



Antioxidant, Allelopathic and Toxic Activity of *Ochna serrulata*

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SUMMARY. *Ochna serrulata* (Ochnaceae) is an ornamental plant introduced into Brazil from Asia and Africa. Species of the *Ochna* genus are rich in phenolic compounds, mainly flavonoids. The biological screening of extracts and fractions showed that this plant exhibited a significant antioxidant activity, when evaluated by the DPPH and reducing potential assays. *Ochna serrulata* also demonstrated slight toxic activity against *Artemia salina* and a potential inhibitory allelopathic activity, when evaluated using the *Lactuca sativa* seed germination test. The ethyl acetate fraction, the most active one, was partitioned on a silica gel column to obtain epicatechin, which showed potential antioxidant activity.

KEY WORDS: Allelopathy, Antioxidants, *Artemia salina*, Epicatechin, *Ochna serrulata*.

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