

# Comparison of Extracts (Ethanol And Aquos Solvents) Muntingia calabura Leaves on Total Phenol, Flavonid And Antioxidant (Ic50) Properties

*By* Andi Rahmad Rahim

# Comparison of Extracts (Ethanol And Aquos Solvents) *Muntingia calabura* Leaves on Total Phenol, Flavonid And Antioxidant (Ic<sub>50</sub>) Properties

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## Abstract

*Muntingia calabura* plant is a plant in Indonesia that has a variety of functions. It is used as a herbal ingredient to treat certain diseases and also as an antibacterial as well as natural antioxidants. Because inside the leaves there are various bioactive compound that can be used for the sake of herbal making. The purpose of this study is to do early screening of *Muntingia calabura* leaf extract using ethanol and aquos solvent. The method used in extraction is maceration exaction. The phytochemical analysis performed are total phenols, total flavonoids and antioxidants (IC<sub>50</sub>). The results showed a total phenol in the ethanol extract was 361.22 mg of GAE/g total flavonoids was 42.46 mg QE/g and antioxidant activity (IC<sub>50</sub>) was 131.22 µg/mL. At the aquos extract, total phenol was 267.61 mg of GAE/g, total flavonoids was 16.22 mg QE/g and antioxidant activity (IC<sub>50</sub>) was 129.31 µg/mL. By seeing the total phenol and antioxidants in both the extract (ethanol and aquos), the *Muntingia calabura* leaves have the potential to be used as herbal ingredients and antimicrobial agents.

**Keywords:** Extraction, solvent, phytochemical, antioxidant

Received: 19 May 2020. Accepted: 06 August 2020

## Introduction

*Muntingia calabura* is a plant that has long been used by people in Indonesia for various health purposes. Often used as a source of food sources and some kind of plant is needed for the world of health or herbs (Isnarianti *et al.*, 2013). The research on Haki (2009) states that in the leaves of it's plant there are active compounds in the form of phytochemical compounds that exhibit antioxidative and antimicrobial activity. It is a type of flavonoids compounds such as: Flavon, Flavonon, Flavan, and Biflavan

The term of phytochemical is a matter that refers to the chemical content

in a plant that is essentially included in the chemical of natural materials.

Phytochemical studies can be isolation of natural materials and its classification, chemical structure and its determination, the type of chemical compounds in natural materials up to the level of natural substances (Hanani, 2016). Phytochemical test is necessary to find out the secondary metabolite compounds in each plant studied (Yuliasuti *et al.*, 2017).

Flavonoids are natural antioxidant compounds and have biological activities, such as antioxidants that can delay and stop various oxidation reactions, and able to act as a hydroxyl radical (OH),

superoxide, and peroxy radical reduction. In a sample that has a higher total flavonoids compound, it has higher antioxidant activity. The content of flavonoids compounds in plants has a correlation to antioxidant activity (Mbaebie et al., 2012). Flavonoids compounds have a role in antioxidant activity. The position of the OH compound element and the double bond on flavonoids have a role in increasing antioxidant activity. OH on the C-3 chain and the double bond between the C-2 chain and the C-3 chain will increase the antioxidant activity (Fridianny et al., 2014). Flavonoids compound are potentially natural compounds as antioxidants that can ward-off free radicals that play a role in the onset of degenerative diseases through a mechanism of destruction of the body's immune system, lipid and protein oxidation (Selawa et al. 2013).

Phenolic compounds are secondary metabolites that play an important role in maintaining health in the human body. The content of phenolic compounds in plants can demonstrate the level of antioxidant activity that can prevent or avoid various diseases by blocking or inhibiting the activity of free radical compounds (Meenakshi et al., 2011). The more number of hydroxyl groups (OH) owned by phenolic compounds, the greater its potential as an antioxidant compound (Pratiwi et al., 2013).

The majority of phenolic compounds dissolve in polar solvents. The use of water as an environmentally friendly polar solvent needs to be optimized by involving non-conventional methods in the extraction of natural materials (Pratiwi et al., 2013). The total content of phenolic can increase during the process of heat-giving (roasting) is suspected due to the effect of hot induction to the exported phenolic compounds (Wani et al., 2016).

The high solubility of phenols is not always found in polar extracts, but also from the phenol structure itself (Septiana and Asnani, 2012).

Compounds that are capable of eliminating, reducing, cleaning, inhibiting the effects of free radical compounds are called antioxidants. Antioxidants stabilize free radicals by supplementing or adding to the deficiency of free radical electrons, and inhibiting or preventing the occurrence of chain reactions from the formation of free radical compounds. In addition, antioxidants are also useful to have the benefit in regulating so that there is no further oxidation process in the body (Selawa et al., 2013).

Antioxidant compounds have an important role in regulating the immune system and the health of the human body, as antioxidant compounds are able to play a role in preventing and reducing the negative effects of oxidants in the body by inhibiting the oxidation of fats or other molecules by inhibiting the mechanism of initiation processes or propagation of oxidative chain reactions and can repair damage to the body cells in the presence of oxygen (Ghavidel et al., 2015; Kim et al., 2011). Antioxidants have been widely used in the process of food processing. The purpose of the use of antioxidants in food processing include to extend the shelf life, especially on foods that contain many unsaturated fatty compounds (Sanda et al., 2015), preventing the process of food oxidation due to the process of changing fats (lipids), vitamins, proteins and carbohydrates due to the influence of reactive oxygen species (Calderón-Oliver et al., 2016).

