

# ***Functional Group Methods***

Ann E. Hagerman © 2002

These methods are dependent on the chemical reactivity of the functional groups characteristic of a given type of tannin. These methods are much more selective than the general phenolic methods, and provide both quantitative and qualitative information about tannins in an extract. Coupling these methods with methods which estimate biological activity is recommended. The specificity of these methods can lead to problems with interpretation, since subtle differences in structural chemistry can lead to substantial differences in reactivity of the functional groups. Functional group methods have been described for:

Condensed tannins

Hydrolyzable tannins, including Gallotannins, Ellagitannins

Phlorotannins