



Nutrient Content and pH of Honey Propolis Trigona from Masamba, South Sulawesi Indonesia

Andi Nilawati Usman^{a*}, Yuliana Syam^{b*}, Rosdiana Natzir^c, Sutji Pratiwi
Rahardjo^d, Muhammad Hatta^e, Indah Raya^f, Yuyun Widaningsih^g, Andi Zulkifli
Abdullah^h, Ainurafiqⁱ

^aDepartment of Epidemiology, Health College of RSU Daya, Makassar, Indonesia

^bDepartment of Nursing, Hasanuddin University, Makassar, Indonesia

^cDepartment of Biochemistry, Hasanuddin University, Makassar, Indonesia

^dDepartment of Head and Neck Surgery, Hasanuddin University, Indonesia

^eDepartment Immunology and Biomolecular, Hasanuddin University, Indonesia

^fDepartment of Chemistry, Hasanuddin University, Makassar, Indonesia

^gDepartment of Clinical Pathology, Hasanuddin University, Makassar, Indonesia

^hDepartment of Epidemiology, Hasanuddin University, Makassar, Indonesia

ⁱDepartment of Epidemiology, Haluleo University, Kendari, Indonesia

^aEmail: nilawatiandi@gmail.com

Abstract

Honey and propolis have nutritional components that are beneficial to health, but data concerning nutrient components of honey mixed propolis is still lacking. This study aims to determine the nutrient components and PH honey given addition of propolis, that is honey propolis from Masamba Trigona bees, South Sulawesi, Indonesia. This type of research is laboratory research with sample 85 grams Trigona honey mixed with 15 gram Propolis Trigona. The results showed that honey propolis Trigona of Masamba has low pH, high total phenols and quercetin content.

* Corresponding author.

Examination vitamin A, C and E show that vitamin C content is the highest while the mineral from 3 types examined, namely Magnesium, calcium and zinc, the highest is calcium. Further research is needed on the benefits of honey Propolis Trigona Masamba for health.

Keywords: Honey; Propolis; Trigona; Masamba.

1. Introduction

Honey and propolis as bee products produced naturally and have good availability. Enrichment of honey with propolis is an innovation, it could increase the nutrient content of honey also makes propolis could be consumed by people who do not like the taste but realize the benefit of propolis [1,2]. Trigona bees is stingless bee, they live in groups and form colonies. These bees easily found in tropical and subtropical regions of South America, South Africa and Southeast Asia. Products of Trigona bee has higher acidity, moisture content but lower sugar compared than *Apis mellifera* [3].

Honey contains proteins and amino acids, vitamins, enzymes, minerals and other micro components [4]. Honey and propolis have anti-inflammatory and anti-bacterial activities, its natural compounds is useful for diseases associated inflammatory process [5,6]. Honey produce from Trigona Stingless bee has antimicrobial activity and effective against *Staphylococcus aureus*, *Pseudomonas* and *Candida albicans* [7]. Antioxidant activity of honey is correlated with polyphenols and vitamins content as Total Phenols, Flavonoids, vitamin C and vitamin E [8-11].

Evidence about the nutritional content of honey propolis Trigona has an important role to be used as a basis for in vitro and in vivo research on health benefits. This study aimed to analyze the nutritional content and PH of honey Propolis Trigona from Masamba, North of Luwu district, South Sulawesi Province of Indonesia.

2. Material and Methods

2.1 Materials and Examination Method

Honey and Propolis Trigona are taken from Masamba, North of Luwu district, South Sulawesi Province of Indonesia. Food sources of Trigona bees are from nature such as Rosella flower, rambutan trees, chrysanthemums flower, coconut and palm trees planted around the barracks of bees.

Honey was deposited in a dark room for 72 hours to clean it from dirt and then put in the heating / drying oven to reduce the moisture content in honey. Propolis liquid is made by mixing 100 grams of propolis with 1000cc of water. Propolis then heated to a temperature of less than 80°C and stirred until homogeneous, then the heat source is turned off. Homogeneous solution was cooled until solid wax float on the surface, wax solids discharged until the remaining solution of propolis and water and then filtered. For Examination, honey propolis made by mixed 85% of honey and 15% of propolis.

Examination of total phenols and quercetin and PH were performed in Biofarmaka laboratory, Faculty of Pharmacy Hasanuddin University, Sample was 75 grams of honey mixed with 15 grams of Propolis Trigona.

Nutrient Content was tested at Center for Health Laboratory Makassar. Total phenol was determined by the Folin-Ciocalteu method and quercetin was determined by aluminum chloride method based procedures [12]. Examination of carbohydrate and protein using titrimetric method, moisture level using gravimetric method. Examination of calcium, magnesium and sodium using atomization method. Examination of vitamin A, vitamin C and vitamin E using spectrophotometric method, all the methods in accordance with the Indonesian National Standard (SNI) established by the National Bureau of Standards Indonesia.

