

Status: Currently Official on 16-Feb-2025
 Official Date: Official as of 01-May-2017
 Document Type: Dietary Supplement Monographs
 DocId: GUID-7A892D84-98BA-47CB-8B37-505FDB965773_1_en-US
 DOI: https://doi.org/10.31003/USPNF_M74274_01_01
 DOI Ref: f7hw1

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St. John's Wort Flowering Top Dry Extract Tablets

DEFINITION

St. John's Wort Flowering Top Dry Extract Tablets contain St. John's Wort Flowering Top Dry Extract. They contain NLT 90% and NMT 110% of the labeled amount of hypericins, calculated as the sum of hypericin ($C_{30}H_{16}O_8$) and pseudohypericin ($C_{30}H_{16}O_9$) and NLT 90.0% and NMT 110.0% of the labeled amount of hyperforin ($C_{35}H_{52}O_4$).

IDENTIFICATION

• A. HPTLC FOR ARTICLES OF BOTANICAL ORIGIN (203)

Standard solution A: 0.5 mg/mL of [USP Rutin RS](#) in [methanol](#)

Standard solution B: 0.5 mg/mL of [USP Hyperoside RS](#) in [methanol](#)

Standard solution C: 50 mg/mL of USP Powdered St. John's Wort Extract RS in [methanol](#). Sonicate for 20 min, centrifuge, and use the clear supernatant.

Sample solution: Transfer a portion of the powdered Tablets, equivalent to 500 mg of St. John's Wort Flowering Top Dry Extract, to a conical flask, add 10 mL of [methanol](#), mix and sonicate for 20 min, centrifuge, and use the supernatant.

Chromatographic system

Adsorbent: Chromatographic silica gel mixture with an average particle size of 5 µm (HPTLC plates)

Application volume: 2 µL, as 8-mm bands

Relative humidity: Condition the plate to a relative humidity of 33%.

Temperature: Ambient, not to exceed 30°

Developing solvent system: [Ethyl acetate](#), [glacial acetic acid](#), [formic acid](#), water, and [methylene chloride](#) (10:1.0:1.0:1.1:2.5)

Developing distance: 6 cm

Derivatization reagent A: 5 mg/mL of [2-aminoethyl diphenylborinate](#) in [ethyl acetate](#)

Derivatization reagent B: 10 mg/mL of polyethylene glycol 400 in [methylene chloride](#)

Analysis

Samples: *Standard solution A, Standard solution B, Standard solution C, and Sample solution*

Apply the *Samples* as bands, and dry in air. Develop in a saturated chamber, remove the plate from the chamber, and dry in air. Heat the plate at 105° for 3 min, treat while still warm with *Derivatization reagent A*, and dry in air. Then treat with *Derivatization reagent B*, dry in air, and examine under UV light at 366 nm.

System suitability: *Standard solution C* exhibits, in the lower third section, two yellowish-orange fluorescent bands corresponding to rutin and hyperoside in *Standard solution A* and *Standard solution B*, respectively; a blue fluorescent band directly below the hyperoside band corresponding to chlorogenic acid; and two red fluorescent bands due to pseudohypericin (lower R_f) and hypericin in the upper third section. The bands due to pseudohypericin and hypericin are clearly separated.

Acceptance criteria: The *Sample solution* exhibits the following: two yellowish-orange fluorescent bands at R_f corresponding to rutin and hyperoside in *Standard solution A*, *Standard solution B*, and *Standard solution C*; a blue fluorescent band directly below the hyperoside band corresponding to chlorogenic acid in *Standard solution C*; two red fluorescent bands at R_f corresponding to pseudohypericin and hypericin in *Standard solution C*; and two to three yellowish-orange fluorescent bands in the middle third section corresponding to similar bands in *Standard solution C*.

• B. LC

Analysis: Proceed as directed in the *Content of Hypericin, Pseudohypericin, and Hyperforin*.

Acceptance criteria: The chromatogram of the *Sample solution* exhibits peaks at the retention times corresponding to the peaks due to hypericin, pseudohypericin, and hyperforin in the chromatogram of *Standard solution B*.

STRENGTH

• CONTENT OF HYPERICIN, PSEUDOHYPERICIN, AND HYPERFORIN

[NOTE—Conduct all sample preparations with minimal exposure to subdued light, and use low-actinic glassware.]



Documents

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Solvent: [Methanol](#) and [acetone](#) (1:1)

Solution A: [Phosphoric acid](#) and water (3:997)

Solution B: [Acetonitrile](#)

Solution C: [Methanol](#)

Mobile phase: See [Table 1](#).

Table 1

Time (min)	Solution A (%)	Solution B (%)	Solution C (%)
0	100	0	0
10	85	15	0
30	70	20	10
40	10	75	15
55	5	80	15
56	100	0	0
66	100	0	0

Standard solution A: 2.5 µg/mL of [USP Oxybenzone RS](#) in *Solvent*

Standard solution B: 1 mg/mL of USP Powdered St. John's Wort Extract RS in *Solvent*

Sample solution: Weigh NLT 20 Tablets, determine the average Tablet weight, and finely powder. Transfer a portion of finely powdered Tablets, nominally equivalent to 200 mg of St. John's Wort Flowering Top Dry Extract into a 200-mL volumetric flask. Add 150 mL of *Solvent* and sonicate for 30 min with occasional shaking. Cool to room temperature, dilute to volume with *Solvent*, mix well, and centrifuge. Before injection, pass through a polytetrafluoroethylene (PTFE) membrane filter of 0.45-µm pore size and use the filtrate.

Chromatographic system

(See [Chromatography \(621\)](#), [System Suitability](#).)

Mode: LC

Detector: UV 270 nm and Vis 588 nm

Columns

Guard: Packing [L1](#)

Analytical: 4.6-mm × 25-cm; packing [L1](#)

Column temperature: 30°

Flow rate: 1 mL/min

Injection volume: 20 µL

System suitability

Samples: *Standard solution A* (record the peak responses at 270 nm) and *Standard solution B* (record the peak responses at 270 and 588 nm)

Suitability requirements

Column efficiency: NLT 100,000 theoretical plates for oxybenzone, *Standard solution A*

Tailing factor: NMT 1.5 for oxybenzone, *Standard solution A*

Relative standard deviation: NMT 2.0% in replicate injections, *Standard solution A*

Chromatogram similarity: The chromatograms of *Standard solution B* are similar to the respective reference chromatograms provided with the lot of USP Powdered St. John's Wort Extract RS being used.

Analysis

Samples: *Standard solution A*, *Standard solution B* and *Sample solution*

Record the peak responses at 270 nm. Using the chromatograms of *Standard solution B*, and the reference chromatogram provided with the lot of USP Powdered St. John's Wort Extract RS being used, identify the peaks corresponding to hypericin, pseudohypericin, and hyperforin in the *Sample solution* chromatogram. Measure the areas of the relevant peaks in the *Sample solution*.

Calculate the percentage of the labeled amount of hypericin (C₃₀H₁₆O₈) and pseudohypericin (C₃₀H₁₆O₉) in the portion of Tablets taken.