

UNIVERSITI TEKNOLOGI MARA

**DETERMINATION OF LIPASE INHIBITORY
COMPOUND FROM *AQUILARIA SUBINTEGRA*
MATURED LEAVES EXTRACT VIA
PRETREATMENT USING BATH SONICATOR:
EFFECT OF SONICATION TEMPERATURE**

AMANINA BINTI ABDUL MANAN

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ABSTRACT

Obesity is recognized as the most widespread metabolic disease worldwide. This disease is believed to be treated by reducing fat absorption through the inhibition of pancreatic lipase. The natural resources as polyphenol compound can be used as pancreatic lipase inhibitor. Pancreatic lipase is a key enzyme in dietary triacylglycerol absorption, hydrolysing triacylglycerol to monoacylglycerol and fatty acid. This compound can be found in *Aquilaria subintegra*, a type of leaf of Gaharu. This study was conducted in two different types of parameter where the leaves were ground to 0.25 mm, 0.5 mm and 1.0 mm and pre-treated by ultrasonication with temperature of 40°C, 50°C, 60°C, 70°C and 80°C. The presence of phenolic and flavonoid compound in *A. subintegra* leaves extract was analyzed by using Masterizer Malvern 2000E and High performance liquid Chromatography (HPLC) to validate the presence of phenolic and flavonoid compound. From the analysis, the best temperature of ultrasonication is 60°C and the sample size 0.25 mm has the largest concentration both in flavonoid and phenolic.

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TABLE OF CONTENTS

	Page
AUTHOR'S DECLARATION	iii
SUPERVISOR'S CERTIFICATION	iv
ABSTRACT	vii
ACKNOWLEDGMENT	viii
LIST OF TABLES	xi
LIST OF FIGURES	xii
CHAPTER 1: INTRODUCTION	1
1.1. Research Background	1
1.2. Problem Statement	2
1.3. Objective	3
1.4. Scope Of Research	4
CHAPTER 2: LITERATURE REVIEW	5
2.1. Obesity Management	5
2.2. <i>Aquilaria Species</i>	6
2.3. Phytochemicals	7
2.3.1. Phenolic Compound	9
2.3.2. Flavonoid Compound	10
2.4. Lipase Inhibitory Compound	13
2.5. Drug Designed To Treat Obesity	14
2.6. Effect Of Temperature On Phytochemical	16
2.7. Effect Of Compound Size	17
2.8. Phytochemical Compound Extraction	17
2.8.1. Hydro Distillation	18
2.8.2. Ultrasonication	18

CHAPTER 1

INTRODUCTION

1.1.RESEARCH BACKGROUND

In the earliest time, people have been used naturally produced resins by plants in traditional medicine. Treatment of several diseases are been used worldwide by using plants and their exudates and novel drugs continue to be developed through phytochemical research. Following the modern and drug research advancing, chemically synthesized drugs have been replaced plants as the source of most medicinal agents. However, in developing countries, the majority of the world population cannot afford pharmaceutical drugs (Lorenzo Carmada et al., 2011). *Aquilaria* species is the one of plants contains phytochemicals that can be used to replace the drugs.

Aquilaria species (family: Thymelaeaceae) are known to produce dark resinous heartwood. It's also known as Agarwood, Oud, Oodh and agar. There are 15 tree species in the Indomalesian Agarwood (Mabberley, 1997). Agarwood produce *Aquilaria* species includes *Aquilaria beccariana*, *A. crassna*, *A. hirta*, *A. malaccensis*, *A. microcarpa*, *A. sinensis* and *A.subintegra* (Subhash J, 2013). Currently, Indonesia, Malaysia, Thailand and Vietnam are the major producers of agarwood as there is huge demand for agarwood there.

For the past few years, due to the health benefits, *Aquilaria spp.* leaves have been investigated for use as natural health products. Agarwood is known to have many pharmacological functions such as analgesic, anti-inflammatory, anti-microbial, immunomodulatory, and wound healing properties (Waraporn Putalun, 2013). Due to cultivation condition and various species of *Aquilaria* are available in the market such as *Aquilaria crassna* and *Aquilaria subintegra*, the source of the plants and their activities are varied.