



اَوْنِيُوْرَسِيْتِي تِيْكْنُوْلُوْجِي مَارَا
UNIVERSITI
TEKNOLOGI
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**INVESTIGATION ON SYNERGISTIC ANTHELMINTIC POTENTIAL OF
PAPAYA-PUMPKIN SEEDS AGAINST EARTHWORM
(*PHERETIMA POSTHUMA*)**

By

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**Thesis Submitted in Partial Fulfilment of the Requirements for
Bachelor of Medical Laboratory Technology (Hons).,
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2017

DECLARATION

I hereby declare that this thesis is very original work and has not been submitted previously or currently for any author degree at UiTM or any other institution.

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ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

First and foremost, I would like to express my deep grateful to Allah SWT for the blessings, where I am able to complete my final year project in order to fulfill the requirement for this course. It has been a period of intense learning for me, not only in the scientific ground, but also on a personal level. Writing this thesis has given big impact on me. I would like to reflect on the people who have supported and helped me so much throughout this period. For the most part, I wish to thank the Dean of the Faculty of Health Sciences, UiTM Selangor, Puncak Alam Campus for providing funding and imposed laboratory facilities in order to complete this project. Not forgotten, laboratory staff for providing facilities and guidance during lab work.

I am especially grateful to Madam Hartini Yusof, my beloved research project supervisor for the patience guidance, enthusiastic encouragement, motivation and useful critiques of this research work. Her guidance helped me in all time of research and writing of this thesis. I could not have imagined having a better supervisor for my Final Year Project.

Besides my supervisor, I would like to express my gratitude to Head of Centre of Medical Laboratory Technology, Dr. Wan Mazlina, all lecturers, especially my co-supervisor Dr. Maimunah Mustakim, all laboratory personnel for their contributions, help, time and support in completing this study.

I would also like to extend my thanks to Muhd Khairul Amirin Bin Zulkifli, Abdul Fatah Bin Hasan Kashfi and Nor Deeyana Binti Mohd Nawar for their commitment, moral support and helping me out during my lab work. Last but not least, million thanks to my beloved family for their encouragement, moral support, patience, motivation, prays and understanding of my needs and requirements during completing this research.

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ABSTRACT

Carica papaya (papaya) and *Cucurbita maxima* (pumpkin) have been used for treatment in many types of diseases for centuries. The crude aqueous extracts of both *Carica papaya* and *Cucurbita maxima* seeds were assayed synergistically against adult earthworms (*Pheretima posthuma*) for the evaluation of anthelmintic activity and compared with the standard drug, Albendazole. In this study, the traditional method was used; boiling and evaporation method. Various concentrations of the extracts and Albendazole were tested at 60 mg/ml, 40 mg/ml and 20 mg/ml. Six earthworms were immersed in three concentrations of each extracts; papaya-pumpkin seeds and Albendazole. Confirmation of paralysis was reported when decreased in movement after shaken vigorously. Death was recorded after ascertaining that the worms neither moved when shaken vigorously nor dipped in warm water of 50°C. Results were expressed in terms of time for paralysis (P) and death time (D) of worms using mean SD and data analysis by One-way Anova. Interestingly, the time of death for worms showed that the crude aqueous extracts of seeds at concentration of 20 mg/ml could totally exterminate the worm at the shortest time (111.50 ± 4.95) compared to Albendazole (112.50 ± 4.96). In conclusion, the combination of *Carica papaya* and *Cucurbita maxima* is a good option to be taken as an alternative medicine in treating cases of intestinal worm infections.

Keywords: Anthelmintic, *Pheretima posthuma*, *Carica papaya*, *Cucurbita maxima*,

Albendazole, synergistic.