Identification of Plant Chemical Components Personal Overview during 50 Years

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Synthesis and transformation of various chemical components are a basis of living processes of all organisms. Numerous plant compounds play significant roles in the plant – environment interactions and have a great influence on food/feed quality and other practical properties of products thereof. For these reasons precise chemical analytical methods aiming at identification and quantitation of a range of compounds are crucial for understanding their roles e.g. in plant growth and response to diverse stresses.

Progress in application of chromatographic and spectrometric systems and development of informatics methods directed at analysis of natural products will be shown using examples from own studies on plant (e.g. glucosinolates, phenolic compounds, saponins) and fungal secondary metabolites. Examples of achievements obtained using metabolomic studies as well as possible mistakes of these results interpretation will be discussed.