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ARTIKEL JURNAL INTERNASIONAL BEREPUTASI

Judul : Antioxidant activity of the fractions from water lettuce (*Pistia stratiotes*) extract

Jurnal : Food Research (**Scopus Q3**)

Penulis : Herpandi, Lestari, S.D., Bastian and ***Sudirman, S.**

Kontribusi : **Penulis Korespondensi**

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Bukti submit dan konfirmasi submit



Sabri Sudirman UNSRI (sabrisudirman@unsri.ac.id)
to Food

Sun, 11 Oct 2020, 10:05

Dear,
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Chief Editor
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We are pleased to submit an original research article entitled "Antioxidant activity of the fractions from water lettuce (*Pistia stratiotes*) extract" for consideration for publication in the Food Research journal.

In this experiment, we found that the bioactive compound from water lettuce (*Pistia stratiotes*) successfully extracted by methanol solvent with a high yield of extraction. The crude methanol extract was separated by thin-layer chromatography and column chromatography and there are seven fractions. Whereas, the third fraction showed more high antioxidant activity. Also, this fraction showed a high hydroxyl group. The hydroxyl group of the polyphenols showed a positive correlation with their antioxidant activity.

We believe that this manuscript is appropriate for publication by the Food Research journal because it is suitable for the journal's aims and scope. This manuscript has not been published and is not under consideration for publication elsewhere.

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Manuscript ID: FR-2020-578



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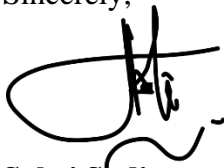
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Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,



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1 **Antioxidant activity of the fractions from water lettuce (*Pistia stratiotes*) extract**

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11
12 **Abstract**

13 Reactive oxygen species and free radicals are continuous increases in the human body. Oxidative
14 stress is the unbalancing condition with a high ratio of free radicals compared to antioxidants. An
15 antioxidant is a compound with the ability to reduce the harmfulness of the free radical. This study aimed
16 to determine the antioxidant activity of fractions and analyzed the functional groups of water lettuce
17 (*Pistia stratiotes*) methanol extract. The separation process was performed by using thin-layer
18 chromatography (TLC) and column chromatography. The separated-fractions was measured the
19 antioxidant activity by using the 2,2'-diphenyl-1-picrylhydrazyl radical (DPPH) assay. The functional groups
20 of each fraction were determined by using Fourier-transform infrared (FT-IR) spectroscopy. The
21 separation of water lettuce extract by using column chromatography produced seven fractions with

22 different colors and confirmed by using TLC. The antioxidant activity showed the highest activity in the
23 third fraction with a half-maximal inhibitory concentration (IC₅₀) value of 131.66 ppm. The fifth fraction
24 with the IC₅₀ was about 184.62 ppm. Whereas, in the first, second, fourth, sixth, and seventh fractions
25 relatively very weak with the IC₅₀ more than 200 ppm. The FT-IR spectrum also showed that the intensity
26 hydroxyl group in the third fraction higher than the seventh fraction.

27 **Keywords:** Antioxidant, free radicals, hydroxyl group, *Pistia stratiotes*, separation

28

29 **1. Introduction**

30 Reactive oxygen species (ROS) and free radicals, such as anion superoxide (O₂⁻), hydroxyl radical (•OH),
31 and hydrogen peroxide (H₂O₂) are continuous increases in the human body (Phaniendra *et al.*, 2014). The
32 high level of free radicals compared to antioxidants leading to oxidative stress conditions. This condition
33 is involved in some chronic and low-inflammation diseases, such as insulin resistance in type-2 diabetes,
34 rheumatoid arthritis, cardiovascular diseases, and aging disease (Khansari *et al.*, 2009). Therefore, the
35 body needs exogenous antioxidants through functional food products, fruits, vegetables, and food
36 supplements (Bouayed and Bohn, 2010).

37 An antioxidant is a compound with the ability to reduce the harmfulness of the free radicals (Lobo *et*
38 *al.*, 2010). According to its source, the antioxidant can be divided into two groups include endogenous
39 (primary) antioxidants, such as superoxide dismutase (SOD), catalase (Cat), and glutathione peroxidase
40 (GPx), whereas the second group is exogenous (secondary) antioxidants. This type of antioxidant can get
41 from the diet by eating antioxidant-rich foods or food supplements (Bouayed and Bohn, 2010). Water
42 lettuce is one of the aquatic plants which possess antioxidant properties. This plant also contains some
43 bioactive compounds, such as polyphenols, flavonoids, and saponin (Sudirman *et al.*, 2017a; Sudirman *et*
44 *al.*, 2017b). According to the previous study, water lettuce (*Pistia stratiotes*) methanol extract showed

45 high antioxidant activity when compared to *n*-hexane and ethyl acetate extracts. This extract is composed
46 of polyphenols and flavonoids (Sudirman *et al.*, 2017a). A previous study reported polyphenols reduced
47 the harmfulness of the free radical by transferring the hydrogen (H) atom from their hydroxyl (OH) groups
48 (Foti, 2007).

49 However, in the previous study, the authors still used a crude extract of the water lettuce. Therefore,
50 in the present study, we tried to separate the methanol crude extract by using thin-layer chromatography
51 (TLC) and column chromatography. The TLC and column chromatography methods have been widely used
52 to separate plant extract to several fractions (Kagan and Flythe, 2014). A previous study reported that
53 different fractions in *Garcinia hombroniana* methanol extracts also show different antioxidant activities
54 (Triadisti *et al.*, 2018). In addition, separated-fraction also enhanced the antioxidant activity of the extract
55 (Zhao *et al.*, 2019). According to these conditions, we hypothesized that the antioxidant activity of the
56 water lettuce methanol extract will be increased after the separation process. Therefore, this study aimed
57 to investigate the antioxidant activity of methanol fraction from water lettuce (*Pistia stratiotes*) after
58 separation and confirm their hydroxyl group by Fourier-transform infrared.

59 **2. Materials and methods**

60 *2.1 Water lettuce extraction*

61 The fresh form of water lettuce (*Pistia stratiotes*) was collected at swampy waters in Palembang
62 city, South Sumatera, Indonesia, and cleaned to remove unwanted-materials. Then, it was reduced the
63 size, dried, and extract by the following previous method (Sudirman *et al.*, 2017b). Briefly, 20 g of dried
64 sample was extracted by using 200 mL of methanol (1:10, v/v) at room temperature for 24 h. The solution
65 was filtrated by using a filter paper, solvent removed by using a rotary vacuum evaporator, and dried by
66 using an oven dryer. The sample was kept for future analysis. The percent of extraction yield was

67 calculated from the weight of dried extract divided by the weight of the dried sample and multiplied by
68 100%.

