

Editorial



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Dear readers and authors,

With volume 3, issue 1, Pharmacognosy Communications approaches the end of our second year of publication. Our manuscript submission numbers continue to increase with every issue and we aim to continue to publish interesting, well written articles of high quality. In this issue we present 8 original research manuscripts from the 3rd ISMP held in Petra, Jordan in November 2012. The 3rd ISMP was a success and Pharmacognosy Communications was proud to be associated with this

conference as a sponsor. Conference delegates attended from diverse locations with delegates attending from the Middle East, Europe, Asia, Africa, North America and Australia to network and exchange ideas. The conference consisted of approximately 80 oral presentations spread across 2 days, with nearly 150 poster presentations. The presentations covered several general themes:

- Pharmacological activities of medicinal plants and their extracts.
- Cultivation of medicinal plants.
- Medicinal plants in ethno-veterinary practice and animal nutrition.
- Medicinal plant extracts as part of integrated pest management programs.
- Standardisation and quality control of herbal medicinal products.
- Ethnopharmacological studies on medicinal plants.

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- Medicinal plants as food additives in food recipes.
- Standardisation and quality control of herbal medicinal products.

Some of these studies were presented in the previous issue of *Pharmacognosy Communications*, several more are presented in this issue and the remainder will be presented in the following issue.

Research studies examining the pharmacognosy of several important medicinal plants including studies into the chemical and biological properties of *Daucus setifolius* essential oils, the ability of *Alstonia scholaris* bark extracts to protect against oxidative stress, the tyrosinase inhibitory activity of *Quercus infectoria*, the health implications of *Euphorbia hirta* usage in the treatment of microbial infections in newborns, and the phytochemistry and antioxidant activity of *Rhamnus alaternus* are presented in this issue. A further research article examines the anti-insecticidal properties of several plants on thrips, whilst a study from Thailand examines the potential of vegetables as natural food preservatives in dried sausages.

Another study presented in this issue examines the effects of phyto-genic additives on saccharide digestibility in horse feeds.

Our regular features are also continued in this issue. The Janus Corner continues in this issue, with a review of the recent International Congress on Natural Products Research (ICNPR) held in New York City. I encourage all readers to get involved with this section by sending in short notifications of work that may be of interest to your fellow readers, book reviews, conference reviews and letters to the editor.

I look forward to the next issue of *Pharmacognosy Communications*, which will complete our second year of publication. Keep submitting your quality research manuscripts and reviews and consider becoming involved/submitting to the other sections (Janus Corner, Medicinal Plant Images etc) of the journal also. On behalf of myself and the editorial board, we look forward to bringing you the next issue of *Pharmacognosy Communications* in 3 month's time.