Antioxidant and Antibacterial Activities for Several Phenolic Compounds in Selected Personal Care Products

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ABSTRACT

The radical scavenging activity of phenolic compounds such as butylated hydroxyanisole (BHA) and butylated hydroxytoluene (BHT) as antioxidants, and octyl methylcinnamat (OMC) as UVB-filter in selected personal care products such as sunscreen cream, milk lotion, hair oil and hair gel were evaluated. 2,2-diphenyl-1-picrylhydrazyl (DPPH) radical was used as reagent and antioxidant activity expressed as decrease in the percentage of DPPH. The antibacterial activities of BHA, BHT, OMC and mixture were assessed using two techniques of agar plate diffusion method. The mixture of BHA, BHT and OMC showed the highest percentage of DPPH⁺ inhibition (95.2%), followed by BHA (94.8%), BHT (93.9%) and OMC (9.0%). DPPH⁺ inhibition for crude extracts of selected personal care products were evaluated. The percentage of DPPH⁺ inhibition for sunscreen cream, milk lotion, hair gel and hair oil were 15.3%, 23.5%, 7.7% and 12.7%, respectively. While IC₅₀ of BHA, BHT and mixture against *E. coli* using paper-disk diffusion technique were 1.5, 15, 200, 1.5 µg/disk, respectively. While, the MIC values obtained using hole-punch technique were 100, 200, not active, 70 µg/hole for BHA, BHT, OMC and mixture against *S. aureus* were 15, 70, not active, 10 µg/disk respectively. On the other hand, MIC values obtained using hole-punch technique were 70, 200, not active, respectively.

Keywords: Phenolic compounds, personal care products, radical scavenging, DPPH, IC50

INTRODUCTION

Butylated hydroxyanisole (BHA) and butylated hydroxytoluene (BHT) behave as phenolic antioxidants due to the reactivity of the hydroxyl substituent on the aromatic ring (Peschel et al. 2006). The antioxidant activity of BHA and BHT is related to scavenging free radicals, chelating transition metals involved in free radical production (capable of catalyzing oxidation) and inhibiting the enzymes participating in free-radical generation (Apostolova et al. 2008). No evidence to prove the antioxidant and antibacterial activities of octyl methylcinnamat (OMC). However, p-methoxycinnamic acid (OMC is ester of p-methoxycinnamic acid) had capability to scavenging free radicals and inhibit growth of grampositive and gram-negative bacteria (Lee et al. 2006; Nakazono et al. 2006).

Both BHA and BHT have capability to inhibit the growth of gram-positive and gram-negative bacteria. (Chew *et al.* 1985; Post & Davidson 1986; Collins & Charles 1987; Tseng & Tseng 1995; 2009). The inhibitory power of BHA, BHT against lipid composition of bacterial species is due to disruption of the cytoplasmic membrane of bacteria cells since BHA and BHT are very soluble in lipids (Post & Davidson 1986; Simonetti *et al.* 2003; Klich *et al.* 2009; Romano *et al.* 2009).

The DPPH method has been widely used to evaluate antioxidant activity in plant extracts and biological systems with varying results (Thaiponga et al. 2006). This method is simple and quick due to the simplicity of the equipment required. Several methods have been used to evaluate the antibacterial activity of phenolic compounds such as agar plate diffusion, agar dilution and broth microdilution methods (Osman et al. 2009; Singh et al. 2008; Gaudreau et al. 2008; Chryssanthou & Cuenca-Estrella 2006). This paper reports the evaluation of the antioxidant and antibacterial activities of BHA, BHT, OMC, mixture and extract from selected personal care products using DPPH and agar plate diffusion method. IC₅₀ and MIC for BHA, BHT, OMC and mixture are also reported.

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MATERIALS & METHODS

Chemical Reagent and Standard Solution

All chemical reagents used for extraction and dilution were analytical grade of Merck (Darmstadt, Germany). The reagents include n-hexane, methanol acetonitrile. DPPH' (2,2-diphenyl-1and picrylhydrazyl) radical reagent was purchased from Sigma, USA. Standards of BHA (96%), BHT (99.8%) and OMC (98%) were purchased from ACROS-ORGANICS (New Jersey, USA). A 5000 mg/L stock solution for each BHA, BHT and OMC in methanol was prepared by weighing equivalent accurately 1250 mg of BHA BHT, OMC. The flask was then shaken until a homogenous and clear solution formed and diluted with methanol to total volume of 250 mL. The stock solution was covered with aluminum foil and stored in a freezer (4 °C) and away from light for a maximum of one month.

