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Publikacja / Publication	Phenolic composition and antioxidant activity of <i>Alchemilla</i> species, Kanak Sebastian, Krzemińska Barbara, Celiński Rafał, Bakalczuk Magdalena, Szewczyk Katarzyna Dos Santos
DOI wersji wydawcy / Published version DOI	<a href="http://dx.doi.org/10.3390/plants11202709">http://dx.doi.org/10.3390/plants11202709</a>
Adres publikacji w Repozytorium URL / Publication address in Repository	<a href="https://ppm.umlub.pl/info/article/UML6e021780d45b47c1a37f557073c10a3f/">https://ppm.umlub.pl/info/article/UML6e021780d45b47c1a37f557073c10a3f/</a>
Data opublikowania w Repozytorium / Deposited in Repository on	Nov 18, 2022
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Cytuj tę wersję / Cite this version	Kanak Sebastian, Krzemińska Barbara, Celiński Rafał, Bakalczuk Magdalena, Szewczyk Katarzyna Dos Santos: Phenolic composition and antioxidant activity of <i>Alchemilla</i> species, <i>Plants</i> , Multidisciplinary Digital Publishing Institute (MDPI), vol. 11, no. 20, 2022, pp. 1-29, DOI:10.3390/plants11202709

Review

# Phenolic Composition and Antioxidant Activity of *Alchemilla* Species

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**Abstract:** The genus *Alchemilla*, belonging to the Rosaceae family, is a rich source of interesting secondary metabolites, including mainly flavonoids, tannins, and phenolic acids, which display a variety of biological activities, such as anti-inflammatory, antimicrobial, and antioxidant. *Alchemilla* species are used in traditional medicine for treatment of acute diarrhea, wounds, dysmenorrhea, and menorrhagia. In this review, we focus on the phenolic compound composition and antioxidative activity of *Alchemilla* species. We can assume that phytomedicine and natural products chemistry are of significant importance due to the fact that extract combinations with various bioactive compounds possess the activity to protect the human body rather than disturb damaging factors.

**Keywords:** *Alchemilla*; Rosaceae; polyphenols; flavonoids; tannins; antioxidant activity



**Citation:** Kanak, S.; Krzemińska, B.; Celiński, R.; Bakalczuk, M.; Dos Santos Szewczyk, K. Phenolic Composition and Antioxidant Activity of *Alchemilla* Species. *Plants* **2022**, *11*, 2709. <https://doi.org/10.3390/plants11202709>

Academic Editor: Ain Raal

Received: 1 September 2022

Accepted: 10 October 2022

Published: 13 October 2022

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## 1. Introduction

*Alchemilla* is commonly called “Lady’s Mantle” or “lion’s foot” and representatives of this genus occur mostly across Europe and Asia which include northeastern Anatolia (Turkey), north of Iraq, and northwest of Iran. More than 300 species have been described from Europe, where large mountain ranges such as the Caucasus, the Alps, the Carpathians, and others with many endemic species are probably their main distribution centers [1].

The genus *Alchemilla* L. (F. Rosaceae Juss., subfam. Rosoidae Focke) includes a large number of forms that are not easy to identify. All *Alchemilla* species were considered for many years as one species—*Alchemilla vulgaris* L., within which at most a few vaguely defined varieties were distinguished. *Alchemilla* species are apparently very similar to each other, but apart from morphological diversity, they differ greatly in ecological, phytosociological, and geographic terms.

One of the earliest mentions of the *Alchemilla* species in scientific literature is dated to 1929 and was published by Harvard University Herbaria [2]. As reported by Ergene and co-authors [3], the *Alchemilla* genus consists of approximately 1000 species. Furthermore, according to The Plant List [4], 1722 plant name records match the search criteria for *Alchemilla*.

It has been reported that in Turkish folk medicine, species belonging to the *Alchemilla* are known locally as findik out or aslan pençesi [5]. As reported by Afshar et al. [6], 24 species have been discovered within Iran and 14 among them are known to be endemic.

Aerial parts of miscellaneous *Alchemilla* species (Figure 1) are known to be excellent healing agents towards asthma, bronchitis, cough, and disorders connected with skin and liver inflammation [5].

Because of the fact that *Alchemilla vulgaris* possesses significant anti-inflammatory as well as astringent properties, it is a valued remedy for such ailments as ulcers, eczema, and menstrual disorders [7–9].



**Figure 1.** *Alchemilla peristerica* Pawł. aerial parts.

Moreover, *Alchemilla* species diminish symptoms of sore throat and alleviate nausea and vomiting [10]. *Alchemilla* species have been reported to possess a wide variety of biological activities, such as antioxidant, antibacterial, antiviral, anti-inflammatory, and ability to heal wounds in rats [11]. European Pharmacopoeia 6.0 describes *Alchemillae herba* as a medicinal agent with a variety of pharmacodynamics properties [12].

Among *Alchemilla* species that are the most widely researched for antimicrobial and antioxidant properties, *A. vulgaris*, *A. xanthochlora*, *A. diademata*, *A. rizeensis*, and *A. mollis* can be distinguished [13,14].

Various studies showed that *Alchemilla* species include miscellaneous compounds such as terpenes, hydrocarbons, fatty acids, and their esters as well as aldehydes, responsible for their pharmacological activities [15].

Other active compounds responsible for antioxidant and antimicrobial activities are tannins (composed of gallic and ellagic acid) and flavonoids (quercetin, luteolin, and proanthocyanidins) [16].

Due to the pharmaceutical and cosmetic importance of some *Alchemilla* species, in the present review, phenolic compounds occurring in the genus and antioxidant activity is discussed.

## 2. Methodology of Evidence Acquisition

This review focuses primarily on the content of phenolic compounds as well as antioxidant activity within plants belonging to the *Alchemilla* genus. All relevant literature databases were searched up to 19 June 2022. The database Google Scholar was used for searching articles with definite search terms, namely: *Alchemilla* phenolic compounds, *Alchemilla* polyphenols, *Alchemilla* antioxidant activity. Moreover, evidence was acquired with the use of the database Pubmed. Publications were identified using the search terms *Alchemilla* (all fields) and phenolic (all fields) or antioxidant (all fields). Articles that focused on and discussed the phenolic compounds and antioxidant activity of *Alchemilla* species, dating up to June 2022, were selected.

This review was done to highlight the diversity of phenolic compounds in the *Alchemilla* genus, and thus to reveal its healing potential. Furthermore, the aim of this paper was to provide up-to-date information on antioxidant activity of *Alchemilla* species, available in the scientific literature. Finally, we decided to discuss occurring knowledge gaps and propose recommendations concerning future research directions.

To the best of our knowledge, such a review has previously not been undertaken, thus the aim of the present study was to fill this knowledge gap.

### 3. Phenolic Compounds in the *Alchemilla* Species

Phenolic compounds are the most widely distributed secondary metabolites, ubiquitously present in the plant kingdom. Higher plants synthesize several thousand different phenolic compounds. The leaves contain, among others, amides and glycosides of hydroxycinnamic acids, esters, glycosylated flavonoids, and proanthocyanins and their relatives. Some soluble phenolics are widely distributed, but the distribution of many others is restricted to specific genera or families, making them easy biomarkers for taxonomic studies [17,18].

According to Choi and co-authors, plants from the genus *Alchemilla*, like other representatives of the Rosaceae family, are rich in polyphenols which are responsible for various pharmacological activities [7].

Another noteworthy observation is that various studies revealed the presence of phenolic compounds within the aerial parts of *Alchemilla* species, namely tannins, phenolic acids, flavonoids, and coumarins [6,19].

Flavonoids are an exceptionally large group of natural products (over 8000) that are found in many plant tissues, present inside the cells or on the surfaces of different plant organs [17].

Phytochemical investigations of *Alchemilla* species have led to the isolation diverse types of flavonoids, represented mostly by flavonols and flavones. Their structures are summarized in Figures 2–11 and Tables 1–6.

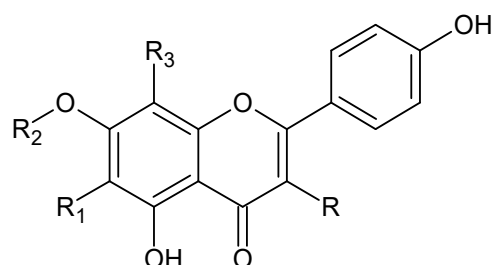


Figure 2. Kaempferol and kaempferol O-glycosides.

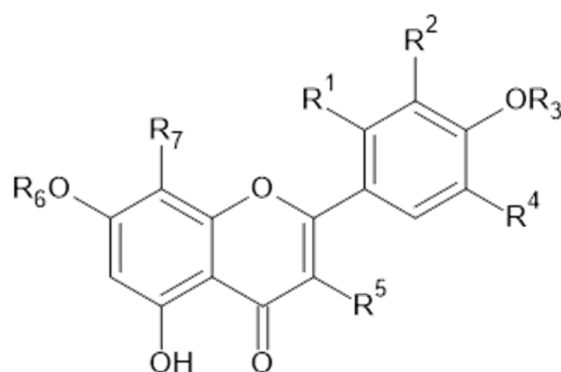
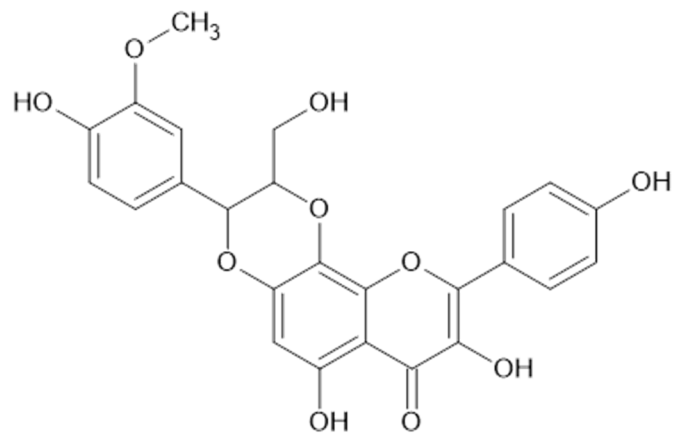
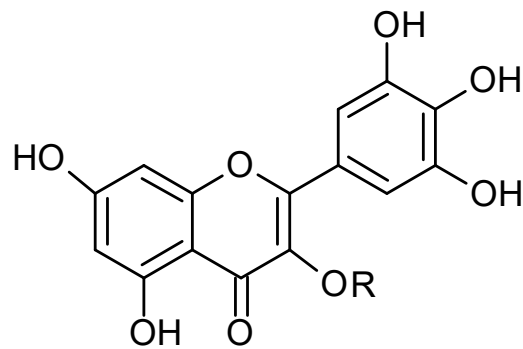


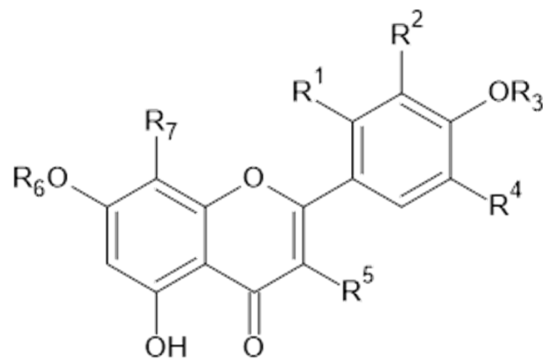
Figure 3. Quercetin and derivatives.



