



RESEARCH ARTICLE

EVALUATION OF ANTIBACTERIAL ACTIVITY OF DIFFERENT SOLVENT EXTRACTS OF
Scleroderma bermudense CORKER. (SCLERODERMATACEAE)

*Ashok Chittaragi, Raja Naika, Roopashree, A. C. and Chandrashekar, M. B.

Department of P. G. Studies and Research in Applied Botany, Mycology Lab, Jnana Sahyadri, Kuvempu University, Shankaraghatta-577451, Shimoga (District), Karnataka, India

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ABSTRACT

In this study, *in vitro* antibacterial properties of *Scleroderma bermudense* extracted using three different solvent systems (Petroleum ether, Chloroform and Methanol) were studied against plant and human pathogens viz., *Xanthomonas campestris*, *Pseudomonas syringae*, *Agrobacterium tumefaciens*, *Klebsiella pneumonia*, *Staphylococcus aureus*, *Salmonella paratyphi*, *Salmonella typhi*, *Pseudomonas aeruginosa* and *Escherichia coli* by agar well diffusion method. The three organic solvent extracts, showed more effective inhibitory activity against all the tested bacteria. Author conclude, the present results of the study evidence the utilize of the mushrooms in traditional biomedicine for the curing of ailments caused by the microorganisms.

INTRODUCTION

The higher Basidiomycetes include about 10,000 species from 550 genera and 80 families in the Basidiomycetes class with macroscopic fruiting bodies. Furthermore, approximately 700 species of higher Basidiomycetes have been found to possess significant pharmacological activities (Mizuno, 1995, Wasser, 1995, 2002). The Basidiomycota contains an abundance of species that produce large fruiting bodies including typical mushrooms, coral fungi, puffballs, bracket fungi, and so on. Some species are frequently used as a food source such as the common field mushroom, *Agaricus bisporus* (J. E. Lange) Imbach (Agaricaceae); others have been used chiefly in medicine (Boa, 2004; Molitoris, 1994), whereas some are known for their notoriously toxic properties such as Amanitas. Nature has been a source of medicinal agents for thousands of years. An impressive number of modern drugs have been isolated from microorganisms, mainly based on their use in traditional medicine. In the past century, however, an increasing role has been played by microorganisms in the production of antibiotics and other drugs (Fenical, 1993). The medicinal use of mushrooms has a very long tradition in the Asia and Africa, whereas their use in the Western countries has been increasing only moderately in recent decades (Ding et al., 2008; Kirk et al., 2008; Kono et al., 2001). In recent years, a number of pharmacological actions have been intensively investigated, including cytotoxic/antitumor, immune suppressive, antipruritic, antierythema, and antifungal, antioxidant and free radical scavenging activities. The recently-founded scientific publication International Journal of Medicinal Mushrooms (Begell House, Editor-in-Chief S. P. Wasser)

