UNIVERSITI TEKNOLOGI MARA

STUDY OF THE EFFECT OF CULTURE CONDITIONS ON METABOLITE PRODUCTION BY ENDOPHYTIC STRAIN SK9 (OSMAC)

FARADIA BINTI MOHMAD

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ABSTRACT

The major objective of this project is to determine the effect of culture condition on metabolite production by endophytic fungal strains SK9. There are two culture condition involve in this study which are potato dextrose agar and potato dextrose broth. First step was growing the endophytic fungal strain on solid agar and static broth media. The resulting extracts were taken as subjected for antimicrobial activity testing against selected bacteria and fungi by disc diffusion method. The HPLC analysis also been done in order to detect secondary metabolites resulting from the acculturation of the fungal strain SK9 in different media. Throughout the whole stage, fungi were observed macroscopically and microscopically. The observations were recorded and shall be included into the database developed by Faculty of Pharmacy, UiTM.

CHAPTER 1

INTRODUCTION

1.1 Nature as important source of drug discovery

Before the 20th century, crude and semi-pure extracts of plants, animals, microbes and minerals represented the only medications available to treat human and domestic animal illnesses. The idea that effect of drug in human body are mediated by specific interactions of the drug molecule with biological macromolecules (proteins or nucleic acids in most cases) led scientists to the conclusion that individual chemical compounds in extracts, rather than some mystical "power of life" are the factors required for the biological activity of the drug. This made for the beginning of a totally new era in pharmacology, as pure, isolated chemicals, instead of extracts, became the standard treatments for diseases. Indeed, many bioactive compounds, responsible for the effects of crude extract drugs, and their chemical structure was elucidated. Classical examples of drug compounds discovered this way are morphine, the active agent in opium, and digoxin, a heart stimulant originating from flower *Digitalis lanata*. The evolution in synthetic chemistry also led to chemical synthesis of many of the elucidated structures.