

Supplementary Tables

Supplementary Table 1. Chemical composition of leaf cuticular waxes of seven investigated plant species. One full chloroform extract sample consisted of five cuticular membranes (two for *Hedera helix*) dispersed in the solvent overnight. Samples of methanol extracts were prepared by extracting five CMs overnight. Subsequent chloroform extracts were prepared by dispersing the methanol-extracted membranes in chloroform overnight. Each value represents the mean value $\pm$ SD ($n = 4 - 8$).

Compound class	Carbon chain length	Coverage (μg cm ⁻²)		
		Methanol extract	Chloroform extract	Full chloroform extract
<i>Camellia sinensis</i>				
n-alkanes	25	0.03 ± 0.01	0.02 ± 0.01	0.03 ± 0.01
	26	0.01 ± 0.01	0.02 ± 0.01	0.02 ± 0.00
	27	0.05 ± 0.01	0.09 ± 0.01	0.08 ± 0.01
	28	0.01 ± 0.02	0.04 ± 0.01	0.01 ± 0.02
	29	0.18 ± 0.03	0.63 ± 0.03	0.60 ± 0.10
	30	0.01 ± 0.02	0.02 ± 0.01	0.01 ± 0.01
	31	0.03 ± 0.03	0.17 ± 0.01	0.17 ± 0.03
	32	0.04 ± 0.05	0.03 ± 0.01	0.01 ± 0.02
	33		0.05 ± 0.02	
	34		0.04 ± 0.02	
	35		0.04 ± 0.03	
	36		0.03 ± 0.02	
	37		0.02 ± 0.02	
	38		0.02 ± 0.02	
	39		0.02 ± 0.02	
	40		0.01 ± 0.01	
	<i>total n-alkanes</i>		<i>0.36 ± 0.08</i>	<i>1.24 ± 0.16</i>
primary alcohols	24	0.01± 0.00	0.01 ± 0.01	traces
	25			
	26	0.06± 0.01	0.03 ± 0.01	0.07 ± 0.02
	27	0.02± 0.00	traces	0.01 ± 0.01
	28	0.29± 0.03	0.15 ± 0.02	0.17 ± 0.05
	29	0.06± 0.09	0.04 ± 0.02	0.02 ± 0.03
	30	0.15± 0.15	0.18 ± 0.03	0.65 ± 0.32
	31		0.02 ± 0.00	0.10 ± 0.10
	32		0.11 ± 0.02	0.52 ± 0.19
34		traces		

<i>total primary alcohols</i>		0.59 ± 0.10	0.55 ± 0.09	1.54 ± 0.31
alkanals	26	traces	traces	
	28	0.03 ± 0.02	0.07 ± 0.08	
	30		0.10 ± 0.10	
	31		traces	
	32		0.08 ± 0.10	
	45			traces
<i>total alkanals</i>		0.04 ± 0.03	0.42 ± 0.18	0.02 ± 0.04
alkanoic acids	24	0.02 ± 0.02	traces	0.02 ± 0.03
	26	0.06 ± 0.06	traces	0.03 ± 0.04
	27			traces
	28	0.09 ± 0.08	0.02 ± 0.03	0.06 ± 0.10
	30	0.09 ± 0.09	traces	0.02 ± 0.04
	32			traces
<i>total alkanoic acids</i>		0.25 ± 0.25	0.05 ± 0.08	0.30 ± 0.24
alkyl esters	22	traces		
	23	traces	traces	
<i>total alkyl esters</i>		<i>traces</i>	<i>traces</i>	
coumaric acid ester	24	traces		
	26	0.01 ± 0.01	0.04 ± 0.03	0.04 ± 0.04
	28	0.04 ± 0.02	0.03 ± 0.02	0.06 ± 0.11
	30	0.02 ± 0.02	0.04 ± 0.02	0.07 ± 0.12
	32	0.02 ± 0.02	0.06 ± 0.04	
<i>total coumaric acid ester</i>		0.09 ± 0.06	0.17 ± 0.10	0.17 ± 0.25
<i>total very-long-chain aliphatics</i>		1.34 ± 0.25	2.36 ± 0.26	2.96 ± 0.34
Canophyllal				0.23 ± 0.40
Camposteryl			0.01 ± 0.02	
Epifridelinol				0.10 ± 0.18
Erythrodiol		0.04 ± 0.07		
Fridelin		2.20 ± 0.09		2.42 ± 0.59
Lupenon				0.01 ± 0.02
Lupeol		0.04 ± 0.05		
Stigmasterol		0.06 ± 0.10	0.01 ± 0.02	
Stigmasterol 5, 24 dien			0.01 ± 0.02	
α -Amyrin		0.01 ± 0.02		0.46 ± 0.16
β -Amyrin		0.06 ± 0.10		0.02 ± 0.04
β -Sitosterol		0.07 ± 0.12	0.08 ± 0.07	
Ursolic acid			0.05 ± 0.09	0.09 ± 0.16
Unspecified		7.25 ± 0.68	0.05 ± 0.06	6.38 ± 0.86
<i>total cyclic aliphatics</i>		9.74 ± 0.97	0.22 ± 0.18	9.72 ± 0.79
<i>Not identified</i>		0.63 ± 0.29	0.41 ± 0.18	0.76 ± 0.26
<i>Total wax</i>		11.7 ± 1.10	3.05 ± 0.16	13.4 ± 1.19