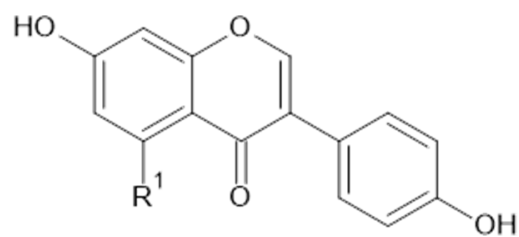
**Figure 4.** Rhodiogin (36, MW 464).



**Figure 5.** Chemical structure of compound 38 (R = H; MW = 318).



**Figure 6.** Luteolin and isorhamnetin, and derivatives.



**Figure 7.** Chemical structure of compound 39 ( $R_1 = \text{OH}$ ; MW = 270) and 40 ( $R_1 = \text{H}$ ; MW = 254).

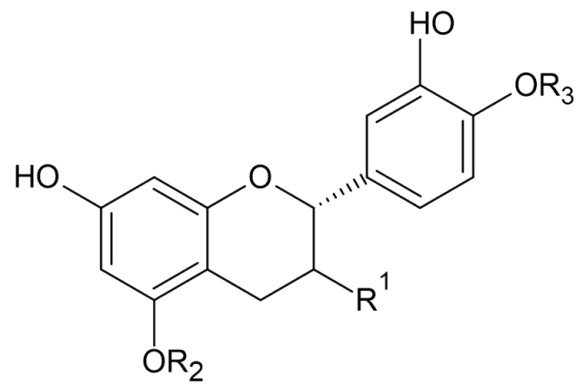


Figure 8. Catechin and epicatechin.

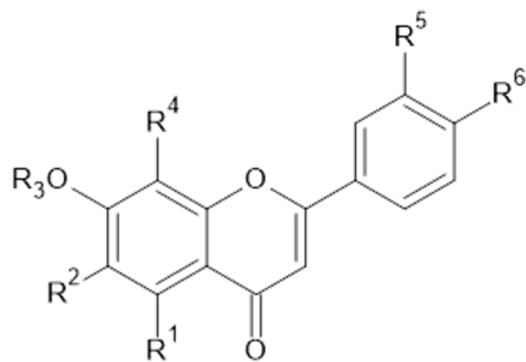


Figure 9. Apigenin and derivatives.

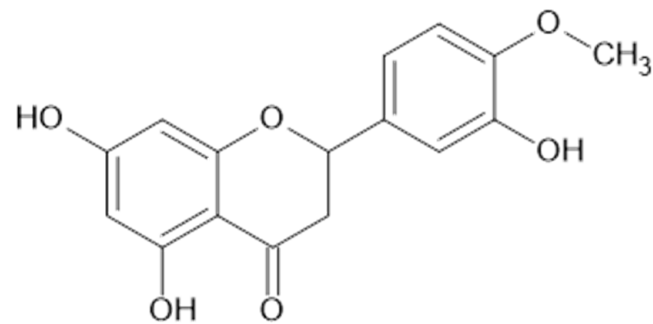


Figure 10. Chemical structure of compound 50 (MW = 302).

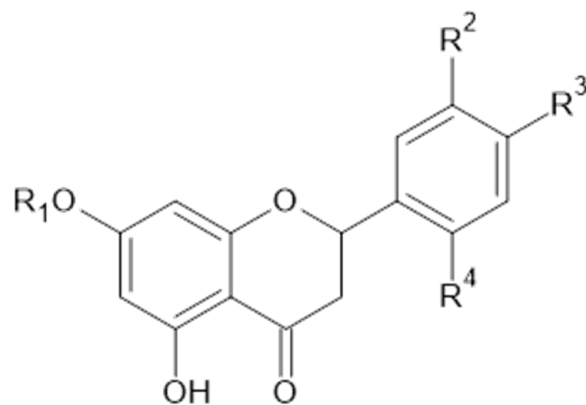


Figure 11. Chemical structure of compound 43 and 44.

**Table 1.** Kaempferol and kaempferol *O*-glycosides.

Compound	R	R <sub>1</sub>	R <sub>2</sub>	R <sub>3</sub>	MW (g/mol)
1	OH	H	H	H	286
2	<i>O</i> -glc	H	H	H	448
3	<i>p</i> -coumaroyl-robinobioside	H	H	H	918
4	xyl	H	H	H	418
5	2''- <i>O</i> - $\alpha$ -L-rha- $\beta$ -D-glc	H	H	H	594
6	glcA	H	H	H	462
7	6''- <i>O</i> -( <i>E</i> )- <i>p</i> -coumaroyl)glc	H	H	H	594
8	<i>O</i> -rha-glc	H	H	H	594
51	<i>O</i> -rha	H	rha	H	578
53	2- <i>p</i> -coumaroyl-glc	H	H	H	594



**Table 2.** Quercetin and derivatives.

Compound	R <sub>1</sub>	R <sub>2</sub>	R <sub>3</sub>	R <sub>4</sub>	R <sub>5</sub>	R <sub>6</sub>	R <sub>7</sub>	MW (g/mol)
9	H	OH	H	H	OH	H	H	302
10	H	H	H	OH	<i>O</i> - $\alpha$ -L-ara	H	H	434
11	H	OH	H	H	<i>O</i> -glc(6 $\rightarrow$ 1)rha	H	H	610
12	H	H	H	OH	<i>O</i> -glucuronide	H	H	478
13	H	OH	H	H	<i>O</i> -gal	H	H	464
14	H	OH	H	H	<i>O</i> -glc	H	H	464
15	H	OH	H	H	<i>O</i> -rha	H	H	448
19	H	OH	H	H	<i>O</i> - $\beta$ -D-xyl-(2 $\rightarrow$ 1)- $\beta$ -D-glc	H	H	596
20	H	OH	H	H	<i>O</i> - $\beta$ -D-xyl-(2 $\rightarrow$ 1)- $\beta$ -D-glc	glc	H	758
21	H	OH	H	H	<i>O</i> - $\alpha$ -D-ara-furanoside	H	H	434
54	H	OH	H	H	OH	CH <sub>3</sub>	H	316
56	H	OH	H	H	<i>O</i> -ara-furanoside	H	H	434

**Table 3.** Luteolin and isorhamnetin, and derivatives.

Compound	R <sub>1</sub>	R <sub>2</sub>	R <sub>3</sub>	R <sub>4</sub>	R <sub>5</sub>	R <sub>6</sub>	R <sub>7</sub>	MW (g/mol)
24	H	OH	H	H	H	H	H	286
25	H	OH	H	H	H	H	C- $\beta$ -D-glc	448
26	H	OH	H	H	H	<i>O</i> - $\beta$ -D-glc	H	448
27	H	OH	H	H	H	rha-glc	H	594
28	H	OCH <sub>3</sub>	H	H	OH	H	H	316
29	H	OCH <sub>3</sub>	H	H	<i>O</i> -glc	H	H	478
30	H	OCH <sub>3</sub>	H	H	<i>O</i> -rha glc	H	H	624
42	H	OCH <sub>3</sub>	H	H	H	H	H	300

**Table 4.** Catechin and epicatechin.

Compound	R <sub>1</sub>	R <sub>2</sub>	R <sub>3</sub>	MW (g/mol)
34	 OH	H	OH	290
35	 OH	H	OH	290

**Table 5.** Apigenin and derivatives.

Compound	R <sub>1</sub>	R <sub>2</sub>	R <sub>3</sub>	R <sub>4</sub>	R <sub>5</sub>	R <sub>6</sub>	MW (g/mol)
31	OH	H	H	H	H	OH	270
32	OH	H	H	glc	H	OH	432
33	OH	H	glc	H	H	OH	432
57	OH	H	H	H	H	OCH <sub>3</sub>	284

**Table 6.** Chemical structure of compound 43 and 44.

Compound	R <sub>1</sub>	R <sub>2</sub>	R <sub>3</sub>	R <sub>4</sub>	MW (g/mol)
43	H	H	OH	H	272
44	H	OH	OH	H	288

D'Agostino et al. (1998) isolated four flavonoid glycosides, namely 3-O-kaempferol-6''-O-(*p*-coumaroyl)- $\beta$ -D-glucopyranoside (7), quercetin-3-O- $\beta$ -D-rutinoside (11), quercetin-3-O- $\beta$ -D-glucopyranoside (14), and quercetin-3-O- $\alpha$ -D-arabinofuranoside (21) from the methanol extract of *Alchemilla vulgaris* L. (Campania region, Italy) [20].

From the aqueous methanolic extract from the leaves of *A. speciosa* (Germany) astragalins (2), kaempferol 3-O- $\beta$ -(2''-O- $\alpha$ -L-rhamnopyranosyl)-glucopyranoside uronic acid (5), kaempferol 3-O- $\beta$ -D-glucuronide (6), 7, 11, miquelianin (12), 14, quercitrin (15), quercetin 3-O- $\beta$ -(2''-O- $\alpha$ -L-rhamnopyranosyl)-glucopyranoside uronic acid (18), hyperin (=hyperoside) (13), quercetin 3-O- $\beta$ -D-sambubioside (19), quercetin 3-O- $\beta$ - $\nu$ -sambubioside-7-O- $\beta$ -D-glucoside (20), cynaroside (26), and scolymoside (27) were isolated [21].

