BIOACTIVE SUBSTANCES FROM THE *NIGELLA SATIVA* SEEDS

Gabriel CORNEANU¹, Mihaela CORNEANU², Constantin CRĂCIUN³, Victor CIUPINĂ⁴, Marin ZAGNAT⁵, Paul ATYIM⁶, Gabriel PRODAN⁷, Gheorghe Şt. DRĂGOI⁸, Ioan ŞTEFĂNESCU⁹

Abstract. The researches performed in the research grant nr. 34,677/2005-2007 have the aim the establish the effects of different bioactive substances, extracted from seeds of some *Nigella sativa* (Fam. *Ranunculaceae*) genotypes. In experiments performed on labor animals (*Mus musculus L.*), was demonstrated the antistress and immunoprotector effect of different bioactive substances extracted from *Nigella sativa* seeds, minimum doses which induced an cytotoxic effect, as well as induced adulterations at the ultrastructural level (liver and/or spleen). In this study, is analyzed comparative, the radioprotective and immunostimulatory effect of different active biological substances extracted from the *Nigella sativa* seeds, towards of some stress factor, in *Mus musculus*.

Key words: *Nigella sativa; Mus musculus;* bioactive substances; antistress and immunoprotector effect.

[1] Introduction

1.1. The biology of Nigella sativa species.

Nigella sativa (Fam. *Ranunculaceae*), is an annual plant, native from Mediterranean area and South-West Asia. The plant reaches to 20 - 30 cm in height, having fin-divided leaf, linear. The flowers with 5 - 6 (10) petals, white or pale-bluish (especially in the main rib region). This species is spontaneously or cultivated. The fruit is a capsule, performed from 3 - 7 follicles, each having numerous seeds of a relative triangular shape, black, strongly odorants. The seeds are used, having a piquant flavor, having numerous bioactive substances.

¹ Prof., PhD, *Vasile Goldis* West University, Biological Living Dept., Arad; Senior Research, PhD, Research Dept., University of Craiova, Romania, gabicorneanu@yahoo.com

 ² Prof., PhD, Genetic Engineering Dept., USAMVB, Timisoara, Romania, micorneanu@yahoo.com
³ Prof., PhD, Babeş-Bolyai University, Electron Microscopy Centre, Cluj-Napoca, Romania, ccraciun@biolog.ubbcluj.ro

⁴ Prof., PhD, *Ovidius* University, Constantza, Romania.

⁵ Prof., PhD, *Grigore T. Popa* Medicine and Pharmacy University, Biotechnology Dept., Iasi, România, mazagnat@email.ro

⁶ Prof., PhD, Vasile Goldis University, Satu Mare Branch, Romania, dpatyim@yahoo.co.uk

⁷ PhD, *Ovidius* University, Constantza, Romania

⁸ Medicine and Pharmacy University, Anatomy Dept., Craiova, Romania.

⁹ National Institute for Cryogenics and Isotopic Technologies, Ramnicu Valcea, P.O. Box 10, Romania.