

Analyzing the antibacterial and antioxidant properties of *Pimpinellatirupatiensis* extracts in sequence

Dr.K.RajKiran¹, U. Sri Venkatesh², T. Rajesh³

Principal&Professor¹, Associate. Professor^{2,3}

rajkiran.kolakota@gmail.com

Sri Sivani College of Pharmacy

ABSTRACT

Background: An increasing demand for natural additives has shifted the attention from synthetic to natural antioxidants. As leafy vegetables are found to be good source of antioxidants and the present study is to examine the antioxidant potential and antimicrobial activity of leaf extracts of *Pimpinella tirupatiensis*.

Methods: Antioxidant potential of leaves of *P. tirupatiensis* was studied using different methods like DPPH, nitric oxide, hydrogen peroxide scavenging activity. Reducing power and antimicrobial activity was estimated by using both gram positive and gram negative microorganisms by using DMF as solvent.

Results: The aqueous extracts showed maximum scavenging activity of DPPH followed by nitric oxide, hydrogen peroxide and reducing power respectively. Benzene and alcoholic extract showed maximum antimicrobial activity.

Conclusion: Substantial amounts of antioxidants including vitamins C and E, carotenoids, flavonoids, phenols and tannins etc. can be utilized to scavenge the excess free radicals from the body.

Keywords: Antioxidant potential Antimicrobial activity Leaf extracts *Pimpinellatirupatiensis*

1. Introduction

Pimpinellatirupatiensis (Apiaceae) is distributed in the forest of Tirupati in Andhra Pradesh commonly known as adivi kothimeera (Forest Coriander). It is used for the treatment of External inflammation, Diuretic, treatment of bladder distress, Asthma, Aphrodisiac, Skin diseases, Ulcers, Blood disorders, Toothache and Hepatoprotective.¹ Free radicals have been implicated to the causation of ailments such as liver cirrhosis, atherosclerosis, cancer, diabetes etc.² Reactive oxygen species such as super oxide anions (O₂⁻), hydroxyl radicals (OH[•]) and nitric oxide (NO) inactivate the enzymes and damage important cellular components causing injury.³ Antioxidants may offer resistance against the oxidative

Table 1: DPPH radicals scavenging activity.

S. No	Extracts	Concentration (mg/ml) and % inhibition (SEM SD)*						IC ₅₀ e
		20*	40*	60*	80*	100*		
1	PEE	19.80 0.46	24.39 0.75	27.26 0.62	31.38 0.87	34.28 0.77		e
2	CHE	30.45 0.35	38.80 0.88	40.25 0.84	43.78 0.54	45.46 1.00		e
3	ACE	35.13 0.89	38.42 0.32	41.99 0.22	45.52 0.42	48.0.16		e
4	ETH	38.17 0.82	44.03 0.66	46.94 0.38	48.35 0.11	49.64 0.56		58
5	WTR	41.96 0.90	46.15 0.06	52.83 0.66	57.62 0.24	62.96 0.54		52
6	VitC	46.19 0.17	48.39 0.28	55.38 0.27	60.36 0.10	67.64 0.41		45

PEE: pet. Ether, CHE: chloroform, ACE: acetone, ETH: ethanol, WTR: water, VitC: standard.

*Values are mean SD, n = 3.

stress by scavenging the free radicals. Although the living system possesses several natural defence mechanisms, such as enzymes and antioxidants nutrients, which arrest the chain reaction of ROS initiation and production. Many plants often contain substantial amounts of antioxidants including vitamins C and E, carotenoids, flavonoids, phenols and tannins etc. and thus can be utilized to scavenge the excess free radicals from the body. Total phenolic content was determined by Begum Method.⁵ Estimation of total phenolic content was done for chloroform, ethanol and water extracts and Gallic acid was used as standard. 1 ml of different concentration (5, 10, 15, 20, 25 mg/ml) of different extracts were mixed with 1 ml of 95% ethanol, 5 ml of distilled water and 0.5 ml of 50% Folin-Ciocalteu reagent. The mixture was incubated for 1 h in dark and absorbance was measured at 725 nm using UV-Visible

2. Materials and methods

Collection and authentication of plant

P. tirupatiensis was collected from Seshachalam forest from Tirupati & identification (Specimen voucher-1533) has been done by Prof. K. Madhava Chetty, Department of Botany, Sri Venkateswara University, Tirupati, India.

