

Evaluation of the Phenolic Profiling, Flavonoid Content, Antioxidant and Antimicrobial activities of the Selected Three Edible Mushrooms.

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Abstract

Mushrooms are known to mankind and are gaining importance because of their nutritional and medicinal properties, since early human civilization. Mushrooms are producing antioxidant and antimicrobial properties that are known to have a potential source variety of bioactive compounds. Antioxidant defenses through dietary supplementation of edible mushrooms are to reduce the level of oxidative stress, might be in enhancement of directly used. Mushrooms wild or cultivated bioactive compounds are polyphenols, polysaccharides, vitamins, carotenoids and minerals, due to their bioactive compounds, such as polyphenols. They have been related to significant antioxidant properties. Antioxidant and health benefits observed in edible mushrooms are seen as an additional reason for their traditional use as a popular delicacy food. The methanolic extracts of *A. bisporous*, *L. edodus*, *T. heimii*, were analyzed for their antioxidant activities in different test systems namely, total phenolics, and flavonoid contents. To them in addition in activities DPPH free radical scavenging, Hydroxy free radical, ABTS, β -carotene/linoleic acid, reducing power and β -glucans. *A. bisporous*, *L. edodus*, showed the strongest activity patterns. Their activities were as the positive controls as strong. The species was excellent of the DPPH, ABTS, reducing power. The extracts

were increased of hydroxy radical scavenging capacity with the increasing concentration. On the other hand, *L. edodus*, found to have the highest phenolic content. Total flavonoid content of *A. bisporous* found the superior to the other mushroom. The antioxidant potential is dependent dose in all the assays carried out. It is concluded that the *L. edodus*, *A. bisporous* can be used as a medicine against free radical associated oxidative damage. Mushroom species natural demonstrated as a strong antioxidant and antimicrobial activity tested the present study shows that. It suggests that mushrooms may be used as good sources of natural antioxidant and for pharmaceutical purpose in treating of various diseases. Edible mushrooms may have potential as natural antioxidants. The antimicrobial activity was estimated by determination of minimal inhibitory concentration by using disc diffusion plate method against 3 species of bacteria. The edible mushroom extracts had tested relatively strong antimicrobial activity against generally the tested microorganisms.

Keywords: Antioxidant activity, Antimicrobial activity, *A. bisporous*, *L. edodus*, *T. heimii*.

Introduction

Mushrooms have been utilized for medicinal purposes as well as being consumed as food in many parts of the world for centuries. Mushrooms are food sources that are poor in

fat while being quite rich in protein, dietary fiber, vitamins and minerals (1). In the structure of the mushrooms, some minerals such as calcium, phosphorus, potassium, iron, copper are found apart from thiamine, riboflavin, niacin, biotin, cobalamin, ascorbic acid, vitamin D and K(2). Mushrooms have been described as healthy foods due to their low calories, cholesterol, fat, and sodium content but rich in protein, carbohydrate, fibre, minerals and vitamins(3). Among the 2000 edible mushrooms, 35 species have gained much popularity worldwide due to their unique textures and aroma. Button mushroom (*Agaricus bisporus*) is the most widely cultivated species, followed by shiitake (*Lentinula edodes*), *A. bisporus* is well known to the Western countries since they are commonly found in Europe and North America. In contrast, *Auricularia spp.*, *L. edodes* and *F. velutipe* are mostly cultivated in South Pacific and East Asian countries such as India, China, Taiwan, Singapore, Japan, Korea and Thailand (4). In Asia, mushrooms are recognized as functional foods as they contain a variety of biological active compounds with therapeutic potential such as alkaloids, β -glucan, lectins, peptides, phenolics, sterols (ergosterols) and terpenes (5). The phytochemicals present in the mushrooms, particularly the antioxidants varied according to mushroom species, cell wall matrix, and the properties of phytochemicals such as their thermal stability (6). The present study is aimed to address this by investigating the water soluble phenolic and flavonoid content, total antioxidant activity and carbohydrate-digestive enzymes inhibition potential of three edible mushrooms; namely, *A. bisporus*, *L. edodes*, *T. heimii*. Consequently, mushrooms have always been appreciated as nutraceutical food across the globe due to their immense role in prevention of various disorders (7). Both edible and non-edible mushrooms are regarded as good sources of bioactive compounds in human diets for the antioxidant and anti-inflammatory purpose. Which these nutritional values include compounds like they store secondary metabolites like flavonoids, polyphenols, polyketides,

