

Chemical Intra-Mediterranean Variation and Insecticidal Activity of *Crithmum maritimum*

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The chemical composition of the volatile metabolites of *Crithmum maritimum* harvested from several geographic localities along the Mediterranean coasts was studied by GC and GC-MSD. The major oil constituents were found to be dillapiole, γ -terpinene, sabinene, limonene and β -phellandrene. The Western populations were richer in dillapiole, whereas the Southern collections were characterized by increased amounts of thymol methyl ether and γ -terpinene. The Italian chemical profiles differentiated by the significant contributions of carvacrol methyl ether and isoterpinolene. The essential oils were also investigated for their insecticidal activity and their repellency against *Pheidole pallidula* (Nylander) ants and found to possess significant activity.