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Contributions to the quality control of two crops of economic importance : hops and yerba mate

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curriculum vitae

Erica G. Wilson was born in Buenos Aires, Argentina on April 23rd, 1954. She graduated as a pharmacist from the School of Pharmacy and Biochemistry at the University of Buenos Aires (UBA) in 1976. Initially she worked in a pharmaceutical company in Buenos Aires (Laboratorio Exa S.A.) in the R&D department. In 1978 she returned to the School of Pharmacy (UBA) to work in the Department of Pharmacognosy with a position from the National Council of Scientific and Technological Research (CONICET), and started a long career in this laboratory in which she still works. She participated in the regular Pharmacognosy undergraduate courses for Pharmacy students and also taught open HPLC training courses. In 1983 she accepted a part-time job in Merck Argentina, working in the Analytical method Development Department, developing all HPLC analytical techniques for their pharmaceutical products. While keeping a part-time position as an Assistant-Professor she moved on to work with other pharmaceutical and cosmetic companies advising in quality control or analytical development departments, and later also as a consultant for phytotherapeutical laboratories, becoming involved in all aspects concerning this industry. The HPLC laboratory in the Dept. that she directed had by this time developed into an organised technological transfer facility that provided analytical services to the community.

In 2001 she moved to Holland for 3 years. Here she did the research for her PhD in the Division of Pharmacognosy, Leiden/Amsterdam Center for Drug Research, Gorlaeus Laboratories, under Dr. Rob Verpoorte, in an ongoing hop project, which resulted in a patent application for the invention of a method that allowed the isolation of preparative scale amounts of iso- α -acids from hops, using Centrifugal Partition Chromatography (CPC). She then also became involved in the application of metabolomics and studied *Ilex paraguariensis*, better known as Mate internationally or "Yerba mate" in S. America. She also worked as a tutor for MSc students and taught the "Chromatography" module in the MSc course in the Department.

In 2004, she returned to Buenos Aires but continued her research in collaboration with the Pharmacognosy Division of the Institute of Biology, besides teaching the Chromatography module in the MSc programme in Biodiversity and Natural Products and continued contributing to the hop and mate project.

At present she is directing an outsourcing quality control laboratory at the Belgrano University in Buenos Aires. She is a member of the Phytotherapy committee of the Argentine Pharmacopoeia and of the Phytotherapy committee working on the publication of the Mercosur Pharmacopoeia (Argentina, Brazil, Paraguay and Uruguay) and of the committee working on the harmonization of regulations for phytomedicines within Mercosur and S. America (promoted by PAHO.)

Since 2006 she is the editor of an Internet web page in Spanish (www.profitocoop.com.ar) that deals with diverse aspects of natural product applications, belonging to the Phytotherapy Committee of Cooperala, a chamber of Argentine pharmaceutical laboratories. Within this committee, she organises courses, seminars and other activities related to diverse aspects of the use of natural products and their derivatives.

list of publications

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