúvel foram concentradas em rotaevaporador e liofilizadas.

#### 4.2.3 Fracionamento por diálise.

A fim de separar polissacarídeos por tamanho, as frações polissacarídicas foram submetidas à diálise com membranas de limite de exclusão de diferentes tamanhos (100 e 50 kDa), sob sistema fechado, durante 3 dias, com 2 trocas diárias de água destilada. Tanto os eluídos quanto os retidos provenientes das diálises foram concentrados em rotaevaporador, liofilizados.

### 4.3 Métodos analíticos

#### 4.3.1 Composição monossacarídica

As composições monossacarídicas foram determinadas após a hidrólise de aproximadamente 2 mg dos polissacarídeos, com 1 mL de TFA (ácido trifluoroacético) 1 mol/L, a 100 °C em estufa, por 16 h. As soluções foram evaporadas e o resíduo dissolvido em 1 mL de água destilada, sendo que uma pequena fração foi analisada por



cromatografia de camada delgada (TLC). Ao restante do material foram adicionados 2 mg  $\text{NaBH}_4$ . Após 18 h, o material foi neutralizado com ácido acético, e as soluções foram evaporadas, e o boro foi removido como borato de trimetila por repetidas evaporações com metanol (WOLFROM e THOMPSON, 1963a). Os alditóis obtidos foram acetilados com uma mistura de anidrido acético-piridina (1:1 v/v; 1 mL), à temperatura ambiente, *overnight*. As reações de acetilação foram interrompidas com gelo e os acetatos de alditóis extraídos com clorofórmio, o qual foi lavado diversas vezes com solução aquosa de  $\text{CuSO}_4$  a 5% para a eliminação da piridina residual. A fase clorofórmica foi, então, filtrada e evaporada à temperatura ambiente (WOLFROM e THOMPSON, 1963b). Os acetatos de alditóis foram analisados por cromatografia gasosa acoplada à espectrometria de massas (GC-MS) e identificados pelos seus tempos de retenção e perfis de fragmentação obtidos por impacto de elétrons.

#### 4.3.2 Metilação dos polissacarídeos isolados e análise na forma de acetatos de alditóis

Os polissacarídeos foram metilados pelo método de Ciucanu e Kerek (1984). O polissacarídeo foi solubilizado em  $\text{Me}_2\text{SO}$  (1 mL). Excesso de NaOH triturado e seco foi adicionado à solução, seguido pela adição de  $\text{CH}_3\text{I}$  (1 mL), agitação em vórtex por 30 min e repouso por 24 h. A metilação foi interrompida com água destilada sob banho de gelo e a solução neutralizada com ácido acético. O polissacarídeo metilado foi extraído com clorofórmio e lavado diversas vezes com água destilada. A fase clorofórmica foi evaporada e o material hidrolisado com  $\text{H}_2\text{SO}_4$  72% (v/v; 0,250 mL) por 1h a 0 °C, seguido pela adição de 2,0 mL de água destilada e aquecimento a 100 °C por 16 h (SAEMAN et al., 1954). O material hidrolisado com  $\text{H}_2\text{SO}_4$  foi neutralizado com  $\text{BaCO}_3$ , filtrado, reduzido com  $\text{NaBD}_4$  e acetilado como descrito acima (item 4.3.1). Os acetatos de alditóis parcialmente metilados foram analisados por GC-MS e identificados pelos

seus tempos de retenção e perfis de fragmentação obtidos por impacto de elétrons (JANSSON et al., 1976; SASSAKI et al., 2005).

#### 4.3.3 Carboxirredução

O processo de carboxirredução foi realizado segundo Taylor e Conrad (1972). O polissacarídeo foi dissolvido em tampão MES [ácido 2-(N-morfolina)-etanosulfônico] (0,2 mol/L, pH 4,75, 10 mL) e a este foram adicionados, pouco a pouco e sob agitação, 24 mg de carbodiimida [ciclo-hexil-3-(2-morfolinoetil) carbodiimida] para cada 1 mg de ácido urônico contido na amostra. A mistura de reação permaneceu sob agitação por 2 h. Em seguida, foi adicionado tampão TRIS (2 mol/L, pH 7,0) até pH 7,0 (5 mL) e, posteriormente, NaBH<sub>4</sub>. Durante a adição do NaBH<sub>4</sub>, o pH do meio foi controlado em 7,0 pela adição de HCl diluído. Após 14 h, a redução foi interrompida pela adição de ácido acético até pH 5,0. O material foi dialisado em membrana com limite de exclusão de 6-8 kDa, concentrado em rotaevaporador e liofilizado.

#### 4.3.4 Dosagem de ácidos urônicos

A dosagem de ácidos urônicos foi realizada segundo Filisetti-Cozzi e Carpita (1991). O polissacarídeo foi solubilizado em solução de NaOH 0,5%, em uma concentração de 1 mg/mL. Desta solução, foi utilizado 0,4 mL de amostra, sobre a qual foram adicionadas 40 µL de solução de ácido sulfâmico-sulfamato de potássio 4 mol/L (pH 1,6). Em seguida, foram adicionados 2,4 mL de tetraborato de sódio (75 mmol/L em ácido sulfúrico). A solução foi agitada em vórtex e aquecida em banho-maria fervente por 20 min. Após resfriar os tubos até a temperatura ambiente, adicionaram-se 80 µL de metahidroxibifenila (0,15% p/v em NaOH 0,5% p/v) e agitou-se novamente em vórtex. A presença de ácidos urônicos é visualizada pelo aparecimento de uma coloração rósea.

A sensibilidade do método é de 0,97-38,8 µg de ácido urônico (em 0,4 mL de amostra), com leitura em 525 nm, utilizando o ácido galacturônico como padrão.

#### 4.3.5 Homogeneidade e determinação da massa molar

Para a determinação de massa molar e ensaios de homogeneidade foram utilizados o aparelho da Wyatt Technology, equipado com um cromatógrafo de exclusão estérica de alta eficiência (HPSEC), com quatro colunas de gel permeação em série, com limites de exclusão de  $7 \cdot 10^6$ ,  $4 \cdot 10^5$ ,  $8 \cdot 10^4$  e  $5 \cdot 10^3$  Da, um detector de índice de refração, modelo Waters 2410. O eluente utilizado foi solução de  $\text{NaNO}_2$  (0,1 mol/L) contendo  $\text{NaN}_3$  (0,2 g/L), com fluxo controlado de 0,6 mL/min. As amostras foram solubilizadas na solução usada como eluente, para uma concentração final de 1 mg/mL e filtradas através de membrana de acetato de celulose com diâmetro médio dos poros de 0,22 µm. As amostras (100 µL) foram injetadas e os resultados foram obtidos com o software ASTRA 4.70.07.

Para o cálculo da massa molar foi determinado o valor de  $dn/dc$  (taxa de variação do índice de refração em relação à concentração) para as amostras que apresentaram um perfil homogêneo de eluição. As amostras foram solubilizadas em solução usada como eluente, para uma concentração final de 1 mg/mL e filtradas através de membrana de acetato de celulose com diâmetro médio dos poros de 0,22 µm. Elas foram diluídas nas concentrações de 0,2, 0,4, 0,6, 0,8 e 1,0 mg/mL e analisadas utilizando-se apenas o detector de índice de refração, com as colunas desacopladas. O fluxo do solvente foi de 0,1 mL/min, e os resultados obtidos foram analisados com o software ASTRA 4.70.07.

#### 4.3.6 Cromatografia em camada delgada (TLC - *Thin Layer Chromatography*)

A cromatografia em camada delgada foi utilizada para verificar a presença de ácidos urônicos nos polissacarídeos. As análises foram realizadas com os polissacarídeos

hidrolisados, em placas de sílica gel 60G (MERCK) com 8 cm de altura total. A fase móvel utilizada foi uma mistura de acetato de etila: ácido acético: n-propanol: água (4:2:2:1, v/v), e o revelador foi uma solução de orcinol:H<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub> (0,2 g de orcinol, em 95 mL de etanol e 5 mL de H<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>) (SASSAKI et al., 2008).

#### 4.3.7 Cromatografia gasosa acoplada à espectrometria de massas (GC-MS)

A cromatografia gasosa acoplada à espectrometria de massa foi realizada em cromatógrafo Varian Saturn 2000R - 3800 acoplado a um espectrômetro de massa Varian Ion-Trap 2000R ou 4000R, utilizando a coluna capilar VFS MET (30 m x 0,25 mm i.d.) e hélio ultrapuro, a um fluxo de 1 mL/min, como gás de arraste. Os acetatos de alditóis e os acetatos de alditóis parcialmente metilados foram analisados a uma temperatura de 100 - 280 °C (10 °C/min).