Extraction of Phenolic Compounds from Personal Care Samples

Extraction of BHA, BHT and OMC from personal care samples was performed using a reflux method according to procedure outlined by Gulcin et al. (2009) with a slight modification. Briefly, 0.3 to 2 g personal care samples were accurately weighed in the 100 mL capacity round bottom flask. Prior to extraction, lipids, fatty acids and volatile oils were removed from the sample by addition of 25 mL nhexane and 25 mL acetonitrile. The sample was then extracted under reflux for 30 minutes at 70°C. The crude extract was transferred to separatory funnel and two layers were formed. The n-hexane phase was repartitioned for three times using 10 mL of acetonitrile and shaked vigorously. The n-hexane phase was removed and acetonitrile phase was collected. The extract was then concentrated on a vacuum rotary evaporator. The residue was redissolved with 5 mL of methanol and transferred into a 10 mL volumetric flask after filtration. Finally, it was then diluted to 10 mL with methanol.

Determination of Antioxidant Activity

The antioxidant activity of crude extracts from selected personal care samples was determined using the procedure developed by Brand-Williams *et al.* (1995) and slightly modified by Mandal *et al.* (2009). Exactly 0.4 mL of extract was mixed with 4 mL of 0.1 mM DPPH[•] and shaked 15 seconds. The mixture was left at room temperature for 30 minutes in dark place. The absorbance of the sample was measured by UV-Visible spectrophotometer model Lambda 25 at 517 nm for every 5 minutes until 30

minutes. A control was a mixture of 0.4 mL of distilled water and 4 mL of 0.1 mM DPPH[•]. Both BHA and BHT were selected as positive control. The radical scavenging activity was calculated as the percentage of DPPH[•] discoloration using the equation below (Katalinic *et al.* 2006):

% DPPH radical scavenging = $[1 - (A_{517}nm sample/A_{517}nm control)] \times 100$

where, A_{517} nm sample is sample absorbance at 517 nm,

 A_{517} nm control is DPPH[•] absorbance without sample at 517 nm.

Determination of Antibacterial activity

Seven standard solutions with concentrations of 0.06, 0.4, 0.6, 2.4, 4.8, 8 and 16 mg/mL for each BHA, BHT, OMC and mixture were prepared by mixing methanol with sterile nutrient broth (10:90, v/v) (Romano et al. 2009). The pH of the nutrient broth was readjusted to 5.5 by the addition of small volume of HCl (Collins & Charles 1987). The antibacterial activity of crude extract for selected personal care samples (sunscreen cream, milk lotion, hair gel and hair oil) were monitored using the procedure described by Romano et al. (2009). Briefly, the residue was redissolved with 10 mL mixture of methanol and sterile nutrient broth (10:90, v/v) and transferred into a 10 mL volumetric flask after filtration. This mixture was then diluted to 10 mL with mixture of methanol and sterile nutrient broth (10:90, v/v).

The antibacterial activity for BHA, BHT, OMC, mixture and extract of selected personal care samples against S. aureus (ATCC 29213) and E. coli (ATCC 25922) were evaluated by using two techniques of agar plate diffusion method. In the paper-disk diffusion technique, four sterile paper disks (4x6 mm, Whatman) were placed on the surface of solidify seeded agar plates by using sterile forceps (Abdoul-Latif et al. 2010). Whereas in holepunch diffusion technique, four holes (4x8 mm, 3 mm depth) were punched with sterile cork borer and placed on the surface of solidify seeded agar plates (Osman et al. 2009). Sterile paper disks or holes were then impregnated with 25 µL of extract with seven different concentrations of phenolic compound standards and allowed to dried under aseptic conditions at 28°C by using Bunsen burner. The inoculated agar plates were incubated inverted at $37^{\circ}C \pm 0.5$ for 24 hours. After the incubation period, the diameter of inhibition zone of each hole or disk was measured in mm by using ruler with

accuracy of 0.5 mm. The minimum inhibition concentration (MIC) is defined as the lowest concentrations of an antimicrobial agent which will give the lowest visible zone (Singh *et al.* 2008).