Preparation of extracts

The plant was procured, leaves were collected; dried and coarse powder was prepared. Successive extraction of dried coarse powder of leaves was carried out with solvents in increasing order of polarity viz. petroleum ether, benzene, chloroform, acetone, ethanol and then maceration with chloroform water. The solvents were evaporated under reduced pressure to get semisolid masses. The extracts were subjected to preliminary Phytochemical screening.⁴

Determination of total antioxidant activity

The method described by Prieto⁶ and was used to determine the total antioxidant capacity of the extracts. The tubes containing 0.2 ml of the extracts (100–500 mg/ml), 1.8 ml of distilled water and 2 ml of phosphomolybdenum reagent solution (0.6 M sulfuric acid, 28 mM sodium phosphate and 4 mM ammonium molybdate) were incubated at 95°C for 90 min. After the mixture had cooled to room temperature, the absorbance of each solution was measured at 695 nm. The antioxidant capacity was expressed as ascorbic acid equivalent (AAE).

Assessment of antioxidant activity

The assessment of antioxidant activity was done through various in-vitro assays. The free radical scavenging activity of

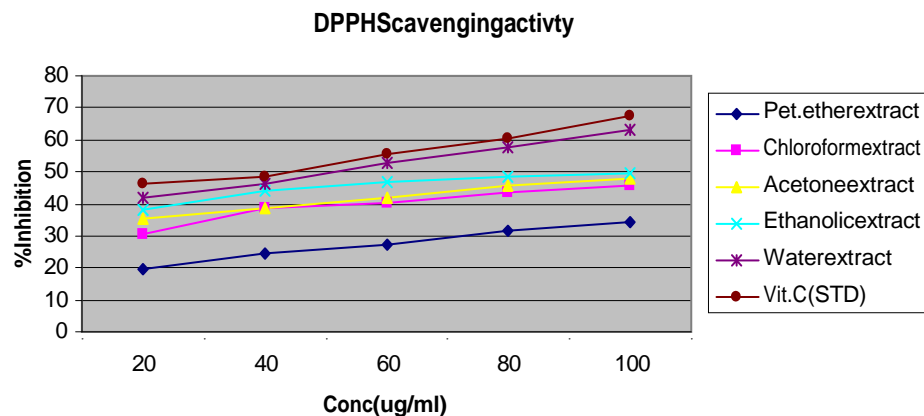


Fig. 1 DPPH radical scavenging activity.

Table 2e Nitric oxide scavenging activity of each extract.

S. No	Extracts	Concentration (mg/ml) and % inhibition*					IC ₅₀ e
		20*	40*	60*	80*	100*	
1	PEE	8.21 0.30	10.54 0.35	21.74 0.56	24.58 0.87	32.55 0.22	e
2	CHE	21.51 0.52	23.69 0.70	24.62 0.84	26.74 0.14	28.64 0.12	e
3	ACE	32.63 0.26	38.36 0.32	40.20 0.08	42.52 0.03	43.33 0.29	e
4	ETH	42.39 0.50	50.58 0.11	52.26 0.09	53.46 0.18	56.85 0.10	47
5	WATR	44.11 0.90	47.45 0.06	57.48 0.47	59.62 0.24	60.96 0.34	38
6	VitC	47.19 0.12	54.26 0.34	66.44 0.27	77.40 0.27	88.51 0.27	34

PEE: pet. Ether, CHE: chloroform, ACE: acetone, ETH: ethanol, WTR: water, VitC: standard.

*Values are mean \pm SD, n = 3.

six extracts of *P. tirupatiensis* and L-ascorbic acid (vitamin C) was measured in terms of hydrogen donating or radical scavenging ability using the stable radical DPPH, H₂O₂. Nitric acid was generated from sodium nitroprusside and measured by Griess reaction. The activity was further confirmed by reducing power method.

