#### ANTIOXIDANT ACTIVITY AND PHENOLIC CONTENT OF SELECTED FRUIT SEEDS

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#### ABSTRACT

#### ANTIOXIDANT ACTIVITY AND PHENOLIC CONTENT OF SELECTED FRUIT SEEDS

The total phenolic content and antioxidant activities in *Citrullus lanatus* (watermelon), *Nigella sativa* (sawda) and *Vitis vinifera* (grapes) fruit seeds were studied. From the extraction of the seeds, the sawda seed's extract afforded the highest yield (18.67%) while the lowest yield was obtained from the seed of watermelon (10.28%). The total phenolic content of the extracts was analyzed using Folin–Ciocalteu method. The highest content of total phenolic compounds was detected in the seeds of grape extract (17.0980mg GAE/g dry sample) whereas the lowest content was detected in the seed of sawda extract (3.2160 mg GAE/g dry sample). The ethanolic extract of seeds were analyzed for antioxidant activity (AA) by 2,2-diphenyl-1-picrylhydrazyl radical-scavenging. The scavenging activity of the extract (50, 100 and 200 ppm) increased in a dose dependent manner and the highest scavenging activity was in seed of grape with the range of 37.09% to 77.07% as compared to ascorbic acid with range 49.45% to 93.27%). The results obtained in this study clearly indicate that seeds of fruits have a significant potential to use as a natural antioxidant agent.