RESULTS & DISCUSSION

Antioxidant Activity

The DPPH scavenging activities of phenolic compounds were expressed as the percentage of DPPH decrease (Ozgen *et al.* 2006). A mixture sample containing of BHA, BHT and OMC showed the highest DPPH inhibition activity with 95.21%, followed by BHA (94.82%), BHT (93.92%) and OMC (8.99%) (Figure 1).

The percentage can be considered as total scavenging of DPPH⁺ radicals because after the reaction complete, a final solution showed a yellow color. A purple DPPH⁺ radical when received a hydrogen atom from phenolic antioxidants is converted to yellow non-radical, DPPH-H (Katalinic *et al.* 2006).

Figure 1 shows BHA and BHT are easily donate hydrogen atom to free radicals (DPPH•). Whereas, OMC is difficult to donate a hydrogen atom since methoxy group (-OCH3) has higher redox potential

than hydroxyl group (-OH) (Ozgen *et al.* 2006). The IC₅₀ of BHA, BHT and mixture were 29.83, 44.16, 32.51 mg/L, respectively. The DPPH inhibition for control sample was 2.63%. The percentage of DPPH inhibition for BHA, BHT, OMC and mixture at six level of concentration are presented in Table 1.

By comparing the results in Tables 1 and 2, it was observed that the scavenging activities (DPPH inhibition %) of phenolic compounds in personal care products were lower than standard phenolic compounds under similar analytical condition. The results can be wrongly interpreted if the personal care products contain trace of metal ions. The metal ions can be chelated with BHA, BHT and EDTA (Geckil *et al.* 2005). Thus, the number of hydrogen atoms donated is less, while DPPH radical is unaffected by the presence of metal ions, chelate agents and enzyme inhibition (Amarowicz *et al.* 2004; Sawant *et al.* 2009).

Antibacterial Activity

Mixture sample showed the highest antibacterial activity compared to BHA, BHT and OMC since the inhibition zone diameter for a mixture sample was bigger than the inhibition zone diameters for BHA, BHT and OMC at the same concentration (Tables 3 & 4).



Figure 1. Percentage of DPPH' inhibition for BHA, BHT, OMC and mixture monitored by UV/Vis spectrophotometer at λ_{max} =517 nm.

Concentration		Inhibition of DPPH %						
(mg/	1) -	5 min	10 min	15 min	20 min	25 min	30 min	
	15	10.1±0.1	12.5±0.1	14.4±0.1	17.2±0.1	20.2±0.1	28.5±0.1	
	30	22.5±0.2	32.1±0.1	38.0±0.1	42.6±0.1	48.6±0.1	51.0±0.1	
	45	31.7±0.2	39.6±0.2	46.2±0.1	53.5±0.1	62.4±0.1	70.5±0.1	
BHA	60	67.5±0.3	39.6±0.1	46.2±0.1	53.6±0.1	62.4±0.0	87.6±0.0	
	75	69.9±0.3	79.5±0.2	85.1±0.1	87.6±0.1	89.6±0.0	90.8±0.0	
	150	88.5±0.4	91.4±0.1	93.3±0.1	94.3±0.0	94.9±0.0	94.8±0.0	
	15	13.2±0.2	16.5±0.1	19.2±0.1	21.9±0.1	24.6±0.1	26.2±0.1	
	30	16.3±0.2	24.6±0.2	29.1±0.1	34.0±0.1	36.5±0.1	39.8±0.1	
	45	24.0±0.3	32.9±0.2	39.0±0.1	44.3±0.1	$48.4{\pm}0.1$	51.5±0.1	
BHT	60	19.4±0.3	40.5±0.1	47.9±0.1	54.3±0.1	59.3±0.1	63.1±0.1	
	75	44.9±0.3	57.9±0.2	66.6±0.1	70.5±0.1	74.5±0.0	77.3±0.1	
	150	81.8±0.3	87.6±0.1	91.1±0.0	92.3±0.0	93.9±0.0	93.9±0.0	
	15	2.6±0.1	3.1±0.0	3.4±0.0	3.9±0.0	4.1 ± 0.0	4.3±0.0	
	30	4.2 ± 0.0	4.4 ± 0.0	4.6 ± 0.0	4.9±0.0	5.1±0.0	5.2±0.0	
	45	4.1±0.0	4.5±0.0	4.9±0.0	5.1±0.0	5.9±0.0	6.0±0.0	
OMC	60	4.9 ± 0.0	5.2±0.0	5.4±0.0	5.6±0.0	5.8 ± 0.0	6.1±0.0	
	75	5.1±0.0	5.2±0.0	5.5 ± 0.0	5.8 ± 0.0	5.9±0.0	6.1±0.0	
	150	$7.9{\pm}0.0$	8.2±0.0	$8.4{\pm}0.0$	8.7 ± 0.0	$8.8 {\pm} 0.0$	9.0±0.0	
	15	9.4 ± 0.1	15.9±0.1	20.2±0.1	23.4±0.1	26.5±0.1	28.9±0.1	
	30	12.7±0.2	18.6±0.2	28.8±0.1	36.8±0.1	42.0±0.1	46.4±0.1	
	45	25.4±0.4	36.3±0.2	44.0±0.1	49.2±0.1	57.4±0.1	64.8 ± 0.1	
Mixture	60	32.9±0.4	47.1±0.2	56.8±0.1	70.2±0.1	76.6±0.1	80.3±0.1	
	75	50.8 ± 0.4	66.9±0.2	76.2±0.1	82.0±0.1	86.0±0.1	89.1±0.1	
	150	82.1±0.2	89.9±0.1	91.9±0.1	92.9±0.1	94.3±0.0	95.2±0.0	

