

# ICP determination of Pb, Mn, Cu, Zn, Fe, K, Na, P, Mg and Ca in edible wild mushroom

## *(Boletus pinophilus)*

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**Abstract-** The aim of this study was to perform ICP analysis of the content of Pb, Mn, Cu, Zn, Fe, K, Na, P, Mg and Ca in wild edible mushrooms *Boletus pinophilus*. The samples were collected from the Batak mountain, Bulgaria. The preparation of samples was done by microwave mineralisation. All mineral concentrations were determined on a dry weight basis (d.w.). The average content of studied elements: Pb, Mn, Cu, Zn, Fe, K, Na, P, Mg and Ca in *Boletus pinophilus* samples was: 0.579 mg kg<sup>-1</sup>, 10.415 mg kg<sup>-1</sup>, 23.669 mg kg<sup>-1</sup>, 69.003 mg kg<sup>-1</sup>, 98.418 mg kg<sup>-1</sup>, 30555.6 mg kg<sup>-1</sup>, 94.749 mg kg<sup>-1</sup>, 7347.933 mg kg<sup>-1</sup>, 647.256 mg kg<sup>-1</sup> and 256.960 mg kg<sup>-1</sup>.

**Index Terms-** ICP, mushroom *Boletus pinophilus*, Batak mountain, mineral concentrations

### I. INTRODUCTION

Wild edible mushrooms are prized for their desirable taste, with their annual consumption exceeding 10 kg per individual in some countries [1]. In addition to their flavor and texture, the nutritional value of the fruiting bodies is much appreciated [2]. Mushrooms have also been proven to have therapeutic properties, counteracting diseases such as hypertension, hypercholesterolemia and cancer [3]. It should be noted that some studies have suggested that heavy metal accumulation may be species-specific [4,5], and that while metal levels in mushrooms may be an important indicator of environmental pollution, some wild mushroom species can exceed legal limits for heavy metals even in non-polluted areas where heavy metal concentrations in soils are low [6-13].

The aim of this study was to perform ICP analysis of the content of Pb, Mn, Cu, Zn, Fe, K, Na, P, Mg and Ca in wild edible mushrooms *Boletus pinophilus*. The samples were collected from the Batak mountain.

### II. MATERIALS AND METHODS

In determining the amount of elements in samples of wild edible mushroom *Boletus pinophilus* used ICP Optima model 7000, at wavelengths: Pb – 220.353 nm, Fe – 238.204 nm, Zn – 213.857 nm, Mn – 257.610 nm, Cu – 327.395 nm, K – 766.491 nm, Na – 589.592 nm, Ca – 317.933 nm, P – 213.618 nm and Mg – 279.553 nm.

### Reagents

Reagents are qualified "AR" (pa Merck & Fluka). The starting standard solutions for ICP determination of Pb, Fe, Zn, Mn, Cu, K, Na, Ca, P and Mg at concentrations of 1000 mg l<sup>-1</sup> were supplied by Merck, Darmstadt Germany.

All chemicals were at least of analytical-reagent grade. Water was de-ionized in a Milli-Q system (Millipore, Bedford, MA, USA) to a resistivity of 18.2 MV cm.

All plastic and glassware were cleaned by soaking in diluted HNO<sub>3</sub> (1/9, v/v) and were rinsed with distilled water prior to use.

### Samples

One hundred and fifty mushroom samples were collected in 2014 and 2015 from the Batak mountain by the authors themselves. The mushroom samples were cleaned from forest debris (without washing) with a plastic knife, transported to the laboratory within 4 h of collection and placed temporarily in glass vessels at 18 C.

The samples were prepared for the experiment in a standard way; they were dried at 65°C in a fan oven and stored in dark polyethylene bottles.

### Sample preparation

Microwave acid digestion method was used for sample preparation. An amount of 0.2 g of samples was taken into digestion tubes and 5 ml of HNO<sub>3</sub> (65%), 1 ml of HCl and 3 ml of H<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub> (30%) were added. The samples were digested in a microwave closed system Multiwave 3000 (Anton Paar, Germany) according to the programme given in Table 1. After digestion, the samples were diluted up to 25 ml with 2 ml l<sup>-1</sup> HNO<sub>3</sub>. Duplicated analysis was performed on the samples. Blank digestion was also carried out in the same way.

