

Analysis of lemon grass for its antifungal value



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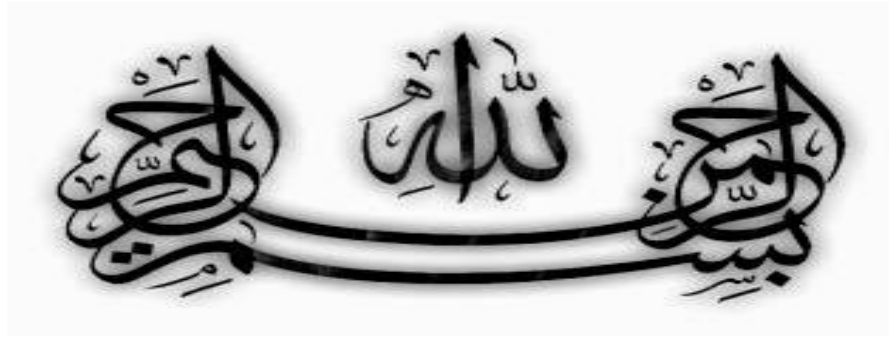
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SESSION: 2015-2017

**DEPARTMENT OF CHEMISTRY
SCHOOL OF SCIENCE
UNIVERSITY OF MANAGEMENT AND TECHNOLOGY,
LAHORE, PAKISTAN**



“And He it is who causes gardens to grow (both), trellised and untrellised, and palm trees and crops of different (kinds of) food and olives and pomegranates, similar and dissimilar. Eat of (each of) its fruit when it yields, and give its due (zakah) on the day of its harvest. And be not excessive. Indeed, He does not like those who commit excess”.

(Surah Al – Anaam)



**LORD MUHAMMAD (PEACE BE
UPON HIM) SAID,**

*“God, His angels and all those in
Heavens and on Earth, even ants in
their hills and fish in the water, call
down blessings on those who
instruct others in beneficial
knowledge”*



DECLARATION

I, **Sidra Azeem D/O Mohammad Azeem ID: 15005140003**, Session **2015-2017** hereby declare that the matter printed in the thesis titled “**Analysis of Lemon Grass for its antifungal value**” is my own work and has not been printed, published and submitted as research work, thesis or publication in any form in any University, Research institution etc. in Pakistan or Abroad.

Dated: _____

(*Sidra Azeem*)

RESEARCH COMPLETION CERTIFICATE

Certified that the research work contained in this thesis titled, “**Analysis of Lemon Grass for its antifungal value**” has been carried out and completed by **Sidra Azeem, ID: 15005140003**. The quantum and the quality of the work contained in this thesis is adequate for the award of Degree of MS/M.Phil.

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DEDICATION

“I dedicate my thesis work to my beloved Parents to my most respectable Teachers and to every person who taught me even a single word. I respect them from the core of my heart and am indebted to these people, as I would never have been able to complete my research work without their motivation and mentoring.”

CONTENTS

	Page no
List of Tables	xi
List of Figures & graphs	xii
Acknowledgements	xiii
Abstract	xiv
CHAPTER 1: INTRODUCTION	1-34
Introduction	2
1.1. Poaceae Family	3
1.1.1. Morphological Aspects	3
1.1.2. Taxonomy of Poaceae Family	4
1.1.3. Important Plants of Poaceae Family	4
1.2. Importance of Poaceae Family	9
1.2.1. Ecology	9
1.2.2. Agriculture and Economics	9
1.3. Genus <i>Cymbopogon</i>	10
1.3.1. History	11
1.3.2. Morphological Aspects	11
1.3.3. Economic Importance	11
1.3.4. Important Species of <i>Cymbopogon</i> Genus	12
1.4. <i>Cymbopogon citratus</i>	13
1.4.1. Common names of <i>C. citratus</i>	13
1.4.2. Classification of <i>C. citratus</i>	14
1.4.3. Morphological aspects	15
1.4.4. Cultivation and Distribution	15
1.4.5. Chemical Composition of <i>C. citratus</i>	17
1.5. <i>Cymbopogon citratus</i> Importance	18
1.5.1. Pharmacological Importance	18
1.6. Phytochemicals in Plants	21
1.6.1. Quinones	22

