

PHYTOCHEMICAL SCREENING AND ANTIMICROBIAL ACTIVITY OF LEAF AND BARK ETHANOL EXTRACTS OF MARINE AND TERRESTRIAL PLANTS OF *XYLOCARPUS* SPECIES.

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ABSTRACT

True mangrove species of *Xylocarpus* belongs to meliaceae family and are distributed in the coastal ecosystems. Mangrove plants represent a unique set of plants with high adaptability to extreme environments. The unique adaptations of mangrove represent a rich source of bio active compounds. In the present work we report the anti-microbial activity of *Xylocarpus granatum* and *Xylocarpus moluccensis*. The antimicrobial activity of the leaf and bark of *X.granatum* and *X.moluccensis* were evaluated against antibiotic resistant bacteria and fungi like *Staphylococcus aureus*, *Bacillus subtilis*, *Bacillus cereus*, *Eschrichia coli* and *Candida albicans*. Ethanol extractions of leaf and bark were prepared using cold maturation and antimicrobial activity is evaluated by using agar well diffusion method. Marine and terrestrial

plants of *Xylocarpus granatum* showed promising antibacterial activity against *S.aureus* (18mm), *B.subtilis* (15mm), *B.cereus* (18mm) and *E.coli* (21mm) and also antifungal activity against *C. albicans* (25mm) when compared to *Xylocarpus moluccensis*. The results indicated that *Xylocarpus granatum* is a potent source of bio active compounds when compared to *Xylocarpus moluccensis*.

KEY WORDS: *Xylocarpus granatum*, Antimicrobial activity, Agar well diffusion method.

INTRODUCTION

Mangrove plants are rich sources for bioactive compounds and widely distributed throughout the coastal areas of India, especially estuaries. Mangrove plants and their products have been used in traditional medicine. These plants are well known to have natural products with great pharmaceutical importance; they exhibit antimicrobial, anti-larval, antiviral and insecticidal activity (Kokpal *et al.*, 1990; Premnathan *et al.*, 1992, 1998). Mangrove plants are the best choice to isolate bioactive natural products active against bacterial and fungi (Han *et al.*, 2007; Wu *et al.*, 2008).

Xylocarpus granatum and *Xylocarpus moluccensis* belongs to meliaceae family. *Xylocarpus granatum* is rare and *Xylocarpus moluccensis* is distributed well (Raju, 2003). Availability and distribution of *Xylocarpus granatum* in Krishna mangroves were reported in Kothapalem (Pullaiah, 2000 and Nabi *et al.*, 2012). The field survey indicated that there is a vast variation in distribution of *Xylocarpus granatum* and *Xylocarpus moluccensis* in the Krishna and Godavari mangroves (Raju, 2003).

In the present work, we prepared solvent extracts for antimicrobial activity from *Xylocarpus granatum* and *X.moluccensis* and assayed against range of microbes. We thought that evolutionary and ecological adaptations of mangrove species (*X.granatum* and *X.moluccensis*) might have resulted in accumulation of valuable biologically active molecules which need to be screened, isolated and identified. In the present work, we tried to understand the differential response of above plants against a range of microbes, which may be a reflection of their differential phytochemical composition.

MATERIALS AND METHODS

Collection of plant material

Bark and leaves of *Xylocarpus granatum* and *Xylocarpus moluccensis* were collected from mangrove forest located at Kothapalem, Guntur district, Andhra Pradesh in the month of December 2014.

Sample preparation

The obtained bark and leaves were washed with tap water to remove visible dust and then were shade dried at room temperature. Then crushed to fine powder using mortar and pestle and stored at refrigerator (4°C) for further use.

Preparation of plant extracts

100g of bark and leaves samples were taken and extracted individually with ethanol. Samples were kept for 72 hours at room temperature and it's were stirred with a glass rod after every 2 hours. After 3 days, the mixtures were filtered using the whatman's filter papers no.1. The extracts obtained were dried and concentrated in rotary vacuum evaporator and concentrated extracts were stored in refrigerator (4°C) for analysis (Alade and Irobi's cold extraction method).

Antimicrobial Activity against Test Organisms

The antimicrobial activity of the crude extract of *Xylocarpus granatum* and *Xylocarpus moluccensis* was determined by agar well diffusion method (Naragani *et al.*, 2014). Nutrient agar (NA) and Czapek-Dox (CD) agar media were used for culturing the test bacteria and fungi respectively. NA medium (100 ml) was sterilized at 15 lbs pressure (121°C) for 15min, cooled and inoculated with 0.5 ml of test bacterial suspension. After solidification of agar medium, wells of about 5 mm diameter were punched into it with sterilized cork borer. In case of antifungal assay, spore suspension of test fungi was mixed with the cooled, molten CD agar medium and poured into petri dishes. The crude extract dissolved in ethanol at a concentration of 50,100,150 mg/ml was added to the wells made in the medium. Adding only ethanol to the wells served as control. The plates were incubated at 30°C for 24 h for bacteria and 24-72 h for fungi and the diameter of the inhibition zones was measured.