**Table I: Microwave acid digestion programme**

| Step | Ramp time, min | Hold time, min | Cooling period, min | Pressure (MPa) | Temperature (°C) |
|------|----------------|----------------|---------------------|----------------|------------------|
| 1    | 10             | 10             | 5                   | 0.758          | 110              |
| 2    | 10             | 10             | 5                   | 1.023          | 150              |
| 3    | 20             | 10             | 5                   | 0.758          | 190              |

### Accuracy and precision

Comparison of the experimental data to the certified reference material data In order to validate the accuracy, reliability and sensitivity of the above analytical methods the certified reference material (CRM) CTA-VTA-2 (Virginia Tobacco) was used. The CRM was stored under specified controlled conditions to ensure its stability. Ten measurements on the CRM were performed and the results were compared with the certified values.

### III. RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

The results for the efficiency of microwave mineralization for Pb, Fe, Zn, Mn, Cu, K, Na, Ca, P and Mg determination in the certified referent material - Virginia tobacco CTA- VTA-2 are displayed in Table 2. The results from the descriptive analysis of the concentration of Pb, Fe, Zn, Mn, Cu, K, Na, Ca, P and Mg in *Boletus pinophilus* samples are presented in Table 3.

**Table II: Effectiveness of microwave mineralization in the determination of Pb, Fe, Zn, Mn, Cu, K, Na, Ca, P and Mg in Virginia Tobacco-CTA-VTA-2 certified reference material (n=10)**

| Element | Certified value                | Observed value                     | Recovery (%) |
|---------|--------------------------------|------------------------------------|--------------|
| Pb      | 22.1 ± 1.2 mg kg <sup>-1</sup> | 23.1 ± 1.2                         | 104.5        |
| Fe      | 1083 ± 33 mg kg <sup>-1</sup>  | 1160 ± 44 mg kg <sup>-1</sup>      | 103          |
| Zn      | 43.3 ± 2.1 mg kg <sup>-1</sup> | 44.1 ± 1.6 mg kg <sup>-1</sup>     | 101.8        |
| Mn      | 79.7 ± 2.6 mg kg <sup>-1</sup> | 77.5 ± 2.1 mg kg <sup>-1</sup>     | 97.2         |
| Cu      | 18.2 ± 0.8 mg kg <sup>-1</sup> | 18.1 ± 0.7 mg kg <sup>-1</sup>     | 99.4         |
| K       | 1.03 ± 0.04 %                  | 1.0 ± 0.03 %                       | 97.1         |
| Na      | 312 mg kg <sup>-1</sup>        | 302.64 ± 12.64 mg kg <sup>-1</sup> | 97           |
| Ca      | 3.60 ± 0.15 %                  | 3.23 ± 0.1 %                       | 89.6         |
| P       | 2204 ± 78 mg kg <sup>-1</sup>  | 23550 ± 110 mg kg <sup>-1</sup>    | 106.8        |
| Mg      | 0.510 ± 0.023 %                | 0.531 ± 0.013 %                    | 104.1        |

**Table III: Concentration of heavy metals in mushroom samples (*Boletus pinophilus*) collected from Batak mountain, Bulgaria (n=15)**

| Элемент | $\bar{X}$<br>mg kg <sup>-1</sup> | SD<br>mg kg <sup>-1</sup> | -95% Confid. | +95% Confid. |
|---------|----------------------------------|---------------------------|--------------|--------------|
| Pb      | 0.579                            | 0.287                     | 0.421        | 0.739        |
| Fe      | 98.418                           | 32.564                    | 80.384       | 116.451      |
| Zn      | 69.003                           | 6.292                     | 65.519       | 72.488       |
| Mn      | 10.415                           | 1.57                      | 9.545        | 11.285       |
| Cu      | 23.669                           | 6.151                     | 20.263       | 27.075       |
| K       | 30555.600                        | 2735.731                  | 29040.600    | 32070.600    |
| Na      | 94.749                           | 23.569                    | 81.696       | 107.801      |
| Ca      | 256.960                          | 50.856                    | 228.797      | 285.124      |
| P       | 7347.933                         | 807.505                   | 6900.752     | 7795.115     |
| Mg      | 647.256                          | 98.788                    | 592.549      | 701.963      |

