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USPOREDBA RAZINE MONOAMINA U MOZGU GUŠTERICA *Podarcis siculus* I *Podarcis melisellensis* METODOM TEKUĆINSKE KROMATOGRAFIJE VISOKE UČINKOVITOSTI

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Uz veličinu i prehranu, uzrok kompetitivnog isključivanja krške gušterice (*Podarcis melisellensis*) od strane primorske gušterice (*Podarcis siculus*) moglo bi biti i afektivno ponašanje, koje je regulirano monoaminским neurotransmiterima: serotoninom (5HT), dopaminom (DA),

noradrenalinom (NA) i adrenalinom (A). U ovom istraživanju usporedili smo razinu monoamina u mozgu spomenutih vrsta tekućinskom kromatografijom visoke djelotvornosti (HPLC) s UV/VIS detekcijom. Homogenati 36 mozgova su analizirani HPLC-om reverzne faze, uz kolonu Kromasil 100-5-C18 kao stacionarnu te mješavinu mravlje kiseline (pH 2,8) i acetonitrila kao mobilnu fazu. Signali su detektirani pri valnoj duljini od 280 nm. Koncentracije monoamina u uzorcima izračunate su pomoću kalibracijske krivulje monoaminskih standarada i podataka o površini signala te su izraženi kao pg neurotransmitera po gramu tkiva. Ženke i mužjaci vrste *P. siculus* pokazali su značajno više vrijednosti prosječne razine DA (9.62 pg/g i 13.39 pg/g) nego ženke i mužjaci vrste *P. melisellensis* (6.26 pg/g i 7.46 pg/g). Razine 5HT i NA+A nisu se statistički značajno razlikovale između ove dvije vrste. Budući da je porast koncentracije DA povezan s povećanjem lokomotorne aktivnosti, bržim učenjem i agresivnjim ponašanjem, statistički značajna razlika u razini DA između ove dvije guštera mogla bi stajati u podlozi njihovog različitog afektivnog ponašanja i prilagodljivosti.

Ključne riječi: monoamini, 5HT, katekolamini, ponašanje, gušteri

COMPARISON OF MONOAMINE LEVELS IN THE BRAIN OF *Podarcis siculus* AND *Podarcis melisellensis* USING HIGH PERFORMANCE LIQUID CHROMATOGRAPHY (HPLC)

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In addition to the size and diet, the cause of competitive exclusion of Dalmatian wall lizard (*Podarcis melisellensis*) by the Italian wall lizard (*Podarcis siculus*) could be affective behavior regulated by monoamine neurotransmitters: serotonin (5HT), dopamine (DA), noradrenaline (NA) and adrenaline (A). In this study, we compared the levels of monoamines in the brain of mentioned species by high performance liquid chromatography (HPLC) with UV/VIS detection. Homogenates of 36 brains were analyzed by reverse phase HPLC with Kromasil 100-5-C18 column as a stationary and formic acid (pH 2.8) and acetonitrile mixture as a mobile phase. Peaks were detected at a wavelength of 280 nm. Monoamine concentrations in samples were calculated using the calibration curves of the monoamine standards and peak surface data, and expressed as pg of neurotransmitter per gram of tissue. *P. siculus* females and males showed significantly higher average levels of DA (9.62 pg/g and 13.39 pg/g) than *P. melisellensis* (6.26 pg/g and 7.46 pg/g, respectively). There wasn't any statistically significant difference in the levels of 5HT and NA+A between these two species. Since the increase in DA concentration is associated with increased locomotor activity, faster learning, and more aggressive behavior, a significant difference in DA level between these two species of lizard may stand in the background of their different affective behavior and adaptability.

Keywords: monoamines, 5HT, catecholamines, behavior, lizards