Kaya et al. used TLC and HPLC techniques to separation of 11, 13, 14, 15, orientin (25), and vitexin (32) in 50% aqueous ethanol extracts from leaves of *A. hirtipedicellata*, *A. procerima*, *A. sericata*, and *A. stricta* collected in the northeastern Black Sea region of Turkey [22]. The same authors identified 11, 13–15, 25, and 32 in the extracts from the aerial parts of *A. bursensis*, *A. cimilensis*, *A. hirsutiflora*, *A. ikizdereensis*, *A. orduensis*, and *A. oriturcica* [23].

Lamaison and co-authors isolated miquelianin (12) from the aerial parts of *A. xanthochlora* [24]. This glucuronide of quercetin was later found also in the aerial parts of *A. barbatiflora* [25], *A. caucasica* [10], *A. achtarowii* [26], *A. mollis* [27], *A. persica* [6], *A. vulgaris* [28], *A. coriacea*, *A. filicaulis*, and *A. glabra* [29].

From the aerial flowering parts of *A. mollis* (Bulgaria), 7, 13, 14, rhodiogin (36, Figure 4), gossypetin-3-O- $\beta$ -D-galactopyranosyl-7-O- $\alpha$ -L-rhamnopyranoside (37, MW 626), and sinocrassoside D2 (45, MW 626) were isolated [27]. One year later, Trendafilova et al. isolated astragalins (2), kaempferol 3-O-(4''-*E-p*-coumaroyl)-robinobioside (variabiloside G, 3), 7, quercetin-3-O- $\alpha$ -D-arabinopyranoside (10), 13, and 14 from the aerial parts of *A. achtarowii* [26].

Phytochemical studies on active fractions of the water subextract led to the isolation of kaempferol-3-O- $\beta$ -D-xylopyranoside (4), 7, 10, 12, 13, and 34 from the aerial parts of *A. barbatiflora* (Turkey) [25]. Guajaverin (10) was also identified in the aerial parts of *A. xanthochlora* (France) [30].

Neagu et al. applied liquid chromatography coupled to tandem mass spectrometry to identify polyphenolic compounds extracted by water and aqueous ethanol (70% *v/v*) from *A. vulgaris*. Flavonols (kaempferol 1, quercetin 9, 11, myricetin 38, Figure 5), flavanols (35), flavones (luteolin 24, Figure 6), isoflavones (genistein 39, daidzein 40, Figure 7), and flavonoid glucosides (14) were detected in the plant samples [31].

Using high performance liquid chromatography (HPLC) analysis, Denev et al. (2014) found that aerial parts of *A. glabra* (Plovdiv, Bulgaria) contained 11, 34, and 35 [32]. Akkol and co-authors used the same analytical method to identify 13 and 14 in the aerial parts of *A. mollis* and *A. persica* (Turkey) [33].

Duckstein et al. investigated acetone/water extracts from the leaves, including stalks, of *A. vulgaris* and *A. mollis* (Germany) for their phenolic composition by liquid chromatography-tandem mass spectrometry (LC-MS/MS). Compounds 12, methyl-quercetin glucuronide (16), quercetin hexoside (17), quercetin-feruloyl hexose (22), and quercetin hexoside-deoxyhexoside (23) were reported [34].

Compounds 1, 9, 11, and 34 were found in the ethanol extracts from the aerial parts of *A. vulgaris* (Russia) [35]. Karatoprak et al. reported that different (hexane, ethyl acetate, methanol, butanol) extracts from the aerial parts of *A. mollis* (Turkey) contained 11, 26, cosmosiin (33), 34, and 35 (Figure 8) [36].



Twenty flavonoids were identified in aqueous ethanol (80% *v/v*) from the leaves of *A. vulgaris* (Egypt). Among them, **1**, **9**, **11**, **24**, **31** (Figure 9), **33**, **34**, **35**, naringenin (**43**), luteolin 6-arabinose 8-glucose (**46**, MW 610), luteolin 6-glucose 8-arabinose (**47**, MW 610), apigenin 6-arabinose 8-galactose (**48**), apigenin 6-rhamnose 8-glucose (**49**), apigenin 7-*O*-neohespiroside (**50**, MW 578; Figure 10), kaempferol 3,7-dirhamoside (**51**), hesperetin (**52**), kaempferol 3-(2-*p*-comaroyl)glucose (**53**), and rhamnetin (**54**) were determined [37].

In the aerial parts of *A. vulgaris*, **1**, **2**, **7**, **9**, **11**, **13**, **14**, **15**, **24**, **26**, **31**, **33**, **34**, **39**, morin (**41**, MW 302), chrysoeriol (**42**), and **43** were reported [38,39]. Afshar et al. used HR-MS Q-TOF for the identification of nicotiflorin (**8**), catechin (**34**), epicatechin (**35**), and aromadendrin glucoside (**55**) in the aerial parts of *A. persica* (Eastern Azarbaijan) [6]. Catechin is regarded as one of the most powerful antioxidants. Moreover, some research has shown the a strong relationship between this compound and inhibition of carcinogenesis (e.g., breast and ovarian cancer cell growth) [39].

In the latest study from 2022, Dos Santos Szewczyk et al. reported that the aerial parts and roots of *A. acutiloba* Opiz (Poland) contained **1**, **2**, **8**, **9**, **11**, **13**, **14**, **15**, **24**, isorhamnetin (**28**), isorhamnetin-3-glucoside (**29**), narcissoside (**30**), and eriodictyol (**44**, Figure 11) [40].

Recent studies have revealed the presence of such flavonoids as **2**, **7**, **11–14**, and **16** in methanol extracts from the aerial parts of *A. viridiflora* (Bulgaria) [41].

The phenolic compounds identified in the *Alchemilla* genus are summarized in Table 7.

**Table 7.** The overview on the phenolic compounds identified in the *Alchemilla* genus.

Constituent Name	Species	Part of Plant	References
1. Kaempferol	<i>A. acutiloba</i>	aerial parts, roots	[40]
	<i>A. vulgaris</i>	aerial parts	[31,35,37–39]
2. Astragalin	<i>A. acutiloba</i>	aerial parts, roots	[40]
	<i>A. achtarowii</i>	aerial parts	[26]
	<i>A. speciosa</i>	leaves	[21]
	<i>A. viridiflora</i>	aerial parts	[41]
	<i>A. vulgaris</i>	aerial parts	[38,39]
3. Variabiloside G	<i>A. achtarowii</i>	aerial parts	[26]
4. Kaempferol-3- <i>O</i> - $\beta$ -D-xylopyranoside	<i>A. barbatiflora</i>	aerial parts	[25]
5. Kaempferol 3- <i>O</i> - $\beta$ -(2''- <i>O</i> - $\alpha$ -L-rhamnopyranosyl)-glucopyranoside uronic acid	<i>A. speciosa</i>	leaves	[21]
6. Kaempferol 3- <i>O</i> - $\beta$ -D-glucuronide	<i>A. speciosa</i>	leaves	[21]
	<i>A. achtarowii</i>	aerial parts	[26]
	<i>A. barbatiflora</i>	aerial parts	[25]
7. Kaempferol 3- <i>O</i> - $\beta$ -D-(6''- <i>O</i> -( <i>E</i> )- <i>p</i> -coumaroyl) glucopyranoside	<i>A. mollis</i>	aerial parts	[27]
	<i>A. speciosa</i>	aerial parts	[21]
	<i>A. viridiflora</i>	aerial parts	[41]
	<i>A. vulgaris</i>	aerial parts	[20,38]
8. Nicotiflorin	<i>A. acutiloba</i>	aerial parts, roots	[40]
	<i>A. persica</i>	aerial parts	[6]

Table 7. Cont.

Constituent Name	Species	Part of Plant	References	
9. Quercetin	<i>A. acutiloba</i>	aerial parts, roots	[40]	
	<i>A. vulgaris</i>	aerial parts leaves	[31,35,37–39]	
10. Guaijaverin	<i>A. achtarowii</i>	aerial parts	[26]	
	<i>A. barbatiflora</i>	aerial parts	[25]	
	<i>A. xanthochlora</i>	aerial parts	[30]	
11. Rutin	<i>A. acutiloba</i>	aerial parts	[40]	
	<i>A. hirtipedicellata</i> <i>A. procerrima</i> <i>A. sericata</i> <i>A. stricta</i>	leaves	[22]	
	<i>A. glabra</i>	aerial parts	[32]	
	<i>A. bursensis</i> <i>A. cimilensis</i> <i>A. hirsutiflora</i> <i>A. ikizdereensis</i> <i>A. orduensis</i> <i>A. oriturcica</i>	aerial parts	[23]	
	<i>A. mollis</i>	aerial parts	[27,36]	
	<i>A. speciosa</i>	aerial parts	[21]	
	<i>A. viridiflora</i>	aerial parts	[41]	
	<i>A. vulgaris</i>	aerial parts	[20,31,35,37–39]	
	12. Miquelianin	<i>A. barbatiflora</i>	aerial parts	[25]
		<i>A. caucasica</i>	aerial parts	[10]
<i>A. achtarowii</i>		aerial parts	[26]	
<i>A. mollis</i>		aerial parts	[27]	
<i>A. persica</i>		aerial parts	[6]	
<i>A. speciosa</i>		aerial parts	[21]	
<i>A. viridiflora</i>		aerial parts	[41]	
<i>A. vulgaris</i>		aerial parts	[28]	
13. Hyperoside	<i>A. xanthochlora</i>	aerial parts	[24]	
	<i>A. achtarowii</i>	aerial parts	[26]	
	<i>A. acutiloba</i>	aerial parts, roots	[40]	
	<i>A. hirtipedicellata</i> <i>A. procerrima</i> <i>A. sericata</i> <i>A. stricta</i>	leaves	[22]	
	<i>A. barbatiflora</i>	aerial parts	[25]	
	<i>A. coriacea</i> <i>A. filicaulis</i> <i>A. glabra</i>	aerial parts	[29]	

Table 7. Cont.

