



Evaluation of the Antioxidant and Phototoxic Potentials of *Bauhinia microstachya* var. *massambabensis* Vaz Leaf Extracts

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SUMMARY. Four different leaf extracts of *B. microstachya* var. *massambabensis* were studied to evaluate their antioxidant capacity by using three *in vitro* methods, with *Ginkgo biloba* and Trolox® as the standards. With the DPPH and ABTS⁺ methods, the antioxidant activity of the extracts was in the following order, from maximum to minimum: AcEt > WAc > raw EtOH > EtOH CA > EGb, while with the ORAC method, it was as follows: EtOH CA > raw EtOH > AcEt > WAc > EGb. Phototoxic analysis was performed in yeast cultures of *Saccharomyces cerevisiae*. From the ethyl acetate extract, 2 flavonoids kaempferol-3-*O*-rhamnoside and astragalin-2'',6''-*O*-digallate were isolated and identified by HPLC and ¹H- and ¹³C-NMR; to our knowledge, this is the first report of the occurrence of astragalin-2'',6''-*O*-digallate in the *Bauhinia* genus.

KEY WORDS: Antioxidant capacity, *Bauhinia*, Flavonoids, Plant extracts.

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