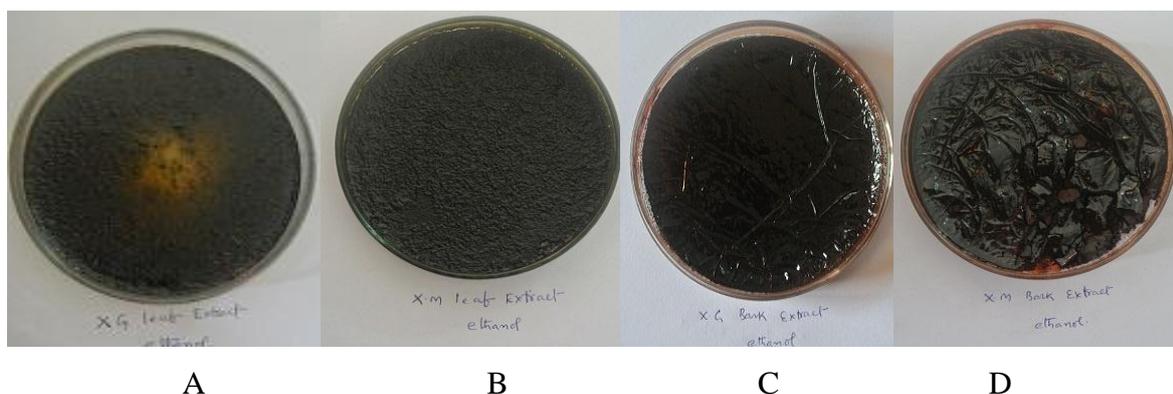
The antimicrobial activity of the crude extract produced by the *Xylocarpus granatum* and *Xylocarpus moluccensis* were tested against bacteria viz. *Staphylococcus aureus* (ATCC6538), *Bacillus subtilis* (ATCC6633), *Bacillus cereus*, *Escherichia coli* (ATCC15597) and fungi such as *Candida albicans* (ATCC10231) by agar-diffusion assay.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Mangrove plants are adapted well to extremely challenging environmental abiotic conditions by alterations in their physiological processes resulting in the synthesis of novel chemical compounds that offers protection against the various biotic and abiotic conditions (Edreva *et al.*, 2008). A number of these phyto compounds or secondary metabolites have significant medicinal properties and are being used traditionally for treatment of number of ailments (Bandaranayake, 2002). The mangrove plants possess strong antimicrobial compounds (viz. flavonoids, tannins, terpenoids, coumarins, alkaloids, lectins) that may act against a broad range of disease causing microorganisms (Das *et al.*, 2014). Extracts from different mangrove

plants and mangrove associates are found to be active against human and plant pathogens (Chandrasekaran *et al.*, 2009).

The mangrove plant that belongs to the genus *Xylocarpus* have shown to be having enormous ethno medicinal potential; however, few reports are available about their principles responsible for their biological activities. The presence of alkaloids, flavonoids, triterpinoids, phenolics, limonoids and steroids etc. has been reported in the leaves; stem bark and fruits of these plants (Wangensteen *et al.*, 2009).



**Fig: 1 A, B) Leaf ethanol extracts of *Xylocarpus granatum* and *X. moluccensis*
C, D) Bark ethanol extracts of *Xylocarpus granatum* and *X. moluccensis***

Qualitative phytochemical analysis indicated that *Xylocarpus granatum* and *X. moluccensis* ethanol extracts contain number of secondary metabolites such as alkaloids, terpenoids, flavonoids, tannins and saponins (Table.1).