#### 4.3.8 Espectroscopia de ressonância magnética nuclear (RMN)

Análises de <sup>13</sup>C/<sup>1</sup>H-HSQC-DEPT foram realizadas em espectrômetro Bruker Avance-III 600 MHz e Avance HD 400 MHz do Departamento de Bioquímica e Biologia Molecular, da Universidade Federal do Paraná. As amostras foram analisadas em uma sonda inversa de 5 mm de diâmetro interno, na temperatura de 70 °C. Os polissacarídeos foram solubilizados em D<sub>2</sub>O. Os deslocamentos químicos (δ) foram expressos em ppm e acetona (δ 30,2/2,22, <sup>13</sup>C/<sup>1</sup>H) foi utilizado como padrão interno.

### 4.4. Resultados e Discussão

#### 4.4.1 *Casearia sylvestris*

Neste tópico é relatada a fração R100, da qual foram obtidos resultados relevantes quanto à composição química e estrutural.

Os polissacarídeos foram obtidos por infusão das folhas secas (567 g) de *C. sylvestris*. O extrato gerado foi tratado com etanol (3 volumes), e a fração precipitada (12,0 g) foi submetida a fracionamento por congelamento e descongelamento (GORIN e IACOMINI, 1984). A fração solúvel em água fria (SCS 2,80 g) foi, então, submetida a fracionamento por diálise em membrana com limite de exclusão de 100 kDa, gerando as frações R100 (0,28 g) e E100 (1,91 g). Devido a heterogeneidade da fração E100, esta foi eluída em membrana de 50kDa, gerando por sua vez, as frações R50 (1,57 g) e E50 (0,33 g) (Fig.1). Todos os fracionamentos foram acompanhados por análises de HPSEC (cromatografia de exclusão estérica de alta eficiência) a fim de verificar o padrão de separação das moléculas. As frações R100 e E50 mostraram um perfil homogêneo em HPSEC (Fig 2).

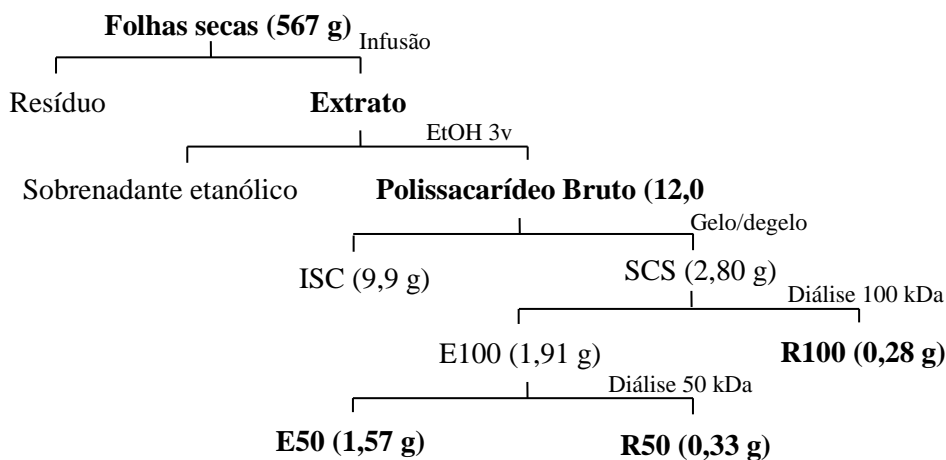


Figura. 1. Fluxograma do processo de obtenção de polissacarídeos a partir do infuso das folhas de *C. sylvestris*.

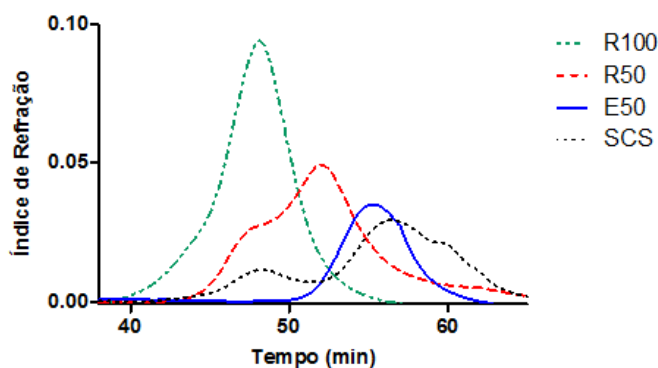


Figura. 2. Perfil de eluição das frações SCS, E50, R50 e R100 de *C. sylvestris* em HPSEC.

