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ANTIFUNGAL ACTIVITIES OF Alpinia galangal, Curcuma longa AND Zingiber officinale EXTRACTS AGAINST Pyricularia oryzae, PATHOGEN OF RICE BLAST DISEASE

NUR HIDAYATUR NABILA BINTI MAT LAPI

MSc

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AUTHOR'S DECLARATION

I declare that the work in this dissertation was carried out in accordance with the regulations of Universiti Teknologi MARA. It is original and is the results of my own work, unless otherwise indicated or acknowledged as referenced work. This dissertation has not been submitted to any other academic institution or non-academic institution for any degree or qualification.

I, hereby, acknowledge that I have been supplied with the Academic Rules and Regulations for Post Graduate, Universiti Teknologi MARA, regulating the conduct of my study and research.

Name of Student	:	Nur Hidayatur Nabila binti Mat Lapi
Student I.D. No.	:	2017995761
Programme	:	Master of Science (Crop Protection) – AT734
Faculty	:	Plantation and Agrotechnology
Dissertation Title	:	Antifungal Activities of Alpinia galangal, Curcuma
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		the
Signature of Student	:	
Date	:	September 2021

ABSTRACT

This study screened the potential of natural product from Zingeberacea family like Alpinia galangal, Curcuma longa and Zingiber officinale crude extracts as biofungicides and their antifungal activities against Pyricularia oryzae which is the pathogen of rice blast disease both in vitro and in vivo. The objectives of this study were to evaluate and observe the efficacy of A. galangal, C. longa and Z. officinale crude extracts as an antifungal agent against P. oryzae and to determine the active compound in A. galangal, C. longa and Z. officinale crude extracts that act as antifungal agent. Results from the study showed that A. galangal hexane crude extract possessed highest antifungal activity and showed greater inhibition zone against P. oryzae with 52.9% growth inhibition (1.88 cm radial growth) followed by C. longa hexane extract with 49.2% inhibition (2.03 cm radial growth) and Z. officinale methanol extract with 43.5% of inhibition (2.18 cm). Other crude extracts also showed slight inhibition towards P. oryzae. Furthermore, A. galangal hexane crude extract showed inhibition effect nearly equal as the commercial fungicide (Mancozeb) that is commonly used in controlling rice blast. The crude extracts have the effective inhibitory concentration (EIC) at 250,000 ppm concentration and LC_{50} was determined at 365,129 ppm. Based on microscopic observation, it was found that antifungal activity of A. galangal crude extract caused stunted, lysis, burst and disruption of *P. oryzae* mycelia and conidia. The active antifungal properties in A. galangal hexane crude extract were detected and the presence of phytochemical was screened using qualitative phytochemical screening and GC-MS analysis. These results were able to detect the presence of alkaloids, saponin, phenols, phenylpropanoids, eucalyptol and eugenol. The in vivo study showed that A. galangal hexane crude extract have the potential to be used as curative control against blast disease in the rice field.

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