<i>Ficus elastica</i>				
n-alkanes	25	0.02 ± 0.02	0.09 ± 0.07	0.05 ± 0.04
	26		traces	
	27	0.02 ± 0.03	0.20 ± 0.8	0.31 ± 0.02
	28	0.01 ± 0.01	0.02 ± 0.02	0.05 ± 0.04
	29	traces	0.19 ± 0.15	0.22 ± 0.07
	30		0.04 ± 0.02	0.04 ± 0.05
	31	0.09 ± 0.22	0.41 ± 0.28	0.48 ± 0.14
	32		0.05 ± 0.04	0.18 ± 0.24
	33		0.26 ± 0.20	
<i>total n-alkanes</i>		<i>0.14 ± 0.20</i>	<i>1.28 ± 0.64</i>	<i>1.33 ± 0.42</i>
primary alcohols	24		0.02 ± 0.01	0.02 ± 0.02
	26		0.04 ± 0.02	0.08 ± 0.04
	27		traces	
	28	0.06 ± 0.15	0.09 ± 0.07	0.22 ± 0.05
	29		0.03 ± 0.02	
	30	0.21 ± 0.27	0.12 ± 0.14	
	31		0.09 ± 0.05	0.44 ± 0.33
	32		0.20 ± 0.14	0.32 ± 0.26
	33		0.08 ± 0.06	0.13 ± 0.11
	34		0.13 ± 0.10	0.22 ± 0.10
<i>total primary alcohols</i>		<i>0.27 ± 0.26</i>	<i>0.80 ± 0.54</i>	<i>1.42 ± 0.54</i>
alkanals	28		0.05 ± 0.05	0.05 ± 0.05
	29			0.27 ± 0.39
	30		0.20 ± 0.19	
	31		0.03 ± 0.02	0.02 ± 0.06
	32	0.39 ± 0.96	0.85 ± 0.49	1.32 ± 0.60
	33		0.07 ± 0.07	
	34	0.32 ± 0.79	0.34 ± 0.16	1.13 ± 0.76
	35		0.02 ± 0.03	
<i>total alkanals</i>		<i>0.71 ± 1.75</i>	<i>1.54 ± 0.79</i>	<i>2.53 ± 1.27</i>
alkanoic acids	20	traces		0.02 ± 0.03
	21			
	22	traces		0.01 ± 0.01
	24	0.03 ± 0.03	0.04 ± 0.02	0.10 ± 0.04
	25			traces
	26	0.02 ± 0.03	0.07 ± 0.04	0.19 ± 0.08
	27		traces	
	28	0.12 ± 0.14	0.12 ± 0.09	0.51 ± 0.27
	29		0.05 ± 0.05	0.43 ± 0.34
	30		0.19 ± 0.19	0.37 ± 0.27
	31		0.2 ± 0.05	0.22 ± 0.18
	32	0.10 ± 0.25	0.39 ± 0.44	0.90 ± 0.63
	33		0.03 ± 0.04	
	34		0.17 ± 0.26	0.38 ± 0.34

<i>total alkanoic acids</i>		0.94 ± 1.00	1.12 ± 1.08	3.13 ± 1.69
<i>alkyl esters</i>	24			
	25			0.03 ± 0.08
	26		0.04 ± 0.10	
	27		traces	
	28		0.04 ± 0.10	
	29		0.24 ± 0.41	
	31		0.12 ± 0.25	
	33			0.19 ± 0.30
	36		0.03 ± 0.09	
	Unidentified chain length			0.45 ± 0.19
<i>total alkyl esters</i>			0.59 ± 0.19	0.92 ± 0.66
<i>total very-long-chain aliphatics</i>		2.09 ± 2.91	5.34 ± 2.47	9.32 ± 3.38
α -Amyrin		0.17 ± 0.20		0.13 ± 0.17
β -Amyrin		0.64 ± 0.75		0.47 ± 0.62
δ -Amyrin		0.08 ± 0.09		0.11 ± 0.19
Fridelin		14.3 ± 1.13	0.09 ± 0.15	15.3 ± 0.09
Fridelinol		3.15 ± 0.90	0.03 ± 0.08	3.49 ± 0.95
Lanosterol		8.72 ± 3.43	traces	8.04 ± 1.97
Lupeol		5.08 ± 2.43		6.57 ± 0.69
β -Sitosterol			0.03 ± 0.05	
Taraxerol		0.19 ± 0.22		0.02 ± 0.06
Unspecified		12.4 ± 8.25	0.16 ± 0.16	14.2 ± 8.36
<i>total cyclic aliphatics</i>		45.6 ± 3.27	0.47 ± 0.45	48.3 ± 8.10
<i>Not identified</i>		0.44 ± 0.25	0.24 ± 0.18	0.76 ± 0.84
<i>Total wax</i>		48.0 ± 5.10	6.05 ± 2.46	58.4 ± 10.2
<i>Hedera helix</i>				
n-alkanes	25	traces	traces	0.06 ± 0.05
	26			0.04 ± 0.03
	27	traces	0.11 ± 0.03	0.10 ± 0.06
	28		0.03 ± 0.04	0.07 ± 0.07
	29	0.11 ± 0.06	0.77 ± 0.08	0.84 ± 0.20
	30	traces	traces	0.06 ± 0.06
	31	0.16 ± 0.17	0.32 ± 0.16	0.28 ± 0.19
	32	traces	0.02 ± 0.04	0.04 ± 0.05
	33		0.08 ± 0.11	
	34			0.03 ± 0.04
	35			0.03 ± 0.03
	36			traces
<i>total n-alkanes</i>		0.31 ± 0.27	1.29 ± 0.39	1.57 ± 0.64
	22	0.06 ± 0.01	0.04 ± 0.01	0.08 ± 0.04
	23	traces		traces
	24	0.11 ± 0.02	0.12 ± 0.02	0.26 ± 0.08

primary alcohols	25	traces	traces	0.04 ± 0.01
	26	0.18 ± 0.02	0.31 ± 0.08	0.73 ± 0.14
	27		traces	0.04 ± 0.01
	28	0.14 ± 0.04	0.35 ± 0.12	0.96 ± 0.16
	29		0.08 ± 0.03	0.07 ± 0.05
	30	0.13 ± 0.01	0.50 ± 0.20	1.57 ± 0.41
	31		traces	0.11 ± 0.03
	32	0.04 ± 0.01	0.22 ± 0.05	0.57 ± 0.13
	33			traces
	34		traces	0.05 ± 0.03
<i>total primary alcohols</i>		0.67 ± 0.10	1.67 ± 0.51	4.50 ± 0.72
alkanals	24			0.05 ± 0.03
	25			traces
	26		0.09 ± 0.07	0.14 ± 0.04
	27			traces
	28		0.14 ± 0.11	0.19 ± 0.05
	29			0.03 ± 0.03
	30		0.28 ± 0.09	0.56 ± 0.19
	31			0.03 ± 0.03
	32		0.12 ± 0.07	0.22 ± 0.09
	35			
<i>total alkanals</i>			0.63 ± 0.30	1.25 ± 0.41
alkanoic acids	20			0.04 ± 0.02
	21			traces
	22	0.05 ± 0.01	0.05 ± 0.03	0.11 ± 0.05
	23	0.02 ± 0.00		0.03 ± 0.02
	24	0.11 ± 0.02	0.14 ± 0.08	0.32 ± 0.10
	25	traces		0.04 ± 0.02
	26	0.08 ± 0.01	0.14 ± 0.09	0.29 ± 0.07
	27		traces	0.05 ± 0.01
	28	0.05 ± 0.02	0.17 ± 0.12	0.29 ± 0.08
	29		0.07 ± 0.04	0.13 ± 0.04
	30	0.08 ± 0.02	0.37 ± 0.27	0.58 ± 0.21
	31		traces	0.06 ± 0.06
	32	traces	0.13 ± 0.13	0.21 ± 0.17
<i>total alkanoic acids</i>		0.45 ± 0.10	1.28 ± 0.53	2.16 ± 0.72
alkyl esters	23		0.11 ± 0.10	
	25		traces	
	26		traces	
	29			traces
	32		0.07 ± 0.12	traces
	34			traces
	36			traces
	37		traces	
	38			0.03 ± 0.03