and international conferences on this topic have confirmed this trend, as have several books and reviews concerning medicinal mushrooms and biologically active compounds from fungi (Buechi et al., 1965; Hutchinson 1999; Hyodo et al., 1994; Itabashi et al., 1993; Laakso et al., 2003). Fungi from the division Basidiomycota have been widely studied as an alternative source of metabolites with pharmacological properties, including anticancerigenous, antitumor, immune modulating, antibacterial and cytotoxic activities (Wasser, 2002; Daba and Ezeronye, 2003; Fan et al., 2006; Borchers et al., 2008). Antibiotic resistance of human pathogenic bacteria has become a major worldwide public health concern (Finch, 2002; Harbarth and Samore, 2005), this is why the search for new substances with antimicrobial activity is a priority (Livermore, 2005). Antimicrobial activity has already been documented in extracts from the mycelium (Suay et al., 2000) and fruiting bodies (Zjawiony, 2004) of different wild species from Basidiomycota. Extracts of various fungal fruiting bodies such as *Pleurotus ostreatus* (Jacq.) P. Kumm. (Iwalokun et al., 2007), *Pholiota adiposa* (Fr.) P. Kumm. (Strophariaceae) (Dulger, 2004), *Coprinus digitalis* (Batsch) Fr. (Agaricaceae) (Efremenkova et al., 2003), *Podaxis pistillaris* (L.) Fr. (Agaricaceae) (Al-Fatimi et al., 2006), *Lycoperdon pusillum* Batsch [now *Bovista pusilla* (Batsch) Pers.], and *Lycoperdon giganteum* Batsch [now *Calvatia gigantea* (Batsch) Lloyd] (Lycoperdaceae) (Jonathan & Fasidi, 2003) have shown activity against a range of different Gram+ve and Gram-ve bacteria and also fungi. Stamets (2006) mentioned that macrofungi produce numerous novel pharmaceuticals. Therefore, considering the previous reports on the antimicrobial potential of macrofungi and in view of the continuous need for the development of new antimicrobials, the present study aimed to evaluate a sample of *Scleroderma bermudense* for their antibacterial activity against gram positive and gram negative bacteria by agar well diffusion method.

*Corresponding author: Ashok Chittaragi,

Department of P. G. Studies and Research in Applied Botany, Mycology Lab, Jnana Sahyadri, Kuvempu University, Shankaraghatta-577451, Shimoga (District), Karnataka, India

Table: 1. Antibacterial activities of *Scleroderma bermudense* extract against plant pathogenic bacteria by agar well diffusion method

Sl. No	Organisms	Diameter of zone of inhibition (in mm)												Control	Standard
		Petroleum ether Extract (Conc.mg/ml)				Chloroform Extract (Conc.mg/ml)				Methanol Extract (Conc.mg/ml)					
		100 %	50 %	25 %	12.5 %	100 %	50 %	25 %	12.5 %	100 %	50 %	25 %	12.5 %		
1	<i>X. campestris</i>	22	19	19	18	20	20	20	16	20	20	17	11	-	40
2	<i>P. syringae</i>	19	17	15	15	22	20	18	16	18	17	19	12	-	38
3	<i>A. tumefaciens</i>	22	20	18	17	23	20	18	17	20	19	15	18	-	30

‘-‘ No activity.

Table: 2. Antibacterial activities of *Scleroderma bermudense* extract against human pathogenic bacteria by agar well diffusion method

Sl. No	Organisms	Diameter of zone of inhibition (in mm)												Control	Standard
		Petroleum ether Extract (Conc.mg/ml)				Chloroform Extract (Conc.mg/ml)				Methanol Extract (Conc.mg/ml)					
		100 %	50 %	25 %	12.5 %	100 %	50 %	25 %	12.5 %	100 %	50 %	25 %	12.5 %		
1	<i>S. paratyphi</i>	22	18	17	16	18	17	15	14	20	21	18	17	-	26
2	<i>S. typhi</i>	20	18	17	15	17	17	16	14	22	19	17	12	-	28
3	<i>P. aeruginosa</i>	20	18	17	16	16	15	14	13	19	21	18	16	-	32
4	<i>E. coli</i>	25	20	18	15	18	17	16	15	18	17	16	16	-	33
5	<i>K. pneumonia</i>	18	17	16	15	18	16	20	14	19	17	16	12	-	28
6	<i>S. aureus</i>	18	19	16	16	19	17	18	15	20	16	15	14	-	30

‘-‘ No activity.

MATERIALS AND METHODS

The *Scleroderma bermudense* were collected from Haniya, Hosanagar taluk, Shimoga district, Karnataka during the month of September and October 2012. The *S. bermudense* of mushroom was picked from the litter and decaying soil surface, with help of forceps and then they were cleaned and kept for shade drying. The shade dried mushroom materials were powdered mechanically for further use. Identification was done by comparing their morphological, anatomical and physiological characteristics and monographs with descriptions given in the manual (Purkayastha and Aindrila, 1978) and also through the electronic data on identification keys of mushrooms (Kuo, 2004). The specimen was deposited at the herbarium of mycology laboratory, Department of Applied Botany, Kuvempu University, Jnana Sahyadri, Shimoga district, Karnataka, India.

