



Antioxidant Activities of Mangrove Fruit (*Sonneratia alba*) taken from Wori Village, North Sulawesi, Indonesia

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Abstract : Mangrove fruits of *Sonneratia alba* has been used locally as food ingredients. However, it has not been developed yet due to the lack of information about the potential and benefits of the fruit, in particular as a source of antioxidants. There is no research has been revealed about the antioxidant activity of methanol extract or fractions of *S. alba* fruit. The aims of this study are to know the antioxidant activities of the extract of methanol and also the fractions of n-hexane, ethyl acetate, and water obtained from fruit flour of *S. alba*. The method used in achieving the specific aims consists of two steps. First step was extraction with methanol, and then the extract was tested for total phenol and antioxidant activities. Second step was fractionated based on solvent polarity, namely: n-hexane, ethyl acetate and water. The solvents were then tested for total phenol, antioxidant activities of DPPH and FRAP, and phytochemical test to obtain the most active fraction. The result showed that, the highest content of FRAP was in ethyl-acetate fraction i.e. 6.329 μ MFe²⁺/mg of sample and the lowest of that was in n-hexane fraction i.e. 0.413 μ MFe²⁺/mg of samples. The highest content of total phenol was in ethylacetate fraction, i.e. 3119 mg GAF/kg of sample and the lowest of that was in the n-hexane fraction i.e. 540 mg GAE/kg of sample. Phytochemical test showed that the ethyl acetate and water fraction gave a positive indicator to most of the test except for the steroid and saponin for ethyl acetate fraction, and triterpenoid and saponin for water fraction, while the n-hexane fraction gave a lowest positive indicator. Ethylacetate fraction has the most powerful antioxidant activity with IC₅₀=3.55 ppm followed by methanol extract IC₅₀=4.65 ppm, the water fraction IC₅₀= 6.95 ppm, and n-hexane fraction IC₅₀= 162.79 ppm.

Keywords : *Sonneratia alba*, antioxidant, phenols, FRAP, phytochemicals.

Introduction

Study of mangrove forest communities in North Sulawesi indicated that the dominant species were *Rhizophora*, *Bunguiera* and *Sonneratia*. Dominant mangrove species in Wori village was *Sonneratia alba*^[1]. In several regions of Indonesia such as Java, Sulawesi and Maluku, mangroves have been used traditionally as medicines, beverages and raw material for a wide variety of cakes. However, cannot be developed because lack of knowledge about the potential and benefits of mangrove plants as food and functional food ingredient.^[2]

According to Goldberg^[3], plants that contain antioxidants can be formulated into functional foods, antioxidants and into daily menu. Based on recently research, formulation of functional food have benefits

such as increase endurance, increase appetite, accelerate the growth of the body, and can indirectly improve various.

Mangrove plants are usually in a state of stress, because of a harsh environment, extreme tidal, high content of organic matter, high minerals, and abundant living organisms such as microorganisms and insects^[4]. Plants that can survive in such an environment are necessarily contained compounds that can protect itself from destruction^[5]. Mangrove grown in tropical climates, can do metabolism throughout the year to produce a variety of the bioactive compounds as important secondary metabolite. The condition of the tropical environment trigger plants of one species, to generate new compound, and will always change and development, along the times, produced many combinations and derivative products^[13].

This study was conducted to determine the effect of extraction with methanol, and multilayer fractionation to methanol extract with different solvents based on the level of polarity (water, ethyl acetate and *n*-hexane) to antioxidant activity of fruit mangrove *Sonneratia alba*. The antioxidant activity of phytochemicals were assessed for: total phenols, ability to capture free radicals 1,1-diphenyl-2-picrihidrazil (DPPH), and Ferric reducing antioxidant power (FRAP).

