

**APIMONDIA 2011**  
BUENOS AIRES • ARGENTINA  
september  



World Network of Honey Sci

# Propolis Research Status

IHC Group “Standards for bee products other than honey”

Work group “Propolis”

Propolis standardization.  
some parameters can be  
accepted as universal

- Wax content
- Water content – max 8%
- Mechanical impurities – max 6%
- Resin (balsam) content



**Propolis standardization should  
be based on the concentration of  
biologically active chemical  
compounds**



# Propolis standardization:

- Biologically active compounds are different in different propolis types
- It is of crucial importance to determine the propolis type according to the plant source
- Propolis chemical profile gives the answer to this question

# Propolis types, for which chemical parameters are proposed

Propolis type	Taxonomic markers	Profiling by
<b>Poplar type</b> <i>(Populus spp.)</i>	<b>pinostrobin, pinocembrin, galangin, chrysin, kaempferol , benzyl ferulate, phenethyl caffeate</b>	<b>HPLC, TLC</b>
<b>Brazilian green propolis (Alecrim propolis) (from <i>Baccharis dracunculifolia</i>)</b>	<b>p-coumaric acid; 3,5-diprenyl-4-hydroxy-cinnamic acid; 2,2-dimethyl-6-carboxyethenyl-2H-benzopyran, 3-(2,2-dimethyl-8-prenyl-2H-1-benzopyran-6-yl)2-propenoic acid</b>	<b>HPLC, TLC</b>

# **Content of bioactive compounds for Poplar propolis type**

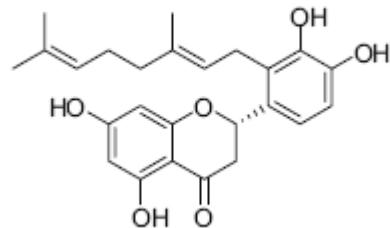
<b>Total Phenolics (Folin-Ciocalteu)</b>	<b>Minimum 21%</b>
<b>Flavones and flavonols (<math>\text{AlCl}_3</math>)</b>	<b>Minimum 4%</b>
<b>Flavanones and dihydroflavonols (DNP)</b>	<b>Minimum 4%</b>

# **Content of bioactive compounds for Brazilian green propolis**

<b>Total Phenolics (Folin-Ciocalteu)</b>	<b>Minimum 7%</b>
<b>Total Flavonoids (AlCl<sub>3</sub>)</b>	<b>Minimum 1%</b>

# Pacific propolis

- Geographic origin: Okinawa, Taiwan, Indonesia
- Plant origin: *Macaranga tanarius*
- Chemical markers: C-prenylated flavanones (propolins)



Kumazawa et al., *Naturwissenschaften* 95, 781–786, 2008  
Chen et al., *J. Nat. Prod.* 66, 503–506, 2003  
Trusheva et al., *Nat. Prod. Commun.* 25, 606-613, 2011



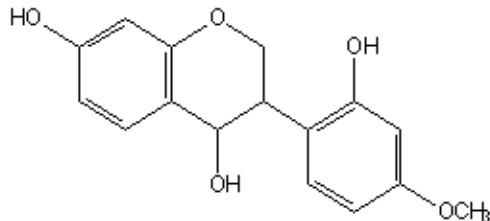
# Pacific propolis: recommendations

- Chemical profiling: TLC, HPLC
- Biologically active compounds: propolins
- Quantification as total flavanones (DNP), calibration standard: Propolin C:propolin D 4:1 - close to 100% recovery
- Concentration of propolins: 45 - 83%

# New Propolis Types: red propolis



- Geographic origin: Cuba, Brazil
- Main constituents/chemical markers: isoflavonoids



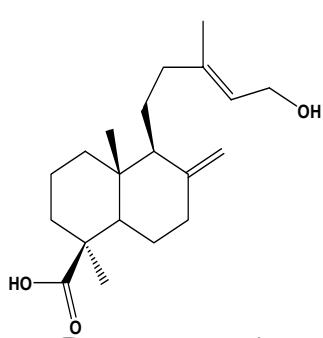
- Plant origin: *Dalbergia ecastophyllum*

Trusheva et al., eCAM 3 (2006), 249

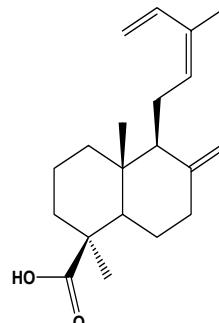
Silva et al., eCAM Advance Access published on July 7, 2007; doi:10.1093/ecam/nem007  
Alencar et al., J. Ethnopharmacol. 113 (2007) 278;

# New propolis types: Mediterranean propolis

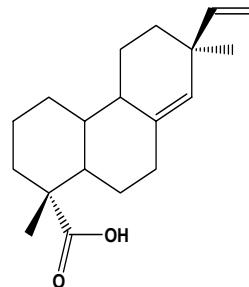
- Characteristic profile, rich in diterpenic compounds.
- Chemical markers