Preparation of extracts

The powdered materials were subjected Soxhlet extraction by using various solvents namely petroleum ether, chloroform and methanol. Each extraction was carried out for 48 hours at suitable temperature. The yield of each extracts were recorded and preserved at 4° C for further experiments.

Test microorganisms

The antibacterial activities of crude extracts were tested against three plant and six human pathogenic bacteria namely *Xanthomonas campestris* (MTCC-2286), *Pseudomonas syringae* (MTCC-1604), *Agrobacterium tumefaciens* (MTCC-431), *Klebsiella pneumonia* (MTCC-7028), *Staphylococcus aureus* (MTCC-902), *Salmonella paratyphi* (MTCC-1088), *Salmonella typhi* (MTCC-968), *Pseudomonas aeruginosa* (MTCC-1934) and *Escherichia coli* (MTCC-1698). These organisms were received and authenticated from IMTECH, Chandigarh, India and the cultures were maintained at 4° C for further use.

Antibacterial tests

Antibacterial activity of extracts was determined by agar well diffusion method (Bauer *et al.*, 1966; Chew *et al.*, 2011). The agar well diffusion method was employed for the determination of antibacterial property of the extracts. The pteriplates containing 20 ml of Mueller Hinton agar medium were seeded with 24 h culture of the microorganism. The wells (6 mm in diameter) were cut from the agar and the extract solution (5 mg/ml) was then added into it. Antibacterial activity was

evaluated by measuring the diameter of the growth inhibition zones (zone reader) in millimeters for the organisms and comparing to the control (Anjum *et al.*, 2013). DMSO served as control and 10 µg/ml of tetracycline and ciproflaxacin served as standard. Each experiment was performed in triplicates, repeated twice and were tabulated.

RESULTS

The antibacterial activities of petroleum ether, chloroform and methanol extract of mushroom *S. bermudense* was analyzed in vitro by agar well diffusion method. The growth inhibitory effect of crude extracts of *S. bermudense* were tested against three plants and six human pathogenic bacteria viz., *X. campestris*, *P. syringae*, *A. tumefaciens*, *K. pneumonia*, *S. aureus*, *S. paratyphi*, *S. typhi*, *P. aeruginosa* and *E. coli*. The antibacterial activity of all the solvent extracts were calculated by measuring inhibition zone formed around the well in millimeter (mm). The antibacterial activities of *S. bermudense* against plant pathogenic bacteria were presented in Table-1. The three organic solvent extracts, showed more effective inhibitory activity against all the tested bacteria. The maximum antibacterial activity of chloroform extracts of *S. bermudense* was found against *A. tumefaciens* (23mm) at 100% concentration, followed by *P. syringae* (22mm) and *X. campestris* (20mm) and moderate against *P. syringae* (18mm) and *A. tumefaciens* at 50% concentration, followed by *A. tumefaciens* (18mm) and *P. syringae* (16mm) at lower concentration. The petroleum ether extract showed maximum activity against *X. campestris* (22mm) and *A. tumefaciens* (22mm) the minimum inhibition zone (15mm) was recorded against *P. syringae*.

The methanol extract showed moderate degree of inhibition zone against *X. campestris* (20mm) and *A. tumefaciens* (20mm) at 100% concentration and mild activity against *P. syringae* (12mm) and *X. campestris* (11mm) at 12.5% concentration. The antibacterial effects of different solvent extracts of *S. bermudense* were tested against six human pathogenic bacteria and results were tabulated in Table 2. Among the three organic solvent extracts, showed more effective inhibitory activity against all the tested bacteria. The petroleum ether extracts were showed more active antibacterial proficiency against *E. coli* (25mm) and *S. paratyphi* (22mm) at 100% concentration, moderate effect against *S. typhi* (20mm) followed by *P. aeruginosa* (20mm), *K. pneumonia* (18mm) and *S. aureus* (18mm). The methanol and chloroform extract were highly active against *S. typhi* (22mm) at 100% concentration, followed by *S. paratyphi* (21mm) and *P. aeruginosa* (21mm) at 50% concentration.