Table 1. Kinetic of DPPH inhibition (%) for BHA, BHT, OMC and mixture during 30 minutes by UV/Vis-spectrophotometer at λ_{max} =517 nm, (mean ± SD, n=3)

Table 2. Kinetic of DPPH inhibition (%) for crude extract of selected personal care products during 30 minutes by UV/Vis spectrophotometer at λ_{max} =517 nm, (mean ± SD, n=3)

Product	Inhibition of DPPH %						
(commercial brand)	Amount	5 min	10 min	15 min	20 min	25 min	30 min
Sunscreen cream	0.342 g	6.0±0.2	8.3±0.1	10.1±0.1	11.7±0.1	12.7±0.1	14.0 ± 0.0
(Aiken)	0.407 g	8.5±0.2	9.3±0.1	10.2±0.1	11.1±0.1	11.9±0.1	12.8±0.1
	0.479 g	11.0±0.2	12.0±0.2	12.7±0.1	13.7±0.1	14.7±0.1	15.3±0.1
Milk lotion	0.487 g	11.7±0.3	12.5±0.1	13.5±0.1	14.2±0.1	15.2±0.0	16.0±0.0
(Nivea)	0.901 g	16.2±0.3	18.0±0.2	19.5±0.1	21.0±0.1	22.0±0.0	23.5±0.0
	0.320 g	12.0±0.4	13.5±0.1	15.0±0.1	16.2±0.0	17.5±0.0	18.7±0.0
Hair gel	0.426 g	5.8±0.2	6.1±0.1	6.4±0.1	6.7±0.1	6.9±0.0	7.2±0.0
(De Boy)	0.558 g	3.9±0.2	4.2±0.2	4.6±0.1	4.9±0.1	5.11±0.1	5.3±0.0
	0.454 g	5.6±0.3	6.1±0.2	6.5±0.1	6.9±0.1	7.3±0.1	7.7±0.0
Hair oil	0.5 mL	6.4±0.3	7.8±0.1	8.9±0.1	10.2±0.1	11.5±0.1	12.7±0.1
(Elite)	1.0 mL	4.9±0.3	5.7±0.2	6.7±0.1	7.9±0.1	8.7±0.1	10.1±0.1
	1.5 mL	5.6±0.3	7.0±0.1	8.1±0.0	9.7±0.0	11.3±0.0	12.6±0.0

Tables 3 and 4 showed that *E. coli* was more susceptible than *S. aureus* when treated with BHA, BHT, OMC and mixture at the similar condition with those reported in literature (Chew *et al.* 1985; Collins & Charles, 1987; Nakazono *et al.* 2006). Paper-disk diffusion technique was found to be more sensitive than hole-punch technique for antibacterial

activity evaluation which is similar finding with those reported by other researchers (Tseng & Tseng 1995; Lee 2000; Nakazono *et al.* 2006). Antibacterial activities of BHA and BHT were consistent with those reported by other researchers (Kabara 1980; Chew *et al.* 1985; Lee 2000; Romano *et al.* 2009) which stated that BHA is more active than BHT against *E. coli* and *S. aureus*.