	40			0.05 ± 0.05
	42		0.08 ± 0.06	0.09 ± 0.04
	44		0.19 ± 0.12	0.10 ± 0.07
	46		0.16 ± 0.10	0.19 ± 0.08
	48		0.11 ± 0.07	0.13 ± 0.04
	50			0.10 ± 0.03
	Unidentified chain length	0.04 ± 0.03	0.36 ± 0.24	0.34 ± 0.24
<i>total alkyl esters</i>		<i>0.04 ± 0.03</i>	<i>1.46 ± 0.24</i>	<i>1.16 ± 0.37</i>
	20	0.32 ± 0.04		0.34 ± 0.23
	21	traces		
	22	0.23 ± 0.01	0.04 ± 0.03	0.24 ± 0.12
	23	traces		
<i>coumaric acid ester</i>	24	0.17 ± 0.03	0.13 ± 0.08	0.26 ± 0.07
	26	0.03 ± 0.02	0.06 ± 0.09	0.09 ± 0.02
	28	traces	0.04 ± 0.04	0.06 ± 0.05
	30		0.11 ± 0.12	0.13 ± 0.07
	32			0.05 ± 0.05
<i>total coumaric acid ester</i>		<i>0.78 ± 0.10</i>	<i>0.44 ± 0.24</i>	<i>1.18 ± 0.37</i>
<i>total very-long-chain aliphatics</i>		<i>2.24 ± 0.54</i>	<i>6.77 ± 1.64</i>	<i>11.8 ± 1.17</i>
Stigmasterol			traces	
β-Sitosterol		traces		
unspecified		0.16 ± 0.04		0.29 ± 0.32
<i>total cyclic aliphatics</i>		<i>0.18 ± 0.06</i>	<i>traces</i>	<i>0.29 ± 0.32</i>
<i>Not identified</i>		<i>0.56 ± 0.11</i>	<i>0.79 ± 0.21</i>	<i>0.55 ± 0.60</i>
<i>Total wax</i>		<i>2.98 ± 0.52</i>	<i>7.58 ± 1.48</i>	<i>12.7 ± 2.01</i>
<i>Ilex aquifolium</i>				
	27			0.01 ± 0.03
	28			
n-alkanes	29		0.08 ± 0.02	0.11 ± 0.04
	30			
	31		0.19 ± 0.03	0.22 ± 0.07
<i>total n-alkanes</i>			<i>0.27 ± 0.02</i>	<i>0.34 ± 0.13</i>
	26		0.06 ± 0.02	0.11 ± 0.04
	29	0.49 ± 0.14		0.29 ± 0.07
	32			0.12 ± 0.17
<i>total alkanolic acids</i>		<i>0.49 ± 0.14</i>	<i>0.06 ± 0.02</i>	<i>0.53 ± 0.14</i>
<i>total very-long-chain aliphatics</i>		<i>0.49 ± 0.14</i>	<i>0.35 ± 0.06</i>	<i>0.87 ± 0.12</i>
α-Amyrin		8.58 ± 2.44		4.89 ± 3.50
β-Amyrin		2.01 ± 0.49		3.42 ± 4.29
δ-Amyrin				1.37 ± 0.79
Betulinic acid		3.64 ± 0.41		3.02 ± 0.71
Erythrodiol		0.86 ± 0.12		0.97 ± 0.45

Hederagenin		0.89 ± 0.13		1.03 ± 0.19
Lupeol		1.67 ± 0.34		1.64 ± 0.29
Oleanolic acid		19.1 ± 2.24	0.03 ± 0.05	18.3 ± 1.95
β-Sitosterol		0.09 ± 0.16		
Ursolic acid		91.8 ± 9.91	0.19 ± 0.34	87.7 ± 12.7
Uvaol		4.15 ± 0.73		4.74 ± 1.11
unspecified		15.5 ± 1.44	0.14 ± 0.20	16.5 ± 2.63
<i>total cyclic</i>				
<i>aliphatics</i>		148 ± 15.1	0.37 ± 0.35	144 ± 16.3
<i>Not identified</i>		4.46 ± 1.45	0.03 ± 0.06	4.18 ± 1.33
<i>Total wax</i>		153 ± 14.0	0.75 ± 0.38	149 ± 16.2
<i>Nerium oleander</i>				
n-alkanes	29	0.21 ± 0.07	0.27 ± 0.10	0.41 ± 0.11
	30	0.05 ± 0.09	0.09 ± 0.03	0.09 ± 0.07
	31	0.49 ± 0.43	0.78 ± 0.30	1.00 ± 0.25
	32		0.14 ± 0.05	0.19 ± 0.04
	33		0.87 ± 0.37	1.18 ± 0.20
	34		0.08 ± 0.09	
	35	2.30 ± 0.79	0.77 ± 0.25	2.10 ± 1.45
	36		0.16 ± 0.09	
	37	0.40 ± 0.42	0.58 ± 0.17	0.47 ± 0.09
	39			0.10 ± 0.10
<i>total n-alkanes</i>		3.45 ± 0.85	3.74 ± 1.33	5.55 ± 1.74
primary alcohols	29	0.15 ± 0.14	0.11 ± 0.04	0.13 ± 0.04
	30	0.17 ± 0.18	0.03 ± 0.04	0.21 ± 0.14
	31		0.18 ± 0.07	
	34	0.29 ± 0.31	0.19 ± 0.07	0.39 ± 0.32
	36			0.06 ± 0.11
<i>total primary</i>				
<i>alcohols</i>		0.62 ± 0.48	0.52 ± 0.16	0.79 ± 0.28
alkanoic acids	30	0.22 ± 0.38		0.07 ± 0.13
	32			0.24 ± 0.41
<i>total alkanoic</i>				
<i>acids</i>		0.45 ± 0.10	1.28 ± 0.53	2.16 ± 0.72
<i>total very-long-</i>				
<i>chain aliphatics</i>		4.29 ± 1.37	4.39 ± 1.43	6.65 ± 1.71
α-Amyrin		0.14 ± 0.10		0.13 ± 0.04
Betulinic acid		1.67 ± 1.70		0.91 ± 1.57
Erythrodiol		0.39 ± 0.25		0.70 ± 0.63
Hederagenin		0.63 ± 0.24		1.18 ± 0.69
Oleanolic acid		40.6 ± 4.37		42.5 ± 9.59
Ursolic acid		123 ± 18.1	0.04 ± 0.07	126 ± 43.8
Uvaol				0.55 ± 0.95
unspecified		15.6 ± 1.79	0.07 ± 0.07	17.9 ± 0.71
<i>total cyclic</i>				
<i>aliphatics</i>		188 ± 26.4	0.16 ± 0.04	190 ± 52.0
<i>Not identified</i>		2.18 ± 1.46	0.06 ± 0.09	1.80 ± 0.53