## Method

### Tools and materials

The tools used are digital scales, aluminium foil, spatula, thermometer, 5



**Table 1.** Total fenol, flavonoid dan IC<sub>50</sub> on leaves extract

Extract	Total Fenol (mg GAE/g extract)	Total Flavonoid (mg QE/g extract)	Antioxidant (IC <sub>50</sub> ) (µg/mL)
Ethanol 96%	361,22±0.26	42.46±0.15	131,22±0.19
Aquos	267,61±0.13	16.22±0.21	129,31±0.12

### Total Phenol

The total levels of phenol in the extract are expressed in the GAE/g mg. This means that the number of milligrams equivalence acid errors in samples amounted to 1 gram. Total phenol extraction of ethanol gives an average of 361.22 mg of GAE/g while the Aquos extract provides a total level of phenol at 267.61 GAE/g. Differences in solvent have different polarity and type give the result a total of different phenols. The ability of the ethanol solvent is able to penetrate the material cell wall to a deeper than the water. So it is able to do the diffusion of cells and draw bioactive compounds faster and more than with water. It also draws a part of phenolic compounds that are not polar, so it is able to provide a higher total phenol than the aquos. On aquos only draws compounds that are of polar nature only.

Moreover, the length of extraction also gives the influence in the acquisition of the existing phenol compounds in the material. An ethanol solvent is capable of initiating and a particle embezzling process occurs in the material due to the absorption of the solvent, so that the component of the polyphenols in the cell material that has been damaged when the grinding of dry *Muntingia calabura* leaves can be extracted in a narrow. In addition to the diffusion activity, the ethanol solvent will be diffused to the components of the material deeper into the sample is a pigment that will also be extracted in an ethanol solvent. The volume of the solvent

in conducting the extraction also affects the number of compounds to be extracted. Ethanol and aquos solvents have different levels of polarity so they also provide different levels of phenolic compounds. Added by research Deore et al., (2009) states that the phenol compounds that have a hydroxyl group or OH that are widely or are in a free condition (Aglicon) can produce a phenolic amount or a total of high phenols. Ethanol is an effective solvent for phenolic compounds due to its low level of polarity which causes cell walls in plants that are less polar in nature easily degraded and the phenol compounds are easily out of plant cells (Tiwari et al., 2011). It is also supported by Septiana et al., (2002) which states that semipolar organic solvents are easier to extract phenolic compounds. Therefore, the total content of phenolic in ethanol is higher compared to aquos.

### Total Flavoid

The total rate of phenol in this sample is expressed in mg of QE/g, it means that the number equality of quersetin mg in samples by 1 gram. Ethanol extraction of Total flavonoids has an average of 42.46 mg of QE/g while the water or aquos extract has an average of 16.22 mg QE/G. The degree of effectiveness between solvent extractions of water and ethanol has a difference. Ethanol is able to provide high levels of flavonoids compared to water. However, the content of flavonoids in many natural substances is determined by the presence of nutrients, UV rays, water and temperature availability or also the conditions and the presence of carbon dioxide in nature. The different types of

pollutions in the solvent used determine the structure of the compounds that can be extracted. In ethanol extracts that have a higher number of water extracts it is suspected that these ethanol solvents are most likely to also make a withdrawal to the flavonoids compounds that are non polar. However, the Aquos solvent used is binding and pulling on the part of the flavonoids compound, which is polar, so that these solvents or solven produce different amounts of flavonoids. In addition, long extraction is also affecting the type of compounds in the extracted materials.

#### **Antioxidant Activity (IC<sub>50</sub>)**

The antioxidant activity in the *Muntingia calabura* leaf extract sample is expressed in IC<sub>50</sub> (ppm). This means IC<sub>50</sub> is the ability of an antioxidant in samples to reduce free radical compounds of 50%. The antioxidant activity (IC<sub>50</sub>) of maceration with ethanol has a rate of 130.31 µg/mL while the aquos extract has a IC<sub>50</sub> kada of 131.22 µg/mL. The ethanol and aquos extracts indicate antioxidant activity in the extract samples. This high level of antioxidant activity is supported by the presence of flavonoids in extracts. In addition phytochemical compounds also determine from antioxidant activity. Phytochemical compounds are usually a type of phenols, flavonoids, saponins, tannins, steroids, alcoloids and triterpenoids which all of these compounds are antioxidant.

Antioxidant activity is also supported by the presence of ascorbic acid, tocopherols or pigments in the extracted materials. The antioxidant activity of the ingredients has different structural properties on the phenolic. So that these different phenolic activities can be measured by the additionally DPPH method can also be measured by

measuring or inhibit other antioxidant activity. Antioxidant activity in ethanol extract and aquos leaf extract is an antioxidant activity that has a moderate antioxidant category, because the IC<sub>50</sub> value produced is 100–150 ppm. In Molyneux (2004) mentioned that there are various types of antioxidant properties including antioxidants are strong with the value of IC<sub>50</sub> is < 50 ppm, strong antioxidant with the value of IC<sub>50</sub> is 50- 100 ppm, moderate antioxidant with IC<sub>50</sub> 100-150 ppm and antioxidant which is weak with IC<sub>50</sub> 150-200 ppm and antioxidant very weak with IC<sub>50</sub> > 200 ppm. The lower the IC<sub>50</sub> value generated affects the level of antioxidant activity. If IC<sub>50</sub> on the material is low, then the level of its antioxidant activity is increasingly higher. In the analysis of antioxidant activity, color degradation occurs in the test solutions tested. There is a change in the sample wana that is reacted with DPPH from the dense purple color turned yellow.

#### **Conclusion**

Ethanol is able to attract higher phenol compounds and flavonoids than in aquos extracts. However, the antioxidant activity (IC<sub>50</sub>) of ethanol extract is lower compared to aquos extracts. By seeing the total results of phenol and antioxidants in both the extract (ethanol and aquos), the *Muntingia calabura* leaves have the potential to be used as herbal ingredients and antimicrobial agents.

#### **References**

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