

CONTACT POINT

Allergic contact dermatitis caused by “Rosa mosqueta” oil

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“Rosa mosqueta” oil has been claimed to have antioxidant and regenerative properties. For this reason, it has been widely used to treat postsurgery or burn scars, wrinkles, stretch marks, pigmentation disorders, and even ulcers.¹ We report the first case of a patient diagnosed with allergic contact dermatitis caused by this plant-derived oil.

CASE REPORT

A 26-year-old non-atopic woman, working as hairdresser, was referred to our contact dermatitis unit with a history of 3 episodes of acute face dermatitis. Despite her professional background, she denied the use of cosmetics or perfumes on her skin. She denied working with acrylic nails or other manicure products, which were handled by a colleague in an adjacent, small, non-ventilated area.

The patient was patch tested with the Spanish baseline series, a hairdressing series and an acrylate/artificial nails series (Chemotechnique Diagnostics, Vellinge, Sweden) on Finn Chambers on Scanpor tape (SmartPractice, Phoenix, Arizona), with negative results on day (D) 2 and D4. One week later, she returned to our clinic because of a new episode of acute face dermatitis (Figure 1A). On this occasion, she recalled having applied “Rosa mosqueta” oil 3 days earlier. The product label showed the presence of *Rosa canina* fruit oil, *Rosa rubiginosa* seed oil, and tocopherol. A repeated open application test with this product on the patient’s forearm gave a positive result after 2 days. Subsequently, the patient was patch tested with the above product “as is”, as well as with tocopherol and tocopheryl acetate, by the use of Finn Chambers on Scanpor tape. Readings on D2 and D4 showed positive (++) reactions to the “Rosa mosqueta” oil brought in by the patient (Figure 1B,C).

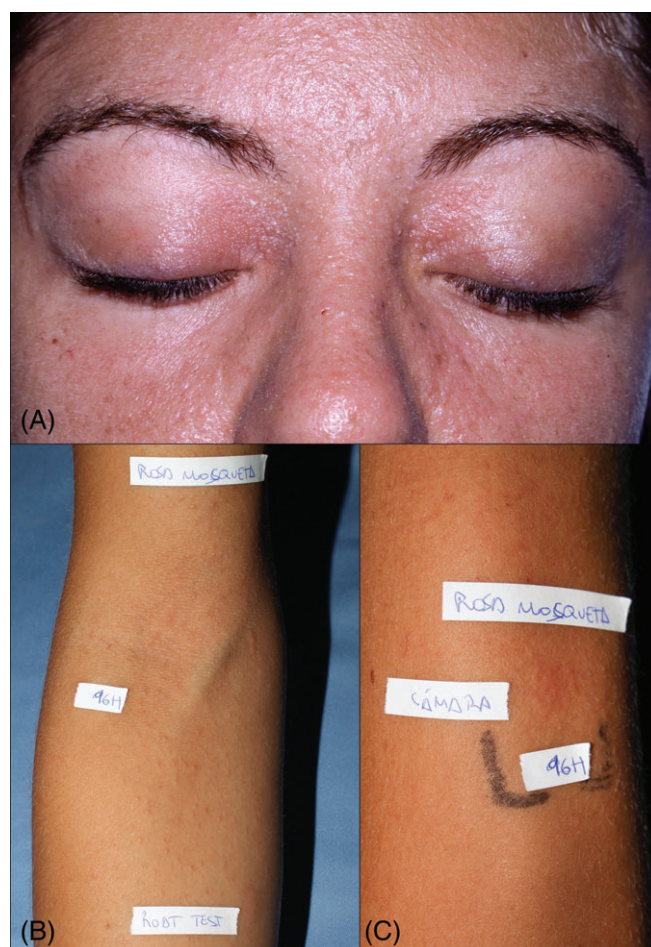


FIGURE 1 (A), Eczematous lesions after application of “Rosa mosqueta” oil. (B), Positive repeated open application test result with “Rosa mosqueta” oil (day 4). (C), Positive patch test reaction to “Rosa mosqueta” oil (day 4)

DISCUSSION

"Rosa mosqueta" is a common name for various deciduous shrub species from the family Rosaceae that grow in Central Europe and the Andean region. A cold pressure process applied on the fruit or the seeds of *R. rubiginosa*, *R. canina* or *Rosa moschata* allows the extraction of this vegetable oil.² The oil fraction contains *trans*-retinoic acid, arachidonic acid, and unsaturated fatty acids, such as oleic, linoleic and linolenic acids.² None of these has been reported to be potentially irritant or allergenic. This extract also contains small amounts of saturated fatty acids such as palmitic, palmitoleic, miristic and stearic acids, the last of which is the only one that has been previously associated, in 1 case, with eczema after application of a facial cream containing stearic acid.^{2,3} The non-oily fraction contains phenolic compounds, such as tocopherol, which is a well-known sensitizer,⁴ although it gave a negative result in our case. Moreover, ascorbic acid and carotenoids such as β -carotene, lycopene and xanthins have been identified as constituents.²

Although "Rosa mosqueta" oil is widely used in the cosmetic industry, there have been no reports of local or systemic adverse events in the literature. However, allergic contact dermatitis caused by other vegetable oils, such as olive, argan or neem oil, has been reported, with the sensitizers remaining unknown.⁵⁻⁷ In conclusion, we present the first case report of allergic contact dermatitis caused by "Rosa mosqueta" oil.

CONFLICT OF INTEREST

The authors declare no potential conflict of interests.

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