<i>Total wax</i>		188 ± 26.4	4.61 ± 1.50	198 ± 53.9
<i>Vinca minor</i>				
n-alkanes	25	traces	traces	
	26	traces		
	27	traces	traces	0.02 ± 0.01
	28	traces	0.06 ± 0.02	
	29	0.05 ± 0.05	0.07 ± 0.01	0.14 ± 0.14
	30	traces	0.04 ± 0.02	0.02 ± 0.01
	31	0.09 ± 0.11	0.29 ± 0.03	0.56 ± 0.32
	32			0.07 ± 0.01
	33		0.27 ± 0.04	0.34 ± 0.04
<i>total n-alkanes</i>		0.19 ± 0.24	0.77 ± 0.09	1.16 ± 0.42
primary alcohols	24		0.04 ± 0.01	0.05 ± 0.00
	25			0.02 ± 0.00
	26	0.02 ± 0.00	0.12 ± 0.02	0.18 ± 0.01
	27		traces	0.05 ± 0.01
	28	0.05 ± 0.01	0.14 ± 0.03	0.23 ± 0.02
	29	0.03 ± 0.02		0.06 ± 0.00
	30		0.08 ± 0.05	0.18 ± 0.06
	31		0.07 ± 0.04	0.07 ± 0.12
	32		0.16 ± 0.01	
	33		0.08 ± 0.05	0.25 ± 0.05
	34		0.10 ± 0.06	0.20 ± 0.08
<i>total primary alcohols</i>		0.11 ± 0.02	0.80 ± 0.21	1.29 ± 0.11
alkanals	31		0.07 ± 0.04	
	32		0.20 ± 0.14	0.10 ± 0.12
	33		0.06 ± 0.03	
	34		0.17 ± 0.15	0.60 ± 0.15
<i>total alkanals</i>			0.49 ± 0.34	0.70 ± 0.12
	24			0.03 ± 0.01
	26		traces	0.04 ± 0.00
	27			
	28	0.02 ± 0.04	0.07 ± 0.04	0.08 ± 0.01
	29			traces
	30		0.09 ± 0.05	
	31		0.12 ± 0.07	
	32		0.14 ± 0.09	0.17 ± 0.10
	34			0.13 ± 0.06
<i>total alkanolic acids</i>		0.02 ± 0.04	0.43 ± 0.26	0.46 ± 0.11
alkyl esters	32			0.03 ± 0.01
<i>total alkyl esters</i>				0.03 ± 0.01
<i>total very-long-chain aliphatics</i>		0.22 ± 0.04	1.65 ± 0.93	3.17 ± 0.30
α -Amyrin		traces		0.04 ± 0.00
Erythrodiol		0.08 ± 0.01		0.24 ± 0.07

Oleanolic acid		7.10 ± 0.99		6.88 ± 0.33
Ursolic acid		32.3 ± 8.80		27.0 ± 2.85
Uvaol		1.44 ± 0.06		1.63 ± 0.10
Unspecified		3.58 ± 0.30	0.04 ± 0.06	3.49 ± 0.29
<i>total cyclic</i>				
<i>aliphatics</i>		44.5 ± 40.1	0.04 ± 0.06	39.3 ± 2.75
<i>Not identified</i>		0.26 ± 0.03	0.08 ± 0.06	0.86 ± 0.34
<i>Total wax</i>		45.1 ± 10.4	2.61 ± 0.60	43.8 ± 2.66
<i>Zamioculcas zamiifolia</i>				
n-alkanes	25	traces	0.03 ± 0.01	0.04 ± 0.01
	26	traces	traces	
	27	traces	0.06 ± 0.01	0.06 ± 0.01
	28	traces	traces	
	29	0.04 ± 0.05	0.09 ± 0.03	0.06 ± 0.01
	30	traces	0.02 ± 0.01	
	31	0.08 ± 0.03	0.25 ± 0.14	0.19 ± 0.03
	32		traces	
<i>total n-alkanes</i>		0.14 ± 0.08	0.47 ± 0.20	0.34 ± 0.04
primary alcohols	24	0.03 ± 0.01	0.03 ± 0.01	0.05 ± 0.01
	25	0.16 ± 0.10	traces	
	26	traces	0.52 ± 0.18	0.70 ± 0.06
	27		0.03 ± 0.01	0.06 ± 0.01
	28	0.25 ± 0.09	1.50 ± 0.41	1.76 ± 0.12
	29		0.04 ± 0.01	
	30	0.08 ± 0.02	0.68 ± 0.15	0.72 ± 0.07
	31		traces	
	32	0.09 ± 0.04	0.66 ± 0.15	0.59 ± 0.10
	33		traces	
	34		0.09 ± 0.02	0.05 ± 0.03
<i>total primary alcohols</i>		0.62 ± 0.21	3.60 ± 0.61	3.89 ± 0.35
alkanals	27		0.04 ± 0.01	
	28		0.04 ± 0.01	
	29		0.09 ± 0.06	
	30		traces	
	31		traces	
	32		0.12 ± 0.10	
<i>total alkanals</i>			0.30 ± 0.08	
alkanoic acids	20	0.03 ± 0.01	0.01 ± 0.00	0.06 ± 0.01
	24	0.03 ± 0.02	0.03 ± 0.02	0.06 ± 0.01
	25		traces	
	26	0.12 ± 0.06	0.54 ± 0.35	0.69 ± 0.22
	27		0.04 ± 0.01	
	28	0.10 ± 0.07	1.51 ± 0.93	1.10 ± 0.59
	29		0.22 ± 0.29	
	30	0.03 ± 0.02	1.09 ± 0.29	0.30 ± 0.20
	31		0.17 ± 0.12	

	32		0.16 ± 0.08	traces
<i>total alkanoic acids</i>		0.31 ± 0.16	3.58 ± 1.36	2.25 ± 1.04
	26		traces	
	27		traces	
	33		0.06 ± 0.10	
	34		0.10 ± 0.17	
alkyl esters	42		0.16 ± 0.10	0.24 ± 0.01
	44		0.29 ± 0.18	0.37 ± 0.02
	46		0.11 ± 0.07	0.13 ± 0.01
	48		traces	
<i>total alkyl esters</i>			0.75 ± 0.23	0.78 ± 0.03
<i>total very-long-chain aliphatics</i>		1.07 ± 0.31	8.70 ± 1.51	7.27 ± 0.93
Camposteryl		0.03 ± 0.02		0.04 ± 0.02
Oleanoic acid				0.07 ± 0.12
β -Sitosterol		traces		
Stigmasterol		traces		
δ -Tocopherol		traces		traces
Ursolic acid		0.06 ± 0.10		0.04 ± 0.06
Unspecified				0.07 ± 0.05
<i>total cyclic aliphatics</i>		0.12 ± 0.12		0.24 ± 0.23
<i>Not identified</i>		0.06 ± 0.04	0.12 ± 0.01	traces
<i>Total wax</i>		1.26 ± 0.30	8.81 ± 1.93	7.53 ± 0.85

Supplementary Table 2. Triterpenoid and very long-chain aliphatic loads extracted with methanol and subsequent chloroform, and full chloroform extracts of seven plant species. Each value represents the mean value $\pm$ SD ($n = 4 - 8$).

