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Relationship between Sugi Butt-Rot Disease and Norlignans in the Heartwood

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Abstract: A butt-rot disease of sugi (*Cryptmeria japonica* D. Don) wood has recently increased in reforested areas, but its damage level seems to depend on the clone variety. Aya sugi is susceptible to the butt-rot disease, but, Yabukuguri sugi, Measa sugi, and Yanase sugi are relatively resistant to it. The latter three showed relatively higher contents of methanol extractives and quite different constitution of norlignan compared to the former. Main norlignans from the latter three are agatharesinol and sequirin-C whose contents are thought to be crucial for the resistance against butt-rot disease of sugi wood. Antifungal tests of the extractives against the wood-rot fungi isolated from sugi butt-rot woods confirmed the importance of the methanol extractives and these norlignans.

Keywords: sugi wood, clone variety, butt-rot disease, norlignan, sequirin-C

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