UNIVERSITI TEKNOLOGI MARA

GENOTOXICITY AND CYTOTOXICITY STUDIES OF Averrhoa bilimbi, Cosmos caudatus AND Pereskia bleo EXTRACT

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ABSTRACT

Malaysia is rich with many medicinal plants and fruits which are well known for its traditional medicinal value. Some of these plants even contributed in healing and providing ailments towards certain diseases. Recent interest in the health-promoting properties of these Malaysian plants has been based on facts about their benefits in health. However, insufficient scientific information is available to support these facts. The overall objectives of this study were to evaluate and investigate the mutagenicity, cytotoxicity and genotoxicity of these three species of selected Malaysian plants (Averrhoa bilimbi, Cosmos caudatus and Pereskia bleo). These tests included the mutagenicity test performed based on OECD guidelines section #471 that was proposed by Maron and Ames (1983), in vitro micronucleus test subjected to OECD guidelines #487using Chinese hamster lung cell (V79) and neutral red uptake cytotoxicity assay using normal mouse fibroblast cell (NIH/3T3). In bacterial reverse mutation test, A.bilimbi fruit extracts, C. caudatus and P. bleo plant extracts were treated onto Salmonella typhimurium strains (TA98, TA100, TA1535, and TA1537). Based on the result, the number of revertant colonies of A. bilimbi did not exceeded the two-fold of negative control and no dose dependent relationship when tested on all four strains with and without metabolic activation on all concentrations. Meanwhile C. caudatus plant extracts showed weak mutagenic (0.794 mg/plate strain TA100 without metabolic activation, 7.143 mg/plate strain TA98 with and without metabolic activation) because the revertant bacteria exceeded two fold of the number of negative control. P. bleo leaf extracts also showed weak mutagenic on strain TA98 (with metabolic activation) at concentration of 0.089 mg/ml. In addition, P. bleo leaf extracts (with and without metabolic activation) reported no growth of the revertant colonies (TA98, TA100, TA1535 and TA1537) at concentrations of 7.143, 2.381 and 0.794 mg/plate, respectively. In Neutral Red cytotoxicity assay, A. bilimbi exhibits no cytotoxic activity against NIH/ 3T3 mouse fibroblast cell at all concentrations 0.5, 0.25, 0.125, 0.0625 and 0.03125 mg/ml, respectively. In contrast, C.caudatus (0.031026 mg/ml) and *P.bleo* (0.018192 mg/ml) leaves extract demonstrated cytotoxic activity when screened against NIH/3T3 cells. Based on micronuclei detection formation, A. bilimbi does not induced chromosomal damage on all concentration used with and without the presence of metabolic activation. Meanwhile C. caudatus and P. bleo leaves extract showed chromosomal damage when screened against V79 cells (without the presence of metabolic activation), at concentrations of 0.125, 0.25 and 0.5 mg/ml, respectively. In conclusion, the results in the present study have provided some information on the mutagenicity, chromosomal damage and cytotoxicity activities, hence further detailed investigations are crucial to examine the ingredient responsible for causing the genotoxicity and cytotoxicity of these plants.

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TABLE OF CONTENT

	Page
CONFIRMATION BY PANEL OF EXAMINERS	ii
AUTHOR'S DECLARATION	iii
ABSTRACT	iv
ACKNOWLEDGEMENT	v
TABLE OF CONTENT	vi
LIST OF TABLES	х
LIST OF FIGURES	xi
LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS	xiii

CHAPTER ONE: INTRODUCTION

1.2 Problem Statement21.3 Research Objectives31.4 Research Questions31.5 Hypothesis31.6 Significance of study31.7 Scope and Limitations4	1.1 Background of Study	1
1.4 Research Questions31.5 Hypothesis31.6 Significance of study3	1.2 Problem Statement	2
1.5 Hypothesis31.6 Significance of study3	1.3 Research Objectives	3
1.6 Significance of study3	1.4 Research Questions	3
	1.5 Hypothesis	3
1.7 Scope and Limitations4	1.6 Significance of study	3
	1.7 Scope and Limitations	4

CHAPTER TWO: LITERATURE REVIEW

2.1 Malaysian Traditional Plants and Vegetables	5
2.2 Averrhoa bilimbi	7
2.3 Cosmos caudatus	8
2.4 Pereskia bleo	10
2.5 Phytochemicals in Plants	11
2.6 Bioactive Compound in A. bilimbi, C. caudatus and P. bleo	12
2.6.1 Bioactive Compound in A. bilimbi	13
2.6.2 Bioactive Compound in C. caudatus	13

2.6.3 Bioactive Compound in P. bleo	14
2.7 General Principle of genotoxicity testing	15
2.8 Genetic Toxicology	15
2.8.1 General principle of Mutagenicity	16
2.8.2 Genetic Alteration	17
2.9 Common Test for Testing Genotoxic Chemicals	18
2.9.1Ames Test (Bacterial Reverse Mutation Assays)	18
2.9.1.1 Salmonella Bacterial Strains	19
2.9.1.2 Metabolic activation	20
2.9.2 in vitro mammalian cell micronucleus assay	21
2.9.2.1Chinese Hamster Lung Cell/ V79-44(ATCC® CCL-93™)	22
2.9.2.2 Other Standard Genotoxicity Assay	22
2.10 Cytotoxicity Test	23
2.10.1 Neutral Red Uptake Assay	23
2.10.1.1 Mouse Fibroblast Cell/ NIH/3T3	23
(ATCC® CRL- 1658 TM)	
2.10.1.2 Other Standard Cytotoxicity Assay	24
CHAPTER THREE: RESEARCH METHODOLOGY	
3.1 Materials	25
3.1.1 Chemicals and Reagent	25
3.1.2 Consumables	26
3.1.3 Instrument	26
3.1.4 Cell Lines	26
3.2 Plant Sample Collection and Preparation	27
3.3 Bacteria Used Preparations	28
3.3.1 Preparation of Frozen Permanent cultures	28
3.3.2 Pre- Culture of TA98, TA100, TA1535 and TA1537	28
3.3.3 Preparation of Glucose Minimal Agar Plates	29
3.3.4 Preparation of Histidine/ Biotin Solution (0.5mM)	29
3.3.5 Preparation of Top Agar Supplemented with Histidine or Biotin	29
3.3.6 Preparation of Nutrient Broth	30