DPPH radicals scavenging activity

Each extracts were prepared in different concentrations ranging from 20 mg/ml to 100 mg/ml and 1 ml solution of DPPH 0.1 mM (0.39 mg in 10 ml methanol) was added to different extracts.⁷ An equal volume of ethanol and DPPH was added to control. Ascorbic acid was used as standard for comparison. After 20 min of incubation in dark, absorbance was measured at 517 nm and percentage of inhibition was calculated.

Control—Test

(1% sulfanilamide, 2% O-phosphoric acid and 0.1% naphthyl- ethylene diamine dihydrochloride) was added. The absorbance was measured at 546 nm.

Reducing power assay

The reducing powers of nutraceutical herbs were determined according to Oyaizu.⁹ Each extracts were prepared in different concentrations ranging from 20 mg/ml to 100 mg/ml and 1 ml of each in distilled water were mixed with phosphate buffer (2.5 ml, 2M, pH 6.6) and potassium ferric cyanide (2.5 ml); the mixture was incubated at 50 °C for 20 min. A portion (2.5 ml) of Trichloroacetic acid (TCA 10%) was added to the mixture, which was then centrifuged at 1500 RPM for 10 min. The upper layer of solution (2.5 ml) was mixed with distilled water (2.5 ml) and FeCl₃ (0.5 ml of 0.1%), and the absorbance was measured at 700 nm. Increased absorbance of the reaction

Control

mixture indicated increased reducing power. The reducing power was expressed as AAEmean that reducing power of

Nitric oxide radical scavenging activity

Nitric oxide was generated from sodium nitroprusside and measured by Griess reaction.⁸ Sodium nitroprusside (5 mM) in PBS (phosphate buffer saline) was incubated with different concentrations (20 to 100 mg/ml) of the extracts, dissolved in phosphate buffer (0.25 M, pH 7.4) and the tubes were incubated at 25 °C for 5 h. Controls without the test compounds, but with the equivalent amount of buffer were conducted in identical manner. After 5 h 0.5 ml of Griess reagent 1 mg sample is equivalent to reducing power of 1 mmol ascorbic acid.¹⁰

Determination of peroxide (H_2O_2) radical scavenging activity

Each extracts were prepared in different concentrations ranging from 20mg/ml to 100mg/ml in phosphate buffer saline (PBS) and was incubated with 0.6 ml of 4 mM H_2O_2 solution prepared in PBS for 10 min. The standard ascorbic

Nitric oxide scavenging activity

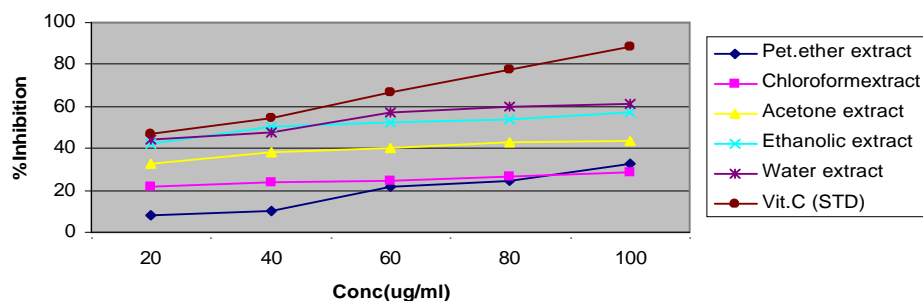


Fig. 2e Nitric oxide radical scavenging activity.

Table 3e Reducing power activity of *Pimpinella tirupatiensis* extracts.

