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**Chemical composition of the essential of *Thymus ciliatus*
(Desf).**

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The Lamiaceae or Labiatae are a family of flowering plants with a cosmopolitan distribution containing about 236 genera and has been stated to contain 6900–7200 species [1]. In Algerian flora, there are 12 *Thymus* species from which 9 are endemic [2], among which *Thymus ciliatus* (Desf.) Benth, which is an endemic species from North Africa. Many *Thymus* species are used in various regions of the world in the treatment of bronchial, pulmonary, digestive and urinary infections and possess spasmolytic, antitussive and expectorant properties [3].

The essential oil of the aerial parts of *Thymus ciliatus* (Desf) belonging to the Lamiaceae family, was obtained by steam distillation and analyzed by GC-FID and GC-MS. 75 components were identified corresponding to 95.27% of the total oil. The major constituents of the oil were elemol (6.80%), carvacrol (5.86%), γ -muurolene (5.18%), β -sesquiphellandrene (5.09%), bicyclogermacrene (5.04%), β -Pinene (4.49%) and curcumene (4.20%) together with other compounds at relatively low levels: 1,8 -cineol (3.66%), β -eudesmol (2.92%), β -bisabolene (2.81%), β -silinene (2.75%), camphor (2.64%), germacrene (2.34%), α -zingiberene (2.12%), δ -cadinene (2.08%).

It is interesting to notice that the chemical composition of the present essential oil differs from those reported in the literature. Our chemotype is exclusively characterized by high level of elemol, γ -muurolene β -sesquiphellandrene and bicyclogermacrene which have not been found in any reported essential oil of *T. ciliates*.

References:

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