ISOLATION AND MORPHOLOGICAL IDENTIFICATION BY CHARACTERISTICS OF ENDOPHYTIC FUNGAL FROM Melastoma malabathricum AND Clidemia hirta AT UiTM NEGERI SEMBILAN FOREST

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TABLE OF CONTENTS

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS TABLE OF CONTENTS LIST OF TABLES LIST OF FIGURES LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS ABSTRACT ABSTRAK		PAGE iii iv vii viii ix x
СНА	APTER 1: INTRODUCTION	
1.1	Background of study	1
1.2	Problem statement	5
1.3	Significance of the study	6
1.4	Objectives of the study	7
СНА	APTER 2: LITERATURE REVIEW	
2.1	Endophytes	8
2.2	Significance of Endophytic Fungi	9
	2.2.1 Antimicrobial activity	10
	2.2.2 Anticancer activity	11
	2.2.3 Antiviral activity	13
2.3	Ecology and Biodiversity of Endophytic Fungi	15
2.4	Biological Role of Endophytic Fungi	17
2.5	Environmental Roles of Endophytic Fungi	17
	2.5.1 Phytoremediation	17
	2.5.2 Insecticidal activity	18
2.6	Genus of Melastoma	20
2.7	Benefits of Melastoma Malabathricum	20
2.8	Genus Clidemia hirta	22
СНА	APTER 3: METHODOLOGY	
3.1	Materials	23
	3.1.1 Raw Material	23
	3.1.2 Chemicals	23
	3.1.3 Apparatus	23
3.2	Methods	24

	3.2.1 Sampling of the collected plants	24
	3.2.2 Identification of the plants	25
	3.2.3 Sterilization of the plants	25
	3.2.4 Samples culture	25
	3.2.5 Incubation of the plant samples	25
	3.2.6 Isolation of the fungal species	25
	3.2.7 Microscopic examination	26
CHA	PTER 4: RESULTS AND DISCUSSION	
4.1	Fungal strain of Melastoma malabathricum	27
4.2	Fungal strain of Clidemia hirta	28
4.3	Colony appearance of Melastoma malabathricum	30
4.4	Colony appearance of Clidemia hirta	32
4.5	Morphological of Melastoma malabatricum	35
4.6	Morphological of Clidemia hirta	39
СНА	PTER 5: CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS	42
CITI	ED REFERENCES	44
APP	ENDICES	47
CURRICULUM VITAE		

ABSTRACT

ISOLATION AND MORPHOLOGICAL IDENTIFICATION OF ENDOPHYTIC FUNGAL FROM Melastoma malabathriucm AND Clidemia hirta AT UiTM NEGERI SEMBILAN FOREST

Endophytic fungi are universal fungi that enduring asymptomatically in internal tissues of a higher plant parts without causing apparent symptoms of infection and as promising sources of biologically active agents. The present of research was conducted to isolate the endophytic fungi from leaves, stems and roots of Melastoma malabathricum and Clidemia hirta at UiTM Negeri Sembilan Forest. Two isolates endophytic fungi (leaves/stem/roots) were successfully isolated and identified by morphological characteristics. Samples were surface sterilized and sub-cultures to obtain a pure culture. The characteristics of isolates such as types of septate, spore or conidia, and colony appearance were studied to explore their morphology. Microscopic analysis showed two isolates consist of non-septate hyphae and sporangiospore. The pigmentation result showed that colony in MMF5 root samples demonstrated a white color on potato dextrose agar (PDA) media, colony in MMF22 leaf determined a white texture with greenish to yellowish at the half of core on potato dextrose agar (PDA) media while powdery colonies of MMF13 stem samples showed a black-greyish to white color on potato dextrose PDA media. The colony in CHF5 root samples identified as black to greyish in the margin area, CHF22 leaf samples demonstrated a white in color and matured into cotton candy like texture. CHF13 stem samples also described black-greyish to a white color on potato dextrose agar (PDA) media. The morphology of endophytic fungi revealed that six isolate belonged to Zygomycota phylum such as MMF5, MMF22, MMF13 and CHF5, CHF22, CHF13. Overall, endophytic fungi have lots of potential and benefits that require more specific scientific research explorations.