69 *2.2 Separation Process*

70 The thin-layer chromatography (TLC) and column chromatography methods have been widely used
71 to separate fractions from plant extracts. The silica TLC plate and silica gel were purchased from Merck
72 KGaA (Darmstadt, Germany). The TLC method in this research followed the previous study (Kagan and
73 Flythe, 2014). Briefly, the plant extract was dissolved in methanol to have a sample concentration. The
74 TLC plate was cut in a piece (2 cm x 10 cm) and leaving a 1 cm border on the upper- and bottom-sides of
75 the plate. The sample was loaded by using a microliter syringe on the plate band and allow to dry. The
76 plate with the sample was then developed in the cover chamber which containing mixed solvents or
77 eluent (methanol-ethyl acetate-acetone 1:1:1, v/v/v, for this study). After the developing step, the plate
78 was dried and observed bands under visible or UV light (254 nm and 365 nm) then marked bands with a
79 pencil. The mixed solvent was used to further separation by using silica gel column chromatography.
80 Whereas, the column chromatography was performed by the following previous method (Venkatesh *et*
81 *al.*, 2017). The mixed solvent was loaded into the packed silica column. The seven different separated-
82 fractions (confirmed by TLC) were collected, dried, and kept for future analysis.

83 *2.3. Antioxidant activity assay*

84 The antioxidant activity assay was performed by the 1,1-diphenyl-2-picrylhydrazyl (DPPH) method
85 as described by the previous method (Molyneux, 2004). The DPPH powder was purchased from Merck
86 KGaA (Darmstadt, Germany). Briefly, each of the dried-fractions was dissolved in a methanol solvent to
87 make a serial concentration (50 ppm, 100 ppm, 150 ppm, and 200 ppm). Whereas, Vitamin C (containing
88 ascorbic acid) was used as a positive control. A hundred sixty (160) μL of dried-fraction was added into a
89 well which containing 40 μL of 0.76 mM of DPPH (10 mg DPPH in 10 mL of methanol). The solution was
90 incubated at 37°C for 30 min. after incubation time, the absorbance was immediately measured at 517

91 nm by using spectrophotometry. The percent of inhibition (%) was calculated from absorbance of blank
92 minus absorbance of the sample divided by absorbance of blank and multiplied by 100%.

93 2.4. Functional group analysis

94 The functional group was analyzed by using a Fourier transform-infrared (FT-IR) spectroscopy
95 according to the previous methods (Ouhaddouch *et al.*, 2019). Briefly, the sample was placed into the
96 infrared beam (sample holder), then measured in the spectral range between 500 cm⁻¹ and 4000 cm⁻¹.
97 Whereas, KBr-pressed disk was used in the FT-IR spectroscopy (Spectrum One Perkin Elmer,
98 Massachusetts, USA).

99

100 3. Results and Discussion

101 This study demonstrated the antioxidant activity of the fractions from the Water lettuce (*Pistia*
102 *stratiotes*) methanol extract. The previous studies reported that the methanol extract is composed of
103 polyphenols, such as flavonoids and tannin (Sudirman *et al.*, 2017a; Sudirman *et al.*, 2017b). These studies
104 also reported that methanol extract showed the highest antioxidant activity compared to *n*-hexane and
105 ethyl acetate extracts. In addition, methanol extract also shows a high yield of the extract (Benhammou
106 *et al.*, 2009). Therefore, this present study only separated the methanol extract from water lettuce to
107 some fractions. The yield of water lettuce methanol extract was about 16.16%. A previous study also
108 reported that methanol is the best solvent for the extraction of leaves of *Acalypha wilkesiana* and *Atriplex*
109 *halimus* were about 14.67% and 24.00%, respectively (Benhammou *et al.*, 2009; Anokwuru *et al.*, 2016).
110 Methanol has been widely used for bioactive extraction from the plant. Methanol is also more efficient in
111 the extraction of polyphenols especially low molecular weight (MW) of polyphenols (Do *et al.*, 2014).

112 The fractions from methanol extract were separated by using thin-layer chromatography (TLC) and
113 column chromatography methods. Based on the TLC results, we found that the best-mixed solvent is

114 composed of methanol, ethyl acetate, and acetone with the ratio 1:1:1, as shown in **Figure 1A**. According
115 to this result, this eluent was used for the mobile phase in column chromatography. After separation by
116 column chromatography, the result showed that there are seven fractions of the methanol extracts as
117 shown in **Figure 1B**. The TLC and column chromatography methods have been widely used to separate
118 plant extract to several fractions (Kagan and Flythe, 2014).

119 The antioxidant activity of the fraction was evaluated by using the 1,1-diphenyl-2-picrylhydrazyl
120 (DPPH) method. The DPPH method was widely used to measure the antioxidant activity of the extract due
121 to its speed, simplicity, and low cost (Alam *et al.*, 2013). As shown in **Table 1**, third (F3) and fifth (F5)
122 fractions possessed highly antioxidant activities with the half-maximum inhibitory concentration (IC_{50})
123 was about 131.66 ppm and 184.62 ppm, respectively. Whereas, other fractions showed weak antioxidant
124 activities with the IC_{50} more than 200 ppm (Molyneux, 2004). A previous study reported that IC_{50} of crude
125 methanol extract of water lettuce was about 147.60 ppm (Sudirman *et al.*, 2017a). The different fractions
126 in *Garcinia hombroniana* methanol extracts also show different antioxidant activities (Triadisti *et al.*,
127 2018). In addition, separated-fraction also enhanced the antioxidant activity of the extract (Zhao *et al.*,
128 2019).

129 According to the antioxidant activity assay, the highest activity (third, F3) fraction was continued
130 for analysis of its functional group by using Fourier transform-infrared (FT-IR) spectroscopy then
131 compared to the seventh fraction (F7) as a representative from the fraction of weak antioxidant activity
132 as shown in **Figure 2** and **Table 2**. A previous study reported that different bounds of the molecule also
133 show different vibrational frequencies of FTIR spectroscopy, such as C–C, C=C, C–O, C=O, O–H, and N–H
134 bonds (Altemimi *et al.*, 2017). The functional group of each wavenumber in **Table 2** was evaluated
135 according to the previous reference (Ouhaddouch *et al.*, 2019). **Figure 2** showed that the O-H bond in F3
136 fraction (3432.90 cm^{-1}) more than F7 fraction (3366.06 cm^{-1}). The number of OH groups bound to aromatic

137 ring is positively correlative with the antioxidant activity of polyphenols (Zielinska-Blizniewska *et al.*,
138 2019).