terpenes and steroids with pharmacological (8,9). They accumulate a variety of secondary metabolites, such as phenols, polyketides, steroids and terpenes. Among them, phenolics are one of the major groups of dietary components that have proved to be associated with antioxidant (10,11,12,13,14). Antimicrobial (15), and anticancer abilities (16). To investigate biological activities of macro fungi in order to discover novel therapeutic agent thus, researchers are showing increasing interest. Findings suggest that 158 species belonging to 88 genera have been recognized so far as new antibiotic sources effective against pathogenic microorganisms (17). Various antimicrobial compounds isolated from both mycelium and fruiting bodies of mushrooms have been reported. These secondary metabolites function just like antibiotics. Mushrooms need these antibiotics and vitamins to vegetate and reproduce. Synthetic antibiotics and antimicrobial medicines both threaten human health and cause antibiotic resistance. For this reason, nature are necessary substances obtained from antimicrobial. In this respect, mushrooms are important organisms (18). Free radicals and other reactive oxygen species that are continuously produced in cell oxidations may result in oxidative cell and tissue damage which has been associated to ageing and degenerative diseases, such as atherosclerosis, diabetes, cancer and cirrhosis(19). Most of organisms have defense systems against free-radical damage by oxidative enzymes including superoxide dismutase, glutathione peroxidase and catalase, or vitamins and chemical compounds antioxidants such as tocopherol, ascorbic acid, carotenoids phenolic acids or flavonoids (20). In recent years, several undesirable disorders have developed, due to the side-effects of the use of synthetic antioxidants commonly used in the food and food-flavoring industries. The reason for this study is that antioxidant activities of the mushrooms given here have not previously been reported in the literature Anatolian people have been using them as food for a long time. Therefore, the aim

of present work is to evaluate the antioxidant potentials of methanol extracts of *A. bisporous*, *L.edodes*, *T. heimii* by eight different antioxidant test systems namely Phenolic compounds, Flavonoid's, DPPH, ABTS, Reducing power, Hydroxy scavenging activity, β -carotene/linoleic acid, β -glucans.

Materials and Methods

Sample preparation: The fruiting bodies of *Agaricus bisporous*, (Button mushroom) and *Lentinusedodes* (Shiitake mushroom), *Termitomyces heimii* (Naturalrainy mushroom). Mushroom powders (25 g) were extracted with 250ml of 95% solvent methanol by using a Soxhlet apparatus for 6h. The extracts obtained were filtered through Whatman NO.41 filter paper. Then the filtrates were concentrated under vacuum using lyophilization. The concentrated extracts were stored at 4°C for further investigation of methanol extracts were analyzed for their antioxidant activities.

Determination of total phenolic compounds:

The concentration of phenolic compounds in the methanol extracts of mushrooms, expressed as gallic acid equivalent (GAE_s), were measured according to the method of(21). With some modifications. 1ml of sample was mixed with 1ml of Folin and Ciocalteu's reagent (Sigma). After 3 min, 1 ml of saturated Na₂CO₃ and it was made up to 10ml by adding distilled water. The reaction was kept in the dark for 90min, after which its absorbance was read to 600nm. A calibration curve was constructed with different concentrations of gallic acid (sigma) (0.01-0.1mM) as standard.

Total phenolic content (mg/GAE/Kg/g mushroom sample =

$$\frac{\text{GAE (mg/L)} \times \text{total volume of methanol extract (ml)} \times 10^{-3} \text{ (L/ml)} \times \text{dilution factor}}{\text{Sample weight(g)} \times 10^{-3} \text{ (kg/g)}}$$

Determination of total flavonoid content: The total flavonoid content was determined by using the Dowd method(22). 2 ml of 2% aluminum trichloride (AlCl₃) in methanol was mixed

with the same volume of the extract solution (1mg/ml). The mixture was incubated at room temperature for 10 min, and the absorbance was measured at 415nm in spectrophotometer against blank samples. The total flavonoid content was determined as microgram of quercetin equivalent (QE) per milligram of dry extracts by using the following formula was used to calculate the final total flavonoids content:

Total flavonoid content (mg QE/ kg/g mushroom sample) =

$$\frac{\text{QE (mg/L)} \times \text{total volume of methanol extract (ml)} \times 10^{-3} \text{ (L/ml)} \times \text{dilution factor}}{\text{Sample weight (g)} \times 10^{-3} \text{ (kg/g)}}$$

Sample weight (g) × 10⁻³(kg/g).