A fração R100 apresentou  $M_w$  de 356,800 g/mol ( $dn/dc = 0.129$ ), e arabinose, galactose, ácido galacturônico, glucose e ramnose em uma proporção molar de 19:17:6:4:1. A análise de metilação de R100 (Tabela 1) mostrou a presença de unidades Araf 3-, 5-, 3,5- e 2,5- ligadas de acordo com a formação de acetatos de alditol de 2,5-Me<sub>2</sub>-Ara (14,0%), 2,3-Me<sub>2</sub>-Ara (14,8%) e 2-Me-Ara (1,8%), 3-Me-Ara (3,2%) respectivamente, sugerindo a presença de arabinana na fração. As arabinanas são polissacarídeos pécnicos, com cadeia principal constituída por unidades de  $\alpha$ -(1→5), e cadeias laterais formadas por arabinoses  $\alpha$ -(1→3) e  $\alpha$ -(1→2) ligadas (REID, 1997; CARPITA e GIBEAUT, 1993). Além disso, foram observadas unidades de Galp 6-, 3,6- e 3,4,6-ligadas, como demonstrado pela presença de acetatos de alditol de 2,3,4-Me-Gal (7,0%), 2,4-Me<sub>2</sub>-Gal (9,4%) e 2-Me-Gal (2,5%), sugerindo a presença de arabinogalactana do tipo II. Estas estruturas polissacarídicas são altamente ramificadas, possuem cadeia principal formada por (1→3) e/ou (1→6)- $\beta$ -D-galactanas ligadas umas às outras por pontos de ramificação em O-3 e O-6, e apresentam a maior parte das posições O-3 e O-6 restantes ocupadas por unidades de arabinose (CARPITA e GIBEAUT, 1993). Foram também observados terminais não-redutores de Araf (9,3%), Arap (5,3%), Gal (8,3%) e Rha (2,6%) e Glc (1,4%). A presença de glucose  $\alpha$ (1→4)-ligada (12,6%) também foi observada, sugerindo a presença de amido. Após a

carboxirredução de R100 observou-se o aumento do derivado 2,3,6-Me<sub>3</sub>-Galp de 2,69% para 13,27% indicando a presença de GalpA 4-ligado.

Tabela 1. Perfil de alditóis acetatos parcialmente metilados e estruturas de monossacarídeos de R100.

O-Me-alditol acetato	Ligação	Mol % R100	
		Nativa	Carboxirreduzida
2,3,4-Me <sub>3</sub> -Araf	Araf-(1→	5,36	1,54
2,3,5-Me <sub>3</sub> -Araf	Araf-(1→	9,41	3,88
2,5-Me <sub>2</sub> -Araf	→3)-Araf-(1→	14,36	9,54
2,3-Me <sub>2</sub> -Araf	→5)-Araf-(1→	14,87	7,87
2-Me-Araf	→3,5)-Araf-(1→	1,82	2,45
3-Me-Araf	→2,5)-Araf-(1→	3,22	4,63
3,4-Me <sub>2</sub> -Rhap	→2)-Rhap-(1→	5,41	1,87
3-Me-Rhap	→2,4)-Rhap-(1→	-	1,79
2,3,4-Me <sub>3</sub> -Rhap	Rhap-(1→	3,61	Tr
2,3,4,6-Me <sub>4</sub> -GlcP	GlcP-(1→	1,38	5,80
2,3,6-Me <sub>3</sub> -GlcP	Galp-(1→	8,37	5,96
2,3,6-Me <sub>3</sub> -Galp	→4)-Galp-(1→	2,69	13,27
2,3,6-Me <sub>3</sub> -Galp	→4)-GlcP-(1→	11,97	15,93
2,3,4-Me <sub>3</sub> -Galp	→6)-Galp-(1→	6,93	10,47
2,4-Me <sub>2</sub> -Galp	→3,6)-Galp-(1→	9,31	13,16
2-Me-Galp	→3,4,6)-Galp-(1→	1,29	1,38

O <sup>13</sup>C/<sup>1</sup>H-HSQC-DEPT de R100 (Fig. 3) apresentou correlações em δ 103,3/4,50 (C-1/H-1), 71,6/3,42 (C-2/H-2), 76,7/3,94 (C-3/H-3) 74,7/3,69 (C-5/H-5), e 69,4/4,06 (C-6/H-6 substituído), típicos de unidades de →3,6)-β-D-Galp-(1→ presentes em arabinogalactanas do tipo II (DELGOBO et al., 1998, 1999; RENARD et al., 1997).