Materials and Methods

Samples

The fruit of mangrove *Sonneratia alba*, which was taken from village of Wori Minahasa Utara Regency, North Sulawesi Province, Indonesia. Fruit picked and sorted to get homogen diameter of 3-5 cm. Fruits were then washed and sliced thinly, and allow to dried at room temperature. The drying time takes 10-14 days. The dried fruit were then blandered into the powder.

Chemical compound and reagent

Solvent used was methanol, sodium phosphate, disodium phosphate, trichloroacetic acid (TCA), FeCl₃ obtained from Merk. Folin-Ciocalteu, 1,1-diphenyl-2-picrihidrazil, ferrozin and gallic acid were obtained from Sigma.

Preparation of sample Extracts

Two hundred grams of dried powder samples were macerated with two liters of methanol for 48 hours, filtered, and separated from the pulp using Whatmann filter paper. The pulp were then macerated again in the same way as above for 2 times. All yields collected and evaporated with a rotary vacuum evaporator at temperature of 40°C, resulted a semi-solid extract (methanol crude extract). Methanol crude extract was further partitioned with each 200 ml of a mixture of *n*-hexane-methanol (1:1), *n*-hexane section separated from the water and placed in the vaporation flask, it is repeated until the part of *n*-hexane was colorless, subsequent sections were water spartitioned with 200 ml of ethylacetate according to the procedure in *n*-hexane to obtain ethyl acetate part. The final remaining part of the partitioning process was part of the water, then the third part is evaporated by rotary vacuume vaporator at 40°C and then *n*-hexane, ethylacetate and water fraction. The third fraction is packaged in dark glass containers and stored at -20°C until used for analysis.

Phytochemical test

The methanol extracts and fractions, namely fraction of *n*-hexane, ethyl acetate and water, were analyzed quantitatively using phytochemical test^[7-8].

Total Phenol Content

Total phenols in methanol extract and in each fractions i.e. *n*-hexane, water and ethyl acetate fractions, from the fruit of mangrove *S.alba*, can be obtained by determining the concentration of the extract and the concentrations of each fraction and measuring the absorbance at each level of concentration at a wavelength of 760 nm. The data is then included in the regression line, where the regression equation was obtained by measuring the absorbance of gallic acid concentrations.

Total phenol content was measured using Folin-Ciocalteu reagent by modifying methods of Devi *et al.*^[9], Ganesan *et al.*^[10], and Anarwulan *e tal.*^[11]. As much as 0.1 gram of extract was dissolved in 10 ml methanol in a flask, and then of 0.1 ml extract solution was taken and added 1 ml of 1:2 Folin-Ciocalteu-aquadest, and left for 5 min. It was then added 1 ml sodium carbonate 7%, homogenized and incubated at room temperature for 30 minutes in dark condition. The mixture absorbance was measured at 750 nm. Total phenol content was interpreted as mg gallic acid equivalents (GAE)/kg sample. The regression equation of gallic acid was $y = 1,0059X - 0,0013$ ($R^2 = 0,9991$).

The Antioxidant Activity.

Ferric Reducing Antioxidant Power (FRAP).

Value of FRAP in the methanol extract and fractions of *n*-hexane, water and ethyl acetate, from the fruit of *S. alba*, can be obtained by determining the concentration level of the extract and concentration levels of each fraction. Each concentration was then measured its absorbance at a wavelength of 593 nm. The data then included in the regression equation, which is obtained from the concentration of Fe^{2+} levels by measuring the absorbance at each level of concentration.

Measurements performed using the method of ferric reducing antioxidant power Khumar, *et al.*^[12], Chew, *et al.*^[13], Andarwulan, *et al.*^[11], were modified as follows: extract were prepared with a concentration of 2000 ppm in methanol, further more taken 1 ml and was mixed with 1 ml of phosphate buffer (0.2M, pH 6.6) and 1 ml of potassium ferricyanide [$K_2Fe(CN)_6$] 1%. Mixture was homogenized and incubated at 50°C for 30 minutes (mixture A). One ml of trichloroacetic acid (10%) was added to a mixture (mixture B), a mixture of B and centrifuged (10 min, 3000 rpm). Subsequently 1 ml was taken on the top layer of mixture B was added to 1 ml of water and 5 ml of distilled $FeCl_3$ 0.1% and the mixture homogenized, mixed absorbance was measured at 700 nm. Reducing power values are interpreted as μM iron equivalent ($Fe^{2+} \mu M$)/mg sample. μM iron calibration curve was $y = 0.1994x + 0.027$ ($R^2 = 0.9975$).

