TABLE OF CONTENTS

	Introduction	1
1	**GENERAL CONCEPTS**	3
1.1	**Baby Banana (*Musa acuminata* AA Simmonds cv. Bocadillo)**	4
1.1.1	Taxonomic Classification of Bananas (*Musa acuminata*)	4
1.1.2	Plant morphology	5
1.1.3	Pre-harvest	8
1.1.4	Post-harvest	10
1.1.4.1	*Hyperpigmentation phenomenon*	*12*
1.2	**Chlorophyll degradation**	14
1.3	**High-Speed Countercurrent Chromatography**	24
1.4	**Spiral-Coil Low-Speed Rotary Countercurrent Chromatography (Spiral-Coil LSRCCC)**	27
2	**RESULTS AND DISCUSSION**	29
2.1	**Phytochemical profile of Baby Banana control peels**	30
2.1.1	Phosphatidylcholine (Lecithin)	31
2.1.2	Glycosyldiacylglycerolipids	38
2.1.2.1	*O-α-D-Galp (1''→ 6')- O-β-D-Glup (1'→ 3)- 2, 1-diacyl-L-glycerol (GGDG)*	*39*
2.1.2.2	*O-β-D-Galp(1'''-3)-2, 1 diacyl-L-glycerol (MGDG)*	*55*
2.1.2.3	*Compositional analysis of the glycolipid GGDG and MGDG*	*70*
2.1.2.4	*Summary*	*75*
2.1.3	Molecular species of glucocerebroside	79
2.1.4	Sulphoquinovosyl-diacylglycerol (SQDG)	88

2.1.5 Phosphatidylethanolamine (PE) 90
2.1.6 Ceramide aminoethylphosphonate (CAEP) 92
2.1.6.1 Summary *93*
2.1.7 Linoleic acid 94
2.1.7.1 Summary *103*
2.1.8 Lutein 104
2.1.9 Violaxanthin-di-laurate and β-Carotene isomers 110
2.1.9.1 Summary *123*
2.1.10 4-Epi-cycloeucalenone and 4-Epi-cyclomusalenone 127
2.1.11 ß-Sitosterol 134
2.1.11.1 Summary *138*
2.1.12 Pheophytin-a 141
2.1.13 Summary 152

2.2 Optimization of the solvent system for the separation of chlorophylls and derivatives by means of High-Speed Countercurrent Chromatography in Baby Banana peels, spinach and grass 154
2.2.1 Experimental Design 154
2.2.2 Isolation of chlorophylls and derivatives from spinach by HSCCC 167
2.2.3 Role of dichloromethane and chloroform as stationary phase in the solvent system for the isolating of chlorophylls and xanthophylls from plant extracts by HSCCC 178
2.2.4 Chlorophylls *a*/*b* ratio and derivatives in Baby Banana peels and other plants by HSCCC 184

2.3 Preparative Spiral-Coil Low Speed Rotary Countercurrent chromatography of Baby Banana peels (*Musa acuminata*) with hyperpigmentation. 190
2.3.1 APCI-HPLC-MS-MS analysis of Spiral-Coil-LSRCCC fractions from Baby Banana peels with hyperpigmentation 194
2.3.2 Identification of polar compounds in Spiral-Coil-LSRCCC 204

2.3.3 Identification of chlorophyll derivatives esterified with sterols in Spiral-Coil-LSRCCC 207
2.3.4 Spiral-Coil-LSRCCC of Baby Banana peels with hyperpigmentation: comparison with HSCCC of Baby Banana control 210
2.3.4.1 Elucidation of tocopherols and tocotrienols in Fraction 14 of Spiral-Coil-LSRCCC separation from Baby Banana peels with hyperpigmentation extract 217
2.3.4.2 Elucidation of Triterpene Alcohol Ferulates in Fraction 14 of Spiral-Coil-LSRCCC separation from Baby Banana peels with hyperpigmentation extract 229
2.3.5 Summary 233

3 SUMMARY AND OUTLOOK 235

4 MATERIAL AND METHODS 239
4.1 Plant Material and Chemicals 240
4.1.1 Plant Material 240
4.1.2 Chemicals and Solvents 240

4.2 Equipments and Parameter 242
4.2.1 High-Performance Liquid Chromatography (HPLC) 242
4.2.1.1 Jasco-System (HPLC-DAD) 242
4.2.1.2 Knauer-System (preparative) – Equipment I 242
4.2.1.3 Knauer-System (preparative) – Equipment II 242
4.2.1.4 Analytical Columns 243
4.2.1.5 Preparative Columns 243
4.2.1.6 Solvent System and Gradients of HPLC – DAD 243
4.2.1.7 Solvent System and Gradients of Preparative HPLC 244
4.2.2 Mass spectrometry 245
4.2.2.1 APCI-HPLC-MS-MS 245
4.2.2.2 Column APCI-HPLC-MS-MS 245

4.2.2.3 Parameter Mode APCI-HPLC-MS-MS *245*

4.2.2.4 Solvent system and gradient of APCI-HPLC-MS *245*

4.2.3 High-Speed Countercurrent Chromatography (HSCCC) 246

4.2.3.1 Solvent System of High-Speed Countercurrent Chromatography (HSCCC) *246*

4.2.4 Gas Chromatography 247

4.2.4.1 GC-MS I *247*

4.2.4.2 GC-MS II *247*

4.2.4.3 GC-MS III *247*

4.2.5 Spiral-Coil Low-Speed Rotary Countercurrent Chromatography (Spiral-Coil LSRCCC) 248

4.2.5.1 Solvent system for Spiral-Coil LSRCCC *248*

4.2.6 Nuclear Magnetic Resonance Spectroscopy 248

4.3 Methods 249

4.3.1 Extraction Methods 249

4.3.1.1 First Extraction Method *249*

4.3.1.2 Second Extraction Method *249*

4.3.2 Thin Layer Chromatography (TLC) 250

4.3.2.1 System 1 *250*

4.3.2.2 System 2 *250*

4.3.3 Compositional analysis of glycolipids 250

4.3.3.1 Analysis of fatty acid components by Gas chromatography–mass spectrometry (GC-MS) *250*

4.3.3.2 Sugar composition of glycolipids (SCG) *251*

4.3.4 Isolation of pheophytin from methanol phase of Baby Banana peels by means of Normal Phase Chromatography 252

4.3.5 Isolation of carotenoids from acetone extract of Baby Banana peels with hyperpigmentation by means of Normal Phase Chromatography 252

4.3.6 Partial isolation of chlorophyllase and proteins from flavedo of Baby Banana peels 253

4.3.6.1 SDS/PAGE condition *254*

5 BIBLIOGRAPHY 255