Ainda, no espectro de HSQC de R100 foi possível observar a presença de correlações típicas de C-1/H-1 de  $\alpha$ -L-Araf, em 107,8/5,57, 107,08/5,20, 107,3/5,07 e terminal não-reduzido em 109,0/5,23, além de sinal de Arap em 101,1/5,09. As correlações em 99,4/5,00 e 79,8/3,70 foram de C-1/H-1 e C-4/H-4 de  $\alpha$ -D-Glcp, evidenciando a presença de amido (DELGOBO et al., 1998, 1999; RENARD et al., 1997; ODONMAIIG et al., 1994).

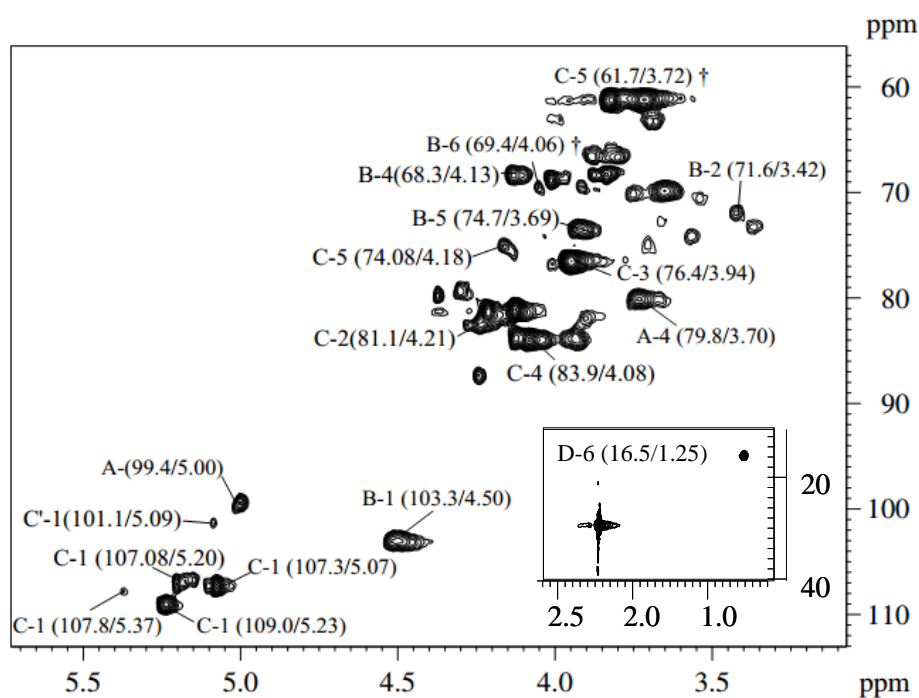


Figura. 3. Mapa de correlação de  $^{13}\text{C}/^1\text{H}$ -HSQC-DEPT de R100. Solvente  $\text{D}_2\text{O}$ , a  $70^\circ\text{C}$ . Os valores numéricos estão em  $\delta$  ppm. A ( $\alpha$ -D-Glcp), B ( $\beta$ -D-Galp), C, C' ( $\alpha$ -L-Araf), D ( $\alpha$ -L-Rhap). As letras são seguidas pelo número dos átomos de carbono das unidades monossacarídicas. † Sinais invertidos representando C-6/H-6 e C-5/H-5.

A análise de  $^{13}\text{C}/^1\text{H}$ -HSQC-DEPT, juntamente com os dados obtidos por metilação, demonstram que a fração R100 é uma fração pécica constituída, provavelmente, por uma mistura de arabinana, arabinogalactana do tipo II, ramnogalacturonana tipo I e amido.



#### 4.4.2 *Sedum dendroideum*

Polissacarídeos foram obtidos a partir da infusão das folhas secas (1,25 kg) de *S. dendroideum* (Fig. 4). O infuso foi tratado com etanol (3 volumes), gerando um precipitado (PSC; 11,3 g) contendo os polissacarídeos brutos. Estes foram fracionados por congelamento e descongelamento, gerando a fração sobrenadante solúvel em água fria (SBAL; 4,1 g), a qual foi submetida a diálise em membrana com limite de exclusão de 100 kDa, gerando duas frações identificadas como RSBAL (2,55 g) e ESBAL (1,54 g). Ambas as frações apresentaram perfil homogêneo de eluição em HPSEC (Fig. 5).