3. Result

Table 1: pH and Nutrient Content of Honey Propolis Trigona From Masamba, South Sulawesi

pH and Nutrient Content	Quantity
PH	4
Protein	0.43 %
Moisture Level	17.11%
Carbohydrate	21.94 %
Total Phenol	190.3 mg/100 g
Quercetin	17.28 mg/100 g
Vitamin A	4.49 ug/g
Vitamin C	302.26 ug/g
Vitamin E	59.36 ug/g
Calsium (Ca)	292.5 ppm
Magnesium (Mg)	261.5 ppm
Zink (Zn)	0.71 ppm

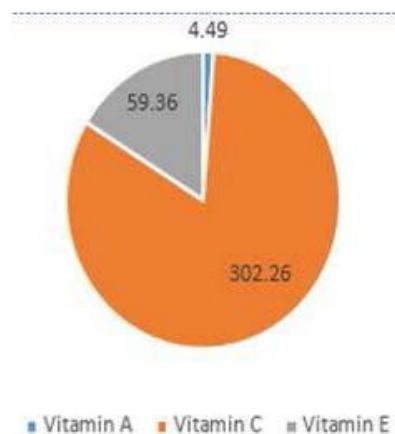


Figure1: Comparison of Vitamin A, vitamin C and Vitamin E in Honey Propolis Trigona From Masamba, South Sulawesi

Data from this study showed that the degree of acidity (PH) honey Propolis Trigona is 4, protein content 0,43% and moisture content 17,11%. Total phenol was 190.3 mg / 100 g and quercetin content was 17,28 mg / 100 g (Table 1). While the content of vitamins A, C and E as shown in table 1 and figure 1 shows that vitamin C (302.26 ug / g) had higher levels compared to vitamin E (59,36 ug / g) and vitamin A (4,49 ug / g), vitamin A levels are the lowest level. Calcium (Ca) is higher (292.5 ppm) compared with Mn (261.5 ppm) and Zn (0.71 ppm).

4. Discussion

Phytochemical components and low pH has beneficial in preventing of microbial growth [13]. Honey Propolis Trigona from Masamba has higher total phenol content compared with other honey, its comparison based on literature that have been published, including Tualang honey, Gelamhoney, Trigona Carbonaria honey from Australia [6,10,14]. Diet containing polyphenols including total phenols and quercetin, vitamin A and vitamin C could affect immune homeostasis by influencing Foxp3 Treg, a transcription factor of regulatory T cell [15-17]. PH and nutrient content of honey Propolis Trigona has potential benefits for prevention and treatment of disease.

Although still rare, but several studies have shown that propolis contains minerals such as magnesium, calcium, potassium and zinc. Mineral content of propolis is affected by seasonal variations [18,19]. Some studies had different result concerning the highest mineral content of honey, sometimes Calcium, potassium or Sodium becomes the highest mineral content of honey but heavy metals such as Zn always has low level [20,21]. Honey given to postmenopausal mouse models showed improvements in trabecular bone structure and Utilization of propolis for the treatment of bone fractures showed good results for bone mineral density [22,23]. In the case of distraction osteogenesis (DO), treatment of propolis also accelerates bone formation and shorten the consolidation phase in the DO [24]. Honey and propolis has proved beneficial to problems related bones, it is expected further studies will study concerning honey propolis and it would be better than just honey or propolis alone.

5. Conclusion

Honey propolis has a low pH with high total phenol and quercetin content while vitamin C is the highest vitamin content compared vitamin A and E and for minerals, Calcium is the highest than magnesium and Zinc.

Acknowledgment

The authors thank to Ministry of Research, Technology and Higher Education of Republic of Indonesia.

Conflict of Interest

The authors declare that there is no conflict of interest for this paper.

