Comparative analysis of Qualitative and Quantitative Phytochemical screening, *in vitro* antioxidant and antibacterial activity of *Mangifera indica* and *Artocarpus heterophyllus*

T.Manimekalai^{1*} & Dr. P. Chitra²

1 - M.Phil Scholar, 2 - Associate professor and Head, Department of Biochemistry, Sri Ramakrishna College of Arts and Science for Women, Coimbatore.

Abstract

Medicinal plants have known to play a wide role in the development of human culture. Artocarpus heterophyllus and Mangifera indica are the well known evergreen tropical fruiting tree families abundantly grown in Asia. Different parts of both the tress such as bark, leaves, fruits and flowers are used in traditional medicine. The present study aims to screen the qualitative and quantitative phytochemical present, in-vitro antioxidant and anti-microbial activity of Artocarpus heterophyllus and Mangifera indica leaf extracts and combined extract of both the leaves. The qualitative phytochemical results indicated the presence of phytochemicals such as alkaloids, flavonoids, phytosterols, tannins and saponins. The quantitative phytochemical results revealed that M.indica have high phenolic and flavonoid content. The Combined extract showed significant antioxidant activity when compared to both the extracts. All the extracts showed significant antimicrobial activity.

Keywords

Antimicrobial, Anti-oxidant, Phytochemicals, Artocarpus heterophyllus, Mangifera indica.

Introduction

Mangoes belong to the genus Mangifera of the family Anacardiaceae. Mango has cultivated and adapted throughout the tropics and subtropics. Mango fruit, seed, leaves, bark and roots have diverse phytochemical constituents including polyphenolic antioxidants, flavonoids, triterpenoids, micronutrients and reported to exhibit diverse medicinal properties and health benefits [1]. *Artocarpus heterophyllus*, belongs to the mulberry family, *Moraceae* and widely is consumed in south-east Asia and Africa [2]. It is well known for its antibacterial, antifungal, antidiabetic, anti-inflammatory, and antioxidant activities [3]. *Artocarpus heterophyllus* leaves and stem barks are used in traditional medicine to treat several diseases include hypertension, diabetes, cancers, anemia, asthma, dermatosis and diarrhoea [4].

Plants provide not only essential nutrients needed for life, but also other bioactive phytochemicals that contribute to health promotion and disease prevention. Several studies strongly suggest that ingesting these phytochemicals can help to improve health [5]. The biologically active metabolites of medicinal plants and their possible therapeutic potential has become a subject of active investigation [6]. Plant based medicines are becoming popular because of their lesser toxicity and side effects [7]. Antioxidants significantly delay or prevent oxidation of oxidizable substrates when present at lower concentrations than the substrate. Since the antioxidant potential of plants has received a great deal of attention because increased oxidative stress has been identified as a major causative factor in the development and progression of several life threatening diseases in humans [8].

Recently, researchers have focused on increasing human infections caused by bacteria and fungi. Medicinal plants represent a rich source of antimicrobial agents. Because microorganisms have developed resistance to many antibiotics, the use of plant extracts and their isolated compounds as a resistant against microorganisms has been increased. Antibacterial activity of different plant extracts using different solvents was documented in the literature [9]. Plants produce secondary metabolites which are a rich source of antioxidant and antibacterial properties.

Materials and Methods

Plant Collection

The leaves of *Mangifera indica* and *Artocarpus heterophyllus* were collected from the local areas of Erode and were authenticated by Botanical Survey of India, Southern Regional Centre, Coimbatore.

Extract Preparation

The collected leaves were washed with water and shade dried for about 20 days. The dried leaves of *Mangifera indica* and *Artocarpus heterophyllus* were crushed to coarse powder and then grinded using an electric grinder. Then 5g of each powdered sample was suspended 50 ml of distilled water and kept in a shaker for overnight and then filtered. The Combined extract was prepared by mixing equal amount of both the extracts.

Qualitative Phytochemical Analysis

<u>Test for Alkaloids (Wagner's test)</u>: About few ml of extract was treated with 4-5 drops of Wagner's reagent. The formation of reddish brown precipitate confirms the presence of Alkaloids[10].

<u>Test for Phenol (Ferric chloride test)</u>: About 2ml of the extract was treated with few drops of ferric chloride solution and observed. The formation of deep blue / black colour indicates the presence of phenols[10].

<u>Test for reducing sugars (Fehling's Test)</u>: To 1 ml of the extract added few drops of Fehling's reagent and the mixture was boiled in a boiling water bath for 10 minutes and observed for the appearance of blue colour[11].

<u>Test for Saponins (Foam test)</u>: To 2 ml of extract added 6ml of water in a test tube. The mixture was shaken vigorously and observed for the formation of persistent foam for few seconds. The presence of foam confirms the presence of saponins[10].