139

140 **4. Conclusion**

141 Overall, the bioactive compound from water lettuce (*Pistia stratiotes*) was successfully extracted
142 by methanol solvent. The methanol extract showed seven fractions after separation by thin-layer
143 chromatography and column chromatography. Whereas, the third fraction possessed high antioxidant
144 activity. The Fourier transform-infrared confirmed that the hydroxyl group of the polyphenols play an
145 important role in their antioxidant activity.

146

147 **Conflict of interest.**

148 The authors declare no conflict of interest.

149

150 **Acknowledgments**

151 We are thanks to the Indonesian Ministry of Education and Culture to support this study.

152

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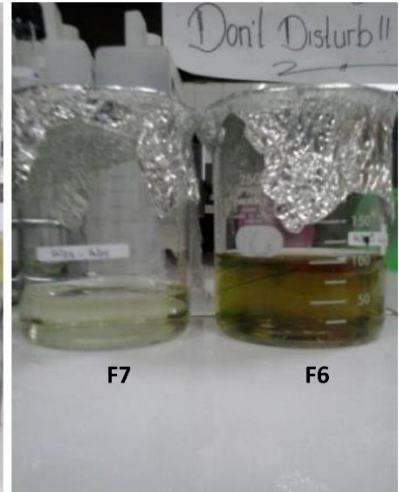
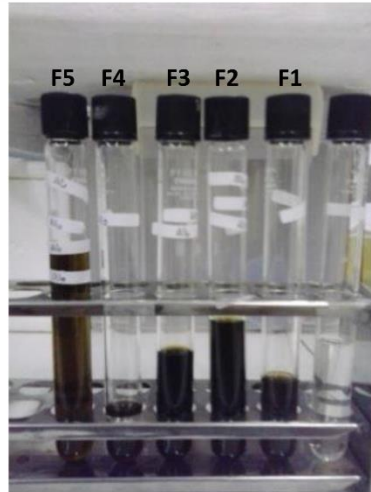
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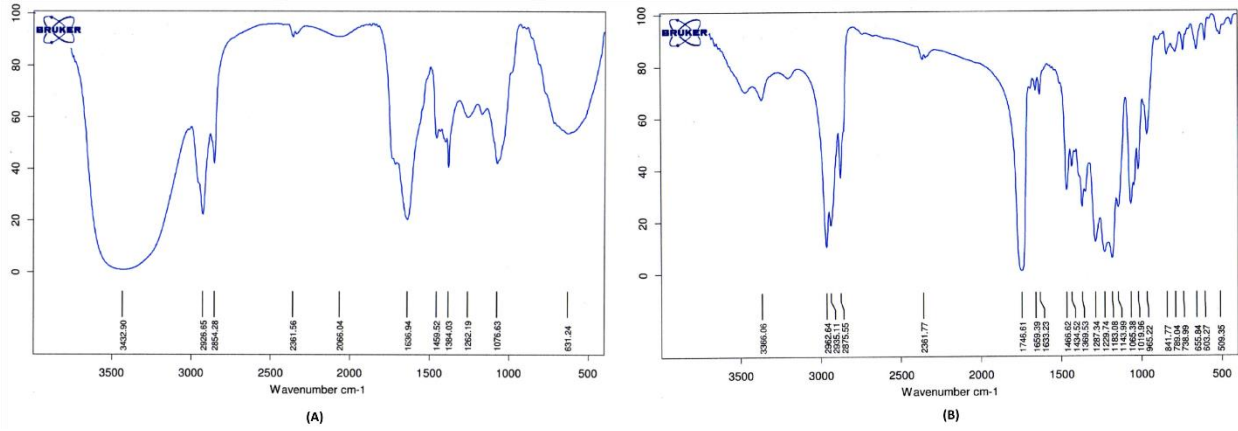
(A)



(B)

202
203
204

Figure 1. Methanol extract separation: **(A)** Thin-layer chromatography and **(B)** The separated-fractions after the separation by using column chromatography.



205

206

207

Figure 2. The Fourier transform-infrared (FT-IR) spectrums of the **(A)** Third fraction, F3 and **(B)** Seventh fraction, F7.

208 **Table 1.** The antioxidant activity of the fractions.

Sample	F1	F2	F3	F4	F5	F6	F7	VC
IC ₅₀ (ppm)	642.97	203.90	131.66	459.61	184.62	>2000	>2000	4.14

209 Abbreviations: F, sample fraction; IC₅₀, Half-maximum inhibitory concentration; VC, vitamin C as a positive control.

210

211 **Table 2.** The functional groups of third fraction and seventh fraction.

Sample	Wavenumber (cm ⁻¹)	Wavenumber reference (cm ⁻¹)	Functional groups
Third Fraction (F3)	3432.90	3200-3500	O-H
	2926.65	2800-3000	C-H
	2854.28		
	1636.94	1560-1640	N-H
	1459.52	1400-1500	C-H
	1076.63	1020-1250	C-N, C-O, C-C
Seventh fraction (F7)	3366.06	3200-3500	O-H
	2962.64	2800-3000	C-H
	2935.11		
	2875.55		
	1659.39	1560-1640	N-H
	1633.23		
	1466.62	1400-1500	C-H
	1434.52		
	1065.38	1020-1250	C-N, C-O, C-C
1019.96			

212

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Manuscript ID: **FR-2020-578**

Title: Antioxidant activity of the fractions from water lettuce (*Pistia stratiotes*) extract

According to reviewer comments, we have revised our manuscript.

Reviewer comments:

1. Manuscript format
2. References: Reference style and species name

Response:

- We have revised the manuscript format and references by following the Food Research guidelines.
- The species name also in Italics font style.

Thank you for the comments. We hope this revision can help our manuscript to publish in Food research journal.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,



Sabri Sudirman

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Fisheries Product Technology

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Antioxidant activity of the fractions from water lettuce (*Pistia stratiotes*) extract

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Abstract

Free radicals including reactive oxygen species are continuous increases in the human body. This condition causes unbalancing between free radicals and antioxidants. An antioxidant is a compound with the ability to reduce the harmfulness of the free radical. This study aimed to determine the antioxidant activity of fractions and analyzed the functional groups of water lettuce (*Pistia stratiotes*) methanol extract. The separation process was performed by using thin-layer chromatography (TLC) and column chromatography. The separated fractions were measured for their antioxidant activity by using the 2,2'-diphenyl-1-picrylhydrazyl radical (DPPH) assay. The functional groups of each fraction were determined by using Fourier-transform infrared (FT-IR) spectroscopy. The separation of water lettuce extract by using column chromatography produced seven fractions with different colors and confirmed by using TLC. The antioxidant activity showed the highest activity in the third fraction with a half-maximal inhibitory concentration (IC₅₀) value of 131.66 ppm. The fifth fraction with the IC₅₀ was about 184.62 ppm. Whereas, the first, second, fourth, sixth, and seventh fractions were relatively weak with the IC₅₀ more than 200 ppm. The FT-IR spectrum also showed that the intensity hydroxyl group in the third fraction higher than the seventh fraction.

Keywords: Antioxidant, Free radicals, Hydroxyl group, *Pistia stratiotes*, Separation

Commented [G1]: Please rephrase. The sentence is confusing.

Commented [SS2R1]: Free radicals including reactive oxygen species are continuous increases in the human body. This condition causes unbalancing between free radicals and antioxidants.

1. Introduction

Reactive oxygen species (ROS) and free radicals, such as anion superoxide (O_2^-), hydroxyl radical ($\bullet OH$), and hydrogen peroxide (H_2O_2) are continuous increases in the human body (Phaniendra *et al.*, 2014). The high level of free radicals compared to antioxidants leading to oxidative stress conditions. This condition is involved in some chronic and low-inflammation diseases, such as insulin resistance in type-2 diabetes, rheumatoid arthritis, cardiovascular diseases, and aging disease (Khansari *et al.*, 2009). Therefore, the body needs exogenous antioxidants through functional food products, fruits, vegetables, and food supplements (Bouayed and Bohn, 2010).

An antioxidant is a compound with the ability to reduce the harmfulness of the free radicals (Lobo *et al.*, 2010). According to its source, the antioxidant can be divided into two groups include endogenous (primary) antioxidants, such as superoxide dismutase (SOD), catalase (Cat), and glutathione peroxidase (GPx), whereas the second group is exogenous (secondary) antioxidants. This type of antioxidant can get from the diet by eating antioxidant-rich foods or food supplements (Bouayed and Bohn, 2010). Water lettuce is one of the aquatic plants which possess antioxidant properties. This plant also contains some bioactive compounds, such as polyphenols, flavonoids, and saponin (Sudirman *et al.*, 2017a; Sudirman *et al.*, 2017b). According to the previous study, water lettuce (*Pistia stratiotes*) methanol extract showed high antioxidant activity when compared to *n*-hexane and ethyl acetate extracts. This extract is composed of polyphenols and flavonoids (Sudirman *et al.*, 2017a). A previous study reported polyphenols reduced the harmfulness of the free radical by transferring the hydrogen (H) atom from their hydroxyl (OH) groups (Foti, 2007).

However, in the previous study, the authors used a crude extract of the water lettuce. Therefore, in the present study, we tried to separate the methanol crude extract by using thin-layer chromatography (TLC) and column chromatography. The TLC and column chromatography methods have been widely used to separate plant extract into several fractions (Kagan and Flythe, 2014). A previous study reported that different fractions in *Garcinia hombroniana* methanol extracts also show different antioxidant activities (Triadisti *et al.*, 2018). In addition, separated-fraction also enhanced the antioxidant activity of the extract (Zhao *et al.*, 2019). According to these conditions, we hypothesized that the antioxidant activity of the water lettuce methanol extract will be increased after the separation process. Therefore, this study aimed to investigate the antioxidant activity of methanol fraction from water lettuce (*Pistia stratiotes*) after separation and confirm their hydroxyl group by Fourier-transform infrared.

2. Materials and methods

2.1 Water lettuce extraction

The fresh form of water lettuce (*Pistia stratiotes*) was collected at swampy waters in Palembang city, South Sumatera, Indonesia, and cleaned to remove unwanted materials. Then, it was reduced the size, dried, and extract by the following previous method (Sudirman *et al.*, 2017b). Briefly, 20 g of dried sample was extracted by using 200 mL of methanol (1:10, v/v) at room temperature for 24 hrs. The solution was filtrated by using a filter paper, solvent removed by using a rotary vacuum evaporator, and dried by using an oven dryer. The sample was kept for future analysis. The percent of extraction yield was calculated from the weight of dried extract divided by the weight of the dried sample and multiplied by 100%.

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2.3. Antioxidant activity assay

The antioxidant activity assay was performed by the 1,1-diphenyl-2-picrylhydrazyl (DPPH) method as described by the previous method (Molyneux, 2004). The DPPH powder was purchased from Merck KGaA (Darmstadt, Germany). Briefly, each of the dried fractions was dissolved in a methanol solvent to make a serial concentration (50 ppm, 100 ppm, 150 ppm, and 200 ppm). Whereas, Vitamin C (containing ascorbic acid) was used as a positive control. A hundred sixty (160) μ L of dried-fraction was added into a well containing 40 μ L of 0.76 mM of DPPH (10 mg DPPH in 10 mL of methanol). The solution was incubated at 37°C for 30 min. after incubation time, the

absorbance was immediately measured at 517 nm by using spectrophotometry. The percent of inhibition (%) was calculated from absorbance of blank minus absorbance of the sample divided by absorbance of blank and multiplied by 100%.

2.4. Functional group analysis

The functional group was analyzed by using a Fourier transform-infrared (FT-IR) spectroscopy according to the previous methods (Ouhaddouch *et al.*, 2019). Briefly, the sample was placed into the infrared beam (sample holder), then measured in the spectral range between 500 cm^{-1} and 4000 cm^{-1} . Whereas, KBr-pressed disk was used in the FT-IR spectroscopy (Spectrum One Perkin Elmer, Massachusetts, USA).

3. Results and discussion

This study demonstrated the antioxidant activity of the fractions from the Water lettuce (*Pistia stratiotes*) methanol extract. The previous studies reported that the methanol extract is composed of polyphenols, such as flavonoids and tannin (Sudirman *et al.*, 2017a; Sudirman *et al.*, 2017b). These studies also reported that methanol extract showed the highest antioxidant activity compared to *n*-hexane and ethyl acetate extracts. In addition, methanol extract also shows a high yield extract (Benhammou *et al.*, 2009). Therefore, this present study only separated the methanol extract from water lettuce to some fractions. The yield of water lettuce methanol extract was about 16.16%. A previous study also reported that methanol is the best solvent for the extraction of leaves of *Acalypha wilkesiana* and *Atriplex halimus* were about 14.67% and 24.00%, respectively (Benhammou *et al.*, 2009; Anokwuru *et al.*, 2016). Methanol has been widely used for bioactive extraction from the plant. Methanol is also more efficient in the extraction of polyphenols especially the low molecular weight (MW) of polyphenols (Do *et al.*, 2014).

The fractions from methanol extract were separated by using thin-layer chromatography (TLC) and column chromatography methods. Based on the TLC results, we found that the best-mixed solvent is composed of methanol, ethyl acetate, and acetone with the ratio of 1:1:1, as shown in Figure 1A. According to this result, this eluent was used for the mobile phase in column chromatography. After separation by column chromatography, the result showed that there are seven fractions of the methanol extracts as shown in Figure 1B. The TLC and column chromatography methods have been widely used to separate plant extract into several fractions (Kagan and Flythe, 2014).

The antioxidant activity of the fraction was evaluated by using the 1,1-diphenyl-2-picrylhydrazyl (DPPH) method. The DPPH method was widely used to measure the antioxidant

activity of the extract due to its speed, simplicity, and low cost (Alam *et al.*, 2013). As shown in Table 1, third (F3) and fifth (F5) fractions possessed highly antioxidant activities with the half-maximum inhibitory concentration (IC₅₀) was about 131.66 ppm and 184.62 ppm, respectively. Whereas, other fractions showed weak antioxidant activities with the IC₅₀ more than 200 ppm (Molyneux, 2004). A previous study reported that IC₅₀ of crude methanol extract of water lettuce was about 147.60 ppm (Sudirman *et al.*, 2017a). The different fractions in *Garcinia hombroniana* methanol extracts also show different antioxidant activities (Triadisti *et al.*, 2018). In addition, separated-fraction also enhanced the antioxidant activity of the extract (Zhao *et al.*, 2019).

According to the antioxidant activity assay, the highest activity (third, F3) fraction was continued for analysis of its functional group by using Fourier transform-infrared (FT-IR) spectroscopy then compared to the seventh fraction (F7) as a representative from the fraction of weak antioxidant activity as shown in Figure 2 and Table 2. A previous study reported that different bounds of the molecule also show different vibrational frequencies of FTIR spectroscopy, such as C–C, C=C, C–O, C=O, O–H, and N–H bonds (Altemimi *et al.*, 2017). The functional group of each wavenumber in Table 2 was evaluated according to the previous reference (Ouhaddouch *et al.*, 2019). Figure 2 showed that the O–H bond in the F3 fraction (3432.90 cm⁻¹) more than the F7 fraction (3366.06 cm⁻¹). The number of OH groups bound to the aromatic ring is positively correlative with the antioxidant activity of polyphenols (Zielinska-Blizniewska *et al.*, 2019).

4. Conclusion

Overall, the bioactive compound from water lettuce (*Pistia stratiotes*) was successfully extracted by methanol solvent. The methanol extract showed seven fractions after separation by thin-layer chromatography and column chromatography. Whereas, the third fraction possessed high antioxidant activity. The Fourier transform-infrared confirmed that the hydroxyl group of the polyphenols play an important role in their antioxidant activity.

Conflict of interest.

The authors declare no conflict of interest.

Acknowledgments

We are thankful to the Indonesian Ministry of Research, Technology, and Higher Education (2017-2018) to support this study.

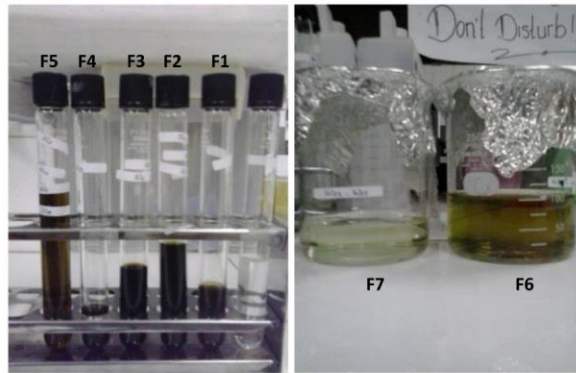
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(A)



(B)

Figure 1. Methanol Extract Separation: (A) Thin-Layer Chromatography and (B) the Separated-fractions after Separation Process by using Column Chromatography. F1 – F7 are the sample fractions.

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Table 1. The antioxidant activity of the fractions.

Sample	F1	F2	F3	F4	F5	F6	F7	VC
IC ₅₀ (ppm)	642.97	203.90	131.66	459.61	184.62	>2000	>2000	4.14

Abbreviations: F, sample fraction; IC₅₀, Half-maximum inhibitory concentration; VC, vitamin C as a positive control.

Table 2. The functional groups of third fraction and seventh fraction.

Sample	Wavenumber (cm ⁻¹)	Wavenumber reference (cm ⁻¹)	Functional groups
Third fraction (F3)	3432.90	3200-3500	O-H
	2926.65	2800-3000	C-H
	2854.28		
	1636.94	1560-1640	N-H
	1459.52	1400-1500	C-H
	1076.63	1020-1250	C-N, C-O, C-C
Seventh fraction (F7)	3366.06	3200-3500	O-H
	2962.64	2800-3000	C-H
	2935.11		
	2875.55		
	1659.39	1560-1640	N-H
	1633.23		
	1466.62	1400-1500	C-H
	1434.52		
1065.38	1020-1250	C-N, C-O, C-C	
1019.96			

Manuscript accepted

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Thank you very much for the payment. I'll notify you on the article publication by this week.

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Dear Dr Sudirman, S.

ACCEPTANCE LETTER

Food Research, is pleased to inform you that the following manuscript has been accepted for publication in Food Research journal.

Manuscript Title : Antioxidant activity of the fractions from water lettuce (*Pistia stratiotes*) extract

Authors : Herpandi, Lestari, S.D., Bastian and Sudirman, S.

We thank you for your fine contribution to the Food Research journal and encourage you to submit other articles to the Journal.

Yours sincerely,



Professor Dr. Son Radu
Chief Editor
Food Research

Antioxidant activity of the fractions from water lettuce (*Pistia stratiotes*) extract

Herpandi, Lestari, S.D., Bastian and *Sudirman, S.

Fisheries Product Technology, Faculty of Agriculture, Universitas Sriwijaya, Ogan Ilir Regency 30862, South Sumatra, Indonesia

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This study demonstrated the antioxidant activity of the fractions from the Water lettuce (*Pistia stratiotes*) methanol extract. The previous studies reported that the methanol extract is composed of polyphenols, such as flavonoids and tannin (Sudirman, Herpandi, Lestari et al., 2017; Sudirman, Herpandi, Nopianti et al., 2017). These studies also reported that methanol extract showed the highest antioxidant activity compared to *n*-hexane and ethyl acetate extracts. In addition, methanol extract also shows a high yield extract (Benhammou et al., 2009). Therefore, this present study only separated the methanol extract from water lettuce to some fractions. The yield of water lettuce methanol extract was about 16.16%. A previous study also reported that methanol is the best solvent for the extraction of leaves of *Acalypha wilkesiana* and *Atriplex halimus* were about 14.67% and 24.00%, respectively (Benhammou et al., 2009; Anokwuru et al., 2016). Methanol has been widely used for bioactive extraction from the plant. Methanol is also

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The fractions from methanol extract were separated by using thin-layer chromatography (TLC) and column chromatography methods. Based on the TLC results, we found that the best-mixed solvent is composed of methanol, ethyl acetate, and acetone with the ratio of 1:1:1, as shown in Figure 1A. According to this result, this eluent was used for the mobile phase in column chromatography. After separation by column chromatography, the result showed that there are seven fractions of the methanol extracts as shown in Figure 1B. The TLC and column chromatography methods have been widely used to separate plant extract into several fractions (Kagan and Flythe, 2014).

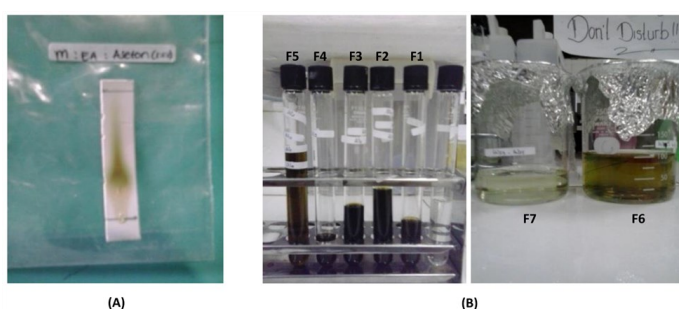


Figure 1. Methanol Extract Separation: (A) Thin-Layer Chromatography and (B) the Separated-fractions after Separation Process by using Column Chromatography. F1 – F7 are the sample fractions.

The antioxidant activity of the fraction was evaluated by using the 1,1-diphenyl-2-picrylhydrazyl (DPPH) method. The DPPH method was widely used to measure

the antioxidant activity of the extract due to its speed, simplicity, and low cost (Alam *et al.*, 2013). As shown in Table 1, third (F3) and fifth (F5) fractions possessed highly antioxidant activities with the half-maximum inhibitory concentration (IC₅₀) was about 131.66 ppm and 184.62 ppm, respectively. Whereas, other fractions showed weak antioxidant activities with the IC₅₀ more than 200 ppm (Molyneux, 2004). A previous study reported that IC₅₀ of crude methanol extract of water lettuce was about 147.60 ppm (Sudirman, Herpandi, Lestari *et al.*, 2017). The different fractions in *Garcinia hombroniana* methanol extracts also show different antioxidant activities (Triadisti *et al.*, 2018). In addition, separated-fraction also enhanced the antioxidant activity of the extract (Zhao *et al.*, 2019).

According to the antioxidant activity assay, the highest activity (third, F3) fraction was continued for analysis of its functional group by using Fourier transform-infrared (FT-IR) spectroscopy then compared to the seventh fraction (F7) as a representative from the fraction of weak antioxidant activity as shown in Figure 2 and Table 2. A previous study reported that different bounds of the molecule also show different vibrational frequencies of FTIR spectroscopy, such as C–C, C=C, C–O, C=O, O–H, and N–H bonds (Altemimi *et al.*, 2017). The functional group of each wavenumber in Table 2 was evaluated according to the previous reference (Ouhaddouch *et al.*, 2019). Figure 2 showed that the O-H bond in the F3 fraction (3432.90 cm⁻¹) more than the F7 fraction (3366.06 cm⁻¹). The number of OH groups bound to the aromatic ring is positively correlative with

Table 1. The antioxidant activity of the fractions.

Sample	F1	F2	F3	F4	F5	F6	F7	VC
IC ₅₀ (ppm)	642.97	203.9	131.66	459.61	184.62	>2000	>2000	4.14

F: sample fraction, IC₅₀: Half-maximum inhibitory concentration, VC: vitamin C as a positive control.

Table 2. The functional groups of third fraction and seventh fraction.

Sample	Wavenumber (cm ⁻¹)	Wavenumber reference (cm ⁻¹)	Functional groups
Third fraction (F3)	3432.9	3200-3500	O-H
	2926.65	2800-3000	C-H
	2854.28	1560-1640	N-H
	1636.94	1400-1500	C-H
	1459.52	1020-1250	C-N, C-O, C-C
Seventh fraction (F7)	1076.63	3200-3500	O-H
	3366.06	2800-3000	C-H
	2962.64	1560-1640	N-H
	2935.11	1400-1500	C-H
	2875.55	1020-1250	C-N, C-O, C-C
	1659.39	1020-1250	C-N, C-O, C-C
	1633.23	1020-1250	C-N, C-O, C-C

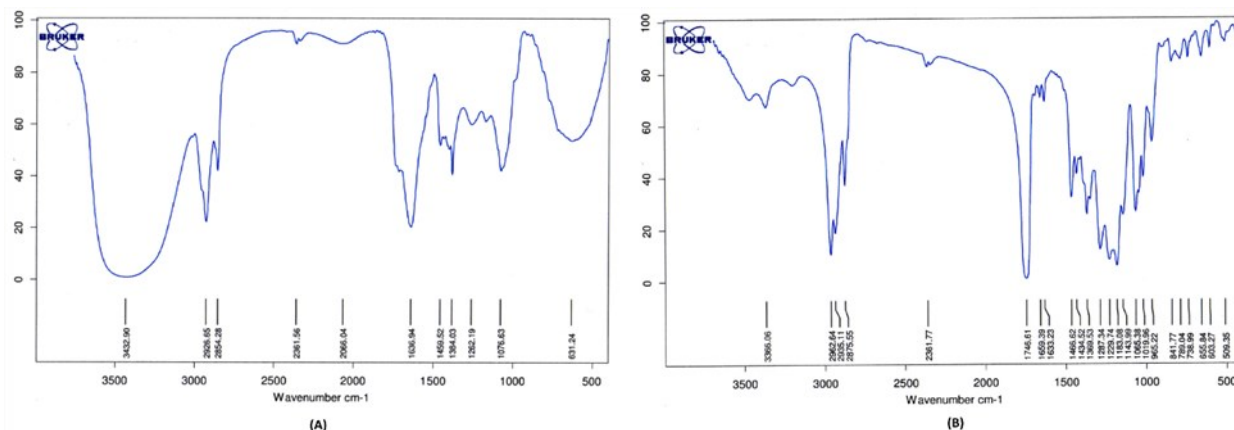


Figure 2. The Fourier Transform-infrared (FT-IR) Spectrums of the (A) Third Fraction, F3 and (B) Seventh Fraction, F7.

the antioxidant activity of polyphenols (Zielinska-Blizniewska *et al.*, 2019).