Table 3. Comparison of inhibition zone diameters for BHA, BHT, OMC and mixture (mean \pm SD, n=3) against *Staphylococcus aureus* by agar plate diffusion method

Concentration	Inhibition zone diameter (mm)							
(µg/disk or hole)	paper-disk diffusion				hole-punch diffusion			
	BHA	BHT	OMC	mixture	BHA	BHT	OMC	mixture
400	19.0±1.0	14.0 ± 0.0	n.a	27.0±1.7	15.0±0.0	12.3±0.6	n.a	18.0±1.0
200	17.3±0.6	12.0 ± 0.0	n.a	26.0±1.0	14.3±0.6	10.0 ± 0.0	n.a	16.3±0.6
120	15.3±0.6	$10.0{\pm}0.0$	n.a	25.0±1.0	12.0±0.0	n.a	n.a	13.0±0.0
70	12.3±0.6	8.0 ± 0.0	n.a	23.0±1.0	10.0±0.0	n.a	n.a	11.0±0.0
15	8.0±0.0	n.a	n.a	10.0±0.0	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a
10	n.a	n.a	n.a	$8.0{\pm}0.0$	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a
1.5	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a

Note: n.a (not active).

Table 4. Comparison of inhibition zone diameters for BHA, BHT, OMC and mixture (mean \pm SD, n=3) against *E. coli* by agar plate diffusion method

Concentration	Inhibition zone diameter (mm)							
(µg/disk or		paper-dis	k diffusion		hole-punch diffusion			
hole)	BHA	BHT	OMC	mixture	BHA	BHT	OMC	mixture
400	26.7±2.1	15.7±1.5	11.0±0.0	30.0±2.6	16.0±0.0	12.0±0.6	n.a	19.3±1.5
200	24.7±1.5	14.0±1.0	10.0±0.0	28.3±1.1	14.0 ± 0.0	10.0 ± 0.0	n.a	$17.0{\pm}1.0$
120	16.0±0.0	12.3±0.6	n.a	24.3±1.5	11.0±0.0	n.a	n.a	12.0±0.0
70	14.0±0.0	10.0±0	n.a	22.0±1.0	n.a	n.a	n.a	10.0±0.0
15	12.3±0.6	8.0±0	n.a	16.0±1.0	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a
10	10.0±0.0	n.a	n.a	9.3±0.6	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a
1.5	8.0 ± 0.0	n.a	n.a	8.0 ± 0.0	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a

Note: n.a (not active).

	MIC (µg/disk or hole)						
Phenolic compound	S. au (ATCC	reus 29213)	<i>E. coli</i> (ATCC 25922)				
_	disk-diffusion	hole-diffusion	disk-diffusion	hole-diffusion			
BHA	15	1.5	10	15			
BHT	70	15	200	70			
OMC	n.a	200	n.a	n.a			
Mixture	10	1.5	70	10			

Table 5. The MIC values for BHA, BHT, OMC and mixture determine by two paper-disk diffusion and hole-punch diffusion techniques

Note: n.a (not active).

The MIC values were the lowest concentrations of BHA, BHT, OMC and mixture that give the lowest visible inhibition-zone (Tseng & Tseng 1995). The MIC values for analytes studied are presented in Table 5.

Mixture of BHA, BHT and OMC has the highest antibacterial activity based on MIC values (see Table 5; Figures 2 & 3). The MIC values for BHA, BHT, OMC and mixture against *E. coli* using paper-disk diffusion technique were 1.5, 15, 200, 1.5 μ g/disk, respectively. While, the MIC values obtained using hole-punch technique were 100, 200, n.a, 70 μ g/hole, respectively. In addition, the MIC values for BHA, BHT, OMC and mixture against

S. aureus using paper-disk diffusion technique were 15, 70, n.a, 10 μ g/disk, respectively. Whereas, the MIC values obtained using hole-punch technique were 70, 200, n.a and 60 μ g/hole, respectively. These MIC values are lower compared with MIC values reported by Kabara (1980).