<u>Test for Flavonoids</u>: Few drops of 1% aluminium solution were added to a portion of each extract. A yellow colouration observed indicates the presence of flavonoids[12].

<u>Test for Phytosterols (Salkowski's Test)</u>: One ml of the extract was treated with 2 ml of chloroform and few drops of acetic anhydride were added. To that mixture added equal amount of concentrated sulphuric acid was added. The formation of bluish green colour indicates the presence of phytosterols[11].

<u>Test for Steroids</u>: About 2 ml of chloroform and 0.2 ml of concentrated sulphuric acid was added to 1ml of extract. The formation of red colour precipitate indicates the presence of steroids[11].

<u>Test for Tannin</u>: To about 1ml of extract added few drops of 0.1 % of ferric chloride solution. The presence of tannin is confirmed by the formation of dark green or blue color[12].

<u>Test for cardiac glycosides</u>: To 1ml of plant extract added few ml of concentrated sulphuric acid. Formation of red colour indicates the presence of glycosides[13].

<u>Test for Terpenoids</u>: To 2.0ml of chloroform added 5ml of the extract. To the mixture added 3ml of concentrated sulphuric acid. The appearance of reddish brown coloration at the interface shows the presence of terpenoids[13].

Quantitative Phytochemical Analysis

Determination of Phenol Content:

The total phenol content in the extracts was determined by slightly modified Folin and Ciocalteu method. To about 1ml of the leaf extracts added 0.2 ml of Folin Ciocalteu phenol reagent mixture and 1 ml of 20% sodium carbonate. The total content is then incubated at 45° C in a water bath for 45 minutes.

The absorbance was then measured at 765 nm. Gallic acid dilutions were used as standard solutions. The results of phenols are expressed in terms of Gallic acid in mg/ml of extract [14].

Determination of Flavonoid Content:

Analysis of flavonoid content was done using the aluminium chloride colorimetric assay with slight modifications. The assay is based on the formation of an acid-stable complex of aluminium chloride with the C-4 keto group and either the C-3 or C-5 hydroxyl group of flavonoids. 1 ml of leaf extracts were mixed with 0.1 ml of 10% aluminium chloride, 0.1 ml of 1 M Potassium Sodium tartarate and 2.8 ml distilled water. Then the mixture is incubated at room temperature for 30 minutes. Absorbance of the yellow-green complex was measured at 415 nm. Quercetin was used as standard and analysed as above. Flavonoid content of the leaf extracts were expressed as mg quercetin equivalents per gram dried weight (mg QE/g dried weight) [15].

In-vitro Antioxidant Assay

Hydrogen Peroxide Scavenging Assay:

The ability of the extract to scavenge hydrogen peroxide was determined in accordance with standard method with slight modifications. A hydrogen peroxide solution (2mmol/l) was prepared in phosphate buffer (pH 7.4). About 2ml of 20 Mm Hydrogen peroxide was taken as a control. Then the experimental sample tubes were added with 0.5 ml of the extract. Then 2ml of H_2O_2 reagent was added to all the test tubes, mixed well and added 0.9 ml of Ethanol. The tubes were incubated for a short period of 10 - 15 minutes at room temperature. Then the absorbance of samples was read at 230 nm against a blank solution containing phosphate buffer without hydrogen peroxide and compared with ascorbic acid as reference compound [16].

% inhibition of H_2O_2 Scavenging effect = (Abs Control – Abs Extract) / Abs Control × 100

Superoxide radical Scavenging Assay:

Superoxide dismutase (SOD) activity was determined by the inhibition in photoreduction of nitrobluetetrazolium by the SOD enzyme. To the 0.1ml of sample added 1ml of the reaction mixture I (1ml of 50mM PBS, 0.075ml of 20mM L Methionine, 0.04ml of 10mM hydroxyl amine hydrochloride, and 0.1ml of 50mMEDTA) and incubate the sample at 30° C for 5minutes. After incubation added 50µM riboflavin and the sample was allowed to expose under 200W fluorescent light.

1ml of the reaction mixture II (1% Sulphanilamide in 5% phosphoric acid) was added and the measurement was read at 543nm under spectrophotometer [17].

Percentage inhibition = (Abs Control – Abs Extract) / Abs Control \times 100

Total Antioxidant Assay:

The total antioxidant capacity of the leaf extracts was assessed spectrophotometrically by the phosphomolybdenum method.0.5 ml of each sample extract was mixed with 0.5 mL reagent solution (0.6 M H2SO4, 28 mM Sodium phosphate and 4 mM Ammonium molybdate). The blank solution contained 1 mL reagent solution only. The mixtures were incubated at 50°C in a water bath for 150 min. After the mixture had cooled to room temperature, absorbance was measured at 695 nm. Total antioxidant capacity was expressed as tannic acid equivalent (TAE) [18].