Table 3 presents the mineral composition (mg kg<sup>-1</sup> of dry weight) of the investigated mushrooms. Mushrooms were reported to be a good source of minerals, and the levels of these studied mineral elements meet well the recommended dietary allowances of NRC/NAS [14]. The variations and mean concentrations of ten macro- (sodium, potassium, calcium, phosphorus and magnesium) (Table 3) and micro- elements (iron, zinc, copper and manganese), and the heavy metal lead (Table 3) were examined in edible wild mushroom (*Boletus pinophilus*) under study. The samples were shown to be rich in potassium. The trend in decreasing order of macro elements content for the studied mushrooms was K > P > Mg > Ca > Na. This agrees with previous reports [15-17], which found the highest mineral to be K in various species of edible mushrooms analysed. Based on previous reports, the Na/K ratio was often varied from 0.01 to 0.2 [15-17]. While in the present study, the Na/K ratio is very low (0.003) and Chenet al. [17] indicated it is considered to be an

advantage from the nutritional point of view, since the intake of sodium chloride and diets with a high Na/K ratio have been related to the incidence of hypertension.

Living organisms require varying amounts of "heavy metals". Iron, cobalt, copper, manganese, molybdenum, and zinc are required by humans, but excessive levels can be damaging to the organism. Other heavy metals such as mercury, plutonium, and lead are toxic metals and their accumulation over time in the bodies of animals can cause serious illnesses. Copper as stated is an essential metal, which serves as a constituent of some metalloenzymes, and is required in haemoglobin synthesis and catalysis of metabolic growth [18,19]. The average concentration of Cu in the studied samples was 23.568 mg kg<sup>-1</sup>, which was far below the safe limit of 40 mg kg<sup>-1</sup> set by WHO [6]. Copper levels in mushrooms reported in literature are 4.71–181.0 mg kg<sup>-1</sup> [20-24]. Iron (Fe) is an essential metal involved in biochemical processes. The average Fe content recorded in the studied

samples was  $98.418 \text{ mg kg}^{-1}$ , respectively, which are above the safety limit of  $15.0 \text{ mg kg}^{-1}$ , determined by the WHO. Levels of Fe reported in literature were  $31.3\text{--}1190.0 \text{ mg kg}^{-1}$  [25-27]. Manganese (Mn) is an essential metal needed for biological systems such as metalloproteins [28,29]. The average Mn content recorded in the studied samples was  $10.415 \text{ mg kg}^{-1}$ , respectively, which are also below the toxicity limit of  $400.0\text{--}1000.0 \text{ mg kg}^{-1}$ . The literature has reported levels of Mn as  $12.9\text{--}93.3 \text{ mg kg}^{-1}$  [20-29]. According to Vonugopal and Lucky [23], lead (Pb) is toxic even at trace levels and the impairment related to lead toxicity in humans include abnormal size and haemoglobin content of the erythrocytes, hyperstimulation of erythropoiesis and inhibition of haem synthesis. The maximum level of Pb present in the studied wild mushrooms was  $0.579 \text{ mg kg}^{-1}$ , which is far below the  $10.0 \text{ mg kg}^{-1}$  limit set by the WHO [6]. Lead levels reported in literature are  $0.4\text{--}7.77 \text{ mg kg}^{-1}$  [20-29]. Zinc is an essential metal and a component of a wide variety of different enzymes in which it is involved in catalytic, structural and regulatory roles. The average Zn content recorded in the studied samples was  $69.003 \text{ mg kg}^{-1}$ , respectively, which are above the safety limit of  $60 \text{ mg kg}^{-1}$ , determined by the WHO [6]. Zn levels reported in literature were  $29.3\text{--}158.0 \text{ mg kg}^{-1}$  [20-29].

The trend in decreasing order of elements present in wild samples was  $\text{Fe} > \text{Zn} > \text{Cu} > \text{Mn} > \text{Pb}$ . Mushrooms are known to possess a very effective mechanism that enables them to readily take up some heavy metals from the ecosystem [18-29]. The accumulation of heavy metals in mushrooms seems to be affected by environmental and fungal related factors. Environmental factors such as organic matter content, pH and metal concentration in soil and fungal factors such as the species, morphological part of the fruit body, developmental stages, age of mycelium, intervals between fructifications and biochemical composition [7-15].

#### IV. CONCLUSIONS

According to this study, the edible wild mushroom *Boletus pinophilus* could be used in human nutrition due to its good parameters. Heavy metal content of samples indicated that the Batak mountain was an ecologically pure region of Bulgaria, and therefore the mushrooms collected from this location could be consumed without any risk for human health.

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