

ABSTRACT

This thesis focuses on a brief characteristic of conifers (Pinopsida) in the light of their taxonomy, morphology and reproduction, secondary metabolism of plants and production of essential oils. Essential oils are then characterised in terms of their composition, uses and methods of their retrieving/extraction. Thesis then determines an outline and detailed characteristics of the most frequently occurring essential oils in conifers and it emphasizes their uses and adverse effects on humans. The last part briefly introduces didactic potential of this topic in primary and secondary education.