CONTENTS

1.6.2. Tannins.	22
1.6.3. Alkaloids	23
1.6.4. Waxes	24
1.6.5. Lipids	24
1.6.6. Coumarins	24
1.6.7. Saponins	25
1.6.8. Flavanoids	25
1.6.9. Terpenoids	27
1.7. Antifungal Activity	29
1.7.1. <i>Candida albicans</i>	30
1.7.2. Symptoms of <i>Candida albicans</i>	31
1.7.3. <i>Saccharomyces cerevisiae</i>	31
1.7.4. Common Names	32
1.8. Antioxidant Activity	33
1.9. Aims and Objectives	34
CHAPTER 2: LITERATURE REVIEW	35-59
CHAPTER 3: EXPERIMENTAL WORK	60-70
3.1. Specific Experimental Conditions	62
3.1.1. Instruments\Equipments	62
3.1.2. Glassware\Apparatus	63
3.1.3. Chemicals	64
3.2. Collection and Recognition of Plant	65
3.3. General Methods for Plant Extraction	65
3.3.1. Drying of <i>C.citratus</i>	65
3.3.2. Water Extraction	65
3.3.3. Hexane Extraction	65
3.3.4. Methanolic Extraction	66
3.3.5. Extracts Concentration	66
3.4. Phytochemical Analysis of <i>C. citratus</i> Extracts	66
3.4.1. Test for Saponins	67
3.4.2. Test for Tannins	67
3.4.3. Test for Steroids	67

CONTENTS

3.4.4. Test for Alkaloids	67
3.4.5. Test for Flavanoids	68
3.4.6. Test for Coumarins	68
3.5. Antifungal Activity of <i>C. citratus</i>	68
3.5.1. Samples Preparation	68
3.5.2. Preparation of Potato Dextrose agrose (PDA)	68
3.5.3. Preparation of Nutrient Broth	69
3.5.4. Inoculums Preparation	69
3.5.5. Petri Dishes Preparation	69
3.6. Antioxidant Activity	69
3.6.1 Preparation of Sodium Carbonate	70
3.6. 2. Gallic Acid Preparation	70
3.6.3. Samples Preparation and Analysis	70
CHAPTER 4: RESULTS AND DISCUSSION	71-84
4.1. Percentage yield of all Extracts	72
4.2. Phytochemical Analysis	72
4.3. Antifungal Activity	75
4.3.1. Antifungal Activity of <i>C. citratus</i> against <i>C. albicans</i>	75
4.3.2. Antifungal Activity of <i>C. citratus</i> against <i>S. cerevisiae</i>	77
4.3.3. Comparison of Antifungal Activity of <i>C. citratus</i> Extracts	79
4.4. Antioxidant Activity of <i>C. citratus</i>	81
4.4.1. Total Phenolic Content Assay	81
CONCLUSION	85
REFERENCES	86-102

LIST OF TABLES

	Page no
Table 1.1: Taxonomy of Poaceae family	4
Table 1.2: Some important plants of Poaceae family	5
Table 1.3: Classification of <i>C. citratus</i> Complex	14
Table 1.4: <i>C. citratus</i> composition	17
Table 3.1: List of Instruments	62
Table 3.2: List of Glassware/Apparatus	63
Table 3.3: List of Chemicals	64
Table 4.1: Percentage (%) yield of all Extracts	73
Table 4.2: Phytochemical Screening tests	74
Table 4.3: Antifungal activity of <i>C. citratus</i> extracts against <i>C. albicans</i>	76
Table 4.4: Antifungal activity of <i>C. citratus</i> extracts against <i>S. Cerevisiae</i>	78
Table 4.5: Comparison of antifungal activity of <i>C. citratus</i> extracts against <i>C. albicans</i> and <i>S. cerevisiae</i>	81
Table 4.6: Different Gallic acid concentrations and Absorbance	82
Table 4.7: Comparison of antioxidant activity of <i>C. citratus</i>	83