Constituent Name	Species	Part of Plant	References		
14. Isoquercitrin	<i>A. armeniaca</i>	aerial parts	[23]		
	<i>A. bursensis</i>				
	<i>A. cimilensis</i>				
	<i>A. hirsutiflora</i>				
	<i>A. ikizdereensis</i>				
	<i>A. orduensis</i>				
	<i>A. oriturcica</i>				
	<i>A. mollis</i>	aerial parts	[27,33]		
	<i>A. persica</i>	aerial parts	[33]		
	<i>A. speciosa</i>	leaves	[21]		
	<i>A. viridiflora</i>	aerial parts	[41]		
	<i>A. vulgaris</i>	aerial parts	[38]		
	<i>A. achtarowii</i>	aerial parts	[26]		
	<i>A. acutiloba</i>	aerial parts, roots	[40]		
15. Quercitrin	<i>A. hirtipedicellata</i>	leaves	[22]		
	<i>A. procerrima</i>				
	<i>A. sericata</i>				
	<i>A. stricta</i>				
	<i>A. bursensis</i>	aerial parts	[23]		
	<i>A. cimilensis</i>				
	<i>A. erzincanensis</i>				
	<i>A. orduensis</i>				
	<i>A. oriturcica</i>				
	<i>A. mollis</i>			aerial parts	[27,33]
	<i>A. persica</i>			aerial parts	[33]
	<i>A. speciosa</i>	aerial parts	[21]		
	<i>A. viridiflora</i>	aerial parts	[41]		
	<i>A. vulgaris</i>	aerial parts	[20,31,38]		
<i>A. acutiloba</i>	aerial parts, roots	[40]			
16. Methyl-quercetin glucuronide	<i>A. hirtipedicellata</i>	leaves	[22]		
	<i>A. procerrima</i>				
	<i>A. sericata</i>				
	<i>A. stricta</i>				
	<i>A. hirsutiflora</i>	aerial parts	[23]		
<i>A. orduensis</i>	aerial parts	[21]			
<i>A. speciosa</i>	aerial parts	[39]			
<i>A. vulgaris</i>	aerial parts	[34]			
<i>A. mollis</i>	leaves	[41]			
<i>A. viridiflora</i>	aerial parts	[41]			
17. Quercetin hexoside	<i>A. mollis</i>	leaves	[34]		
18. Quercetin 3-O-β-(2''-O-α-L-rhamnopyranosyl)-glucopyranoside uronic acid	<i>A. speciosa</i>	leaves	[21]		
19. Quercetin 3-O-β-D-sambubioside	<i>A. speciosa</i>	leaves	[21]		

Table 7. Cont.

Constituent Name	Species	Part of Plant	References
20. Quercetin 3-O- $\beta$ -v-sambubioside-7-O- $\beta$ -D-glucoside	<i>A. speciosa</i>	leaves	[21]
21. Quercetin-3-O- $\alpha$ -D-arabinofuranoside	<i>A. vulgaris</i>	aerial parts	[20]
22. Quercetin-feruloyl hexose	<i>A. vulgaris</i>	leaves	[34]
23. Quercetin hexoside-deoxyhexoside	<i>A. vulgaris</i>	leaves	[34]
24. Luteolin	<i>A. acutiloba</i>	aerial parts, roots	[40]
	<i>A. vulgaris</i>	aerial parts	[31,37–39]
25. Orientin	<i>A. hirtipedicellata</i> <i>A. procerrima</i> <i>A. sericata</i> <i>A. stricta</i>	leaves	[22]
	<i>A. armeniaca</i> <i>A. cimilensis</i> <i>A. hirsutiflora</i> <i>A. ikizdereensis</i> <i>A. orduensis</i>	aerial parts	[23]
	<i>A. mollis</i>	aerial parts	[36]
	<i>A. speciosa</i>	aerial parts	[21]
	<i>A. vulgaris</i>	aerial parts	[38,39]
26. Cynaroside	<i>A. speciosa</i>	aerial parts	[21]
27. Scolymoside	<i>A. speciosa</i>	aerial parts	[21]
28. Isorhamnetin	<i>A. acutiloba</i>	aerial parts, roots	[40]
29. Isorhamnetin-3-glucoside	<i>A. acutiloba</i>	aerial parts	[40]
30. Narcissoside	<i>A. acutiloba</i>	aerial parts, roots	[40]
	<i>A. caucasica</i>	aerial parts	[10]
31. Apigenin	<i>A. vulgaris</i>	aerial parts leaves	[37,39]
	<i>A. hirtipedicellata</i> <i>A. procerrima</i> <i>A. sericata</i> <i>A. stricta</i>	leaves	[22]
32. Vitexin	<i>A. armeniaca</i> <i>A. erzincanensis</i> <i>A. ikizdereensis</i> <i>A. orduensis</i>	aerial parts	[23]
	<i>A. mollis</i>	aerial parts	[36]
	<i>A. vulgaris</i>	aerial parts leaves	[38,39] [37]
	<i>A. barbatiflora</i>	aerial parts	[25]
	<i>A. caucasica</i>	aerial parts	[10]
34. Catechin	<i>A. glabra</i>	aerial parts	[32]
	<i>A. mollis</i>	aerial parts	[36]
	<i>A. persica</i>	aerial parts	[6]
	<i>A. vulgaris</i>	aerial parts leaves roots	[35,37,39]

Table 7. Cont.

Constituent Name	Species	Part of Plant	References
35. Epicatechin	<i>A. glabra</i>	aerial parts	[32]
	<i>A. mollis</i>	aerial parts	[36]
	<i>A. persica</i>	aerial parts	[6]
	<i>A. vulgaris</i>	aerial parts leaves	[31,37]
36. Rhodiolgin	<i>A. mollis</i>	aerial parts	[27]
37. Gossypetin-3-O- $\beta$ -D-galactopyranosyl-7-O- $\alpha$ -L-rhamnopyranoside	<i>A. mollis</i>	aerial parts	[27]
38. Myricetin	<i>A. vulgaris</i>	aerial parts	[31]
39. Genistein	<i>A. vulgaris</i>	aerial parts	[31,39]
40. Daidzein	<i>A. vulgaris</i>	aerial parts	[31]
41. Morin	<i>A. vulgaris</i>	aerial parts	[38]
42. Chrysoeriol	<i>A. vulgaris</i>	aerial parts	[39]
43. Naringenin	<i>A. vulgaris</i>	aerial partsleaves	[37,39]
44. Eriodictyol	<i>A. acutiloba</i>	aerial parts	[40]
45. Sinocrassoside D2	<i>A. mollis</i>	aerial parts	[27]
46. Luteolin 6-arabinose 8-glucose	<i>A. vulgaris</i>	leaves	[37]
47. Luteolin 6-glucose 8-arabinose	<i>A. vulgaris</i>	leaves	[37]
48. Apigenin 6-arabinose 8-galactose	<i>A. vulgaris</i>	leaves	[37]
49. Apigenin 6-rhamnose 8-glucose	<i>A. vulgaris</i>	leaves	[37]
50. Apigenin 7-O-neohesperidoside	<i>A. vulgaris</i>	leaves	[37]
51. Kaempferol 3,7-dirhamoside	<i>A. vulgaris</i>	leaves	[37]
52. Hesperetin	<i>A. vulgaris</i>	leaves	[37]
53. Kaempferol 3-(2-p-comaroyl)glucose	<i>A. vulgaris</i>	leaves	[37]
54. Rhamnetin	<i>A. vulgaris</i>	leaves	[37]
55. Aromadendrin glucoside	<i>A. persica</i>	aerial parts	[6]
56. Avicularin	<i>A. vulgaris</i>	aerial parts	[35]
	<i>A. vulgaris</i>	leaves	[37]
	<i>A. mollis</i>	leaves	[34]
	<i>A. persica</i>	aerial parts	[6]
	<i>A. viridiflora</i>	aerial parts	[41]
58. Agrimoniin	<i>A. vulgaris</i>	leaves	[34]
	<i>A. xanthochlora</i>	aerial parts	[42]
	<i>A. mollis</i>	leaves	[34]
	<i>A. persica</i>	aerial parts	[6]
59. Pedunculagin	<i>A. vulgaris</i>	leaves	[34]
	<i>A. viridiflora</i>	aerial parts	[41]
	<i>A. xanthochlora</i>	aerial parts	[42]
	<i>A. mollis</i>	leaves	[34]
60. Laevigatin F	<i>A. xanthochlora</i>	aerial part	[42]

Table 7. Cont.

Constituent Name	Species	Part of Plant	References
61. Castalagin/vescalagin isomer	<i>A. mollis</i>	leaves	[34]
	<i>A. vulgaris</i>	leaves	[34]
62. Galloyl-HHDP hexose	<i>A. mollis</i>	leaves	[34]
	<i>A. persica</i>	aerial parts	[6]
	<i>A. vulgaris</i>	leaves	[34]
63. Trigalloyl hexose	<i>A. mollis</i>	leaves	[34]
	<i>A. mollis</i>	leaves	[34]
64. Sanguiin	<i>A. persica</i>	aerial parts	[6]
	<i>A. viridiflora</i>	aerial parts	[41]
	<i>A. vulgaris</i>	leaves	[34]
65. Methyl gallate	<i>A. mollis</i>	aerial parts	[36]
	<i>A. persica</i>	aerial parts	[6]
66. Casuarictin	<i>A. persica</i>	aerial parts	[6]
67. Digalloyl-galloyl galloside	<i>A. persica</i>	aerial parts	[6]
68. HHDP-hexoside	<i>A. viridiflora</i>	aerial parts	[41]
69. Brevifolincarboxylic acid	<i>A. viridiflora</i>	aerial parts	[41]
70. Tellimagrandin I	<i>A. viridiflora</i>	aerial parts	[41]
71. Tellimagrandin II	<i>A. viridiflora</i>	aerial parts	[41]
72. Benzoic acid	<i>A. vulgaris</i>	leaves	[37,43]
	<i>A. jumrukczalica</i>	leaves	[43]
73. Caffeic acid	<i>A. acutiloba</i>	aerial parts, roots	[40]
	<i>A. glabra</i>	aerial parts	[32]
	<i>A. jumrukczalica</i>	leaves	[43]
	<i>A. mollis</i>	aerial parts	[36]
	<i>A. vulgaris</i>	aerial parts leaves	[37,39,43]
	<i>A. glabra</i>	aerial parts	[32]
74. Chlorogenic acid	<i>A. mollis</i>	leaves	[34]
	<i>A. persica</i>	aerial parts	[6]
	<i>A. vulgaris</i>	aerial parts leaves	[31,34,37,39]
	<i>A. vulgaris</i>	aerial parts	[39]
75. 2,5-Dihydroxybenzoic acid	<i>A. vulgaris</i>	aerial parts	[39]
76. 3,4-Dihydroxybenzoic acid	<i>A. glabra</i>	aerial parts	[32]
	<i>A. mollis</i>	leaves	[34]
77. Ellagic acid	<i>A. persica</i>	aerial parts	[6]
	<i>A. vulgaris</i>	aerial parts leaves	[31,38,44] [31,34,37]
	<i>A. acutiloba</i>	aerial parts	[40]
78. Ferulic acid	<i>A. vulgaris</i>	aerial parts leaves	[37–39]

Table 7. Cont.