The antibacterial activities for extract of selected personal care samples are presented in Tables 6 and 7 against *S. aureus* and *E. coli* using paper-disk and hole-punch diffusion techniques.

Generally, the antibacterial activities for extract from selected cosmetic samples against *S. aureus* and *E. coli* were higher than the antibacterial activity of standard phenolic compounds at similar analytical conditions.

Table 6. Inhibition zone diameter for extract of selected personal care samples (mean±SD, n=3) against *S. aureus* by agar plate diffusion method

Sample	Weight	Inhibition zone	e diameter (mm)
(Commercial brand)	(g)	paper-disk diffusion	hole-punch diffusion
Snscreen cream	0.312	14.0±0.6	n.a
(Aiken)	1.123	19.3 ± 1.5	n.a
	2.688	26.7±0.6	12.0±0.0
Milk lotion	0.397	16.0±1.0	n.a
(NIVEA)	1.282	22.0±1.0	12.0±0.0
	2.816	30.0±2.6	14.0±0.0
Hair gel	1.065	8.0±0.0	n.a
(DE BOY)	3.341	11.0±0.0	n.a
(-)	4.984	14.0±0.0	n.a
Hair oil	0.300	12.0±1.0	n.a
(Elite)	1.250	16.0±1.0	n.a
()	3.750	19.3±1.5	n.a

Note : n.a: not active.

Sample	Weight —	Inhibition zone diameter (mm)				
(Commercial brand)	(g)	paper-disk diffusion	hole-punch diffusion			
Sunscreen creem	0.312	12.3±0.6	n.a			
(Aiken)	1.123	17.0 ± 1.0	n.a			
()	2.688	24.3±1.5	10.0±0.0			
Milk lation	0.397	15.7±1.5	n.a			
(NIVEA)	1.282	20.7±1.1	10.0±0.0			
()	2.816	28.3±1.1	12.0±0.0			
Hair gal	1.065	8.0±0.0	n.a			
(DE BOY)	3.341	10.0±0.0	n.a			
(-)	4.984	12.3±0.6	n.a			
Hair oil	0.400	14.0±1.0	n.a			
(Elite)	1.250	17.0±1.0	n.a			
()	3.250	23.0±1.0	10.0±0.0			

Table 7. Inhibition zone diameter for crude extract of selected personal care samples (mean \pm SD, n=3) against *E. coli* by agar plate diffusion method

Note : n.a: not active.

The enhance antibacterial activities probably due to antimicrobial agents such as methylparaben, ethylparaben, propylparaben and butylparaben (Davin-Regli *et al.*, 2006; Chen *et al.*, 2007). In addition, *S. aureus* was more susceptible than *E. coli* when treated with extract of selected cosmetic samples (see Figures 4 & 5) and this is similar to those reported by Kabara (1980). On other hand, *E. coli* was more susceptible than *S. aureus* when treated with BHA, BHT, OMC and mixture. The weight of real samples was almost commensurate with the amount of BHA in the label of these personal care products since BHA is higher antibacterial antioxidant activities than BHT and OMC.

CONCLUSION

The antioxidant and antibacterial activities for BHA, BHT, OMC and mixture showed the significant activities by inhibition DPPH and growth of bacteria can be arranged with the following order : mixture > BHA > BHT > OMC. The antioxidant and antibacterial activities of these phenolic compounds depend on degree of steric hindrance and number of hydroxyl group.

The extract of selected personal care products were capable to to inhibit the growth of *E. coli* and *S. aureus* than BHA, BHT, OMC and mixture since

personal care formulations contain antimicrobial agents. Thus, milk lotion is more active against *E. coli* and *S. aureus* than other personal care products studied. Furthermore, paper-disk diffusion is more sensitive technique than hole-punch for determination of antibacterial activities of BHA, BHT, OMC, mixture and extract of selected personal care products. The MIC values of these phenolic compounds were higher against *S. aureus* (10 – 200 µg/disk or hole) than *E. coli* (1.5 – 200 µg/disk or hole).

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The authors wish to thank Syrian Ministry of Higher Education for a scholarship given to Mohd Akkbik and Department of Chemistry, Faculty of Resource Science and Technology, UNIMAS for research facilities for this study.

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