

October 5th, 2018

ISEO2018 REPORT

49th International Symposium on Essential Oils (ISEO2018) was held from 13th to 16th September 2018 in Niš, Serbia. The Symposium was organized by the *Serbian Society for Phytochemistry and Phytomedicine* in association with the *Faculty of Sciences and Mathematics* and the *University of Niš*, supported by the *Ministry of Education, Science and Technological Development of the Republic of Serbia*. The symposium has achieved its goals by bringing together scientists (the young generation and experts) from universities, research centers and industry from all over the world not only to present their results but also to share their experiences and to develop new ideas related to essential oils and other volatiles. The symposium has attracted 133 participants from 31 countries, mainly from Europe, but also from Australia, USA, Canada, Brazil, Argentina Colombia, Vietnam, Japan, China, Turkey, Israel, India, South Africa, Nigeria, and Iran.

The ISEO2018 featured 7 plenary and 3 invited lectures, 15 oral, 2 sponsor and 112 posters presentations of cutting-edge science related to essential oils. The scientific program also included a workshop dedicated to the pros and cons of AMDIS use in the GC-MS analysis of complex mixtures of volatiles. The plenary lecturers were world-renowned experts in the field:

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| PL1 <i>Nicolas Baldovini</i>
(France) | Applying organic synthesis in the analysis of essential oils |
| PL2 <i>Daniel Jan Strub</i>
(Poland) | Stereochemistry of volatiles—the status and perspectives |
| PL3 <i>Agnieszka Ludwiczuk</i>
(Poland) | Bryophyte volatiles: chemical diversity, chemotaxonomic significance and biological activity |
| PL4 <i>Luigi Mondello</i>
(Italy) | Linear retention index approach applied to liquid chromatography coupled to PDA and QqQ MS detectors for reliable characterization of oxygen heterocyclic compounds in essential oils and finished cosmetic products |
| PL5 <i>Michael Keusgen</i>
(Germany) | Volatile compounds of the genus <i>Allium</i> L. |
| PL6 <i>Ioanna Chinou</i>
(Greece) | The regulatory framework for the quality and safe use of essential oils as herbal medicinal products. Selected examples from our Balkan “Neighbourhood” |
| PL7 <i>Fabio Boylan</i>
(Ireland) | Pharmacologically active derivatives of anthranilic acid occurring naturally in essential oils |

An important part of the symposium was devoted to young researchers and their contribution to the development of the research field of essential oils and natural volatiles. Thanks to the generous support of the *International Federation of Essential Oils & Aroma Trade (IFEAT)*, twenty Registration Fellowships were offered to assist young scientists to attend ISEO2018. After an intense evaluation and selection procedure, the *Organizing Committee* of ISEO2018 has accepted twenty contributions. Among them, nine were chosen for oral presentations, one as a workshop, and the remaining ten were accepted for poster presentations.

The *International Federation of Essential Oils & Aroma Trade (IFEAT)* and the *ISEO2018 Organizing Committee* supported the registration fees of the following young scientists:

Verica Aleksić Sabo	<i>University of Novi Sad, Serbia</i>
Carmen M. S. Ambrosio	<i>São Paulo University, Brazil</i>
Ina Aneva	<i>Bulgarian Academy of Sciences, Bulgaria</i>
Leidy J. A. Ferro	<i>University of Pécs, Hungary</i>
Eleni Fitsiou	<i>Democritus University of Thrace, Greece</i>
Jovana Ickovski	<i>University of Niš, Serbia</i>
Ewa Maciejczyk	<i>University of Technology, Poland</i>
Marko Mladenović	<i>University of Niš, Serbia</i>
Ivana Nemeš	<i>University of Novi Sad, Serbia</i>
Huong Thi Nguyen	<i>Szent István University, Hungary</i>
Milica Pejčić	<i>University of Niš, Serbia</i>
Asit Ray	<i>Siksha O Anusandhan University, India</i>
Elwira Sieniawska	<i>Medical University of Lublin, Poland</i>
Filomena Silva	<i>University of Zaragoza, Spain</i>
Milica Stevanović	<i>University of Niš, Niš, Serbia</i>
Musa Türkmen	<i>Mustafa Kemal University, Turkey</i>
Ayaka Uehara	<i>Université Côte d'Azur, France</i>
Margita Utczás	<i>University of Physical Education, Hungary</i>
Dragan Zlatković	<i>University of Niš, Serbia</i>
Milena Živković	<i>University of Niš, Serbia</i>

With the aim to encourage young people's interest in science from a very early age, *ISEO2018 Organizing Committee* granted Ananthan Sadagopan, a 9th grade middle school student from Westborough, Massachusetts USA, with a Special Registration Fellowships for his science project "Effect of pH on the synergism of thymol and carvacrol against *Saccharomyces cerevisiae*". To the best of our knowledge, Ananthan Sadagopan has been the youngest participant in a nearly half a century tradition of ISEO symposia.

Another novelty at ISEO2018 was that three poster presentations had been recognized for excellence. Selection, by the members of *ISEO Permanent Scientific Committee*, was based on subject matter, quality of presentation and research, oral delivery, and visual impact. The winners of the Best Poster Award were announced during the Closing Ceremony of the 49th ISEO Symposium and received monetary prizes and award certificates:

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| 1st Prize | <i>Toshio Hasegawa</i>
(Japan) | Odor of <i>ar</i>-turmerone, α-curcumene, and limonene derivatives depending on their chirality |
| 2st Prize | <i>Kamilla Ács</i>
(Hungary) | The nanotechnological formulation and anti-biofilm activity of thyme essential oil against <i>Streptococcus pneumoniae</i> |
| 3rd Prize | <i>Vidak Raičević</i>
(Serbia) | Misidentification of an essential-oil constituent due to repeated reporting of wrong RI value: 2-methyl-2-nonen-4-one vs. 6-hydroxy-2,6-dimethyl-2,7-octadien-4-one |

ISEO2018 abstracts are published in the Special Issue of *Facta Universitatis: Series Physics, Chemistry and Technology*, a scientific journal published by the *University of Niš* since 1986. Abstracts were peer-reviewed by three independent referees before acceptance. The outstanding contributions presented at the ISEO2018 Symposium (plenary lectures, oral and poster presentations) will enjoy the opportunity of having their full work published in the *Food & Chemical Toxicology* Special Issue dedicated solely to the “Toxicity of essential oils and their constituents”. The official website of the ISEO2018 was: <http://iseo2018.com>.

In order to make the stay in Niš as enjoyable as possible to ISEO2018 participants, the *Organizing Committee* offered some additional amenities like poster printing service and organized transportation from and to Belgrade Nikola Tesla airport.

The *ISEO Permanent Scientific Committee*, whose meeting was held during the symposium, decided to organize the next ISEO in Vienna, Austria. This jubilee 50th ISEO will be held on September 8-11, 2019.

Yours Sincerely,



Prof. dr Niko Radulović

The President of the ISEO2018 Organizing Committee