S. No	Extracts	Concentration (mg/ml) and % inhibition*									
		20*	40*	60*	80*	100*					
1	PEE	0.005 0.02	0.006 0.04	0.020 0.029	0.030 0.018	0.076 0.003					
2	CHE	-0.021 0.052	-0.013 0.002	-0.011 0.0031	-0.008 0.0019	-0.004 0.006					
3	ACE	-0.011 0.002	-0.003 0.0029	0.007 0.0018	0.027 0.004	0.057 0.0015					
4	ETH	-0.016 0.003	-0.006 0.0016	0.050 0.0018	0.090 0.0077	0.095 0.003					
5	WATR	0.086 0.003	0.179 0.001	0.223 0.0056	0.342 0.0027	0.383 0.0028					
6	VitC	1.092 0.012	1.208 0.0112	1.212 0.004	1.439 0.0038	1.501 0.0074					

PEE: pet. Ether, CHE: chloroform, ACE: acetone, ETH: ethanol, WTR: water, VitC: standard.
*Values are mean SD, n=3.

acid was used as standard and absorbance was measured at 230 nm.⁵

Statistical analysis

Inhibition of concentration and total phenolic and antioxidant were determined by linear regression analysis method which was used to calculate IC_{50} . Results were expressed as mean SD (standard deviation) $n = e$.

Antimicrobial activity

Cup plate method was employed to study the preliminary antibacterial activity of different extracts i.e. pet-ether, chloroform, ethanol, water against two gram positive *Bacillus subtilis*, *Staphylococcus aureus* and four gram negative bacteria *Salmonella*, *Klebsiella*, *Pseudomonas*, *Escherichia coli*.

Preparation of nutrient broth, sub-culture and agar media was done as per standard procedure. Streptomycin was employed as reference standard. All these extracts were tested at a concentration of 50, 100, 200 mg/ml and DMSO as control did not show any inhibition.

The cups of each 8 mm diameter were made by scooping out medium with a sterilized cork borer from Petri dish which was inoculated with the organisms. The solutions of each test compound, control and reference standards (0.1 ml) were added separately in the cups and Petri dishes were subsequently incubated at 37°C for 24 h for the antibacterial activity.¹¹

Results and discussion

Phytochemical investigation

Preliminary Phytochemical screening of *P. tirupatiensis* was carried out to reveal the different primary and secondary metabolites. Petroleum ether (PEE) and benzene extracts showed the presence of steroids. Chloroform (CHE) extract showed the presence of glycosides and phenols. Acetone (ACE), Ethanolic (ETH) and Water (WTR) extracts showed the presence of carbohydrates, alkaloids, flavonoids, volatile oil and saponins.

Total phenolic content

Phenolic compounds are a class of antioxidant agents, which act as free radical terminators.¹² Total phenols were measured by Folin-Ciocalteu reagent in terms of Gallic acid equivalent. The total phenolic in ACE, MEE and WTR of *P. tirupatiensis* was found to be 150.16, 174 and 231.39 respectively. The compounds such as flavonoids and polyphenols, which contain hydroxyls, are responsible for the radical scavenging effect of plants.¹³ According to our study, the high contents of this Phytochemical in aqueous extract of *P. tirupatiensis* can explain its high radical scavenging activity.

Antioxidant potential

DPPH radical scavenging activity

DPPH is a stable free radical at normal temperature. It shows specific absorbance at 517 nm due to color of methanolic

Reducing Power Activity

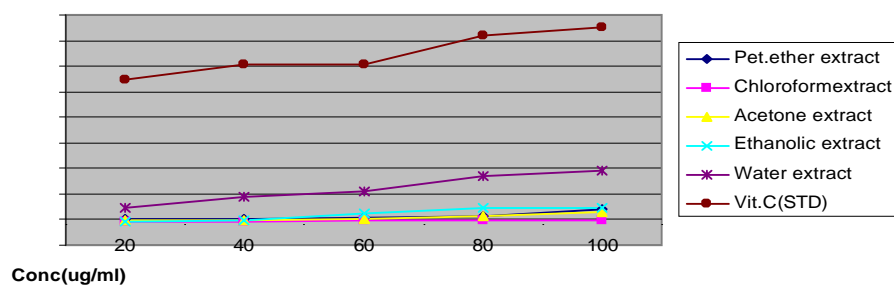


Fig. 3e Reducing power activities.

Table 4: Hydrogen peroxide scavenging activity.

