# ANTIOXIDANT STUDY OF EXTRACTED Areca catechu NUT AND ITS POTENTIAL AS HAIR OIL'S ADDITIVE

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#### ABSTRACT

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Hair loss affects more than 80% of men and nearly half of women especially as they approach middle age or experiencing the stress of difficulties in daily lives. Nowadays, too many hair care products are based on synthetic formulations. Not only that, but many manufacturers of hair care products are more concerned about the amount of production that can be sold than the quality and safety of consumers. Thus, this study aimed to identify the chemical constituents in Areca catechu nut extract by using the phytochemical screening and FTIR analysis, to examine the antioxidant properties using the total phenolic content (TPC), DPPH free radical scavenging assay and to formulate and analyze the hair oil using extracted Areca catechu nut. The dried Areca catechu nut was successfully extracted by maceration extraction technique with the percentage yield of 41.46%. The phytochemical screening showed the presence of alkaloid, flavonoid, tannins, saponin and phenolic while the FTIR analysis revealed the predominant functional group of alcohol and carbonyl group at peak 3321 cm<sup>-1</sup> and 1044 cm<sup>-1</sup>. The antioxidant activity demonstrates that the ethanolic extracts of Areca catechu nut showed the highest inhibitory DPPH free radical up to 93.79% at 100 ppm. The total phenolic content obtained in this study is 10.38 mg GAE/g. The hair oil was successfully prepared, and stability tests included pH, irritation and organoleptic were analyzed. Hence, this formulation with the addition of *Areca catechu* nut has a great potential to be commercialized as a potent natural product hair oil that can help in reducing hair loss and promotes hair growth.

## TABLE OF CONTENTS

ABST ABST ACKI TABI LIST LIST LIST LIST	RACT RAK NOWLEDGEMEN LE OF CONTENT OF TABLES OF FIGURES OF SYMBOLS OF ABBREVIAT	NTS 'S IONS	Page iii iv v vi viii ix x xi
CHAI	PTER 1 INTRODI	ICTION	1
1.1	Background of study		1
1.2	Problem stateme	ent	4
1.3	Research questions		5
1.4	Objective of study		5
1.5	Significance of study		6
1.6	Expected outcome		6
CHA	PTER 2 LITERAT	<b>CURE REVIEW</b>	<b>8</b> °
2.1	Areca catechy p	nt	0
2.2	221 Types c	n A <i>reca catechu</i> nut	11
23	Extraction metho	od of <i>Areca catechu</i> nut	13
2.4	Bioactive compo	tive compound in Areca catechu nut	
2.5	Preliminary of p	ninary of phytochemical	
2.6	Antioxidant activity in <i>Areca catechu</i> nut		16
	2.6.1 Total Pl	henolic Contents (TPC)	17
	2.6.2 DPPH r	adical scavenging activity	18
2.7	Hair oil		19
	2.7.1 Benefit: hair oil	s of ingredients used in the formulation of	19
	2.7.2 Stability	y test on hair oil	20
CHA	PTER 3 METHOI	OLOGY	23
3.1	Materials and Chemicals		23
	3.1.1 Raw materials		23
	3.1.2 Chemic	als	23
3.2	Apparatus and Instruments		24
	3.2.1 Apparatus		24
	3.2.2 Instrum	Instruments	
	3.2.2.1	UV-Visible spectrophotometer	24
	3.2.2.2	Spectronic 20	25

vi