Some researchers suggest that two-thirds of the world's plant species have medicinal value; in particular, many medicinal plants have great antioxidant potential. Antioxidants reduce the oxidative stress in cells and are therefore useful in the treatment of many human diseases, including cancer, cardiovascular diseases and inflammatory diseases [1].

Fruits and vegetables contain various bioactive compounds with antioxidant activities, such as vitamins A, C and E, which have a high antioxidant capacity [2]. Vitamins are organic compounds which are essential for human life, and are differentiated into fat and water soluble compounds. One of the fat soluble vitamins A cannot be synthesized in our bodies and must be sourced through the diet. Vitamin A has a range of important biological functions in the body such as regulation of cell and tissue growth and differentiation [3]. Numerous studies have linked intake of vitamins A with prevention of cancer [4].

Throughout the world, and especially in developing countries, wild plants make an important contribution to the life of local communities. They play a significant part in a wide range of agricultural systems as a source of wild foods [5]. Thus, in this investigation, wild plants Rheum ribes and Rumex acetosa vitamin A content were studied, which are among the Polygonaceae family. Rheum ribes and Rumex acetosa samples were collected in May 2012 in Tunceli, Turkey. It is important to determine the vitamin A of Rheum ribes and Rumex acetosa because they are consumed by local people raw or cooked. Firstly samples were dried then extracted. Extracts were evaluated by a high performance liquid chromatography with diode array detector on a reversed-phase C-18 column with 1% acetic acid in methanol/distilled water/acetonitrile (46:46:8, v/v) as the mobile phase. According to results Rumex acetosa's vitamin A content was higher than Rheum ribes.

KEYWORDS: rheum ribes, rumex acetosa, vitamin A, HPLC

REFERENCES: