# GC-MS Analysis of Various Crude Extracts from the Leaves, Flowers, and Stems of Datura metel Linnaeus 1753 and the Potential Activity as Anesthetic Agents on Fish

by herpandi napis

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# GC-MS Analysis of Various Crude Extracts from the Leaves, Flowers, and Stems of *Datura metel* Linnaeus 1753 and the Potential Activity as Anesthetic Agents on Fish

Rindhira Humairani<sup>1,\*</sup>, Nanda Rizki Purnama<sup>1</sup>, Herpandi Herpandi<sup>2</sup>, Mochamad Syaifudin<sup>3</sup>, Ilham Zulfahmi<sup>4</sup>, Yusrizal Akmal<sup>1</sup>, Muliari Muliari<sup>5</sup>, Agung Setia

Batubara<sup>6</sup>

Department of Aquaculture, Faculty of Agriculture, Universitas Almuslim, Bireuen 24261, Indonesia; Department of Fisheries Products
Technology, Faculty of Agriculture, Universitas Sriwijaya, Indralaya Ogan Ilir, South Sumatera 30662, Indonesia; Department of
Aquaculture, Faculty of Agriculture, Universitas Sriwijaya, Indralaya Ogan Ilir, South Sumatera 30662, Indonesia; Department of
Fisheries Resources Utilization, Faculty of Marine and Fisheries, Universitas Syidh Kuala, Band, Orden, Indonesia; Department of Marine
Science, Faculty of Agriculture, Universitas Malikussaleh, Aceh Utara, Indonesia; Department of Bology, Faculty of Mathematics and
Natural Sciences, Universitas Neveri Medam, Indonesia.

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### Abstract

Anesthesia made from the Datura metel (locally known as kecubung) has high potential as an alternative to synthetic fish anesthetics. This study aimed to identify the active compound in leaves, stems and flowers of D. metel and describe its potency as a fish anaesthetic agent. Samples of D. metel were collected from Takengon City, Aceh Tengah Regency, Indonesia. The phytochemical and fractionation tests were carried out at the Microbiology and Biotechnology Laboratory as well as the Chemistry and Biochemistry Laboratory, Department of Fisheries, Faculty of Agriculture, Sriwijaya University, Indonesia. Maceration technique using n-hexan solvent for 24 hours at a ratio of 1:2 v/v. GC-MS analysis was carried out to identify the chemical compounds in the extracts. The results showed that, as many as eleven compounds in leaves, seven compounds in flowers, and two compounds in stems of D. Metel were potential as fish anesthetics agent. In leaves everal compounds that have the potential as anesthetics agent of fish include: seychellene; trans-caryophyllene; a-guaiene; lh-3a,7-methanoazulene,2,3,6,7,8,8a-hexa; alloaromadendrene; \(\frac{\delta}{\text{cguaiene}}\) (-)-caryophyllene oxide; epiglobulol; 2-pentadecanone,6,10,14-trimethyl-; phytol. In the flower, include: trans-caryophyllene; a-guaiene; seychellene, alloaromadendrene; (-)-caryophyllene oxide; phytol. While, in stems include: a-guaiene and seychellene. These substances have reportedly been utilized as anaesthetic agents for several fish, including Colossoma macropomum, Rhamdia quelen, and Oreochromis niloticus.

 $\textbf{Keywords:} \alpha\text{-guaiene,phytol, seychellene, an esthetics}$ 

### 1. Introduction

The use of synthetic anesthetics in fish has several risks, such as residues that have an impact on fish, consumers and the environment. Synthetic anesthetics commonly used in fish include 2-phenoxyethanol, benzocaine (etil paraaminobenzoate), carbon dioxide, eetomidate, and tricaine methanesulfonate (MA-222) (Purbosari et al., 2019). The risk of using synthetic anesthetics in fish causes hypoxemia, hypercapnia, hypoglycaemia, increased levels of lactic acid, erythrocyte swelling, elevated haematocrit and changes in blood electrolytes, hormones, cholesterol, urea and inter-renal ascorbic acid (Martins et al., 2019). Therefore, an inventory of natural anesthetics continues to be carried out to avoid residues. The advantages of natural anesthetics include low impact on the environment, no residue, cheaper, and effective at low concentrations compared to

synthetic anesthetics (Purbosari et al., 2019). There are several herbal plants that have bioactive components as anesthetic agents that have been identified, where Datura metel (local name is kecubung) is one of them that has high potential as an anesthetic compound (Adebayo and Olufayo, 2017; Hariyanto et al., 2009; Palmi et al., 2019; Akbar et al., 2021; Saputra et al., 2021).

All parts of *D. metel* including roots, stems, leaves, flowers, fruits and seeds are reported to contain bioactive compounds including alkaloids, saponins, flavonoids, and phenols (Kuganathan and Ganeshalingam, 2011; Alabri, 2014). The concentration of alkaloids in the roots and seeds reached 0.4-0.9%, while in the leaves and flowers it reached 0.2-0.3%. High concentrations of alkaloids in *D. metel* can cause anticholinergic activity in the body, resulting in several cases such as hallucinations, delirium and convulsions. Based on BNN (National Anti-Narcotics Agency of Indonesia) (2014) data, *D. metel* is often used as a narcotic, where hallucinogenic compounds reach 3%.

<sup>\*</sup>Corresponding author. e-mail: humairanirindhira@gmail.com.

D. metel originated from Central America and southeastern Mexico which was then cultivated and spread widely because of the beauty of the flower and its medicinal benefits (Monira and Munan, 2012). D. metel has the same name for all races although it actually has chromosomal differences and produces different flower colors (Bergner, 1943). In the Gayo highlands (Aceh Tengah Regency, Indonesia), this plant is widely cultivated and used as an ornamental plant in the yard for the treatment of asthma. D. metel which grows in the Gayo highlands has stems that can grow tall and have reddish vellow flowers. D. metel has been used as a medicinal ingredient for centuries as an anti-bacterial, antiseptic, narcotic, and sedative (Ganesh et al., 2015; Alam et al., 2021). The people of Aceh use D. metel to mix hernia ingredients, treat toothache, rheumatism and fungal infections (Ristoja, 2012).

Studies on extraction solutions, chemical compositions of extracts from various parts of the plant genus Datura have been analyzed and their anesthetic activity tested on various types of fish such as Cyprinus carpio (Rahanandeh et al., 2022), Epinephelus sp. (Saputra et al., 2021), Heterobranchus bidorsalis (Adebayo and Olufayo, 2017), Oreochromis niloticus (Palmi et al., 2019), and Osphronemus gourami (Mashuda et al., 2020). In addition, the effectiveness of this plant anesthetic has also been tested on dogs (Bbalola et al., 2014) and rabbits (Elsa et al., 2001). Previous research by Kiruthika and Sornaraj (2011) revealed that there are four active compounds in D. metel flower extract including 1,4-cyclohexadiene, 1methyl; acetic acid, trifluoro-, 2,2-dimethylpropylester; 4trifluoroacetoxyoctane; cis-2-nitro-4-tbutylcyclohexanone. However, information regarding the content of active compounds (including stems, leaves and flowers) that have the potential as anesthetic in D. metel has not been reported completely. Therefore, identification is needed to obtain complete information to support the use of D. metel extract as a natural anesthetic that is safe and does not leave negative effects on fish, people, and the environment.

### 2. Material and methods

### 2.1. Site and Time

This research was carried out from September 2021 to January 2022. Sample preparation and extraction were carried out in the MIPA Laboratory of Almuslim University, Indonesia. The phytochemical and fractionation tests were carried out at the Microbiology and Biotechnology Laboratory as well as the Chemistry and Biochemistry Laboratory, Department of Fisheries, Faculty of Agriculture, Sriwijaya University, Indonesia.

# 2.2. Sample Collection

Samples of D. metel were collected from Takengon City, Aceh Tengah Regency, Indonesia. The samples were then sorted between stems, leaves and flowers, then air-dried. The dried sample was then crushed with a waring blender to obtain the required sample size. The resulting yield was calculated based on weight percent extract/dry weight (w/w) and stored in a sample bottle at  $-4^{\circ}$ C (Silva et al., 2012). The ingredients were then identified by comparing mass spectrum value based on the NIST (2005)

and Adams (2001) mass spectrum literature. Fractionation and isolation of essential oils were carried out according to the method of Benovit *et al.* (2015).

### 2.3. Extraction of Phytochemical Components

The leaves, stems and flowers that have been air-dried and crushed were then extracted by maceration technique using n-hexan solvent for 24 hours at a ratio of 1:2 v/v. The extract solution was filtered using Whatman paper no.1. A thick extract was generated by combining the maceration filtrates and vaporizing the solvent in a vacuum rotary evaporator at a temperature close to the solvent's boiling point (n-hexane 69°C).

### 2.4. GC-MS Analysis

GC-MS analysis was performed using a Shimadzu GC-MS-QP2010 Ultra equipped with a 30 m  $\times$  0.25 mm  $\times$  0.25 mm  $\times$  0.25 mm ro.135  $\mu m$  Rxi-1MS column (Restek), and the initial temperature of the 100°C column was heated for 5 minutes, then the temperature was gradually increased up to 250°C at a rate of 10°C min $^1$ . The split injector and the GC-MS interface were each at a temperature of 250°C. The detectors used were mass-selective and electron-impact mass ionization spectrometry programmed at 70 eV and a temperature of 250°C. The carrier gas used was helium with a flow rate of 2.0 mL min $^-1$ , and an injection volume of 2 L. Data was recorded using GC-MS Solution Software (Shimadzu).

### 2.5. Chemical Identification

Chemical compounds in the extracts from the leaves, stems and flowers of *D. metel* were identified based on the retention time of GC on the column. Chromatograms were interpreted based on the NIST (2005) library consisting of two hundred thousand compounds. The name, molecular weight and percentage of the unknown compound were evaluated by Mass Spectrometry. The compounds were identified by comparing the results of Mass spectrometry measurements with data obtained from the literature and the NIST database.

### 3. Results

About 23-26 (a total of 52) compounds were identified in the hexane extract of *D. metel* from the leaves, flowers and stems (Table 1 and Figure 1). Based on the results of the GC-MS analysis and literature studies, the compounds that have the potential as anesthetics in *D. metel* are 11 compounds in the leaf. 7 compounds in the flower, and 2 compounds in the stem. Compounds that have the potential as anesthetics in *D. metel* are 11 compounds in the leaves, 7 compounds in the flowers, and 2 compounds in the stems. In the hexane extract of the *D. metel* leaves, compounds that have the potential to be anesthe sinclude seychellene; trans-caryophyllene; α-guaiene; 1h-3a,7-methanoazulene,2,3,6,7,8,8a-hexa;

3a,7-methanoazuteute, δ-guaiene; (-)-caryophyllene oxide;epiglobulol; 2-pentadecanone,6,10,14-trimethyl-; phytol. In the hexane extract of the flowers of *D. metel*, compounds that have the potential to be anesthetics include trans-caryophyllene; α-guaiene; seychellene; alloaromadendrene; (-)-caryophyllene oxide; phytol. In the hexane extract of the stem of *D. metel*, compounds that have the potential to be anesthetics include α-guaiene dan seychellene;

 Table 1. Compounds detected in leaves, flowers and stems of Datura metel with hexane solvent using GC-MS analysis

_		Leaves		Flowers Stems			
No	Compounds	Retention Time	. (0/)	Retention Time	Area	Retention Time	Area
		(minute)	Area (%)	(minute)	(%)	(minute)	(%)
1	Guaia-1(10),11-diene	10.526	2.96	10.521	2.92	-	-
2	Seychellene	10.920	1.14	-	-	-	-
3	trans-Cary ophyllene	10.997	1.39	10.995	0.65	-	-
4	α-Guaiene	11.236	9.41	11.236	6.90	11.196	3.13
5	3 ychellene	11.397	11.20	11.392	6.84	11.356	3.82
6	1H-3a,7-Methanoazulene, 2,3,6,7,8,8a-hexa	11.582	7.98	-	-	-	-
7	Alloaromadendrene	12.013	2.60	12.005	1.62	-	-
8	δ-Guaiene	12.094	5.88	12.100	4.73	-	-
9	[3]dol	12.914	4.83	-	-	-	-
10	1H-Cycloprop[e]azulen-4-ol, decahydro-1,	13.000	0.57	12.902	1.09	-	-
11	(-)-Caryophyllene oxide	13.069	3.38	-	-	-	-
12	Kauran-18-al, 17-(acetyloxy)-, (4-beta.)- (C	13.444	0.65	-	-	-	-
13	Epiglobulol	13.959	0.94	-	-	-	-
14	6-ISOPROPENYL-4,8A-DIMETHYL-3,5,	14.438	1.20	-	-	-	-
15	2-Pentadecanone, 6,10,14-trimethyl-	15.998	3.01	-	-	15.990	2.89
16	NEOPHYTADIENE	16.045	0.96	16.001	0.96	16.035	1.51
17	Palmitic acid, Hexadecanoic acid, methyl e	16.825	1.51	-	-	-	-
18	Hexadecanoic acid, ethyl ester (CAS) Ethyl	17.550	2.25	-	-	-	-
19	1-Octadecanol (CAS) Stenol	18.498	2.29	10.010	0.60	-	-
20 21	Phytol Ethyl linoleate	18.900 19.212	31.07 1.26	18.819 19.259	0.69 13.10	-	-
22	ETHYL LINOLEOLATE	19.212	1.17	19.239	13.10	-	-
23	1-Octadecanol (CAS) Stenol	20.445	2.36	-	-	-	-
24	α-Patchoulene	20.443	2.30	11.583	5.27	•	-
25	(-)-Caryophyllene oxide	-	-	13.060	1.84	-	-
26	Decanedioic acid, diethyl ester (CAS) Bisof	-		13.917	1.18	-	
27	Tetradecanoic acid, ethyl ester (CAS) Ethyl			15.368	1.16	-	
28	Pentadecanoic acid, ethyl ester		-	16.180	1.11	-	
29	Hexadecanoic acid, methyl ester (CAS) Me			16.828	1.61		
		-	-			-	-
30	Ethyl 9-hexadecenoate	-	-	17.322	3.08	-	-
31	Hexadecanoic acid, ethyl ester (CAS) Ethyl	-	-	17.640	24.57	17.601	20.58
32	Octadecanoic acid, ethyl ester (CAS) Ethyl	-	-	18.553	1.34	18.290	0.70
33	ETHYL OCTADEC-9-ENOATE	-	-	19.315	5.03		
34	(E)-9-Octadecenoic acid ethyl ester	-	-	19.368	2.36	19.274	2.14
35	Octadecanoic acid, ethyl ester	-	-	19.586	9.07	19.547	5.01
36	Eicosanoic acid, ethyl ester	-	-	21.513	2.89	21.473	2.28
37	2-Decenal, (Z)-	-	-	-	-	8.340	2.48
38	2(3H)-Furanone, dihydro-5-pentyl- (CAS)	-	-	-	-	9.582	2.25
39	2-Undecenal, E-	-	-	-	-	9.825	0.70
40	4,7-Methanoazulene, 1,2,3,4,5,6,7,8-octahy	-	-	-	-	10.505	1.08
41	Nonanoic acid, 9-oxo-, methyl ester	-	-	-	-	10.579	2.19
42	Nonanoic acid, 9-oxo-, ethyl ester (CAS)	-	-	-	-	11.563	6.08
43	9-Octadecenoic acid, methyl ester, (E)- (C	-	-	-	-	12.683	0.58
44	Nitrobenzene, 3,4,5-trimethoxy-	-	-	-	-	14.227	0.59
45	Tridecanoic acid, 12-methyl-, methyl ester	-	-	-	-	15.407	1.93 1.28
45	Pentadecanoic acid, methyl ester (CAS) Me	-	-	-	-	15.715	4.23
46 47	Heptadecanoic acid, ethyl ester (CAS) Ethy	-	-	-	-	16.178	4.23 22.27
46	Pentadecanoic acid, 14-methyl-, methyl est	-	-	-	-	16.880 18.540	1.72
49	Linoleic acid, 9,12-Octadecadienoic acid (Z 9-Octadecenoic acid, methyl ester, (E)-	-				18.624	2.42
50	Methyl stearate					18.624	5.57
51	9,12-Octadecadienoic acid (Z,Z)-	_		_		19.190	1.30
52	N-HENTRIACONTANOL-1	-		-	_	20.443	1.28
32	IV-IILII IKIACON I ANOL-I					20.773	1.20

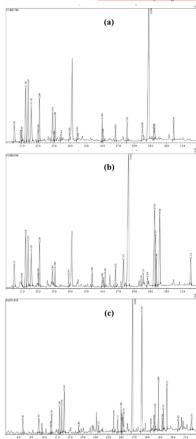


Figure 1. Chromatogram characteristics of hexane extract compounds from leaves (a), flowers (b), stems (c) of *Datura metel* plant.

## 4. Discussion

Compounds that have the potential to be anesthetics in the hexane extract of the leaves of *D. metel* reach 11 compounds, namely: seychellene (Swamy and Sinniah, 2015; Lu *et al.*, 2011); trans-caryophyllene (Pinho-da-Silva *et al.*, 2015; Jugran *et al.*, 2019); 1h-3a,7-methanoazulene,2,3,6,7,8,8a-hexa *al.*, 2019; 2019; 2019; 2019; 3019;

and phytol (Sharif et al., 2020). A total of eleven compounds were identified; Phytol is the dominant compound with a percentage of chromatogram area of 31.07% and retention time of 18.9 minutes, followed by seychellene and α-guaiene with a chromatogram area of 11.20% and 9.41%, with retention times of 11.397 and 11.236 minutes.

Phytol is a diterpene compound from the degradation of chlorophyll. This is because the extraction material is part of the leaves of the D. metel plant. Furthermore, phytol is a phytochemical herbal phytoconstituents compound, which is widely distributed in nature and was first obtained in the process of separating chlorophyll from alfalfa through a hydrolysis process (Taj et al., 2021). These compounds are known to have biological activities including antimicrobial, anti-tumor, anti-cancer, anti-anxiety, antiinflammatory, anti-diabetic and a number of other biological activities (Islam et al., 2018). In vivo test using an animal model conducted by Santos et al. (2013) showed that Phytol compounds have good anti-pain activity when compared to morphine and indomethacin. Meanwhile, morphine is also known to have an anesthetic effect on both animals and humans (Dahan et al., 2001; Jash and Gorai, 2015; Wang et al., 2021).

Seychellene and α-guaiene are sequisterpene compounds identified in *Pogostemon cablin* oil (Swamy and Sinniah, 2015; Astuti et al., 2022). The biological activities of P. cablin oil include anti-microbial, antiinflammatory. anti-oxidant, anti-depressant, cytotoxicity (Jain et al., 2022). Furthermore, the results of research by Astuti et al. (2022) showed that P. cablin variant Tapak Tuan, Aceh Province, Indonesia with traditional distillation process contains anti-depressant compounds including patchouli alcohol (28.68 %), δguaiene (24.87 %), α-guaiene (16.89 %) and seychellene (8.32 %) based on the percentage of chromatogram area as a result of GC-MS analysis. Although, then, very few of these components were identified in the results of the further distillation of P. cablin oil using a rotary evaporator with a heating temperature of 125-160°C, which showed anti-depressant activity close to the antidepressant activity of Kalxetin. Subsequent literature studies showed that the plant extract P. cablin has analgesic activity (Lu et al., 2011; Junren et al., 2021). However, there is no literature that states directly that both seychellene and α-guaiene compounds have antidepressant and analgesic activity where both of these biological activities have a milder relationship to anesthetic activity.

The results of the GC-MS analysis of the hexane extract of the flowers of *D. metel* showed that the dominant compounds were fatty acids and fatty acid esters, respectively hexadecanoic acid, ethyl ester (CAS) ethyl (24.57 %), ethyl linoleic (13.10%) and octadecanoic acid, ethyl ester (9.07%) based on the percentage of chromatogram area. The three compounds were not identified to have anesthetic activity but have other biological activities such as anti-oxidants and antimicrobials (Durugbo et al., 202), while compounds that have the potential to have anesthetic activity include: trans-caryophyllene (Pinho-da-Silva et al., 2012), α-guaiene (Silva et al., 2015; Jugran et al., 2019, seychellene (Lu et al., 2011; Swamy and Sinniah, 2015), alloaromadendrene (Benovit et al., 2015, Almeida et al.,

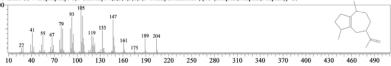
2018), δ-guaiene (Silva et al., 2015; Uritu et al., 2018; Jugran et al., 2019), (-)-caryophyllene oxide (Silva et al., 2015; Almeida et al., 2018; Benovit et al., 2015; Sharif et al., 2020), and phytol (Sharif et al., 2020). In the seven compounds, the percentage of chromatogram area indicated by a-guaiene and seychellene was the highest, reaching 6.90% and 6.84%, respectively.

The hexane extract of the stem of D. metel showed compounds that have the potential to have an esthetic activity including  $\alpha$ -guaiene (Silva et al., 2015; Jugran et al., 2019) and seychellene (Lu et al., 2011; Swamy and Sinniah, 2015) with the percentage of the chromatogram area is 3.13% and 3.82%. This percentage is smaller than that contained in flowers and leaves. The dominating compounds in the hexane extract are fatty acid ester compounds, namely pentadecanoic acid, 14-methyl-, methyl ester, and hexadecanoic acid, ethyl ester with a chromatogram area of 22.27% and 20.58%, respectively Similar with the research conducted by Hossain et al. (2013) that the hexane extract from D. metel was dominated by fatty acid groups and their derivatives, but the presence of several types of sesquiterpene compounds in the hexane extract of leaves, flowers and stems of D.