Table. 1 Phytochemical analyses of *Xylocarpus granatum* and *Xylocarpus moluccensis*

S.No	Secondary metabolite	Test	<i>Xylocarpus granatum</i>		<i>Xylocarpus moluccensis</i>	
			Leaf	Bark	Leaf	Bark
1	Alkaloids	Mayer's test Fraction+	+	++	+	+
2	Terpenoids	General test Fraction+SnCl ₃	+	++	+	++
3	Flavonoids	General test Fraction+Ethyl acetate+Dil HNO ₃	+	++	+	++
4	Tannins	Fraction+Water+ 5% FeCl ₃	++	++	+	++
5	Saponins	Frothing test Fraction+ distilled water	-	++	-	-

In our preliminary study, it is found that aqueous and ethanol extracts of some mangrove species have antimicrobial activities (Abeyasinghe *et al.*, 2000). In almost all tests, crude ethanol extracts showed better inhibition against all tested bacterial strains, indicating that active ingredients in plant materials could be extracted into ethanol (Babuselvam *et al.*, 2012). However, the leaf extract has been tested for its antimicrobial effect against *Staphylococcus aureus* (ATCC6538), *Bacillus subtilis* (ATCC6633), *Bacillus cereus*, *Escherichia coli* (ATCC15597) and fungi such as *Candida albicans* (ATCC10231) in the levels of 50, 100 and 150 mg/ml growth was inhibited by the effect of extract. The MIC ranged from 150 to 1000 µg/ml. For the interpretation of antibacterial assay results, we scale of measurement adopted was as zone of inhibition of >15 mm as strongly inhibitory, 10 - 15 mm as moderately inhibitory, and <10 mm as not inhibitory, according to Carvois-Stanko *et al.* (2010). *Xylocarpus granatum* leaf extract shows at the level of 150 mg/ml maximum and minimum inhibition zone was observed against in *E.coli* (21mm) and *B.subtilis* (10mm) respectively (fig.2). Maximum inhibition zone was observed in fungi such as *Candida albicans* (25mm) (Table.2).as well as *E.coli* (8mm), *Candida albicans* (12mm) inhibition zone was observed at terrestrial environment (Table.3) that could be due to lack of stressful marine environment. Whereas *Xylocarpus moluccensis* leaf extract shows at the level of 150 mg/ml maximum and minimum inhibition zone was observed against in *B.subtilis*, *B.cereus* (20mm) and *S.aureus* (15mm) respectively (fig. 3). Maximum inhibition zone was observed in fungi such as *Candida albicans* (18mm) (Table.2 & fig.3). But no promising inhibition zone was observed at terrestrial environment that could be due to lack of stressful marine environment (Table.3). The results indicated that at level of 150 mg/ml leaf extract of *Xylocarpus granatum* shows more activity against bacterial (21mm) and fungi (25mm) cultures when compared to the *Xylocarpus moluccensis* (Table.2&3).

Table: 2 Antimicrobial activity of leaf ethanol extract of *Xylocarpus granatum* and *Xylocarpus moluccensis* at marine environment.

S. No	Microorganism	Zone of inhibition (mm)					
		<i>X.granatum</i> (µg/ml)			<i>X.moluccensis</i> (µg/ml)		
		50	100	150	50	100	150
1	<i>Staphylococcus aureus</i>	7	12	15	10	12	18
2	<i>Bacillus subtilis</i>	13	15	20	5	10	15
3	<i>Bacillus cereus</i>	15	17	20	10	15	18
4	<i>Escherichia coli</i>	10	15	21	10	16	18
5	<i>Candida albicans</i>	13	15	25	10	18	18

Table: 3 Antimicrobial activity of leaf ethanol extracts of *Xylocarpus granatum* and *Xylocarpus moluccensis* at terrestrial environment.

S.No	Microorganism	Zone of inhibition (mm)					
		<i>X.granatum</i> ($\mu\text{g/ml}$)			<i>X.moluccensis</i> ($\mu\text{g/ml}$)		
		50	100	150	50	100	150
1	<i>Staphylococcus aureus</i>	-	-	5	-	-	-
2	<i>Bacillus subtilis</i>	-	-	7	-	-	5
3	<i>Bacillus cereus</i>	-	-	5	-	-	-
4	<i>Escherichia coli</i>	-	-	8	-	-	5
5	<i>Candida albicans</i>	-	5	12	-	-	-

A) *S. aureus*B) *E. coli*C) *C. albicans*

Fig.2. Antimicrobial activity (A, B and C) of leaf ethanol extract of *Xylocarpus granatum*