DPPH Scavenging Antioxidant Activity.

Percent of inhibition and concentration of each extract and fraction, were fixed to a linear equation, respectively, and then IC_{50} value of each sample was obtained by replacing $Y = 50$ of each regression equation.

DPPH radical scavengers were measured using the modified method of Khumar, *et al.*^[19], two ml of DPPH 93 μM were added to 0.5 ml of extract (2000 ppm in methanol). The extract were shaken and incubated at 37°C for 30 min, absorbance was measured at a wavelength of 517 nm. Yuan and Walsh,^[14] Devi, *et al.*^[9]: states that the activity of DPPH radical scavenging determined as percent inhibition and calculated by the equation: % inhibitory = $\{(\text{Absorbance of control} - \text{Absorbance of the sample}) / (\text{Absorbance of control})\} \times 100$.

Result and Discussion.

Phytochemical.

Phytochemical test results of mangrove *A. Alba*, can be seen in Table 1.

Table 1. Phytochemicals Test of Mangrove *S. Alba* Fruit Extract and Fractions

No.	Metabolite Secondary	Phytochemical Test	Result test			
			<i>n</i> -Hexana	EtOAc	Water	MeOH
1	Phenolic	Reagent $FeCl_3$ 5%	+	+	+	+
2	Flavonoid	a. Reagent HCl + Mg	-	+	+	+
		b. Reagent H_2SO_4 2N	-	+	+	-
		c. Reagent NaOH 10%	+	+	+	+
3	Steroid	Reagent Lieberman-Burchard	+	-	+	+
4	Triterpenoid		+	+	-	-
5	Saponin	Reagent HCl + H_2O	-	-	-	-
6	Tanin	Reagent $FeCl_3$ 1%	-	+	+	+

Data of phytochemical test extract *S. alba* in Table 1 showed that the ethyl acetate and water fractions gave a positive indicator to most of the phytochemical test except for the steroid and saponin fractions for ethyl acetate, and saponins and triterpenoid for water fraction, while the *n*-hexane fraction gave a lowest positive indicator. According to Jacob *et al.*^[15], the bioactive components were detected on the leaves of Api-api are flavonoid, steroid and sugar reduction, while the young and old leaves and the fruit of mangrove *S. alba* contain flavonoid, tannin, saponin, and the steroid^[16].

Total Phenolic.

Total phenol histograms of methanol extract and fractions, can be seen in Figure 1.

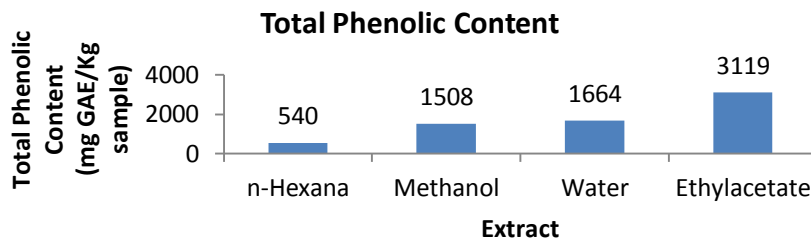


Figure 1. Total Phenol Content of *S. alba*

Figure 1 showed that, the highest total phenols was in ethyl acetate fraction i.e. 3119 mg GAE/kg sample, whereas the lowest was in *n*-hexane fraction i.e. 540 mg GAE/kg. Total phenol in methanol extract is 1508 mg GAE/kg and in fraction of water is 1664 mg GAE/kg. Different levels of total phenols in *S. alba* are: ethyl acetate > water > methanol > *n*-hexane. The number of -OH groups on the core of flavonoid antioxidant phenol compounds affecting the activity, the more the -OH group, the higher the antioxidant activity^[17]. According to Pratt and Hudson^[18], phenolic compounds that have a function as antioxidants, play a role in the process of lymphocyte cell membrane protection from oxidation, caused by free radicals and stimulates cell proliferation of lymphocytes.

