

In vitro Antimicrobial activities of Chloroformic, hexane and Ethanolic extracts of *Citrullus lanatus* var. *Citroides* (Wild melon)

Abstract:

To test the antimicrobial activities of crude chloroform, hexane and ethanol extracts of leaves, stem, fruits and seeds from *Citrullus lanatus* var. *citroides* (CL) against bacteria (*Escherichia coli*, *Staphylococcus aureus*, *Pseudomonas aeruginosa*, *Bacillus subtilis* and *Proteus vulgaris*) and fungi (*Aspergillus niger* and *Candida albicans*). Antimicrobial properties of CL were tested using cup-plate diffusion method and disc diffusion. Analysis of the data revealed that, the chloroform extract of the fruit exhibited the highest antibacterial activity. It showed antibacterial activity against *S. aureus*: 36 mm, *B. subtilis*; 38 mm, *E. coli*; 37 mm, *P. vulgaris*; 23 mm and *P. aeruginosa*; 19 mm. The ethanolic extract of the fruit pulp and stem showed the highest antifungal activity on *C. albicans* (41 mm). *A. niger* was very sensitive to the chloroform extract of the seed (37 mm) and the ethanolic extract of the leaves (37 mm). Results were compared concurrently to standard drugs; clotrimazole and gentamicin. Based on the current findings, it can be concluded that this plant has antimicrobial activity, which is as potent as standard antimicrobial drugs against certain microorganisms.