4. Conclusion

Overall, the bioactive compound from water lettuce (*Pistia stratiotes*) was successfully extracted by methanol solvent. The methanol extract showed seven fractions after separation by thin-layer chromatography and column chromatography. Whereas, the third fraction possessed high antioxidant activity. The Fourier transform-infrared confirmed that the hydroxyl group of the polyphenols play an important role in their antioxidant activity.

Conflict of interest

The authors declare no conflict of interest.

Acknowledgments

We are thankful to the Indonesian Ministry of Research, Technology, and Higher Education (2017-2018) to support this study.

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Antioxidant activity of the fractions from water lettuce (*Pistia stratiotes*) extract

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Abstract

Free radicals including reactive oxygen species are continuously increasing in the human body. This condition causes the unbalance between free radicals and antioxidants in the human body. An antioxidant is a compound with the ability to reduce the harmfulness of the free radical. This study aimed to determine the antioxidant activity of fractions and analyzed the functional groups of water lettuce (*Pistia stratiotes*) methanol extract. The separation process was performed by using thin-layer chromatography (TLC) and column chromatography. The separated fractions were measured for their antioxidant activity by using the 2,2'-diphenyl-1-picrylhydrazyl radical (DPPH) assay. The functional groups of each fraction were determined by using Fourier-transform infrared (FT-IR) spectroscopy. The separation of water lettuce extract by using column chromatography produced seven fractions with different colors and confirmed by using TLC. The antioxidant activity showed the highest activity in the third fraction with a half-maximal inhibitory concentration (IC₅₀) value of 131.66 ppm. The fifth fraction with the IC₅₀ was about 184.62 ppm. Whereas, the first, second, fourth, sixth, and seventh fractions were relatively weak with the IC₅₀ more than 200 ppm. The FT-IR spectrum also showed that the intensity hydroxyl group in the third fraction higher than the seventh fraction.

1. Introduction

Reactive oxygen species (ROS) and free radicals, such as anion superoxide (O₂⁻), hydroxyl radical (•OH), and hydrogen peroxide (H₂O₂) are continuous increases in the human body (Phaniendra *et al.*, 2014). The high level of free radicals compared to antioxidants leading to oxidative stress conditions. This condition is involved in some chronic and low-inflammation diseases, such as insulin resistance in type-2 diabetes, rheumatoid arthritis, cardiovascular diseases, and aging disease (Khansari *et al.*, 2009). Therefore, the body needs exogenous antioxidants through functional food products, fruits, vegetables, and food supplements (Bouayed and Bohn, 2010).

An antioxidant is a compound with the ability to reduce the harmfulness of the free radicals (Lobo *et al.*, 2010). According to its source, the antioxidant can be divided into two groups include endogenous (primary) antioxidants, such as superoxide dismutase (SOD), catalase (Cat), and glutathione peroxidase (GPx), whereas the second group is exogenous (secondary) antioxidants. This type of antioxidant can get from the

diet by eating antioxidant-rich foods or food supplements (Bouayed and Bohn, 2010). Water lettuce is one of the aquatic plants which possess antioxidant properties. This plant also contains some bioactive compounds, such as polyphenols, flavonoids, and saponin (Sudirman, Herpandi, Lestari *et al.*, 2017; Sudirman, Herpandi, Nopianti *et al.*, 2017). According to the previous study, water lettuce (*Pistia stratiotes*) methanol extract showed high antioxidant activity when compared to *n*-hexane and ethyl acetate extracts. This extract is composed of polyphenols and flavonoids (Sudirman, Herpandi, Lestari *et al.*, 2017). A previous study reported polyphenols reduced the harmfulness of the free radical by transferring the hydrogen (H) atom from their hydroxyl (OH) groups (Foti, 2007).

However, in the previous study, the authors used a crude extract of the water lettuce. Therefore, in the present study, we tried to separate the methanol crude extract by using thin-layer chromatography (TLC) and column chromatography. The TLC and column chromatography methods have been widely used to separate plant extract into several fractions (Kagan and Flythe, 2014). A previous study reported that different

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fractions in *Garcinia hombroniana* methanol extracts also show different antioxidant activities (Triadisti et al., 2018). In addition, separated-fraction also enhanced the antioxidant activity of the extract (Zhao et al., 2019). According to these conditions, we hypothesized that the antioxidant activity of the water lettuce methanol extract will be increased after the separation process. Therefore, this study aimed to investigate the antioxidant activity of methanol fraction from water lettuce (*Pistia stratiotes*) after separation and confirm their hydroxyl group by Fourier-transform infrared.

2. Materials and methods

2.1 Water lettuce extraction

The fresh form of water lettuce (*Pistia stratiotes*) was collected at swampy waters in Palembang city, South Sumatera, Indonesia, and cleaned to remove unwanted materials. Then, it was reduced the size, dried, and extract by the following previous method (Sudirman, Herpandi, Nopianti et al., 2017). Briefly, 20 g of dried sample was extracted by using 200 mL of methanol (1:10, v/v) at room temperature for 24 hrs. The solution was filtrated by using a filter paper, solvent removed by using a rotary vacuum evaporator, and dried by using an oven dryer. The sample was kept for future analysis. The percent of extraction yield was calculated from the weight of dried extract divided by the weight of the dried sample and multiplied by 100%.

2.2 Separation process

The thin-layer chromatography (TLC) and column chromatography methods have been widely used to separate fractions from plant extracts. The silica TLC plate and silica gel were purchased from Merck KGaA (Darmstadt, Germany). The TLC method in this research followed the previous study (Kagan and Flythe, 2014). Briefly, the plant extract was dissolved in methanol to have a sample concentration. The TLC plate was cut in a piece (2×10 cm) and leaving a 1 cm border on the upper- and bottom sides of the plate. The sample was loaded by using a microliter syringe on the plate band and allow to dry. The plate with the sample was then developed in the cover chamber which containing mixed solvents or eluent (methanol-ethyl acetate-acetone 1:1:1, v/v/v, for this study). After the developing step, the plate was dried and observed bands under visible or UV light (254 nm and 365 nm) then marked bands with a pencil. The mixed solvent was used to further separation by using silica gel column chromatography. Whereas, the column chromatography was performed by the following previous method (Venkatesh et al., 2017). The mixed solvent was loaded into the packed silica column. The seven different separated fractions (confirmed by TLC)

were collected, dried, and kept for future analysis.