Constituent Name	Species	Part of Plant	References
79. Gallic acid	<i>A. acutiloba</i>	aerial parts roots	[40]
	<i>A. glabra</i>	aerial parts	[32]
	<i>A. jumrukczalica</i>	leaves	[43]
	<i>A. mollis</i>	aerial parts leaves	[34,36]
	<i>A. persica</i>	aerial parts	[6]
	<i>A. vulgaris</i>	aerial parts leaves roots	[31,34,35] [37,39,43] [45]
80. Gentisic acid	<i>A. acutiloba</i>	aerial parts, roots	[40]
	<i>A. jumrukczalica</i>	leaves	[43]
	<i>A. mollis</i>	aerial parts	[36]
	<i>A. vulgaris</i>	leaves	[43]
81. Protocatechuic acid	<i>A. acutiloba</i>	aerial parts, roots	[40]
	<i>A. jumrukczalica</i>	leaves	[43]
	<i>A. vulgaris</i>	aerial parts leaves	[37,39,43]
82. <i>p</i> -Coumaric acid	<i>A. acutiloba</i>	aerial parts roots	[40]
	<i>A. jumrukczalica</i>	leaves	[43]
	<i>A. vulgaris</i>	aerial parts leaves	[31,37,39,43]
83. 4-Hydroxybenzoic acid	<i>A. acutiloba</i>	aerial parts roots	[40]
	<i>A. jumrukczalica</i>	leaves	[43]
	<i>A. vulgaris</i>	aerial parts leaves	[37,39,43]
84. Mandelic acid	<i>A. jumrukczalica</i>	leaves	[43]
	<i>A. vulgaris</i>	leaves	[43]
85. 3,4,5-Methoxycinnamic acid	<i>A. vulgaris</i>	leaves	[37]
86. $\beta$ -Resorcylic acid	<i>A. jumrukczalica</i>	leaves	[43]
	<i>A. vulgaris</i>	leaves	[43]
87. Rosmarinic acid	<i>A. acutiloba</i>	aerial parts roots	[40]
	<i>A. vulgaris</i>	aerial parts leaves	[31,37]
88. Salicylic acid	<i>A. acutiloba</i>	aerial parts roots	[40]
	<i>A. jumrukczalica</i>	leaves	[43]
	<i>A. vulgaris</i>	leaves	[37,43]

Table 7. Cont.

Constituent Name	Species	Part of Plant	References
89. Sinapic acid	<i>A. jumrukczalica</i>	leaves	[43]
	<i>A. vulgaris</i>	aerial parts leaves	[31,43]
90. Syringic acid	<i>A. acutiloba</i>	aerial parts roots	[40]
	<i>A. jumrukczalica</i>	leaves	[43]
	<i>A. vulgaris</i>	leaves	[43]
91. <i>Trans</i> -cinnamic acid	<i>A. jumrukczalica</i>	leaves	[43]
	<i>A. vulgaris</i>	leaves	[37,43]
92. 3,4,5-Trimethoxymandelic acid	<i>A. jumrukczalica</i>	leaves	[43]
	<i>A. vulgaris</i>	leaves	[43]
93. Vanillic acid	<i>A. acutiloba</i>	aerial parts roots	[40]
	<i>A. jumrukczalica</i>	leaves	[43]
	<i>A. vulgaris</i>	leaves	[37,43]
94. Quinic acid	<i>A. vulgaris</i>	aerial parts	[39]

The plant tannins are a unique group of phenolics of relatively high molecular weight with the ability to complex strongly with carbohydrates and proteins. In higher plants, tannins consist of two major groups of metabolites: the hydrolysable tannins and condensed tannins [17]. *Alchemilla* species as members of Rosaceae family also produce, apart from flavonoids, tannins.

Geiger et al. identified in the aerial parts of *A. xanthochlora* (Germany) ellagitannins such as agrimoniin (58, MW 1871), pedunculagin (59, MW 784), and laevigatin F (60, MW 802) [42].

Duckstein and co-authors used liquid chromatography-tandem mass spectrometry (LC-MS/MS) to identify tannins extracted by acetone/water (8/2, *v/v*) from the leaves (including stalks) from *A. vulgaris* and *A. mollis* (Germany). Compounds 58, 59, castalagin/vescalagin isomer (61, MW 934), galloyl-HHDP hexose (62, MW 618), trigalloyl hexose (63, MW 636), and sanguin (64, MW 1871) were detected in studied plant samples [34].

In the aerial parts of *A. mollis* [36] and *A. persica* [6], methyl gallate (65, Figure 12) was identified. The authors [6] found also that extracts of *A. persica* contained 58, 59, 62, 64, casuarictin (66, Figure 13), and digalloyl-galloyl galloside (67, MW 1084).

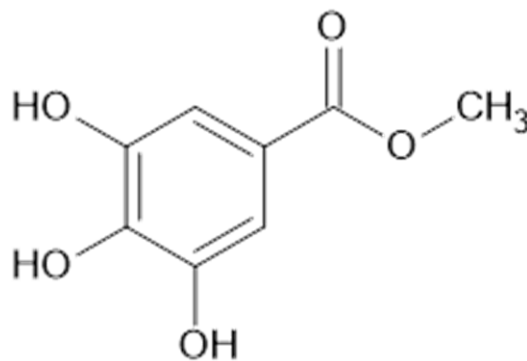
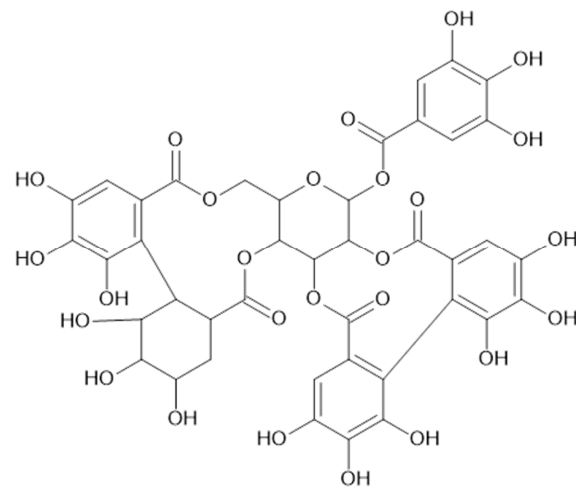


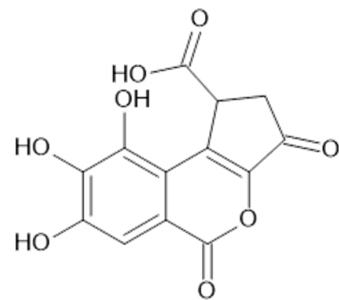
Figure 12. Chemical structure of compound 65 (MW = 184).



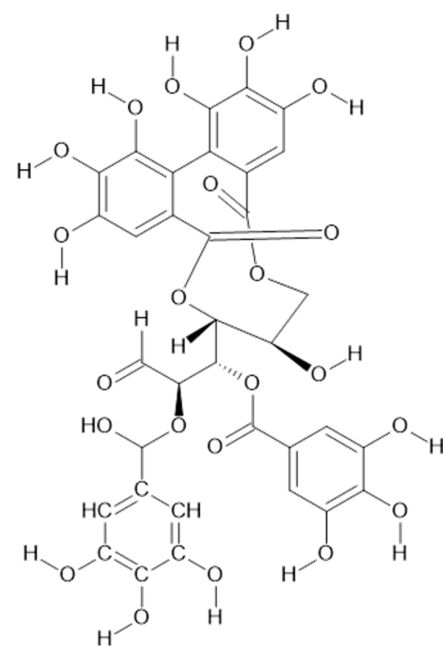


**Figure 13.** Chemical structure of compound **66** (MW = 936).

Recent studies have revealed the presence in the aerial parts of *A. viridiflora* such tannins as HHDP-hexoside (**68**), brevifolincarboxylic acid (**69**, Figure 14), and tellimagrandin I (**70**, Figure 15) and II (**71**, MW 938) which have been reported for the first time in *Alchemilla* species [41].



**Figure 14.** Chemical structure of compound **69** (MW = 292).



**Figure 15.** Chemical structure of compound **70** (MW = 786).

Phenolic acids are also common in higher plants, and they are usually present in the bound soluble form conjugated with sugars or organic acids [17] (Figures 16 and 17, Tables 8 and 9).

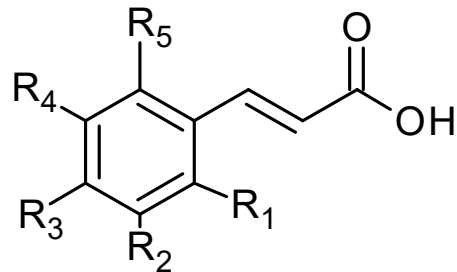


Figure 16. Hydroxycinnamic acid derivatives.

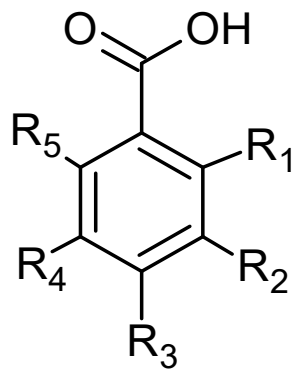


Figure 17. Benzoic acid derivatives.