Plant Species	Coverage ($\mu\text{g cm}^{-2}$)							
	Triterpenoid content				Very long-chain aliphatic content			
	Methanol extract	Chloroform extract	Accumulated extract	Full chloroform extract	Methanol extract	Chloroform extract	Accumulated extract	Full chloroform extract
<i>Camellia sinensis</i>	9.74 $\pm$ 0.97	0.22 $\pm$ 0.18	9.96 $\pm$ 1.09	9.72 $\pm$ 0.79	1.34 $\pm$ 0.25	2.36 $\pm$ 0.26	3.70 $\pm$ 0.45	2.96 $\pm$ 0.34
<i>Ficus elastica</i>	45.5 $\pm$ 3.27	0.47 $\pm$ 0.45	45.9 $\pm$ 3.62	48.3 $\pm$ 8.10	2.09 $\pm$ 2.91	5.34 $\pm$ 2.47	7.42 $\pm$ 3.26	9.32 $\pm$ 3.3
<i>Hedera helix</i>	0.18 $\pm$ 0.06	0.02 $\pm$ 0.03	0.20 $\pm$ 0.05	0.29 $\pm$ 0.32	2.24 $\pm$ 0.54	6.77 $\pm$ 1.64	9.01 $\pm$ 1.65	11.8 $\pm$ 1.16
<i>Ilex aquifolium</i>	148 $\pm$ 15.1	0.37 $\pm$ 0.35	149 $\pm$ 14.8	144 $\pm$ 16.3	0.50 $\pm$ 0.14	0.35 $\pm$ 0.06	0.85 $\pm$ 0.10	0.87 $\pm$ 0.12
<i>Nerium oleander</i>	182 $\pm$ 26.0	0.16 $\pm$ 0.04	183 $\pm$ 26.8	190 $\pm$ 52.0	4.29 $\pm$ 1.37	4.39 $\pm$ 1.43	7.88 $\pm$ 2.63	6.65 $\pm$ 1.71
<i>Vinca minor</i>	44.5 $\pm$ 10.1	0.04 $\pm$ 0.06	44.6 $\pm$ 10.20	39.3 $\pm$ 2.75	0.32 $\pm$ 0.24	2.50 $\pm$ 0.72	2.82 $\pm$ 0.80	3.64 $\pm$ 0.46
<i>Zamioculcas zamiifolia</i>	0.12 $\pm$ 0.12	0.00 $\pm$ 0.00	0.12 $\pm$ 0.12	0.24 $\pm$ 0.23	1.07 $\pm$ 0.31	8.70 $\pm$ 1.51	9.77 $\pm$ 2.19	7.27 $\pm$ 0.93

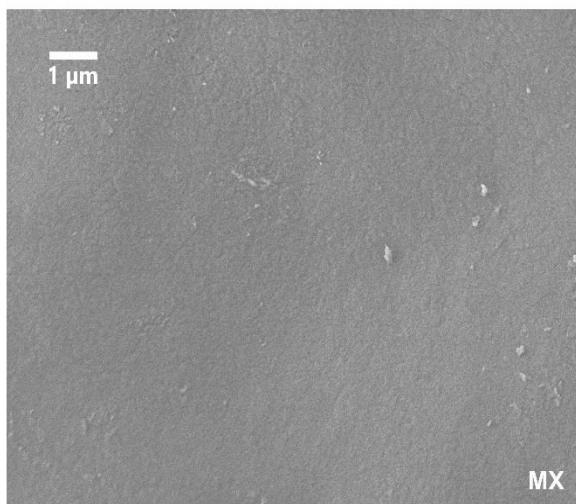
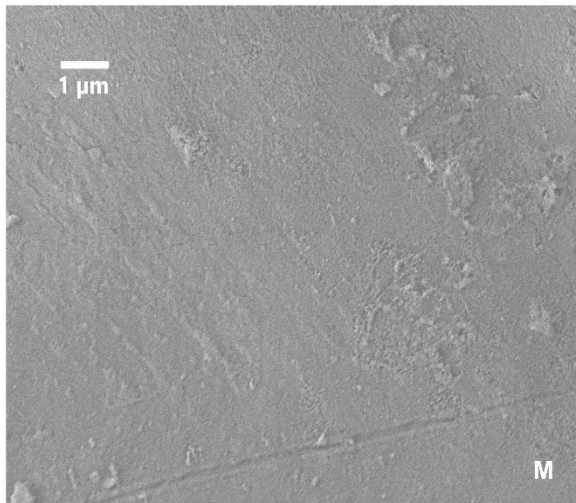
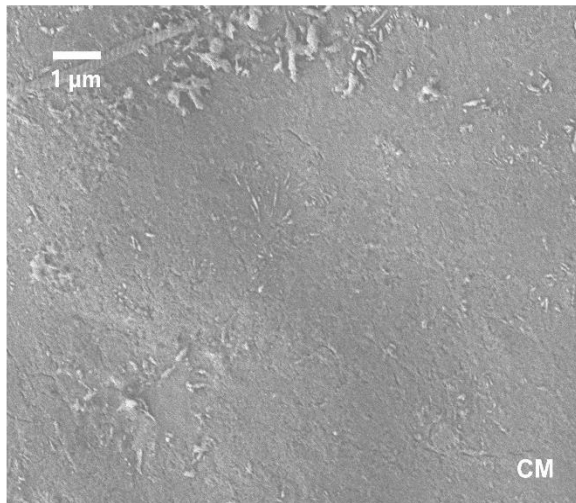
Supplementary Table 3. Water permeability and effect on the permeance barrier of stomata free cuticular leaf discs of seven plant species after different treatments in untreated, methanol extracted and dewaxed cuticles. The latter were prepared by extracting CMs overnight with methanol and subsequently with chloroform overnight. Each value represents the median and 25th - 75th percentile (n > 28).