2.3. Antioxidant activity assay

The antioxidant activity assay was performed by the 1,1-diphenyl-2-picrylhydrazyl (DPPH) method as described by the previous method (Molyneux, 2004). The DPPH powder was purchased from Merck KGaA (Darmstadt, Germany). Briefly, each of the dried fractions was dissolved in a methanol solvent to make a serial concentration (50 ppm, 100 ppm, 150 ppm, and 200 ppm). Whereas, Vitamin C (containing ascorbic acid) was used as a positive control. A hundred sixty (160) μ L of dried-fraction was added into a well containing 40 μ L of 0.76 mM of DPPH (10 mg DPPH in 10 mL of methanol). The solution was incubated at 37°C for 30 mins. after incubation time, the absorbance was immediately measured at 517 nm by using spectrophotometry. The percent of inhibition (%) was calculated from absorbance of blank minus absorbance of the sample divided by absorbance of blank and multiplied by 100%.

2.4. Functional group analysis

The functional group was analyzed by using a Fourier transform-infrared (FT-IR) spectroscopy according to the previous methods (Ouhaddouch et al., 2019). Briefly, the sample was placed into the infrared beam (sample holder), then measured in the spectral range between 500 cm^{-1} and 4000 cm^{-1} . Whereas, KBr-pressed disk was used in the FT-IR spectroscopy (Spectrum One Perkin Elmer, Massachusetts, USA).

3. Results and discussion

This study demonstrated the antioxidant activity of the fractions from the Water lettuce (*Pistia stratiotes*) methanol extract. The previous studies reported that the methanol extract is composed of polyphenols, such as flavonoids and tannin (Sudirman, Herpandi, Lestari et al., 2017; Sudirman, Herpandi, Nopianti et al., 2017). These studies also reported that methanol extract showed the highest antioxidant activity compared to *n*-hexane and ethyl acetate extracts. In addition, methanol extract also shows a high yield extract (Benhammou et al., 2009). Therefore, this present study only separated the methanol extract from water lettuce to some fractions. The yield of water lettuce methanol extract was about 16.16%. A previous study also reported that methanol is the best solvent for the extraction of leaves of *Acalypha wilkesiana* and *Atriplex halimus* were about 14.67% and 24.00%, respectively (Benhammou et al., 2009; Anokwuru et al., 2016). Methanol has been widely used for bioactive extraction from the plant. Methanol is also

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The fractions from methanol extract were separated by using thin-layer chromatography (TLC) and column chromatography methods. Based on the TLC results, we found that the best-mixed solvent is composed of methanol, ethyl acetate, and acetone with the ratio of 1:1:1, as shown in Figure 1A. According to this result, this eluent was used for the mobile phase in column chromatography. After separation by column chromatography, the result showed that there are seven fractions of the methanol extracts as shown in Figure 1B. The TLC and column chromatography methods have been widely used to separate plant extract into several fractions (Kagan and Flythe, 2014).

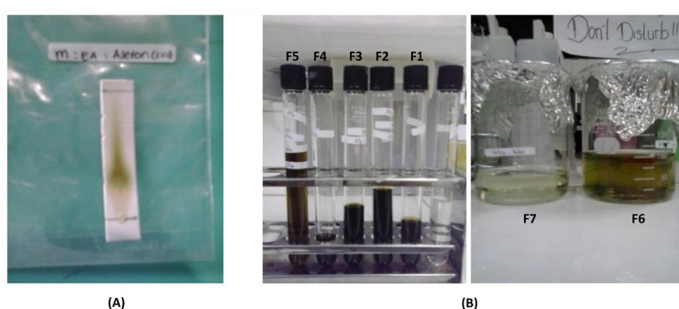


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F: sample fraction, IC₅₀: Half-maximum inhibitory concentration, VC: vitamin C as a positive control.

Table 2. The functional groups of third fraction and seventh fraction.

Sample	Wavenumber (cm ⁻¹)	Wavenumber reference (cm ⁻¹)	Functional groups
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	2962.64		
	2935.11	2800-3000	C-H
	2875.55		
	1659.39	1560-1640	N-H
	1633.23		
	1466.62	1400-1500	C-H
1434.52			
1065.38	1020-1250	C-N, C-O, C-C	
1019.96			

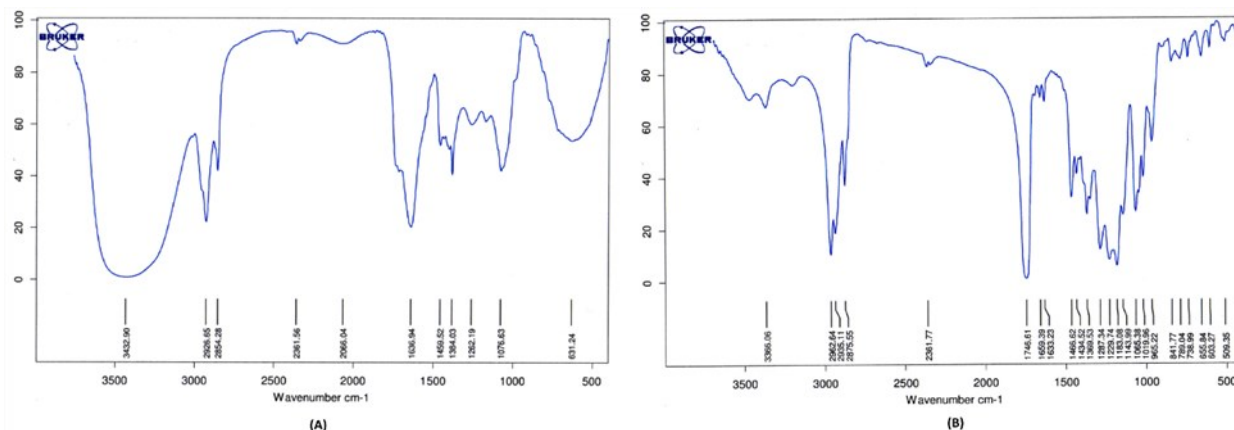


Figure 2. The Fourier Transform-infrared (FT-IR) Spectrums of the (A) Third Fraction, F3 and (B) Seventh Fraction, F7.

the antioxidant activity of polyphenols (Zielinska-Blizniewska *et al.*, 2019).

4. Conclusion

Overall, the bioactive compound from water lettuce (*Pistia stratiotes*) was successfully extracted by methanol solvent. The methanol extract showed seven fractions after separation by thin-layer chromatography and column chromatography. Whereas, the third fraction possessed high antioxidant activity. The Fourier transform-infrared confirmed that the hydroxyl group of the polyphenols play an important role in their antioxidant activity.

Conflict of interest

The authors declare no conflict of interest.

Acknowledgments

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