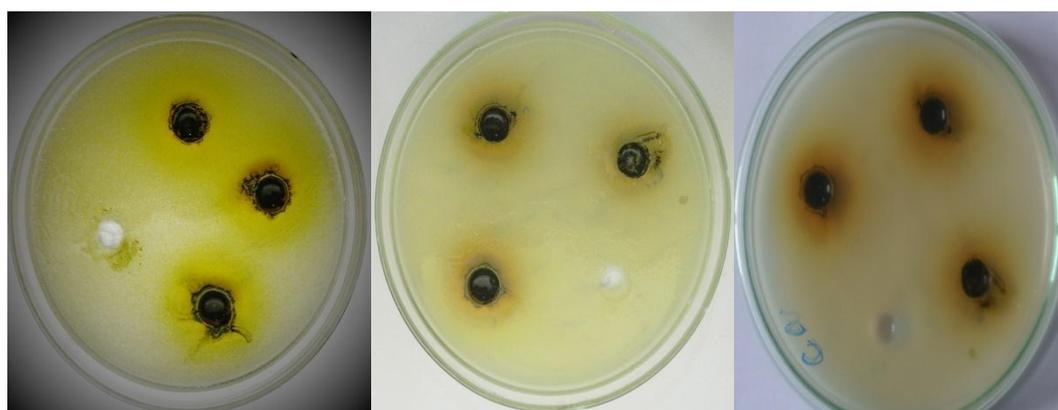
A) *S.aureus*B) *E. coli*C) *C.albicans*

Fig.3 Antimicrobial activity (A, B and C) of leaf ethanol extracts of *Xylocarpus moluccensis*

Xylocarpus granatum bark extract shows at the level of 150 mg/ml maximum and minimum inhibition zone was observed against in *S.aureus*, *B.subtilis*, *B.cereus* (25mm) and *E.coli* (2.5mm) respectively. Maximum inhibition zone was observed in fungi such as *Candida albicans* (25mm) (Table.4 and fig.4). As well as *E.coli* (8mm) and *Candida albicans*(13mm)

at terrestrial environment (Table.5 and fig.5). Whereas *Xylocarpus moluccensis* bark extract shows at the level of 150 mg/ml maximum and minimum inhibition zone was observed against in *S.aureus*, *E.coli* (25mm) and *B.subtilis* (23mm) respectively. Maximum inhibition zone was observed in fungi such as *Candida albicans* (19mm) (Table.5). But very low (<5mm) activity was observed at terrestrial environment. The results indicated that at level of 150 mg/ml, the leaf extract of *Xylocarpus granatum* shows more activity against bacteria (25mm) and fungi (25mm) cultures when compared to the *Xylocarpus moluccensis* (Table.4&5).

Our results also indicate clear difference in antimicrobial activity of leaf and bark of *Xylocarpus granatum* and *X.moluccensis*. Whereas, *Xylocarpus granatum* shows high activity, Which is a reflection of the rich sources of bio active compounds that a plants contains.

Table: 4 Antimicrobial activity of bark ethanol extracts of *Xylocarpus granatum* and *Xylocarpus moluccensis* of marine areas.

S.No	Microorganism	Zone of inhibition(mm)					
		<i>X.granatum</i> (µg/ml)			<i>X.moluccensis</i> (µg/ml)		
		50	100	150	50	100	150
1	<i>Staphylococcus aureus</i>	20	22	25	15	20	25
2	<i>Bacillus subtilis</i>	18	20	24	15	20	23
3	<i>Bacillus cereus</i>	20	25	25	18	20	23
4	<i>Escherichia coli</i>	20	25	25	15	20	20
5	<i>Candida albicans</i>	15	20	25	14	16	19

Table: 5 Antimicrobial activity of bark ethanol extracts of *Xylocarpus granatum* and *Xylocarpus moluccensis* of terrestrial areas.

S.No	Microorganism	Zone of inhibition(mm)					
		<i>X.granatum</i> (µg/ml)			<i>X.moluccensis</i> (µg/ml)		
		50	100	150	50	100	150
1	<i>Staphylococcus aureus</i>	5	5	5	0.0	0.0	5
2	<i>Bacillus subtilis</i>	5	7	8	0.0	0.0	4
3	<i>Bacillus cereus</i>	0	5	5	0.0	0.0	5
4	<i>Escherichia coli</i>	0	3	5	0.0	0.0	5
5	<i>Candida albicans</i>	5.0	9.0	13	0.0	3.0	3.0

A) *S.aureus*B) *B.subtilis*C) *C.albicans*

Fig.4. Antimicrobial activity (A, B and C) of bark ethanol extract of *Xylocarpus granatum*

A) *S.aureus*B) *B.subtilis*C) *C.albicans*

Fig.5. Antimicrobial activity (A, B and C) of bark ethanol extract of *Xylocarpus moluccensis*

CONCLUSIONS

In the present work, we provide data to show the potential of mangrove extracts for development of anti-microbial agents with changing environments. *Xylocarpus granatum* showed more activity than *Xylocarpus moluccensis* and indicates that *Xylocarpus granatum* more potent than *Xylocarpus moluccensis*.

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