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**Antioxidant and anti-inflammatory properties of red, white and pink globe amaranth hydromethanolic extracts**

A. Liberal<sup>a,b</sup>, C. Pereira<sup>a</sup>, R. C. Calhela<sup>a</sup>, R. M. V. Abreu<sup>a</sup>, F. Adegas<sup>b</sup>, I. C. F. R. Ferreira<sup>a</sup>

<sup>a</sup> Mountain Research Centre (CIMO), ESA, Polytechnic Institute of Bragança, Portugal

<sup>b</sup> Centro de Genómica e Biotecnologia Agrária, Universidade de Trás-os-Montes e Alto-Douro (CGBA-UTAD), Vila Real, Portugal  
iferreira@ipb.pt

Medicinal plants have been playing a vital role on human health and healing, representing one of the major sources of drugs in modern and traditional medicine [1]. Plants synthesize and preserve a variety of biochemical products that can be used as pharmaceutical compounds [2], and recently there has been an increasing interest in the therapeutic potential of plants as antioxidants and anti-inflammatories [3]. Oxidative stress and inflammation play critical roles in the pathogenesis of many diseases, such as cancer, cardiovascular disease, arthritis and obesity [4], among others. Thus, the aim of this study was to explore the bioactivity of red, white and pink globe amaranth (different cultivars of *Gomphrena globosa* L.) hydromethanolic extracts, namely the antioxidant and anti-inflammatory activities. The antioxidant activity was tested through radicals scavenging capacity, reducing power, and lipid peroxidation inhibition, whereas the anti-inflammatory activity was assessed by monitoring the inhibition of nitric oxide (NO) release in the mouse macrophage-like cell line RAW 264.7. The absence of toxicity of the extracts was also confirmed by the sulphorodamine B (SRB) assay applied to a porcine liver primary culture (PLP2) established by the authors.

Among the three studied samples, pink globe amaranth showed the highest antioxidant activity, with the lowest EC<sub>50</sub> values (0.25 to 1.02 mg/mL), followed by red (0.41 to 1.30 mg/mL) and white (0.57 to 1.47 mg/mL) globe amaranth. Regarding the anti-inflammatory activity, pink and red globe amaranth also revealed the lowest EC<sub>50</sub> values (133 and 136 µg/mL, respectively), with white globe amaranth revealing an EC<sub>50</sub> value of 198 µg/mL. None of the extracts presented cytotoxicity in PLP2 cells up to 400 µg/mL. From the results obtained, we can conclude that the extracts of these plants can be considered good sources of antioxidants and can also be used for anti-inflammatory purposes.

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