References

- [1]. Oses, S. M., Pascual-Mate, A., Fernandez-Muino, M. A., Lopez-Diaz, T. M., & Sancho, M. T. (2016). Bioactive properties of honey with propolis. *Food Chem*, 196, 1215-1223. doi: 10.1016/j.foodchem.2015.10.050
- [2]. Othman, N. H. (2012). Does honey have the characteristics of natural cancer vaccine? *J Tradit Complement Med*, 2(4), 276-283.
- [3]. Chuttong, B., Chanbang, Y., Sringarm, K., & Burgett, M. (2016). Physicochemical profiles of stingless bee (Apidae: Meliponini) honey from South East Asia (Thailand). *Food Chem*, 192, 149-155. doi: 10.1016/j.foodchem.2015.06.089
- [4]. Burlando, B., & Cornara, L. (2013). Honey in dermatology and skin care: a review. *J Cosmet Dermatol*, 12(4), 306-313. doi: 10.1111/jocd.12058
- [5]. Kassim, M., Mansor, M., Al-Abd, N., & Yusoff, K. M. (2012). Gelam honey has a protective effect against lipopolysaccharide (LPS)-induced organ failure. *Int J Mol Sci*, 13(5), 6370-6381. doi: 10.3390/ijms13056370
- [6]. Oddo, L. P., Heard, T. A., Rodriguez-Malaver, A., Perez, R. A., Fernandez-Muino, M., Sancho, M. T., Vit, P. (2008). Composition and antioxidant activity of *Trigona carbonaria* honey from Australia. *J Med Food*, 11(4), 789-794. doi: 10.1089/jmf.2007.0724
- [7]. Boorn, K. L., Khor, Y. Y., Sweetman, E., Tan, F., Heard, T. A., & Hammer, K. A. (2010). Antimicrobial activity of honey from the stingless bee *Trigona carbonaria* determined by agar diffusion, agar dilution, broth microdilution and time-kill methodology. *J Appl Microbiol*, 108(5), 1534-1543. doi: 10.1111/j.1365-2672.2009.04552.x
- [8]. Khalil, M. I., & Sulaiman, S. A. (2010). The potential role of honey and its polyphenols in preventing heart diseases: a review. *Afr J Tradit Complement Altern Med*, 7(4), 315-321.
- [9]. Jaganathan, S. K., & Mandal, M. (2009). Antiproliferative effects of honey and of its polyphenols: a review. *J Biomed Biotechnol*, 2009, 830616. doi: 10.1155/2009/830616
- [10]. Kishore, R. K., Halim, A. S., Syazana, M. S., & Sirajudeen, K. N. (2011). Tualang honey has higher phenolic content and greater radical scavenging activity compared with other honey sources. *Nutr Res*, 31(4), 322-325. doi: 10.1016/j.nutres.2011.03.001
- [11]. Danert, F. C., Zampini, C., Ordonez, R., Maldonado, L., Bedascarrasbure, E., & Isla, M. I. (2014). Nutritional and functional properties of aqueous and hydroalcoholic extracts from Argentinean propolis. *Nat Prod Commun*, 9(2), 167-170.
- [12]. Chang CC, Yang MH, Wen HM, Chern JC. Estimation of total flavonoid content in propolis by two complementary colorimetric methods. *J Food Drug Anal*. 2002;10(3):178-82.
- [13]. Mandal, M. D., & Mandal, S. (2011). Honey: its medicinal property and antibacterial activity. *Asian Pac J Trop Biomed*, 1(2), 154-160. doi: 10.1016/s2221-1691(11)60016-6
- [14]. Jantakee, K., & Tragoolpua, Y. (2015). Activities of different types of Thai honey on pathogenic bacteria causing skin diseases, tyrosinase enzyme and generating free radicals. *Biol Res*, 48, 4. doi: 10.1186/0717-6287-48-4
- [15]. Sasidharan Nair, V., Song, M. H., & Oh, K. I. (2016). Vitamin C Facilitates Demethylation of the

- Foxp3 Enhancer in a Tet-Dependent Manner. *J Immunol*, 196(5), 2119-2131. doi: 10.4049/jimmunol.1502352
- [16]. Yang, J., Yang, X., & Li, M. (2012). Baicalin, a natural compound, promotes regulatory T cell differentiation. *BMC Complement Altern Med*, 12, 64. doi: 10.1186/1472-6882-12-64
- [17]. Fang, L., Zheng, Q., Yang, T., Zhao, H., Zhang, Q., & Li, K. (2013). Bushen Yisui Capsule ameliorates axonal injury in experimental autoimmune encephalomyelitis. *Neural Regen Res*, 8.
- [18]. Gonzalez-Martin, M. I., Escuredo, O., Revilla, I., Vivar-Quintana, A. M., Coello, M. C., Riocerezo, C. P., & Moncada, G. W. (2015). Determination of the Mineral Composition and Toxic Element Contents of Propolis by Near Infrared Spectroscopy. *Sensors (Basel)*, 15(11), 27854-27868. doi: 10.3390/s151127854
- [19]. Souza, E. A., Zaluski, R., Veiga, N., & Orsi, R. O. (2016). Effects of seasonal variations and collection methods on the mineral composition of propolis from *Apis mellifera* Linnaeus Beehives. *Braz J Biol*. doi: 10.1590/1519-6984.16714
- [20]. Chua, L. S., Abdul-Rahaman, N. L., Sarmidi, M. R., & Aziz, R. (2012). Multi-elemental composition and physical properties of honey samples from Malaysia. *Food Chem*, 135(3), 880-887. doi: 10.1016/j.foodchem.2012.05.106
- [21]. Vanhanen, L. P., Emmertz, A., & Savage, G. P. (2011). Mineral analysis of mono-floral New Zealand honey. *Food Chem*, 128(1), 236-240. doi: 10.1016/j.foodchem.2011.02.064
- [22]. Zaid, S. S., Sulaiman, S. A., Othman, N. H., Soelaiman, I. N., Shuid, A. N., Mohamad, N., & Muhamad, N. (2012). Protective effects of Tualang honey on bone structure in experimental postmenopausal rats. *Clinics (Sao Paulo)*, 67(7), 779-784.
- [23]. Guney, A., Karaman, I., Oner, M., & Yerer, M. B. (2011). Effects of propolis on fracture healing: an experimental study. *Phytother Res*, 25(11), 1648-1652. doi: 10.1002/ptr.3470
- [24]. Bereket, C., Ozan, F., Sener, I., Tek, M., Altunkaynak, B. Z., Semirgin, S. U., . . . Ozdemir, M. (2014). Propolis accelerates the consolidation phase in distraction osteogenesis. *J Craniofac Surg*, 25(5), 1912-1916. doi: 10.1097/scs.0000000000000946