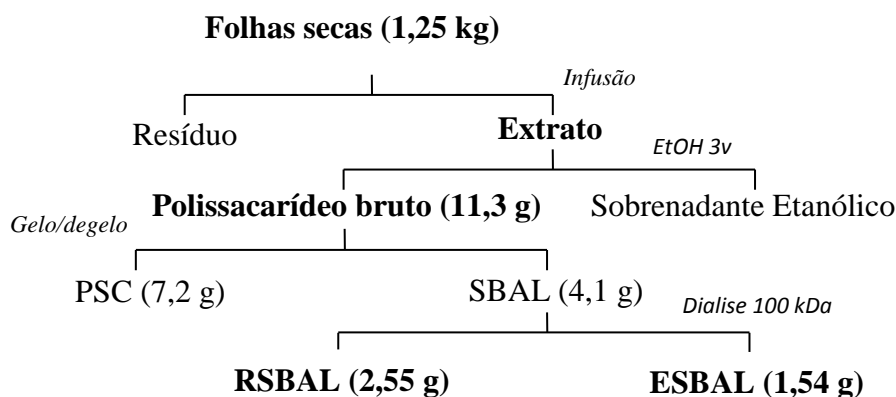


Figura. 4. Fluxograma do processo de obtenção de polissacarídeos a partir do infuso das folhas de *S. dendroideum*.

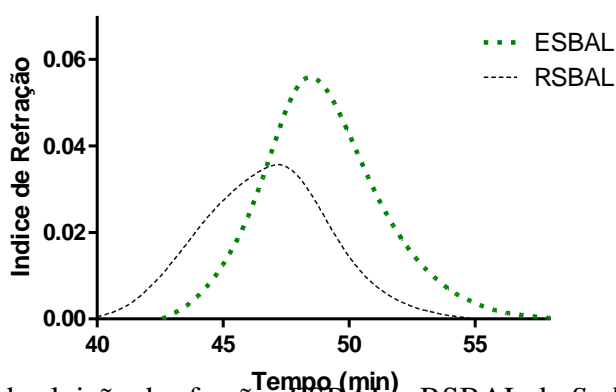


Figura. 5. Perfil de eluição das frações ESBAL e RSBAL de *S. dendroideum* em HPSEC.

A fração ESBAL apresentou  $M_w$  de 88,870 g/mol ( $dn/dc = 0,129$ ) e ácido galacturônico (identificado por TLC), galactose, arabinose, ramnose e glucose em uma proporção molar de 36:10:9:1:1. A análise de metilação de ESBAL (Tabela 2) mostrou a presença de unidades de Galp 6-, 3,6- e 3,4,6-ligadas, nas proporções de 9,4%, 17,8% e 11,3% respectivamente. Mostrou também unidades de Araf 3-, 5-ligadas, nas proporções de 3,6% e 10,7%, respectivamente, unidades de Rhap 2,4-ligadas (1,5%) e terminais não-redutores de Araf (40,2%), Galp (5,4%). Na análise de metilação de ESBAL-CR (carboxirreduzido) destaca-se a presença de GalpA 4-ligado (65,5%).

Tabela 2. Perfil de alditóis acetatos parcialmente metilados e estruturas de monossacarídeos de ESBAL.

O-Me-alditol acetato	Ligações	Mol %	
		Nativo	Carboxirreduzido
2,3,4-Me <sub>3</sub> -Araf	Araf-(1→	40,2	12,6
2,5-Me <sub>2</sub> -Araf	→3)-Araf-(1→	3,6	-
2,3-Me <sub>2</sub> -Araf	→5)-Araf-(1→	10,7	-
2-Me <sub>3</sub> -Araf	→3,5)-Araf-(1→	-	2,4
3-Me-Rhap	→2,4)-Rhap-(1→	1,5	-
2,3,4,6-Me <sub>4</sub> -Galp	Galp-(1→	5,4	8,8
2,3,6-Me <sub>3</sub> -Galp	→4)-GalpA-(1→	-	65,5
2,4,6-Me <sub>3</sub> -Galp	→6)-Galp-(1→	9,4	-
2,4-Me <sub>2</sub> -Galp	→3,6)-Galp-(1→	17,8	3,1
2-Me <sub>2</sub> -Galp	→3,4,6)-Galp-(1→	11,3	7,5