Table 8. Hydroxycinnamic acid derivatives.

Compound	R <sub>1</sub>	R <sub>2</sub>	R <sub>3</sub>	R <sub>4</sub>	R <sub>5</sub>	MW
73	H	OH	OH	H	H	180
78	H	OCH <sub>3</sub>	H	OH	H	194
82	H	H	OH	H	H	164
85	H	OCH <sub>3</sub>	OCH <sub>3</sub>	OCH <sub>3</sub>	H	238
89	H	OCH <sub>3</sub>	OH	OCH <sub>3</sub>	H	224
91	H	H	H	H	H	148

Table 9. Benzoic acid derivatives.

Compound	R <sub>1</sub>	R <sub>2</sub>	R <sub>3</sub>	R <sub>4</sub>	R <sub>5</sub>	MW
72	H	H	H	H	H	122
79	H	OH	OH	OH	H	170
80	OH	H	H	OH	H	154
81	H	OH	OH	H	H	154
83	H	H	OH	H	H	138
86	OH	H	OH	H	H	154
88	OH	H	H	H	H	138
90	OH	OCH <sub>3</sub>	OH	OCH <sub>3</sub>	H	198
93	H	OCH <sub>3</sub>	OH	H	H	168

In the aqueous extracts and ethanolic extracts (70% (v/v) ethanol) of *A. vulgaris* caffeic acid (73), chlorogenic acid (74, Figure 18), elagic acid (77), ferulic acid (78), gallic acid (79), *p*-coumaric acid (82), rosmarinic acid (87, Figure 19), and sinapic acid (89) were identified using HPLC-MS analysis [31].

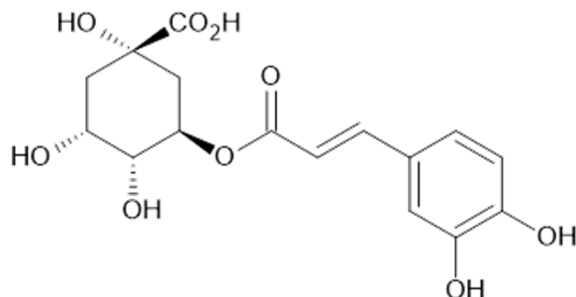


Figure 18. Chemical structure of compound 74 (MW = 354).

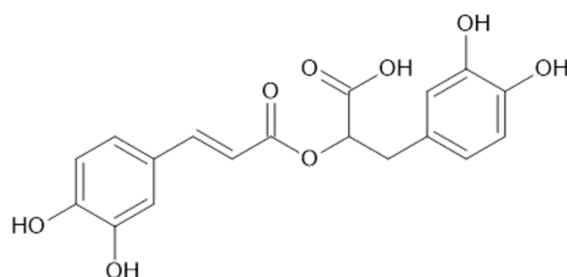


Figure 19. Chemical structure of compound 87 (MW = 360).

Denev et al. reported that the aerial parts of *A. glabra* contained 73, 74, 3,4-dihydroxybenzoic acid (76), and 79 [32]. In the leaves, including stalks, of *A. vulgaris* and *A. mollis*, three phenolic acids (74, 77, 79) were found [34]. Moreover, in different extracts from the aerial parts of *A. mollis*, 73, 79, and gentisic acid (80) were noticed [36].

In the 80% methanol extracts from the leaves of *A. jumrukczalica* and *A. vulgaris* (Bulgaria), free and bonded phenolic acids were identified. Among reported phenolic acids, 73, 80, protocatechuic (81), salicylic (88), *trans*-cinnamic (91), and vanilic (93) acids were the major compounds [43].

Fifteen phenolic acids (benzoic acid (72), 73, 74, 78, 79, 81, 82, 4-hydroxybenzoic acid (83), 3,4,5-methoxycinnamic acid (85), 87, 88, 91, 93) in the leaves [37] and 77 [38], and 73, 74, 2,5-dihydroxybenzoic acid (75), 78, 79, 81–83, as well as quinic acid (94, Figure 20) [39] were found in the aerial parts of *A. vulgaris*. The advantages of identified phenolic acids are associated with several health benefits such as antioxidant, anti-diabetic, and anticancer effects [39].

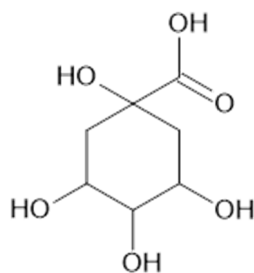


Figure 20. Chemical structure of compound 94 (MW = 192).

Moreover, Dos Santos Szewczyk et al. [40] reported that aerial parts and roots of *A. acutiloba* contained 73, 78–83, 87, 88, syringic acid (90), and 93.

#### 4. Antioxidant Activity

It has been proven that oxidative stress participates in the formation of various diseases such as chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD), Alzheimer's disease, atherosclerosis, and cancer [46].

The evidence described above confirms the importance of searching for new effective and safe antioxidant agents. As reported by Forman and Zhang [46], two major mechanisms connected with diseases formation which contribute to cellular damage can be distinguished, namely: generation of reactive oxygen species ( $\bullet\text{OH}$ ,  $\text{ONOO}^-$ ,  $\text{HOCl}$ ) which directly oxidize macromolecules, especially membrane lipids, enzymes, proteins, as well as nucleic acids, and leads to death resulting from aberrant cell function. Furthermore, the second pathway relates with aberrant redox signaling.

Based on all the above, in this review, we sought to clarify in more detail the antioxidant potential of *Alchemilla* species (Table 10).

**Table 10.** The overview on the antioxidant activities in *Alchemilla* species.

Species	Plant Part/Extract	Antioxidant Assay	Antioxidant Effect	References
<i>A. acutiloba</i>	aerial parts, 60% methanol	DPPH	$\text{IC}_{50} = 18.69 \mu\text{g}/\text{mL DE}$	[40]
	aerial parts, 60% methanol	ABTS	$\text{IC}_{50} = 6.17 \mu\text{g}/\text{mL DE}$	
	aerial parts, 60% methanol	CHEL	$\text{IC}_{50} = 21.60 \mu\text{g}/\text{mL DE}$	
	roots, 60% methanol	DPPH	$\text{IC}_{50} = 29.87 \mu\text{g}/\text{mL DE}$	
	roots, 60% methanol	ABTS	$\text{IC}_{50} = 14.29 \mu\text{g}/\text{mL DE}$	
	roots, 60% methanol	CHEL	$\text{IC}_{50} = 25.76 \mu\text{g}/\text{mL DE}$	
	aerial parts, butanol fraction	DPPH	$\text{IC}_{50} = 8.96 \mu\text{g}/\text{mL DE}$	
	aerial parts, butanol fraction	ABTS	$\text{IC}_{50} = 1.42 \mu\text{g}/\text{mL DE}$	
	aerial parts, butanol fraction	CHEL	$\text{IC}_{50} = 11.43 \mu\text{g}/\text{mL DE}$	
	roots, butanol fraction	DPPH	$\text{IC}_{50} = 12.08 \mu\text{g}/\text{mL DE}$	
	roots, butanol fraction	ABTS	$\text{IC}_{50} = 8.78 \mu\text{g}/\text{mL DE}$	
	roots, butanol fraction	CHEL	$\text{IC}_{50} = 12.33 \mu\text{g}/\text{mL DE}$	
	aerial parts, diethyl acetate fraction	DPPH	$\text{IC}_{50} = 8.83 \mu\text{g}/\text{mL DE}$	
	aerial parts, diethyl acetate fraction	ABTS	$\text{IC}_{50} = 6.54 \mu\text{g}/\text{mL DE}$	
	aerial parts, diethyl acetate fraction	CHEL	$\text{IC}_{50} = 18.89 \mu\text{g}/\text{mL DE}$	
	roots, diethyl acetate fraction	DPPH	$\text{IC}_{50} = 15.37 \mu\text{g}/\text{mL DE}$	
	roots, diethyl acetate fraction	ABTS	$\text{IC}_{50} = 10.39 \mu\text{g}/\text{mL DE}$	
	roots, diethyl acetate fraction	CHEL	$\text{IC}_{50} = 19.30 \mu\text{g}/\text{mL DE}$	
	aerial parts, diethyl ether fraction	DPPH	$\text{IC}_{50} = 41.46 \mu\text{g}/\text{mL DE}$	
	aerial parts, diethyl ether fraction	ABTS	$\text{IC}_{50} = 16.28 \mu\text{g}/\text{mL DE}$	

Table 10. Cont.

Species	Plant Part/Extract	Antioxidant Assay	Antioxidant Effect	References	
	aerial parts, diethyl ether fraction	CHEL	IC <sub>50</sub> = 25.51 µg/mL DE		
	roots, diethyl ether fraction	DPPH	IC <sub>50</sub> = 51.42 µg/mL DE		
	roots, diethyl ether fraction	ABTS	IC <sub>50</sub> = 24.82 µg/mL DE		
	roots, diethyl ether fraction	CHEL	IC <sub>50</sub> = 44.12 µg/mL DE		
<i>A. alpina</i>	aerial parts, methanol	DPPH	% Inhibition = 45.4–94.4%	[47]	
<i>A. arvensis</i>	leaves, methanol	DPPH	IC <sub>50</sub> = 97.72 µg/mL	[48]	
	leaves, hexane		IC <sub>50</sub> = 11.22 µg/mL		
	leaves, acetone		IC <sub>50</sub> = 4.86 µg/mL		
<i>A. barbatiflora</i>	aerial parts, methanol	DPPH	% Inhibition = 83.44–95.35%	[25]	
	aerial parts, hexane fraction		% Inhibition = 18.6–59.62%		
	aerial parts, chloroform fraction		% Inhibition = 67.17–91.11%		
	aerial parts, water fraction		% Inhibition = 83.06–97.17%		
	aerial parts, methanol	SOD	% Inhibition = 83.34–85.83%		
	aerial parts, hexane fraction		% Inhibition = 9.80%		
	aerial parts, chloroform fraction		% Inhibition = 12.84–42.73%		
	aerial parts, water fraction		% Inhibition = 81.07%		
	aerial parts, methanol		PRA		Absorbance 0.932–1.280
	aerial parts, hexane fraction				Absorbance 0.355–0.612
	aerial parts, chloroform fraction	Absorbance 0.640–0.820			
	aerial parts, water fraction	Absorbance 1.158–1.516			
	aerial parts, methanol	FRAP	44.32 mg BHAE/g DE		
	aerial parts, chloroform fraction		15.76 mg BHAE/g DE		
aerial parts, water fraction		93.46 mg BHAE/g DE			
<i>A. bulgarica</i>	aerial parts, 80% methanol	DPPH	IC <sub>50</sub> = 75.63 µg/mL	[49]	
<i>A. crinita</i>	aerial parts, 80% methanol	DPPH	IC <sub>50</sub> = 46.03 µg/mL	[49]	
<i>A. ellenbergiana</i>	aerial parts, hexane	DPPH	IC <sub>50</sub> = 7.1 µg/mL	[50]	



Table 10. Cont.