LIST OF FIGURES & GRAPHS

	Page no
Fig: 1.1: Some Important plants of Poaceae family	8
Fig: 1.2: <i>C. citratus</i> stem	16
Fig: 1.3: <i>C. citratus</i> leaves	16
Fig: 1.4: Proanthocyanidins	23
Fig: 1.5: Flavonoids from <i>C. citratus</i>	27
Fig: 1.6: Terpenoids from <i>C. citratus</i>	29
Fig: 1.7: <i>Candia albicans</i>	30
Fig: 1.8: <i>Saccharomyces cerevisiae</i>	32
Fig: 3.1: Schematic view of experimental work	61
Fig: 4.1: Zone of Inhibition of <i>C. citratus</i> extracts (a) 24h (b) 72h against <i>C. albicans</i>	75
Fig: 4.2: Antifungal activity of <i>C. citratus</i> extracts against <i>C. albicans</i>	76
Fig: 4.3: Zone of Inhibition of <i>C. citratus</i> extracts (a) 24h (b) 72 h against <i>S. cerevisiae</i>	77
Fig: 4.4: Antifungal activity of <i>C. citratus</i> extracts against <i>S. cerevisiae</i>	78
Fig: 4.5: Comparison of antifungal activity <i>C.citratus</i> extracts against <i>C.albicans</i> and <i>S.cerevisiae</i>	80
Fig: 4.6: Absorbance of Gallic acid	82
Fig: 4.7: Determination of GAE from <i>C. citratus</i> samples	84

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ABSTRACT

Medicinal plants are still a major part of traditional and herbal medicine in the developing countries. The use of medicinal plants is common among those people who have less or no access to prescribe medicine. *Cymbopogon citratus* (*C. citratus*) is commonly known as "citronella grass" or "lemongrass" that belongs to family Gramineae (Poaceae). It is a perennial tropical grass with long, thin leaves. Lemon grass is found as a folk remedy for fever, pneumonia, antispasmodic, antipyretic, bactericidal, fungicidal, antioxidant, analgesic, anti inflammatory actions and astringent properties. Antioxidants isolated from *C. citratus* are responsible for reducing LDL (low-density lipoprotein) oxidation, scavenging activity of free radicals and high potential on human skin. The fundamental aim of this study was to extricate different *C. citratus* components for fungal inhibition. Phytochemical tests were performed to confirm the presence of alkaloids, flavonoids, tannins, coumarine and saponins. The extracts showed significant antifungal and antioxidant activities. The antifungal activity of *C. citratus* extract against *Candida albicans* and *Sacchromysis cerevisiae* was explicated by using the agar diffusion method. Nystatin was used as standard to measure the antifungal activity of *C. citratus* extracts. In this study, the results clarify that all *C. citratus* extracts exhibited clear zone of inhibition against tested fungus but methanol extract of *C. citratus* was superficially effective against *Sacchromysis cerevisiae* and showed 24mm zone of inhibition after 72h. Wherese, methanol extract of lemon grass against *C. albicans* showed 19mm zone of inhibition after 72h. Antioxidant activity of *C. citratus* samples were also reported by TPC method. Methanol extract of *C. citratus* corroborated highest antioxidant activity followed by hexane and water extracts. Maximum absorption for methanol was GAE 1190.6 mg/L and water was GAE 530.9 mg/L whereas n-hexane showed less absorption. Results declare that leaves of *C. citratus* can be a part of herbal medicines that can be used against fungal diseases.



INTRODUCTION

Nature persistently arises as a golden evidence to exemplify the exceptional fact of symbiosis. All herbal products from animals, minerals and plants have been proved the basis of cure of human infections. Especially, Plants are dominant source of herbal medicines. Today, investigate that in developing countries about (80 %) of nation based on traditional medicine for their health care. Contemporary, herbal products demand is increasing day by day. In ancient literature approximately 500 plants are mentioned however, around 800 plants have been utilized in primitive systems of medicine. India is a major store house of herbal plants that are intensified in primitive medical treatments.