Antimicrobial Activity

Selection of Bacteria

Four pathogenic bacterial strains were used in this study for assessing the antibacterial activity of leaf extracts, including the Gram-negative and Gram-positive strains namely; *Escherichia coli, Staphylococcus aureus, Pseudomonas aeruginosa* and *Klebsiella pneumoniae*. Bacterial strains were cultured at 37°C and maintained on nutrient agar slant at 4°C. The antibacterial activity of the leaf extracts was carried out using the agar well diffusion method.

Agar well Diffusion Method

Antibacterial activity of the sample was identified by using agar well diffusion method against the bacteria. Mueller Hinton agar (39gm in 1000ml) was prepared and poured into the petri dishes. After the agar is set, 70 μ l of the bacterial culture (*E.coli, S.aureus, K.pneumoniae, P.aeruginosa*) is swabbed using cotton swab and well were made with cork-borer followed by the sample and control. The leaf extracts (20 μ l) were added to the separate wells. Antibiotic disc (Levofloxacin 30mcg) was placed as a positive control and distilled water was placed in a well as negative control. The plates were incubated at 37^oC for 24 hrs. After incubation anti - bacterial activity of the sample was measured based on the zone of inhibition in mm [19].

Results and Discussion

Qualitative Phytochemical Analysis

The extract of *Mangifera indica* and *Artocarpus heterophyllus* showed the presence of phenol, flavonoids, tannin, and terpenoids, alkaloid, phytosterol, saponins, steroids and cardiac glycosides. The Combined extract showed the presence of alkaloid, phenol, flavonoids, tannin, terpenoids, steroids, phytosterol, saponins.

This is in accordance with the study of phytochemicals done by Mohammed *et al.*, 2016 in *Mangifera indica* which showed the presence of alkaloids, flavonoids, steroids and tannin in aqueous, ethanol and chloroform extracts [20].

Phytochemicals	M.indica	A.heterophyllus Combined Extract	
Alkaloids	+	+	+
Flavonoids	+	+	+
Phenol	+	+	+
Reducing sugar	-	+	-
Tannins	+	+	+
Saponin	+	+	+
Phytosterol	+	-	+
Steroids	+	-	+
Terpenoids	+	+	+
Cardiac glycosides	+	-	+

Table 1: Phytochemical analysis of *M.indica*, *A.heterophyllus* and its Combined Extract

(+) = presence of phytochemicals (-) = absence of phytochemicals

Quantitative Determination of Phenol:

Gallic acid was used as standard for total phenolic acid content. The quantity of phenol present in the leaf extracts was presented in Figure 2.

Total phenolic content of the leaf extracts were 125 mg GAE/g for *Mangifera indica* and 73 mg GAE/g for *Artocarpus heterophyllus* and 100 mg GAE/g for the Combined Extract. The result

indicated that the aqueous extract of *M.indica* possess high amount of phenol when compared to *A. heterophyllus* and Combined extract.

Phenolic compounds are strong antioxidants that have the ability to prevent the tissue damage caused by the free radicals [21]. Since the extracts contain significant amount of phenol content, it might be responsible for their antioxidant property.



Figure 2: Amount of Phenol in M.indica and A.heterophyllus leaf extracts and Combined extract

The analysis of phenol content in different *Mangifera* species by Fitmawati *et al.*, 2020 revealed the presence of highest phenolic compounds of wild mangoes leaves of *M. torquenda* (92.48 mg/g) [22].

Quantitative Determination of Flavonoid:

Quercetin equivalent was the standard used to test the total flavonoid content. The amounts of flavonoid present in the aqueous extracts were found to be 720 mg QE/g for *M.indica* and 540 mg QE/g for *G.superba* and 700 mg QE/g for Combined extract. The results reveal that *M.indica* contains more flavonoid content. The flavonoid present in the leaf extracts was represented in Figure 3.

The analysis of flavonoid content in different *Mangifera* species by Fitmawati *et al.*, 2020 revealed the presence of the highest amount of flavonoid compounds were found in the bark and leaves of *M. sumatrana* (98.69 mg/g and 107.50 mg/g, respectively) [22].





Flavonoids are water soluble polyphenolic compounds which are extremely common and wide spread in the plant kingdom as their glycosides. The flavonoids act through scavenging or chelating process and help in reducing the effect of antioxidants [23]. The flavonoid content present in the extracts may also contribute to their antioxidant activity.

Invitro Antioxidant Assay

Anti-oxidants works by intercepting with reactive oxygen species to quench the radicals and to produce less aggressive chemicals species likely to cause tissue damage. Much attention has been focused on the use of anti-oxidants because of their protective effect against damage from reactive oxygen species [24]. The Antioxidant activities of *M.indica*, *A.heterophyllus* and the Combined extract were determined using the Hydrogen peroxide scavenging, superoxide radical scavenging and Total antioxidant assay methods in the present study.