FRAP.

Histogram of FRAP value, can be seen in Figure 2.

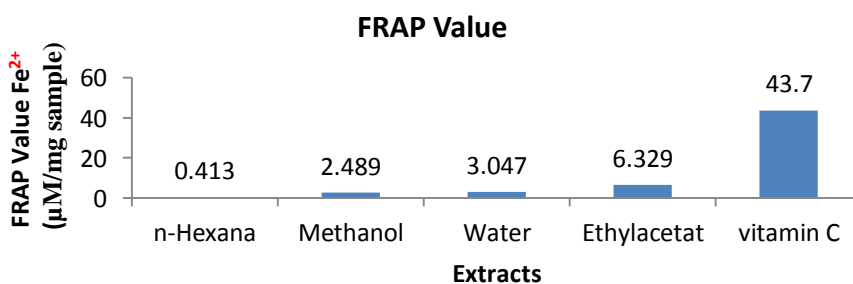
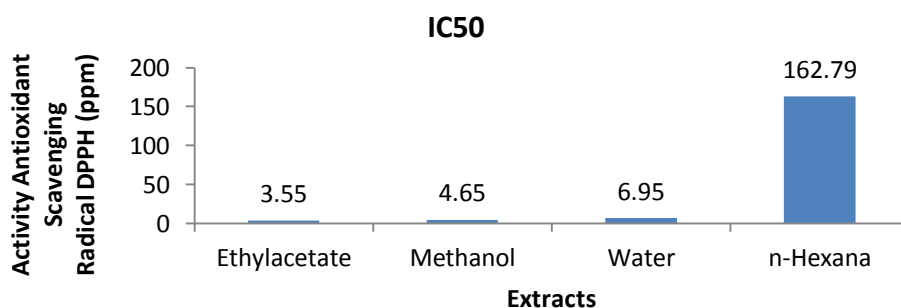


Figure 2. FRAP value of *S. alba*

Figure 2 shows that extract containing the highest FRAP value is ethyl acetate fraction i.e. 6.329 µMFe²⁺/mg sample. FRAP of Vitamin C just as a comparison. The lowest FRAP was 0.413 Fe²⁺ *n*-hexane fraction (µM/mg sample), FRAP of methanol extract was 2.489 Fe²⁺ (µM/mg sample), and water extract was 3,047 Fe²⁺ (µM/mg sample). Different levels FRAP in *S. alba* are: ethyl acetate > water > methanol > *n*-hexane. Data of total phenol and FRAP positively correlated. The FRAP values was highest in leaf methanol extracts of both *C. manghas* and *E. agollacha* is 4,75 ± 0,08 mM AAE/g dry wt and lowest was in *B. Parviflora* is 1,02 ± 0,015 mM AAE/g dry wt. In the present study *C. manghas* and *E. agollacha* was higher reducing power than other species. The highest FRAP value of root sample was recorded in *C. iripa* is 5,19 ± 0,40 mM AAE/g dry wt. followed by *A. marina* is 4,84 ± 0,21 mM AAE/g dry wt. Sample with lowest FRAP value was

observed in both *Heritiera fomes* and *Heritiera littoralis* is $1,46 \pm 0,23$ mM AAE/g dry wt^[19]. The results of research value FRAP leaves and roots highest by Rout and Basak^[19], lower than the value of FRAP fractions ethyl acetate mangrove *S. alba*.

DPPH Scavenging antioxidant activity.