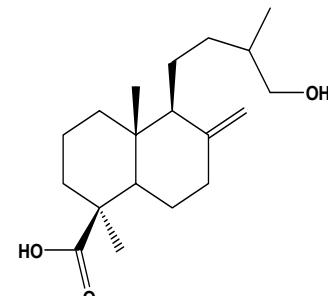
Isocupressic acid



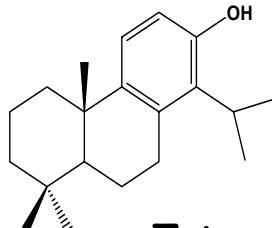
Communic acid



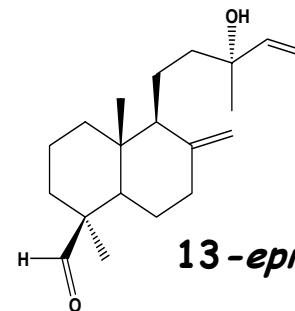
Pimamic acid



Imbricatoloic acid

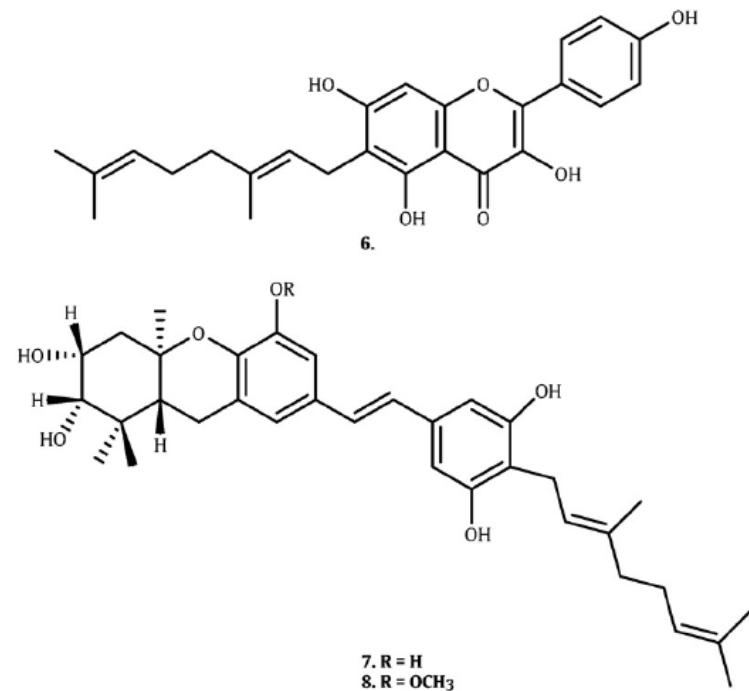
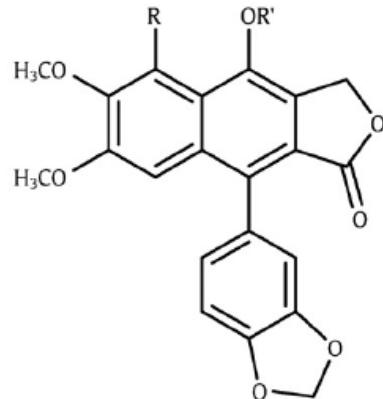
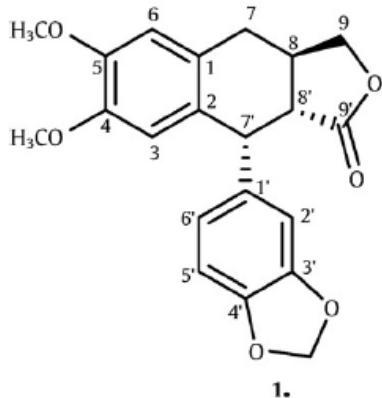


Totarol



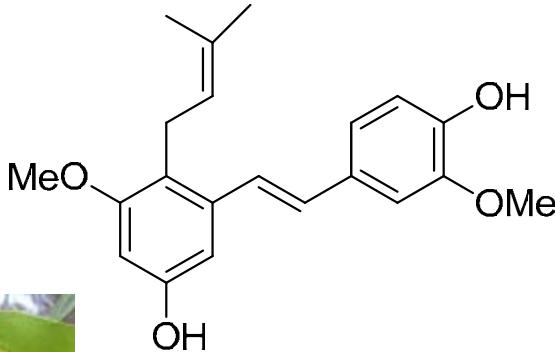
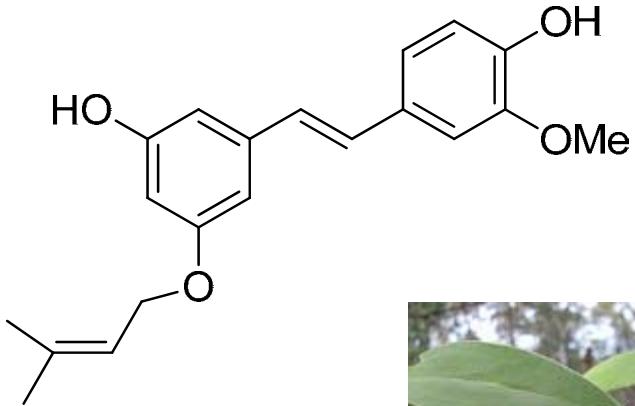
13-*epi*-Torulosal

# New propolis types: Two propolis types from Kenya



Potent antibacterial

# New propolis types: Australian propolis from *Lepidosperma viscidum*



“Novel Bioactive Prenylated Phenolics from Kangaroo Island Propolis”, DUKE C.,  
Presentation at ARIMONDIA 2009, Montpellier, France

# New propolis types: What will be the next?



A photograph of a dog standing in a field of tall green grass with small yellow flowers. A single bee is visible in the upper right corner of the frame.

**Thank you for your attention!**