Hydrogen peroxide scavenging assay:

The Hydrogen peroxide radical scavenging capacities of the extracts were represented in Figure 4.



Figure 4: Hydrogen peroxide activity of *M.indica* and *A.heterophyllus* and Combined extract

The results of the Hydrogen peroxide radical scavenging activity revealed that the Combined aqueous extract of *M.indica* and *A.heterophyllus* have effective hydroxyl radical activity when compared to individual leaf extracts with percentage inhibition of 91.1 per ml of the extract. Between aqueous extract of *M.indica* and *A.heterophyllus*, the hydrogen peroxide radical activity was found to be higher in *A.heterophyllus* extract.

Superoxide radical Scavenging Assay:

The results of the Superoxide radical scavenging assay resulted that the Combined aqueous extract of *M.indica* and *A.heterophyllus* has more scavenging activity against superoxide radical when compared to individual leaf extracts with 65.9 percentage of inhibition. The Superoxide scavenging capacities of the extracts were represented in Figure 5.

The study of superoxide radical scavenging activity of leaf galls of *M.indica* by Rajasekaran and Mahimaidoss (2016) showed that the leaf gall extract of *M. indica* has good high radical scavenging activity [25]. The present study also reveals that *M.indica* also has significant superoxide scavenging activity with percentage inhibition of 61.1 % at a concentration of 100 mg/ ml.



Figure 5: Superoxide radical activity of *M.indica* and *A.heterophyllus* and Combined extract

Total Antioxidant Assay:

Total Antioxidant activities of the three extracts were represented in Figure 6.

Figure 6: Total Antioxidant activity of M.indica and A.heterophyllus and Combined extract



Total antioxidant capacity of the extracts was calculated by using percentage of inhibition against concentration of ascorbic acid. At 500 μ g/ml concentration, aqueous Combined extract exhibited 30% inhibition which is greater when compared to *M. indica* and *A. heterophyllus* extract.

The study of Sreeja *et al.*, 2021 and Ocampo *et al.*, 2020 reveal that the other parts of *M. indica* and *A. heterophyllus* also exhibit significant total Antioxidant activity [26] [27]. Combined extract exhibited good antioxidant activity and can be used to treat harmful effects caused by free radicals which lead to diseases like cancer.

Antimicrobial activity

The antimicrobial activity of the leaf extracts of *Mangifera indica* and *Artocarpus heterophyllus* and Combined extract were evaluated against the bacterial species *Escherichia coli, Staphylococcus aureus, Pseudomonas aeruginosa* and *Klebsiella pneumonia* using disc diffusion method. Antibiotic disc (Levofloxacin 30mg) was used as a positive control. Evaluation of antibacterial activity of these plant extracts was recorded in Table 2 and illustrated in Figure 7.

The results revealed that all plant extracts were potentially effective in suppressing microbial growth of bacterial species with variable potency. *M. indica* was the most effective extract retarding microbial growth of all tested pathogenic bacteria at concentration of 20 μ l while Combined extract was very less effective against all bacterial species.

Organism		Zone of Inhibition			
	M. indica	A.heterophyllus	Combined	Disc	Dis.H ₂ O
			Extract		
E.coli	3 mm	2 mm	1 mm	3 mm	-
S.aureus	6 mm	4 mm	3 mm	2 mm	-
K.pneumoniae	6 mm	4 mm	3 mm	2 mm	-
P.aeruginosa	7 mm	5 mm	1 mm	2 mm	-

Fable 2: Antimicrobial activity of <i>M.indi</i>	a and A.heterophyllus and Combined extract
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Figure 7: Zone of Inhibition of the Extracts

The results are in accordance with the Comparison of antibacterial activity of leaves extracts of *Tectona grandis, Mangifera indica,* and *Anacardium occidentale* investigated by Krishnananda and Ramakrishna, 2017 which showed that ethanol extracts of *M. Indica* and *A. Occidentale* were effective against all test concentrations (25 mg/ml) [28].

Summary and Conclusion

Various parts of *Mangifera indica and Artocarpus heterophyllus* species have been reported to have medicinal benefits and used in traditional medicine. They are shown to have many important biological properties which can be used in treatment of various diseases. The present study showed that the Combination of both extracts have significant antioxidant and antibacterial activity. The presence of important phyto-constituents such as alkaloids, flavonoids, phenols, saponins, steroids, etc may be responsible for their potent biological properties.

The present study results conclude that the Combined extract of *M. indica and A. heterophyllus* can be used as a good source of antioxidants to protect against various diseases. The Combined extract can be further studied against different cancer cell lines to test its potency.

Acknowledgement

The authors are grateful to Department of Biochemistry, Sri Ramakrishna College of Arts and Science for Women, Centre for Bioscience and Nanoscience Research, Botanical Survey of India Coimbatore for providing needed assistance.

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