O  $^{13}\text{C}/^1\text{H}$ -HSQC-DEPT de ESBAL (Fig. 6) apresentou correlações em  $\delta$  99.8/4.93 (C-1/H-1), 70.4/5,09 (C-5/H-5), 78.6/4.43 (C-4/H-4) e 52.8/3.81 (-O-CH<sub>3</sub>) de unidades de 6-OMe-D-GalpA (1→4)-ligadas. As correlações em  $\delta$  99.0/5.12 (C-1/H-1), 71.3/4.65

(C-5/H-5) e 78.6/4.43 (C-4/H-4) de unidades de D-GalpA (1→4)-ligadas (NASCIMENTO et al., 2013; POPOV et al., 2011; CARLOTTO et al., 2016). Além disso, foi observada correlação  $^{13}\text{C}/^1\text{H}$  de  $\text{CH}_3$  de grupo acetil em  $\delta$  20.3/2.09 (NASCIMENTO et al., 2013, CARLOTTO et al., 2016). As correlações de  $^{13}\text{C}/^1\text{H}$  das unidades de  $\beta$ -D-Galp apareceram em  $\delta$  103.2/4.50 (C-1/H-1), 80.1/3.71 (C-3/H-3 substituído), 69.4/4.06 (C-6/H-6 substituído) (DELGOBO et al., 1998; NASCIMENTO et al., 2013; CARLOTTO et al., 2016). De acordo com a integração das intensidades das correlações de C-5/H-5 em HSQC, de unidades de 6-OMe-D-GalpA e D-GalpA, o grau de metil-esterificação foi de 63%. A correlação de C-6/H-6 das unidades de  $\alpha$ -L-Rhap apareceu em  $\delta$  17.1/1.20 (RENARD et al., 1997). ESBAL também mostrou correlações de C-1/H-1 de unidades de  $\alpha$ -L-Araf em  $\delta$  108.1/5.42 e 108.9/5.25 e de C-2/H-2, C-4/H-4 e C-5/H-5 em  $\delta$  81.2/4.21, 84.0/4.09, 61.3/3.78, respectivamente (DELGOBO, 1998).

Unidades de ácido galacturônico (1→4)-ligadas estão, normalmente, presentes em homogalacturonanas (RENARD et al., 1997; CARPITA e GIBEAU, 1993; POPOV et al., 2011), que representa o polissacarídeo majoritário da fração ESBAL. Enquanto a presença das unidades de Gal 6- e 3,6-ligadas e Ara 3- e 5-ligadas indicam a presença de arabinogalactana do tipo II e arabinanas na fração ESBAL (MOHNEN, 2008).

