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## The Characterization of Flavonoids from Magnolia Stellata by LC / ESI / MS / MS

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The characterization of the flavonoids from the petals of Star Magnolia was carried out utilizing liquid chromatography coupled to electrospray tandem mass spectrometry. Of interest were the anthocyanins and flavonols contained within the petals. The anthocyanins constitute a major flavonoid group that is responsible for colors ranging from salmon pink through red and violet to dark blue of most flowers, fruits and leaves of angiosperms. Flavonols are a class of flavonoid compounds that are hydroxy derivatives of flavone from which many yellow plant pigments are derived. Previous work performed by Francis and Harborne identified anthocyanins and flavonols in seven varieties of magnolia. Their identifications were carried out by thin layer chromatography (TLC). Our work on the Star Magnolia identified several of the flavonoids previously characterized, but we were able to identify several additional flavonoids using the LC/ESI/MS/MS as compared to TLC. Tentative identifications were made for anthocyanins to include peonidin-, and cyanidin-derived pigments and flavonols to include isorhametin-, luteolin-, and kampferol-derived molecules not previously noted in any of the other varieties.

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