Plant Species	Permeance			Effect on permeance	
	Untreated cuticle x 10 ⁻⁵ (m s ⁻¹)	Methanol extracted cuticle x 10 ⁻⁵ (m s ⁻¹)	Dewaxed cuticle x 10 ⁻⁵ (m s ⁻¹)	Effect on permeance of methanol extracted cuticles	Effect on permeance of dewaxed cuticles
<i>Camellia sinensis</i>	4.27, 1.49 - 7.60	1.23, 0.67 - 5.49	24.9, 18.9 – 35.6	0.5, 0.3 - 0.8	7.5, 4.5 - 13
<i>Ficus elastica</i>	0.97, 0.30 - 3.01	1.44, 0.15 - 8.23	5.39, 3.59 – 10.6	1.3, 0.8 - 2.2	7.3, 4.3 - 12
<i>Hedera helix</i>	0.40, 0.26 – 0.79	0.69, 0.28 - 1.31	7.60, 2.37 – 18.4	1.3, 1.0 - 2.2	17, 11 - 24
<i>Ilex aquifolium</i>	1.31, 0.41 - 3.66	2.03, 1.45 - 5.52	30.9, 26.2 – 38.3	2.0, 1.5 - 2.8	27, 19 - 38
<i>Nerium oleander</i>	2.14, 1.30 - 3.23	9.19, 5.51 – 15.2	41.0, 33.9 – 48.3	5.0, 4.0 - 6.2	221, 7 - 28
<i>Vinca minor</i>	1.24, 0.77 - 2.10	6.57, 4.78 – 11.5	50.9, 37.0 – 65.0	6.3, 5.2 - 7.6	37, 30 - 45
<i>Zamioculcas zamiifolia</i>	0.45, 0.14 - 1.22	0.57, 0.14 - 2.07	1.07, 0.52 - 2.85	1.1, 0.7 - 1.8	3.3, 2.1 - 5.4

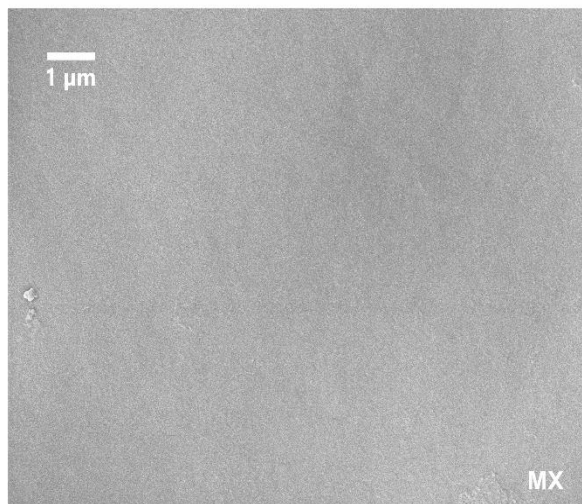
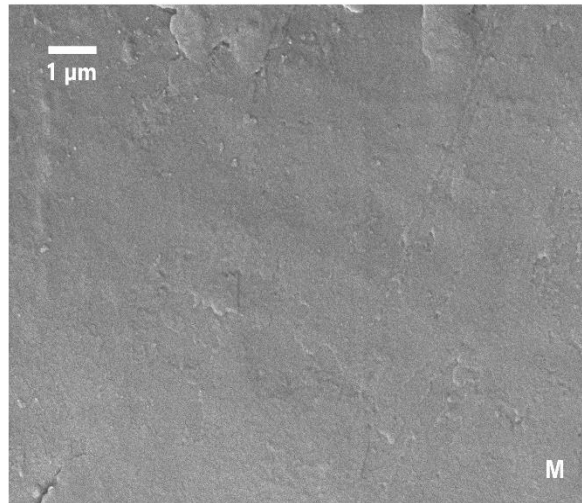
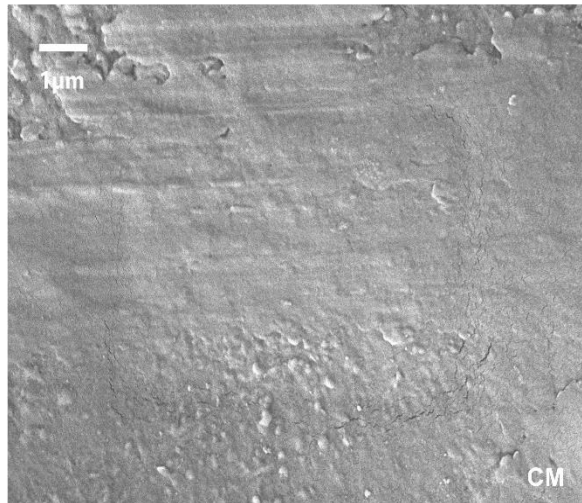
Supplementary Table 4. Weighted average chain length of the extraction with methanol (MeOH), the subsequent chloroform (TCM) extract, the combined MeOH and following TCM extracts and full extracts (FE) of seven investigated plant species. Values show mean $\pm$ standard deviation (n = 4 – 8).

Plant Species	Weighted average chain length (number of C atoms)			
	Methanol extract	Chloroform extract	Accumulated extract	Full extract
<i>Camellia sinensis</i>	28.4 $\pm$ 0.19	29.9 $\pm$ 0.51	29.4 $\pm$ 0.38	29.7 $\pm$ 0.46
<i>Ficus elastica</i>	27.4 $\pm$ 3.24	31.0 $\pm$ 0.21	30.8 $\pm$ 0.53	30.8 $\pm$ 0.58
<i>Hedera helix</i>	25.1 $\pm$ 0.65	30.5 $\pm$ 0.67	29.1 $\pm$ 0.25	29.3 $\pm$ 0.29
<i>Ilex aquifolium</i>	28.8 $\pm$ 0.44	29.5 $\pm$ 0.37	29.0 $\pm$ 0.31	29.3 $\pm$ 0.71
<i>Nerium oleander</i>	33.8 $\pm$ 0.42	33.2 $\pm$ 0.10	33.5 $\pm$ 0.22	33.1 $\pm$ 0.79
<i>Vinca minor</i>	28.6 $\pm$ 0.48	30.7 $\pm$ 0.62	30.5 $\pm$ 0.66	31.2 $\pm$ 0.32
<i>Zamioculcas zamiifolia</i>	27.6 $\pm$ 0.27	30.1 $\pm$ 0.26	29.8 $\pm$ 0.29	29.8 $\pm$ 0.22