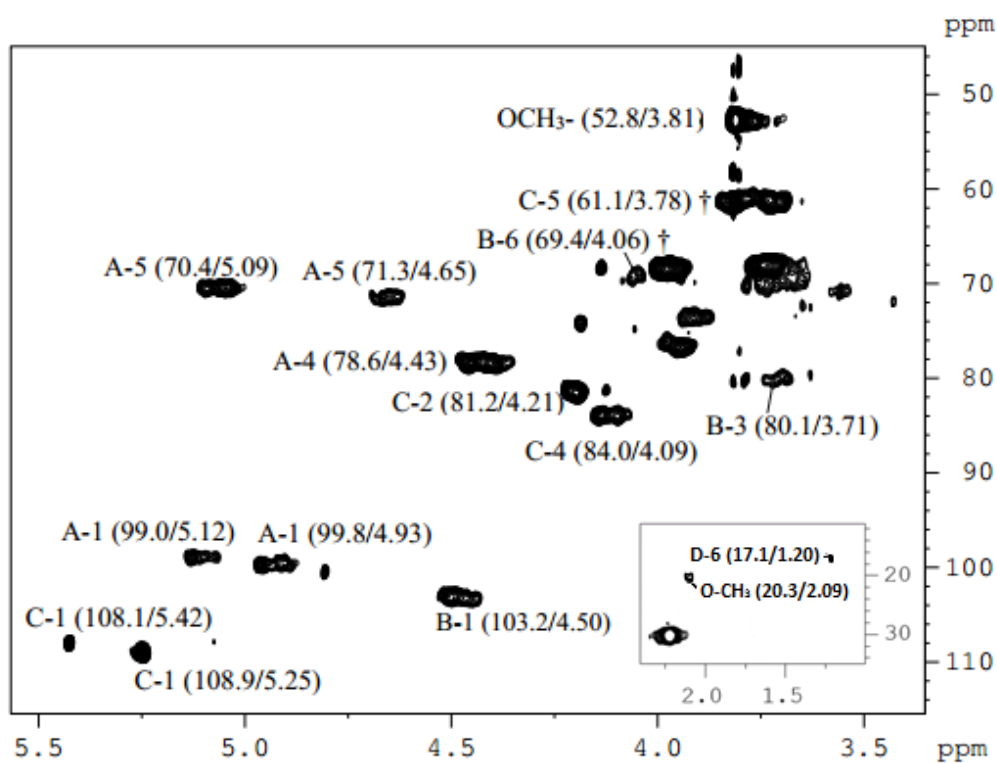


Figura. 6.  $^1\text{H}/^{13}\text{C}$  Mapa de correlação de  $^{13}\text{C}/^1\text{H}$ -HSQC-DEPT de ESBAL. Solvente  $\text{D}_2\text{O}$ , a  $70^\circ\text{C}$ ; Os valores numéricos estão em  $\delta$  ppm. A, (6-OMe- $\alpha$ -D-GlcpA), B ( $\beta$ -D-Galp), C, ( $\alpha$ -L-Araf). As letras são seguidas pelo número dos átomos de carbono das unidades monossacarídicas. † Sinais invertidos representando C-6/H-5 e C-6/H-6.

## 5. CONCLUSÕES

- O infuso de *S. dendroideum* proporcionou uma fração polissacarídica (RSBAL) constituída por uma homogalacturonana ligada à estruturas neutras de arabinanas e arabinogalactana de tipo II, a qual apresenta atividade gastroprotetora nas doses de 0,35, 0,70 e 1,4 mg/kg, preservando o muco gástrico e os níveis de GSH.
- A fração polissacarídica do infuso de *S. dendroideum* (RSBAL) foi fracionada, obtendo-se, separadamente, uma homogalacturonana e uma homogalacturonana ramificada em O-3 por cadeias de arabinogalactana do tipo II e arabinana. Ambas são altamente metil-esterificadas, e influenciam secreção de citocinas pró- (TNF- $\alpha$ , IL-1 $\beta$ ) e anti-inflamatórias (IL-10) de uma maneira dose- dependente. Na presença de LPS, as frações reduziram os níveis de secreção de TNF- $\alpha$  e IL-1 $\beta$ , e reduziram as razões TNF- $\alpha$ /IL-10 e IL-1 $\beta$ /IL-10, demonstrando um efeito anti-inflamatório desses polissacarídeos.
- Foi caracterizada uma quarta fração polissacarídica (ESBAL), do infuso de *S. dendroideum*, também constituída por homogalacturonana, arabinogalactana do tipo II e arabinana.
- Os polissacarídeos isolados do infuso das folhas de *C. sylvestris* mostraram atividade gastroprotetora. A administração oral da fração polissacarídica bruta, reduziu significativamente ulceração gástrica aguda induzida por etanol, nas doses de 0,003, 0,03 e 0,3 mg/kg.
- A fração E50, composta por arabinogalactana do tipo II e arabinanas, apresentou atividade gastroprotetora quando administrada oralmente, na dose de 0,03 mg/kg, evitando a formação de úlceras induzidas por etanol. Do mesmo modo, a administração intraperitoneal de E50, na dose de 0,003 mg/kg reduziu significativamente a formação de lesões gástricas induzidas pelo etanol em 84%. Além disso, administração oral diária de

E50 nas doses de 0,003, 0,03 e 0,3 mg/kg também promoveu a cicatrização de úlceras crônicas induzidas por ácido acético.

- O infuso de *C. sylvestris* também foi caracterizada outra fração (R100), constituída por uma mistura de arabinana, arabinogalactana do tipo II, ramnogalacturonana tipo I e amido.

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**Dados do Depositante (71)**

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**Depositante 1 de 1**

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**Dados do Pedido**

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**Natureza Patente:** 10 - Patente de Invenção (PI)

**Título da Invenção ou Modelo de Utilidade (54):** Obtenção de polissacarídeos do balsamo (Sedum dendroideum) e o uso dos polissacarídeos como agentes gastroprotetores, anti-inflamatórios e moduladores da função imune em humanos

**Resumo:** A presente invenção consta da produção de polissacarídeos a partir das folhas de balsamo (Sedum dendroideum) e o uso dos polissacarídeos como agentes gastroprotetores, anti-inflamatórios e modulador da função imune em humanos.

**Figura a publicar:** 01

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