Species	Plant Part/Extract	Antioxidant Assay	Antioxidant Effect	References
<i>A. ellenbergiana</i>	aerial parts, ethanol	DPPH	IC <sub>50</sub> = 243.6 µg/mL	[51]
	aerial parts, methanol		IC <sub>50</sub> = 243.1 µg/mL	
<i>A. erythropoda</i>	aerial parts, 80% methanol	DPPH	IC <sub>50</sub> = 30.67 µg/mL	[50]
<i>A. glabra</i>	aerial parts, 80% acetone in 0.2% formic acid	ORAC TRAP HORAC	IC <sub>50</sub> = 1337 µmol TE/g IC <sub>50</sub> = 1815 µmol TE/g IC <sub>50</sub> = 1999 µmol GAE/g	[32]
<i>A. glabra</i>	aerial parts, 80% methanol	DPPH	IC <sub>50</sub> = 34.89 µg/mL	[49]
<i>A. glaucescens</i>	aerial parts, 80% methanol	DPPH	IC <sub>50</sub> = 36.10 µg/mL	[49]
<i>A. jumrukczalica</i>	leaves, 80% methanol	DPPH	IC <sub>50</sub> = 12.09 µg/mL	[43]
<i>A. mollis</i>	shoots grown in vitro on different nutrient media		IC <sub>50</sub> = 18.6–38.1 µg/mL	[52]
	leaves of ex vitro adapted plants in Bulgarian mountains Vitosha	DPPH	IC <sub>50</sub> = 13.1 µg/mL	
	one year old in vivo plants grown in Bulgarian mountains Vitosha		IC <sub>50</sub> = 27.5 µg/mL	
	one year old in vivo plants grown in Bulgarian mountains Rhodopes		IC <sub>50</sub> = 22.2 µg/mL	
<i>A. mollis</i>	leaves, 50% ethanol	DPPH ABTS	IC <sub>50</sub> = 42.4 µg/mL IC <sub>50</sub> = 7.8 µg/mL	[53]
<i>A. mollis</i>	aerial parts, water	DPPH	IC <sub>50</sub> = 0.264 mg/mL	[54]
	aerial parts, deodorized water		IC <sub>50</sub> = 0.146 mg/mL	
	aerial parts, 50% methanol		IC <sub>50</sub> = 0.161 mg/mL	
	aerial parts, water	ABTS	0.90 mmol/L/Trolox	
aerial parts, deodorized water	0.4 mmol/L/Trolox			
	aerial parts, 50% methanol		0.4 mmol/L/Trolox	
<i>A. mollis</i>	aerial parts, 70% methanol	DPPH	IC <sub>50</sub> = 0.21 mg/mL	[36]
	aerial parts, water		IC <sub>50</sub> = 0.24 mg/mL	
	aerial parts, 70% methanol	ABTS	TEAC = 0.75 mmol/Trolox	
	aerial parts, water		TEAC = 0.83 mmol/Trolox	
	aerial parts, hexane, ethyl acetate, methanol, butanol, 70% methanol, water	Inhibition of β-carotene/linoleic acid co-oxidation	no data	
<i>A. mollis</i>	dry stalks, aqueous ethanol	FRAP	TEAC = 382.78 mmol TE/g DW	[55]
	dry stalks, aqueous ethanol	CUPRAC	TEAC = 363.79 mmol TE/g DW	
	dry stalks, aqueous ethanol	DPPH	TEAC = 247.58 mmol TE/g DW	
	dry stalks, aqueous ethanol	ABTS	TEAC = 308.44 mmol TE/g DW	
	aqueous ethanol			

Table 10. Cont.

Species	Plant Part/Extract	Antioxidant Assay	Antioxidant Effect	References
<i>A. mollis</i>	aerial parts, methanol	DPPH	IC <sub>50</sub> = 31.7 µg/mL	[27]
	aerial parts, ethyl acetate fraction		IC <sub>50</sub> = 9.8 µg/mL	
	aerial parts, petroleum fraction		IC <sub>50</sub> = > 200 µg/mL	
	aerial parts, chloroform fraction		IC <sub>50</sub> = > 200 µg/mL	
	aerial parts, water residue fraction		IC <sub>50</sub> = 42.5 µg/mL	
<i>A. persica</i>	aerial parts, 80% methanol	DPPH	IC <sub>50</sub> = 0.055 M	[3]
	roots, 80% methanol		IC <sub>50</sub> = 0.151 M	
	aerial parts, 80% methanol	TBARS	MDA = 5.9 nmol/mL	
	roots, 80% methanol		MDA = 19.08 nmol/mL	
<i>A. monticola</i>	aerial parts, 80% methanol	DPPH	IC <sub>50</sub> = 32.72 µg/mL	[49]
<i>A. obtusa</i>	aerial parts, 80% methanol	DPPH	IC <sub>50</sub> = 26.35 µg/mL	[49]
<i>A. sericata</i>	aerial parts, hexane	DPPH	IC <sub>50</sub> = 185 µg/mL	[56]
<i>A. vulgaris</i>	leaves, 50% ethanol	DPPH	% Inhibition = 71.8%	[57]
<i>A. vulgaris</i>	aerial parts, methanol	DPPH	IC <sub>50</sub> = 5.40 µg/mL	[58]
		ABTS	IC <sub>50</sub> = 60.10 µg/mL	
<i>A. vulgaris</i>	aerial parts, methanol	DPPH	IC <sub>50</sub> = 5.96 µg/mL	[11]
	roots, methanol		IC <sub>50</sub> = 11.86 µg/mL	
	aerial parts, methanol	ABTS	IC <sub>50</sub> = 14.80 µg/mL	
	roots, methanol		IC <sub>50</sub> = 32.49 µg/mL	
	aerial parts, methanol	Hydroxyl radical scavenging activity	IC <sub>50</sub> = 13.06 µg/mL	
	roots, methanol		IC <sub>50</sub> = 18.44 µg/mL	
	aerial parts, methanol	Inhibition of lipid peroxidation	IC <sub>50</sub> = 31.91 µg/mL	
	roots, methanol		IC <sub>50</sub> = 475.13 µg/mL	
	aerial parts, methanol	Reducing power	IC <sub>50</sub> = 632.99 mg TE/g DE	
	roots, methanol		IC <sub>50</sub> = 607.52 mg TE/g DE	
aerial parts, methanol	Total antioxidant activity	IC <sub>50</sub> = 265.62 mg AA/g DE		
roots, methanol		IC <sub>50</sub> = 316.47 mg AA/g DE		
<i>A. vulgaris</i>	leaves, 80% ethanol	DPPH	% inhibition = 131.74%	[37]
<i>A. vulgaris</i>	roots, 50% ethanol	TEAC FRAP	68.21 mmol TE/g DW 40.12 mmol TE/g DW	[59]

Table 10. Cont.

Species	Plant Part/Extract	Antioxidant Assay	Antioxidant Effect	References
<i>A. vulgaris</i>	aerial parts, cyclohexane	DPPH	IC <sub>50</sub> = 23.12 µg/mL	[44]
<i>A. vulgaris</i>	aerial parts, 80% methanol	DPPH	153.30 mg TE/g DE	[39]
		ABTS	143.55 mg TE/g DE	
		CUPRAC	216.14 mg TE/g DE	
		PRAP	1.77 mmol TE/g DE	
		CHEL	42.58 mg EDTAE/g DE	
	aerial parts, 70% ethanol	FRAP	7899.45 mg AAE/g DE	
		DPPH	95.99 mg TE/g DE	
		ABTS	119.62 mg TE/g DE	
		CUPRAC	203.53 mg TE/g DE	
		PRAP	1.57 mmol TE/g of DE	
	aerial parts, 70% ethyl-acetate	CHEL	42.32 mg EDTAE/g DE	
		FRAP	6405.75 mg AAE/g DE	
		DPPH	502.56 mg TE/g DE	
		ABTS	174.05 mg TE/g DE	
		CUPRAC	283.16 mg TE/g DE	
aerial parts, water	PRAP	2.22 mmol TE/g DE		
	CHEL	37.96 mg EDTAE/g DE		
	FRAP	8745.31 AAE/g DE		
	DPPH	89.25 mg TE/g DE		
	ABTS	37.50 mg TE/g DE		
<i>A. vulgaris</i>	aerial parts, water	CUPRAC	78.56 mg TE/g DE	[38]
		PRAP	0.53 mmol TE/g DE	
		CHEL	39.23 mg EDTAE/g DE	
		FRAP	3240.09 mg AAE/g DE	
			IC <sub>50</sub> = 0.11 µg/mL	
<i>A. vulgaris</i>	aerial parts, propylene glycolic	DPPH	IC <sub>50</sub> = 27.22 µg/mL	[31]
			IC <sub>50</sub> = 2.88 µL/mL	
<i>A. vulgaris</i>	aerial parts, 70% ethanol	DPPH	87.95% (at 3 mg/mL) and 80.71% (at 1.5 mg/mL)	[31]
<i>A. vulgaris</i>	leaves, 80% methanol	DPPH	IC <sub>50</sub> = 19.62 µg/mL	[43]
<i>A. xanthochlora</i>	aerial parts, 80% methanol	DPPH	IC <sub>50</sub> = 41.78 µg/mL	[49]
<i>A. xanthochlora</i>	leaves,hexane		no data	[13]
	leaves, chloroform		no data	
	leaves, ethylacetate	TLC-DPPH analysis, DPPH	no data	
	leaves, methanol		no data	
	leaves, water		no data	

DPPH, 2,2-diphenyl-1-picryl-hydrazyl free radical scavenging activity; ABTS, 2,2'-azinobis [3-ethylbenzthiazoline]-6-sulfonic acid decolorization assay; CHEL, metal chelating activity; DE, dry extract; SOD, superoxide radical scavenging; PRAP, phosphomolibdenum-reducing antioxidant power; FRAP, ferric-reducing antioxidant power; BHA, butylated hydroxyanisole equivalents; ORAC, oxygen radical absorbance capacity; TE, Trolox equivalents; TRAP, total peroxy-radical antioxidant parameter; HORAC, hydroxyl radical averting capacity; GAE, gallic acid equivalents; CUPRAC, cupric reducing antioxidant capacity; DW, dry weight; TBARS, thiobarbituric acid reactive substances assay; MDA, malondialdehyde level; TEAC, Trolox equivalent antioxidant capacity; EDTAE, ethylenediaminetetraacetic acid equivalent; AAE, ascorbic acid equivalents; no data—results on the figures, without values.



