PRESENCE AND ACTIVITY OF LECTINS IN DIFFERENT TISSUES OF *HIPPOPHAE RHAMNOIDES L.*

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We informed before about the presence of lectins in the seeds of such a valuable medicinal plant as *Hippophae rhamnoides L.* /Samorodov, Pospelov, Golynskaya, Interioc 1/. High agglutinating activity of the extracted lectin and also the ability of the plant to form nodules on the roots gave us basis to continue our research in this respect.

Lectins' content in leaves, stems, roots and nodules was examined. Lectins were found in all the investigated parts of the plant. The lowest hemagglutinating activity was detected in the leaves. It is considerably higher in the roots and stems. The activity in the bark and arboreal part of the stem is nearly the same, but it is higher in the root's bark than in its arboreal part.

It is interesting to note that nodules have high content of lectins. We think that this proves the known role of lectins in the formation of bacterial - plant simbiotic systems. This is rather important as the investigated plant does not belong to Leguminous being the representative of *Eleaegnaceae*. However the highest hemagglutinating activity was detected in the seeds. It is 5-10 times higher than in other parts.

Thus, presence of lectins in all the parts of *Hippophae rhamnoides* provides us grounds to suppose that they play a major role in physiological and biochemical process of the given species, that can be a convenient model system for lectins metabolism research.

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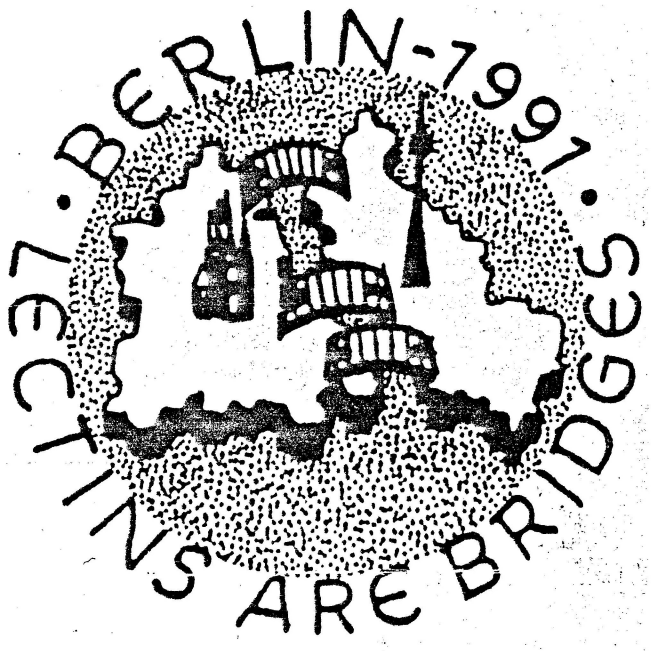

Abstracts