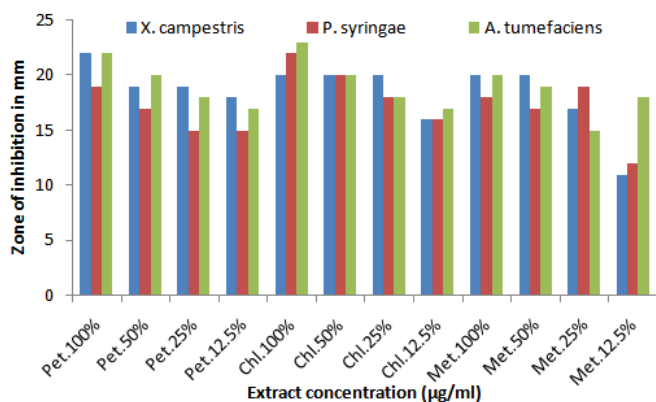


Fig. 1. Graphical representation of antibacterial activity of *Scleroderma bermudense* against plant pathogens

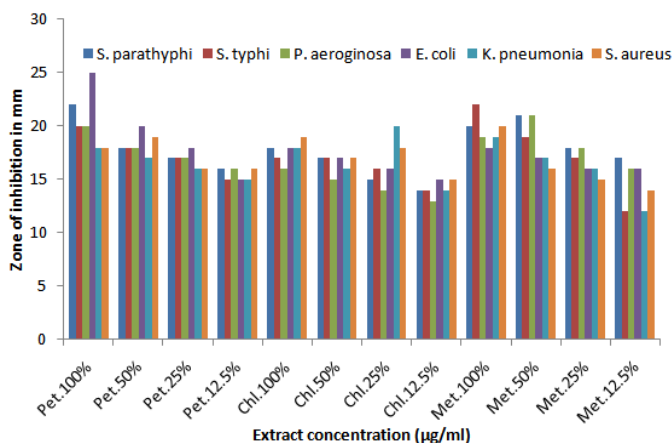


Fig. 2. Graphical representation of antibacterial activity of *Scleroderma bermudense* against human pathogens

DISCUSSION

The results of the present study revealed that antibacterial potentialities of petroleum ether, chloroform and methanol extracts varied in usefulness which may be attributed, the author also notable the antibacterial activity, which agrees with the findings of Divya *et al.*, (2011). This difference in response of mushroom extracts to test organisms might be due to a number of factors, as studies suggest that the antimicrobial activities of all mushroom extracts are changeable (Iwalokun *et al.*, 2007), depending upon the nature of environment and media in which it was grown. It also depends upon the genetic structure of mushroom species, physical and biochemical constituents, extraction solvents and test organisms. The sensitivity pattern of microorganisms also changes to chemotherapeutic agents depending on their strains, and susceptibility or resistance to antibiotic (Gao *et al.*, 2005). However, basidiomycetes may be a source of new and useful bioactive compounds. Further studies on isolation and characterization of the active compounds may provide a better source for developing new therapeutic and pharmacological agents.

Conclusion

The presentation of the antibacterial potential of the mushroom extract of the *Scleroderma bermudense* against plant and human pathogenic microorganisms is confirmation that the extracts are potential source of antibiotics with a wide spectrum of properties. Results of this research confirm the utilize of the mushrooms in traditional biomedicine to cure ailments caused by the pathogenic bacteria. Further study will be required to bioassay indicated isolation to isolate, identify and characterization the structure of the biologically active compound accountable for pharmacological properties.

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