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Determination of Some Low Molecular Weight Carbohydrates in the Fruits of Wild Cherry Laurel (*Laurocerasus officinalis* Roem.) Using Gas Chromatography

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Abstract: Some low-molecular-weight carbohydrates extracted with ethanol and water from the fruits of *Laurocerasus officinalis* Roem. (Rosaceae), from two different regions in Trabzon, were analysed using gas chromatography. In one population, the analysis in the ethanol extraction showed the occurrence of fructose, glucose, sorbitol and sucrose in concentrations (w/w) of 25.20; 23.00; 14.00 and 0.024 %, respectively. The same sugars, in the water extraction were found in concentrations (w/w) of 24.62; 25.59; 7.43 and 0.114 %, respectively. In the other population, these values were 25.44; 23.23; 14.24 and 0.023 for the ethanol extraction, and 24.74; 24.98; 7.18 and 0.108 % for the water extraction, respectively. Mannitol was not detected in either extraction.

Key Words: *Laurocerasus officinalis*, glucose, fructose, sorbitol, sucrose, gas chromatography

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