Ondrejovič et al. evaluated the antioxidant activities of various solvent extracts and fractions acquired by solid-liquid and liquid-liquid extraction and column chromatography from leaves of *A. xanthochlora*. The most prominent antioxidant activity was observed in methanolic extract. Isolated fraction showed antioxidant activity of 535.2 mg DPPH per g of fraction residue [13].

Antioxidant activity of the extracts from the aerial parts and roots of *A. persica* (Turkey) was evaluated using the DPPH radical scavenging assay and measurement of malondialdehyde (MDA) levels. The extracts were found to exhibit DPPH (1,1-diphenyl-2-picrylhydrazyl) free radical scavenging activity with  $IC_{50}$  values of 0.055 M and 0.151 M for the aerial parts and roots, respectively. The MDA level of the aerial parts was found to be 5.9 nmol/mL, and 19.08 nmol/mL for the roots [3].

Nikolova et al. evaluated antioxidant activity of the methanol extracts from leaves of *A. jumrukczalica* and *A. vulgaris* by the scavenging effect on DPPH radicals. The extracts showed good antiradical activity with  $IC_{50}$  values of 12.09  $\mu\text{g/mL}$  and 19.62  $\mu\text{g/mL}$ , respectively. Obtained values were comparable with those of butylated hydroxytoluene (BHT)—12.65  $\mu\text{g/mL}$  and syringic acid—4.40  $\mu\text{g/mL}$ , used as standard substances [43].

Boroja and co-authors [58] analyzed antioxidant activity of the methanol extract from aerial parts of *A. vulgaris*. They found that studied extract possessed DPPH inhibition activity with  $IC_{50} = 5.40 \mu\text{g/mL}$ . Moreover, the ABTS results demonstrated  $IC_{50}$  value of 60.10  $\mu\text{g/mL}$ . The same authors evaluated antioxidant efficacy of extracts from the roots and aerial parts of *A. vulgaris* (Central Serbia) as total antioxidant capacity, metal chelation and reducing power ability, inhibition of lipid peroxidation, as well as their potential to neutralize DPPH, ABTS, and OH radicals. They found that roots exert a higher total antioxidant activity than aerial parts (316.5 and 265.6 mg ascorbic acid/g, respectively). Comparable results for both extracts were obtained in the reducing power assay (633.0—airial parts and 607.5 mg Trolox/g—roots). In the ferrous ion chelating test, all studied samples failed to chelate  $\text{Fe}^{2+}$  at concentration 1 mg/mL [11].

Antioxidant capacity of the methanolic extract and fractions of *A. mollis* was also measured by their ability to scavenge the DPPH radical. The EtOAc fraction was found to be the most active radical scavenger ( $IC_{50} = 9.8 \pm 1.8 \mu\text{g/mL}$ ) but this value was less than that of quercetin ( $IC_{50} = 3.2 \pm 0.4 \mu\text{g/mL}$ ) [27]. The antioxidant capacity of stalks of *A. mollis* aqueous ethanol extracts was also investigated. The activity was determined by four different assays (FRAP (ferric-reducing antioxidant power), CUPRAC (cupric ion reducing antioxidant capacity), DPPH, and ABTS) and was expressed as mmol Trolox equivalent per  $\text{dm}^3$  extract. The maximum values of extracts were  $382.78 \pm 1.16$ ;  $363.79 \pm 0.74$ ;  $247.58 \pm 2.26$ ; and  $308.44 \pm 6.74$  for FRAP, CUPRAC, DPPH, and ABTS assays, respectively [55]. Karatoprak et al. evaluated antioxidant activity of hexane, ethyl acetate, methanol, butanol, water, and 70% methanol extracts from the aerial parts of *A. mollis*. In the DPPH assay, the  $IC_{50}$  values were found to be 0.21 mg/mL and 0.24 mg/mL, respectively for 70% MeOH and water extracts. ABTS $^{\bullet}$  radical scavenging effects of the extracts were studied at the doses of 0.25 and 0.5 mg/mL. All the extracts showed the highest level of activity at 0.5 mg/mL. The TEAC values of 70% methanol and water extracts (0.75 and 0.83 mM/Trolox) were found higher than the methanol, ethyl acetate, and hexane extracts [36]. The authors studied antiradical activity of various extracts from the herb of *A. mollis* also in different research. The  $IC_{50}$  values in the DPPH test were found 0.264 mg/mL, 0.146, and 0.161 mg/mL, respectively, for water, deodorized water, and 50% MeOH extracts. All extracts also managed to inhibit the ABTS $^{\bullet}$  radical. The TEAC values of water extract (0.90 and 1.55 mM/L/Trolox) were found higher than the deodorized water and 50% MeOH extracts [54].

Denev et al. evaluated extracts of the aerial parts of *A. glabra* by means of several assays, including ORAC, TRAP, HORAC, and inhibition of lipid peroxidation. Between all extracts studied, *A. glabra* extract revealed the second highest chelating ability expressed as a HORAC value of 1999.4  $\mu\text{mol GAE/g}$  [32].

Hamid and co-authors analyzed antioxidant activities of *A. vulgaris* roots using Trolox equivalent antioxidant capacity (TEAC), ferric reducing antioxidant power (FRAP), and



TBARS (thiobarbituric acid reactive substances) assays. The antioxidant activity measured with TEAC was 68.21 mmol of Trolox (TE)/g of dry weight (DW). Whereas FRAP assay was 40.12 mmol of TE/g DW [59].

Vlaisavljević et al. evaluated the various extracts (80% methanol, 70% ethanol, 70% ethylacetate, and distilled water) of the aerial parts of *A. vulgaris* by means of different in vivo assays. The authors found that ethylacetate extract demonstrated the highest antioxidant potential, where the most pronounced and significant antioxidant effect of tested extracts was observed for DPPH and FRAP assays (DPPH: 502.56 mg TE per g extract; FRAP: 8745.31 mg EAA per g of dry extract), followed by methanol extract [39].

Antioxidant effects of the extracts, fractions, and isolated compounds from the aerial parts of *A. barbatiflora* were estimated using several methods as 1,1-diphenyl-2-picrylhydrazyl (DPPH), superoxide radical scavenging (SOD), phosphomolibdenum-reducing antioxidant power (PRAP), and ferric-reducing antioxidant power (FRAP) assays. Crude methanol extract showed remarkable DPPH and SOD radical scavenging activities with 83.44% and 83.34% at 125 µg/mL. Among the tested sub-extracts, water sub-extract showed the best results with 83.06%, 96.08%, and 97.17% at 125, 250, and 500 µg/mL, respectively, for DPPH scavenging activities. Hexane sub-extract had moderate DPPH scavenging activities as compared to gallic acid. In SOD assay at 125 µg/mL, water sub-extract displayed significant SOD radical scavenging activities with 81.07%. Moreover, water sub-extract showed higher absorbance than methanol extract in PRAP assay. In FRAP assay, the result of methanol extract was found as 44.32 mg BHA/g extract while the result of water sub-extract was as 93.46 mg BHA/g extract [25].

The antioxidant activities of various extracts of the aerial parts and roots of *A. acutiloba* were determined using the DPPH• and ABTS•+ radical scavenging assays. It was found that at a dose of 50.0 µg/mL, the DPPH• scavenging abilities were the highest for the ethyl acetate (94.85%) and butanol (87.31%) fraction of the aerial parts, and in the ABTS•+ assay for butanol fraction (80.56%). Among studied extracts, butanol fraction of the aerial parts was also the most active ones interfering with the formation of iron and ferrozine complexes (IC<sub>50</sub> = 11.43 µg/mL of DE) [40].

## 5. Conclusions and Research Gaps/Future Investigations

The available data suggest that recent times have brought a fundamental change in classical medicine considering the treatment of diseases. The above-mentioned phenomenon is related to large-scale application of drug combinations, thus the multidrug way of treatment is currently of great significance. Simultaneously, mono-substance therapies are becoming less and less popular. Moreover, a gradual development of drugs that activate natural defense and protective as well as repair mechanisms instead of impairing disadvantageous agents (such as cancer cells and microorganisms) can be observed [60].

Taking into consideration the above-mentioned facts, we can assume that phytomedicine and natural products chemistry are of significant importance due to the fact that extract combinations with various bioactive compounds can protect the human body rather than disturb damaging factors.

The World Health Organization (WHO) indicates that application of 74% of the curatives with plant origin using in modern medicine correlates with their traditional usages in various traditional medicines [10].

**Author Contributions:** Conceptualization, K.D.S.S. and S.K.; writing—original draft preparation, K.D.S.S., S.K., B.K., R.C. and M.B.; writing—review and editing, K.D.S.S., B.K. and S.K.; supervision, K.D.S.S. All authors have read and agreed to the published version of the manuscript.

**Funding:** This research received no external funding.

**Institutional Review Board Statement:** Not applicable.

**Conflicts of Interest:** The authors declare no conflict of interest.



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