S. No	Extracts	Concentration (mg/ml) and % inhibition*					
		20*	40*	60*	80*	100*	
1	PEE	-0.6220.001	-0.607 0.0026	-0.553 0.0029	-0.448 0.0034	-0.4240.0039	
2	CHE	-0.2310.0015	-0.135 0.0039	-0.050 0.0031	-0.043 0.0010	0.0290.0012	
3	ACE	-0.1910.002	-0.125 0.003	0.025 0.0018	0.073 0.0144	0.1250.0021	
4	ETH	-0.1480.004	-0.093 0.001	0.054 0.0027	0.096 0.0077	0.1450.0032	
5	WATR	-0.1370.002	-0.083 0.0072	0.020 0.001	0.171 0.0038	0.2030.004	
6	VitC	0.0400.0013	0.050 0.001	0.170 0.002	0.334 0.004	0.5470.007	

PEE: pet. Ether, CHE: chloroform, ACE: acetone, ETH: ethanol, WATR: water, VitC: standard.
 *Values are mean \pm SD, n=3.

solution of DPPH. Body also contains many free radicals, which assumed same as DPPH.¹⁴ Decrease in absorbance of mixture indicates the radical scavenging activity (Table 1; Fig. 1).

Nitric oxide radical scavenging activity

Nitric oxide is a free radical produced in mammalian cells, which is mediator of many physiological processes such as smooth muscle relaxation, neuronal signaling, inhibition of platelet aggregation and regulation of cell mediated toxicity.¹⁴ Sodium nitroprusside generates nitric oxide radical in the presence of physiological buffer solution at 25°C. Nitric oxide reacted with Griess reagent and diazotization of nitrite with sulfanilamide and subsequent coupling with naphthylethylenediamine form color complex. Decrease in color intensity is directly proportional to

thiols (eSH) groups. Hydrogen peroxide crosses cell membrane and reacts with ferric and copper ions, which shows toxic effects. Extracts have the good hydrogen peroxide scavenging activity.⁵

The total antioxidant capacity of the extracts was found to be 49.68; 74 mg ascorbic acid equivalent at 500 mg/ml extracts concentration. The good antioxidant activity might be attributed to the presence of Phytochemicals like phenols and tannins (Table 4; Fig. 4).

3.3.5. Antimicrobial activity

The alcoholic and benzene extracts showed significant activity when compared with aqueous and pet-ether extracts (Table 5). Nitric oxide radical scavenging, which is measured in terms of IC₅₀ (Table 2; Fig. 2).

Reducing power

The reduction of Fe³⁺ ions can be assessed by this reducing model for antioxidants. All the extracts were subjected for reducing activity. Water extract showed significant reducing activity when compared to that of other extracts (Table 3; Fig. 3).

Hydrogen peroxide scavenging activity

Hydrogen peroxide is a weak oxidizing agent and can inactivate a few enzymes directly, usually by oxidation of essential

3. Conclusion

An increasing demand for natural additives has shifted the attention from synthetic to natural antioxidants. As leafy vegetables are found to be good source of antioxidants and the present study is to examine the antioxidant potential and antimicrobial activity of leaf extracts of *P. tirupatiensis*. Many plants often contain substantial amounts of antioxidants including vitamins C and E, carotenoids, flavonoids, phenols and tannins etc. and thus can be utilized to scavenge the excess free radicals from the body.

Hydrogen peroxide scavenging activity

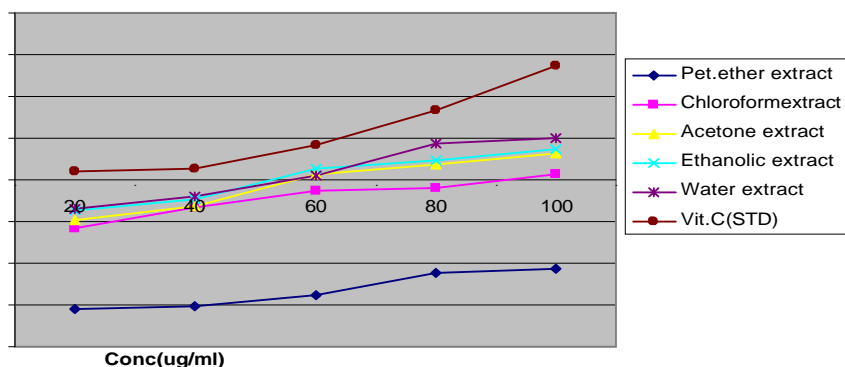


Fig.4e Hydrogen peroxide scavenging activity.

