



## Radical Scavenging Capacity of *Piper arboreum* and *Piper tuberculatum* (Piperaceae)

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**SUMMARY.** In the scope of our ongoing researchers on antioxidant compounds, twenty four extracts and fractions obtained from *Piper arboreum* Aublet and *Piper tuberculatum* Jacq. (Piperaceae) were screened for radical scavenging capacity (RSC) by using DPPH colorimetric assay. The strongest activity was found in ethyl acetate fractions from the leaves of *P. arboreum* (IC<sub>50</sub> = 5.70 µg/mL) and *P. tuberculatum* (IC<sub>50</sub> = 8.40 µg/mL). Hydromethanol fractions of the leaves of *P. tuberculatum* and *P. arboreum* showed moderate RSC, with values of IC<sub>50</sub> (µg/mL) of 11.9 and 19.2, respectively. Additionally, a brief phytochemical study of the ethyl acetate fraction of *P. arboreum* leaves affording quercetin (1) and quercitrin (2), two flavonols with antioxidant activity previously described in the literature.

**KEY WORDS:** Antioxidant, DPPH, *Piper arboreum*, *Piper tuberculatum*, Piperaceae, Radical Scavenging Capacity.

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