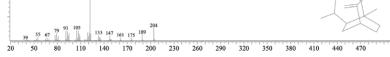
metel identified was slightly different from previous studies. The molecular configurations read from the mass spectra of α-guaiene, seychellene and phytol compounds can be seen in Figure 2.

Various studies have been conducted to identify fish anaesthetic agents derived from natural substances. Inoue et al. (2003) revealed that clove oil was an effective anaesthetic for Brycon cephalus fish. It has also been reported that extracts from the plants Lippia alba, Spilanthes acmella, and Nicotiana tabacum have the potential to serve as anaesthetic agents for several species of fish (Cunha et al., 2011; Barbas et al., 2016; Agokei and Adebisi, 2010; Zulfahmi et al., 2019). Several secondary metabolic compounds found in datura metel, such as guaie seychellene; trans-caryophyllene; α-guaiene; 1h-3 a,7-methanoa zulene, 2,3,6,7,8,8a-hexa; alloaromadendrene; δ-guaiene; (-)-caryophyllene oxide; epiglobulol; 2-pentadecanone,6,10,14-trimethyl-; phytol. Phytol was also observed in other plants (Lippia alba and Colossoma macropomum) that have been demonstrated to be effective as natural anesthetics for fish (Barbas et al., 2016: dos Santos Maia et al., 2019).

Hit#:1 Entry-46652 Library:NIST11.lib
SI:96 Formula:C15H24 CAS:3691-12-1 MolWeight:204 RetIndex:1490
CompName:alpha-Guaiene \$\$ Azulene, 1,2,3,4,5,6,7,8-octahydro-1,4-dimethyl-7-(1-methylethenyl)-, [1S-(1.alpha,4.alpha,7.alpha,)]-\$\$ Guaia-1(5),11-dimethyl-1,2,3,4,5,6,7,8-octahydroazulene-, [1S-(1.alpha,4.alpha,7.alpha,)]-\$\$



Hit#:1 Entry:46699 Library:NIST11.lib
SI:94 Formula:C15H24 CAS:20085-93-2 MolWeight:204 RetIndex:1275
CompName:Seychellene SI, 6-Methanonaphthalene, decahydro-1,4,8a-trimethyl-9-methylene-, (1S,4S,4aS,6R,8aS)-(-)-\$\$ 1,6-Methanonaphthalene, decahydro-1,4,8a-trimethyl-9-methylene-, \*1S-(1.alpha,4.alpha,4a.beta,6.alpha \$\$
100 T



Hit#:1 Entry:25943 Library:NIST11s.lib S1:98 Formula::201440O CAS:150-86-7 MolWeight:296 RetIndex:2045 CompName:Phytol \$\$ 2-Hexadecen-1-ol, 3,7,11,15-tetramethyl-, [R-[R\*,R\*(E)]]- \$\$ trans-Phytol \$\$ 3,7,11,15-Tetramethyl-2-hexadecen-1-ol-, (2E, 7R,11R)-35 (E)-Phytol \$\$ (E)-Phytol \$

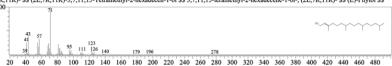


Figure 2. Mass spectra of α-guaiene (a), Seychellene (b) and Phytol (c) according to the NIST library

### 5. Conclusion

Compounds that have the potential as an sthetics in D. metel are 11 compounds in the leaves, 7 compounds in the flowers, and 2 compounds in the stems. In the hexane extract of the leaves of *D. metel*, compounds that have the potential to be anesthetics include seychellene trans-caryonhyllene: α-guaiene; 1h-3a,7α-guaiene; methanoazulene,2,3,6,7,8,8a-hexa; alloaromadendrene;δguaiene; (-)-caryophyllene oxide; epiglobulol; 2pentadecanone,6,10,14-trimethyl-; phytol. In the hexane extract of the flowers of D. metel, compounds that have the potential to be anesthetics include trans-caryophyllene; αseychellene; alloaromadendrene; caryophyllene oxide; phytol. In the hexane extract of the stem of D. metel, compounds that have the potential to be anesthetics include  $\alpha$ -guaiene dan seychellene. The leaves of D. metel have the best anesthetic potential because they have the most anesthetic components, so their use and testing are important to do in fish in future studies.

### Conflict of interest

None.

### Acknowledgments

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