Table 5e Antimicrobial activities of *Pimpinella tirupatiensis*.

Sr.No	Antibacterial											
	<i>Bacillus subtilis</i>			<i>Staphylococcus aureus</i>			<i>Klebsiella pneumoniae</i>			<i>Escherichia coli</i>		
Concentration in mg	50	100	200	50	100	200	50	100	200	50	100	200
Pet-ether	9.4	10.2	12.6	R	12.8	13.1	9.6	13.4	14.7	R	R	11.3
Benzene	14.7	15.9	17.3	12.9	14.2	15.7	15.3	17.8	19.6	11.0	12.8	15.5
Alcohol	15.5	18.6	20.9	12.8	14.1	14.9	12.0	12.7	14.2	14.4	15.9	18.2
Aqueous	R	9.3	11.1	13.6	15.2	17.0	12.8	14.2	15.7	R	12.9	15.2
Control (DMF)	R	R	8.5	R	R	R	R	8.3	8.5	R	R	
	R	Standard 16.7	19.1	22.3	13.9	15.8	17.6	16.5	19.5	21.9	16.9	18.6
	21.2											

Diameter of cup 8mm, Standard drug Streptomycin (antibacterial), R = Resistance, DMF = Dimethyl Formamide, Reading indicates the zone of inhibition in mm (millimeters).

REFERENCES

- Kirtikar KR, Basu BD. *Indian Medicinal Plants*. 2nd ed. vol. 3. Dehradun: International Book Distributors; 1987.
- Khan IA, Khayum A. *Pharmaceutical Wealth of Fruits, Vegetables and Spices*. 1st ed. Ukaaz Publications; 2007:26-28.
- Saraf Swarnalatha, Aswath MS. Flavonoids: a nutritional protection against oxidative and UV induced cellular damages. *Pharmacogn Rev*. Jan 2000;1(1):30-40.
- Khandelwal KR. *Practical Pharmacognosy, Techniques and Experiments*. 18th ed. Nirali Prakashan; 2007:149-160.
- Begum VH. *Pharmacogn Mag*. 2007;3:26.
- Prieto P, Pineda M, Aguilar M. Spectrophotometric quantification of antioxidant capacity through the formation of a phosphomolybdenum complex: specific application of vitamin E. *Anal Biochem*. 1999;269:337-341.
- Govindaraju R, Vijay Kumar M, Rawath AKS, Shanta M. Free radical scavenging potential of *Picrorhiza kurroa* Royle ex. Benth. *Indian J Exp Biol*. 2003;41:875-879.
- Marcocci L, Maguire JJ, Droy-Leffix MT, Packer L. The nitric oxide scavenging property of *Ginkgo biloba* extract. *Biochem Biophys Res Commun*. 1994;201:748-755.
- Oyaizu M. Studies on products of browning reaction prepared from glucosamine. *Jpn J Nutr*. 1986;44:307-315.
- Chen HY, Lin YC, Hsieh CL. Evaluation of antioxidant activity of aqueous extract of some selected nutraceutical herbs. *Food Chem*. 2007;104:1418-1420.
- Indian Pharmacopoeia*. 3rd ed. vol. 2. New Delhi: Ministry of Health and Family Welfare; 1985. Appendix e 9, 100.
- Shahidi F, Janitha PK, Wanasundara PD. Phenolic antioxidants. *CRC Critical Rev. Food Science and Nutrition*. 1992;32(1):67-103.
- Das NP, Pereira TA. Effects of flavonoids on thermal autooxidation of palm oil: structure activity relationship. *J Am Oil Chem Soc*. 1990;67:255-258.
- Choudhary GP. *J Nat Rem*. 2006;6:99.