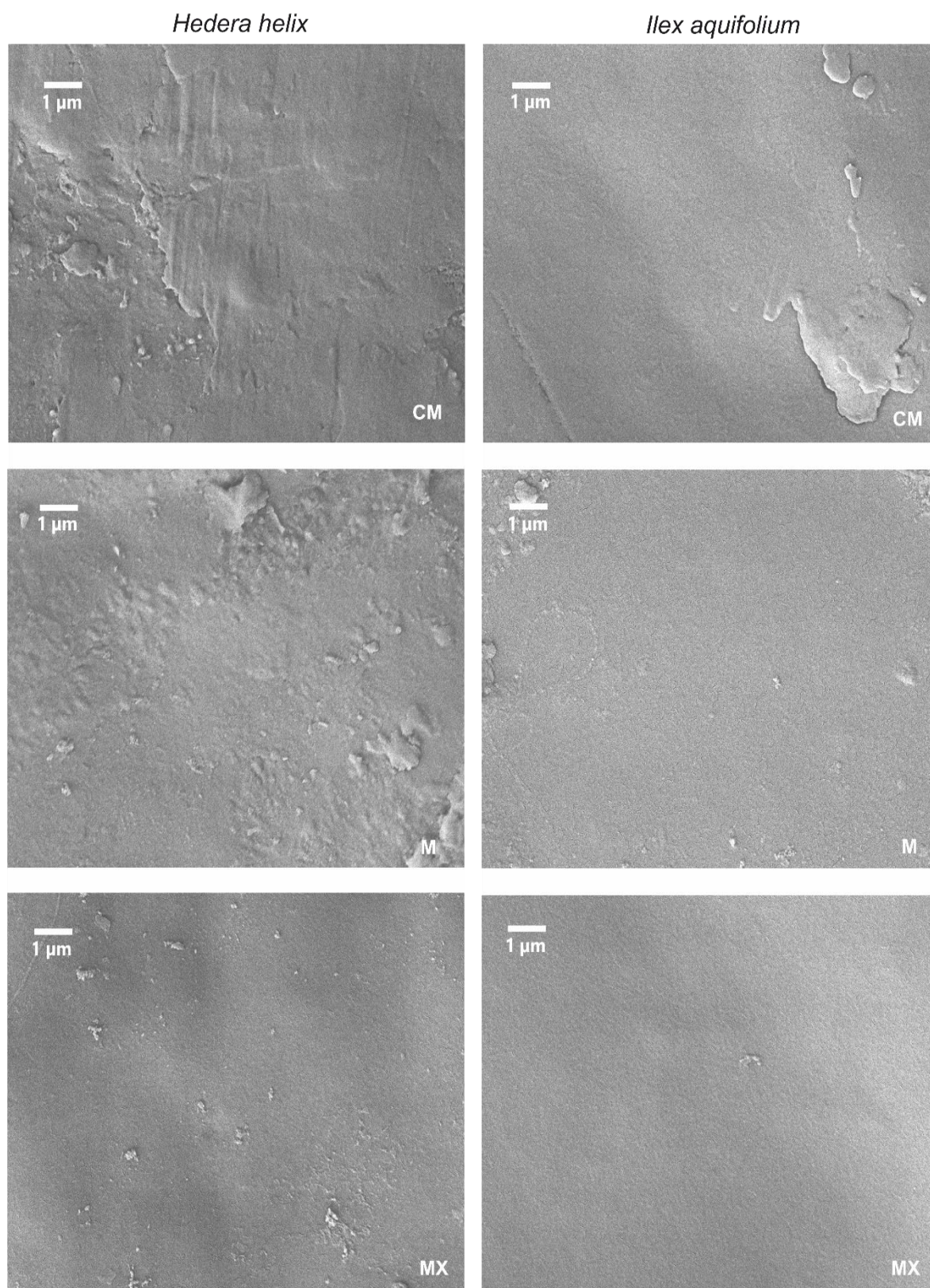
Camellia sinensis



Ficus elastica

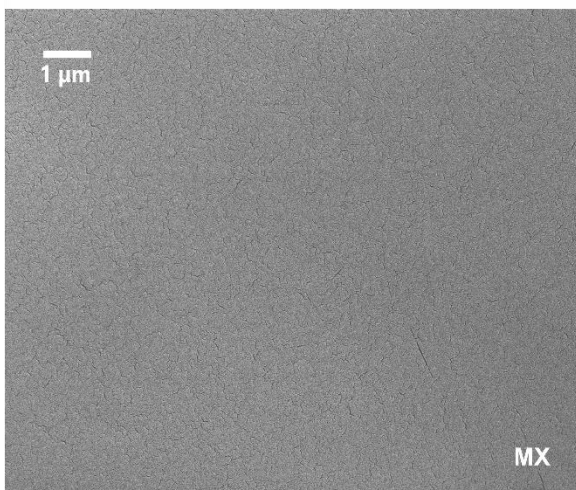
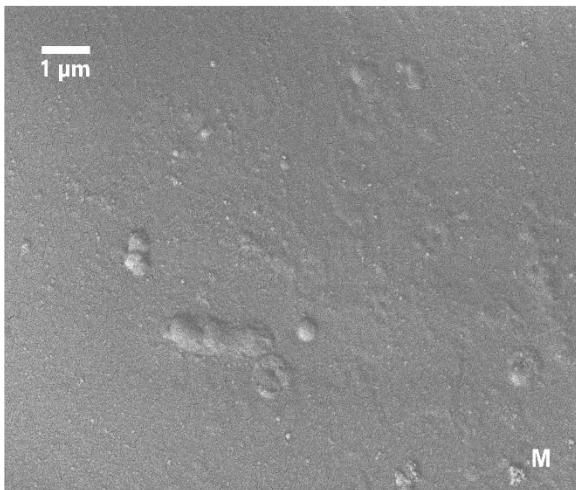
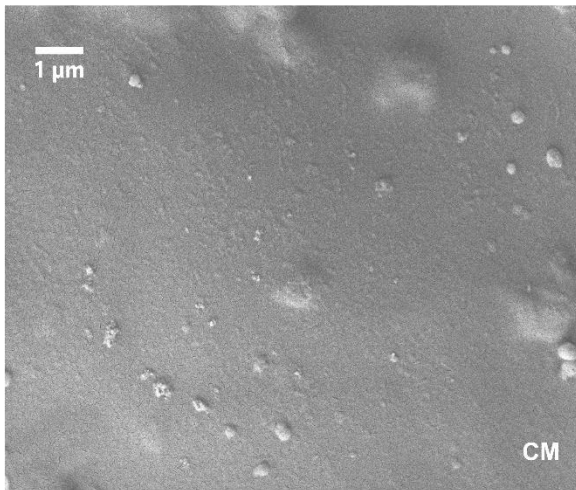


Supplementary Figure 1. Scanning electron microscopy (SEM) images of the outer surface of adaxial isolated cuticular membranes (CM), methanol treated membranes (M) and chloroform treated membranes (MX) of *Camellia sinensis* (left) and *Ficus elastica* (right).

