Table S2. Effect of As treatment on selected free amino acid content in *Pteris cretica* and *Spinacia oleracea* shoots. Values represent mean ± SE of three biological and four technical replicates per sample. Data with the same letter are not significantly different. Different letters indicate significant differences ($p \leq 0.05$) among treatments according to the Kruskal-Wallis test. Abbreviations: control — 0 mg As/kg soil; As20 — 20 mg As/kg soil; As100 — 100 mg As/kg soil; Ala — free alanine; Glu — free glutamic acid; Pro — free proline; Gly — free glycine; Phe — free phenylalanine; Ser — free serine.

Amino acid	***P. cretica***			***S. oleracea***		
	control	**As20**	**As100**	**control**	**As20**	**As100**
Ala (µmol/kg FW)	633.17± 12.20^{b}	315.46± 4.46^{ab}	196.09± 3.94^{a}	145.95± 6.09^{a}	287.92± 10.22^{ab}	429.36± 6.27^{b}
Glu (µmol/kg FW)	3448.24± 387.57^{b}	2443.81± 245.28^{ab}	1981.28± 158.82^{a}	2160.81± 108.05^{a}	2839.12± 278.71^{ab}	3126.21± 109.71^{b}
Pro (µmol/kg FW)	482.88± 9.78^{b}	105.51± 1.52^{ab}	62.79± 1.25^{a}	160.09± 4.64^{a}	390.02± 9.43^{b}	149.94± 1.23^{a}
Gly (µmol/kg FW)	132.77± 2.87^{a}	146.86± 2.12^{a}	514.79± 10.03^{b}	38.42± 1.45^{a}	55.95± 1.43^{ab}	75.41± 2.50^{b}
Phe (µmol/kg FW)	957.24± 123.99^{b}	599.42± 16.38^{b}	417.97± 20.96^{a}	80.90± 3.73^{b}	84.25± 2.60^{b}	61.76± 1.13^{a}
Ser (µmol/kg FW)	972.34 ± 26.48^{b}	582.44± 59.62^{a}	618.67± 34.02^{a}	612.42 ± 27.11^{a}	829.68 ± 81.35^{a}	698.39± 42.62^{a}