IC₅₀ data from all the samples either extracts or fractions can be seen in Figure 3.

Figure 3: Antioxidant activity of DPPH Free Radical Scavenging *S. alba*.

Figure 3 shows that the ability of antioxidant to reduce free radicals DPPH is very strong in ethyl acetate fraction with IC₅₀ = 3.45 ppm, followed by methanol extract with IC₅₀ = 4.65 ppm, water extract with IC₅₀ = 6.95 ppm, and the weakest is the fraction of *n*-hexane extract with IC₅₀ = 162,79 ppm. Ordinal levels of antioxidant activity to reduce free radicals DPPH are: ethylacetate > methanol > water > *n*-hexane. Total phenol and FRAP were not positively correlated with antioxidant activity to reduce free radicals DPPH. Solvents used were based on the nature of polarity, solubility and mass transfer of compound extracted^[20]. According to Samarakoon *et al.*^[21], methanol extract of the leaves *Phoenix paludosa* showed the highest antioxidant activity compared to solvent *n*-hexane, chloroform and ethyl acetate. Extracts methanol, ethanol and chloroform on the leaf and bark *S. alba* showed good antioxidant activity with IC₅₀ values between 0,019-0,37 mg/ml^[22]. According to Gawali and Jadhav^[23], the antioxidant activity of extract methanol 80% in soxhlet from stem and leaves *S. alba* was IC₅₀ 62,5 and 87,5 ppm while from *B. Cylindrica* was 162,5 and 175 ppm. According to Banerjee *et al.*^[24], the Antioxidant activity methanol extract 20% *Ceriops decandra* stem bark showed the lowest IC₅₀ = 0,65 ppm and Suaeda matima was found to have the highest IC₅₀ = 119 ppm. Strong inhibition was observed for *C. decandra* IC₅₀ root = 0,93 ppm and *Aegiceras corniculatum* IC₅₀ stem = 0,96 ppm. A compound that have a very strong antioxidant activity if has IC₅₀ < 50 ppm, strong if has IC₅₀ 50-100 ppm, medium if has IC₅₀ 100-150 ppm and weak if has IC₅₀ 150-200 ppm^[25].

The fruit *S. alba* taken from Wori village have IC₅₀ = 3.45 ppm for ethyl acetate fraction, IC₅₀ = 4,65 ppm for extract methanol and IC₅₀ = 6.95 ppm for the water fraction, stronger Compared to the same species of mangrove *S. alba* but taken from different location, gave different results even with the same solvent, ie methanol extract IC₅₀ = 39.30 ppm of fruit *S. alba*^[16]. According to Sudirman *et al.*^[26], old fruit of *Bruguiera gymnorhiza* has a more effective antioxidant activity IC₅₀ = 13,47 ppm compared to young fruit IC₅₀ = 81,60 ppm. The characteristics and composition of each mangrove species are influenced by weather factors, coastal land form, the distance between the tide, water availability and soil type^[5].

Conclusion

Mangrove fruit *S. alba* extracted with methanol, ethyl acetate fraction and water fraction has potential to be source of natural antioxidant, based on assessment of phytochemicals, total phenols FRAP and IC₅₀. Phytochemicals detected were: phenolics, flavonoids, steroids, triterpenoids and tannins, while saponin was not detected in fruit mangrove *S. alba*. Data total phenol and FRAP positively correlated, but not positively correlated with antioxidant activity DPPH free radical absorbans. The highest total phenol was in ethyl acetate fraction i.e. 3119 mg GAE/L and the lowest was in hexane fraction i.e. 504 mg GAE/L. The highest FRAP value was in the ethyl acetate fraction i.e. 6.329 Fe²⁺ (μM/mg sample) and the lowest was in the hexane fraction i.e.

0.413 Fe²⁺ (µM/mg sample). The strongest IC₅₀ was the fraction of ethyl acetate i.e. 3.45 ppm and the weakest is the fraction of hexane i.e. 162.79 ppm.

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