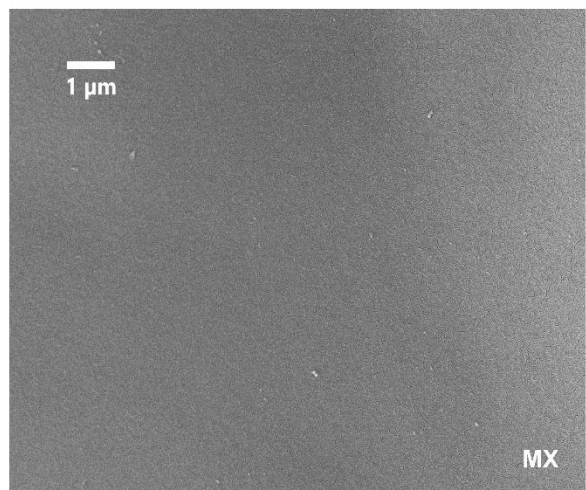
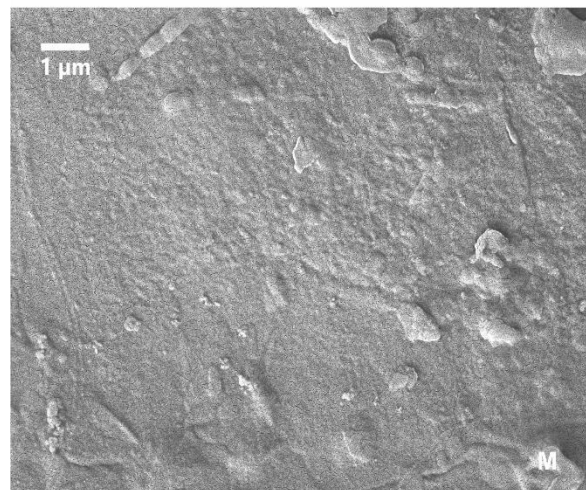
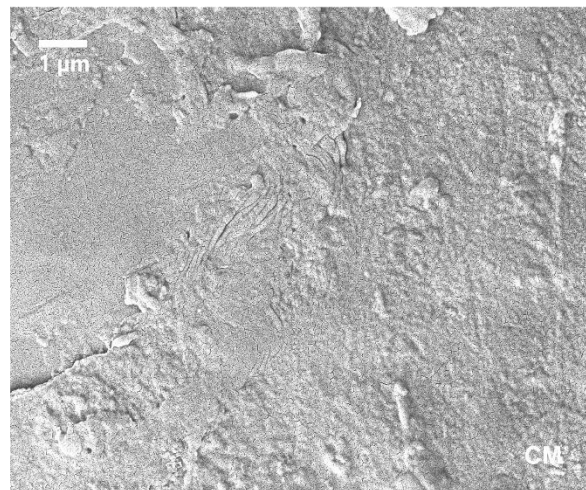


Supplementary Figure 2. Scanning electron microscopy (SEM) images of the outer surface of adaxial isolated cuticular membranes (CM), methanol treated membranes (M) and chloroform treated membranes (MX) of *Hedera helix* (left) and *Ilex aquifolium* (right).

Nerium oleander

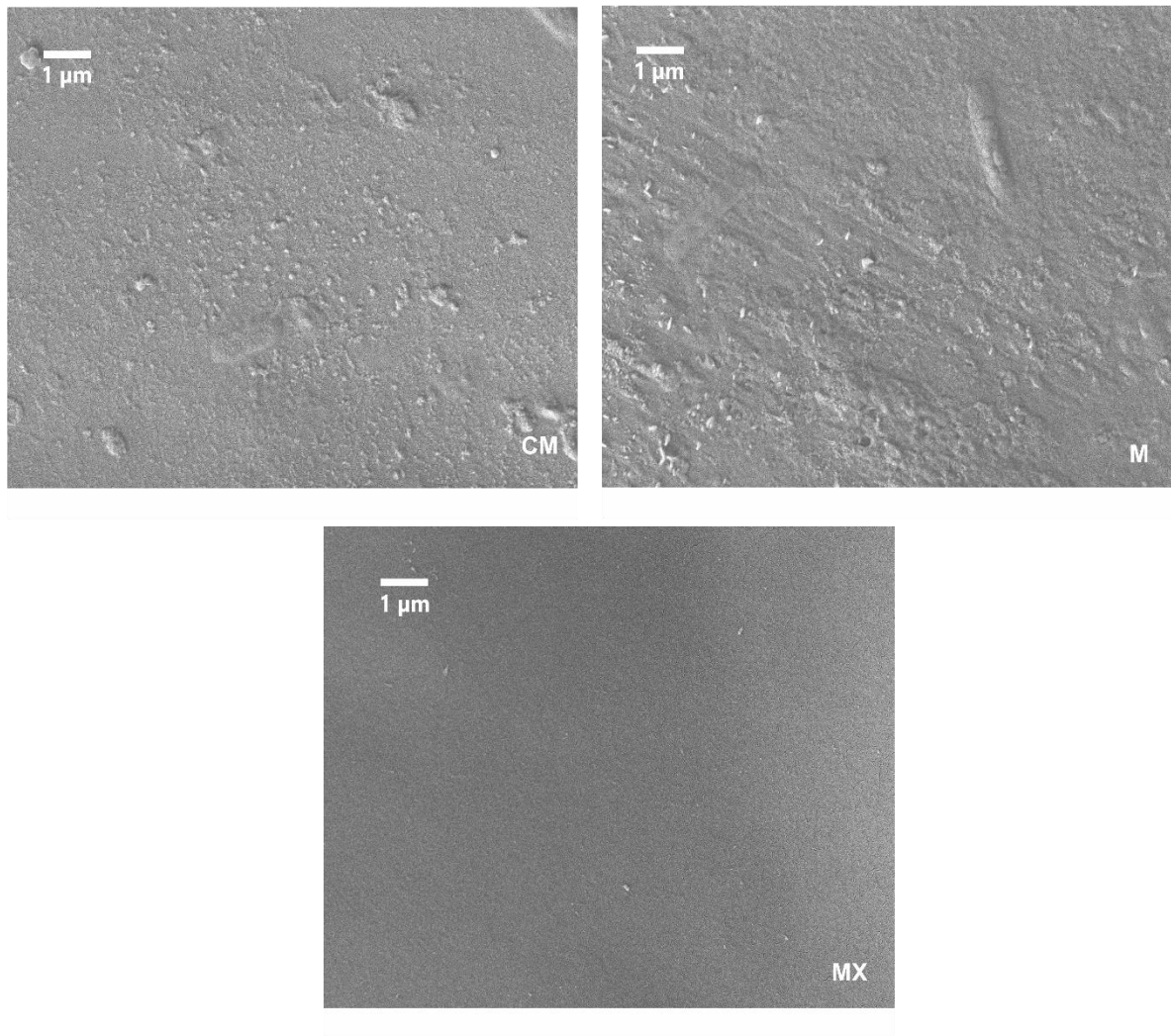


Vinca minor



Supplementary Figure 3. Scanning electron microscopy (SEM) images of the outer surface of adaxial isolated cuticular membranes (CM), methanol treated membranes (M) and chloroform treated membranes (MX) of *Nerium oleander* (left) and *Vinca minor* (right).

Zamioculcas zamiifolia



Supplementary Figure 4. Scanning electron microscopy (SEM) images of the outer surface of adaxial isolated cuticular membranes (CM), methanol treated membranes (M) and chloroform treated membranes (MX) of *Zamia culcas zamiifolia*.