Determination of DPPH radical scavenging activity:

DPPH free radical scavenging activity of the extracts were measured in vitro using 1, 1-diphenyl-2-picryl-hydrazyl (DPPH) assay described by Blois(23). 50mg of the extract and ascorbic acid (standard) were taken and dissolve in methanol and final volume make up to 50ml which was used as a stock solution with the concentration 1000µg/ml. Then different concentrations like 50,100, 200, 400, 800µg/ml were prepared by diluting with methanol from stock solution. 3ml of different concentration (50, 100, 200, 400, and 800µg/ml) of test solution and standard was taken in different test tubes. To this add 1ml DPPH working solution (0.1mM DPPH in methanol) and the mixtures were shaken vigorously and allowed to stand at room temperature for 30 min. The absorbance was measured against methanol as blank at 517nm using a UV-VIS spectrophotometer. The percentage inhibition was calculated by comparing the absorbance values of the test the capability of scavenging the DPPH radicals was calculated by using the following formula.

DPPH scavenging effect (% inhibition) = $\frac{A_0 - A_1}{A_0} \times 100$

Where, A0 refers to the absorbance of the DPPH control, and A1 refers to the absorbance of DPPH in the presence of extract/ ascorbic acid. The inhibitory concentration (IC50) value

was calculated. IC₅₀ values denotes the concentration of extract/ standard required to scavenging 50% of free radicals.

Determination of hydroxyl radical scavenging activity:

The effect of extracts on hydroxyl radical scavenging activity was assayed by using the deoxyribose method(24). With some modification. Stock solutions of EDTA (1mM), FeCl₃ (10mM), ascorbic acid (1mM), H₂O₂ (10mM) and deoxyribose (10mM), were prepared in deionized distilled water. 1ml of different concentration (50, 100, 200, 400 and 800µg/ml prepared with deionized distilled water of test solution and control (ascorbic acid) was taken in different test tubes. To this 0.1ml EDTA, 0.01ml of FeCl₃, 0.1ml H₂O₂, 0.36ml of deoxyribose and 0.33ml of phosphate buffer (50Mm, pH 7.4) were added and the mixture was then incubated mixture was taken out and was mixed with 1ml of (10%) trichloroacetic acid and 1ml of (0.5% thiobarbituric acid (TBA) [in 0.025M NaOH containing 0.025% butylated hydroxy anisole (BHA)] to develop the pink chromogen. The absorbance of the test solution and the percentage inhibition was calculated by comparing the absorbance values of the test sample with those of the controls (not treated with extracts). The hydroxyl radical scavenging activity of the extracts were reported as percentage inhibition of deoxyribose. The degradation is calculated by using the following equation.

Hydroxyl radical scavenging activity = $\frac{A_0 - A_1}{A_0} \times 100$ Where, A₀ is the absorbance of the control, and A₁ is the absorbance test samples and references.

Determination of ABTS radical cation scavenging activity:

2,2-Azinobis 3-Ethylbenzothiazoline 6-Sulfonate (ABTS) radical scavenging activity of *A. bisporous*, *L. edodus*, *T. heimii* extracts were measured by(25), method with some modifications. Unlike DPPH assay, the assay that involves scavenging of ABTS radicals required generation of the radicals. The ABTS radical

cation (ABTS⁺) was generated by mixing ABTS stock solution(7mM) with potassium persulfate (2.45mM). The reaction mixture left in the dark for 12h at room temperature and the resulting dark colored solution was diluted using ethanol to an absorbance of 0.70± 0.02 at 734 nm. 0.1ml of different concentrations (50, 100, 200, 400, and 800µg/ml prepared with methanol) of extracts and Trolox (reference standard) was mixed with 3.9ml of radical solution in clean and labeled test tubes. The tubes were incubated in dark for 6min at room temperature followed by measuring the absorbance of the reaction mixture in spectrophotometer at 734nm. Methanol replacing the extracts /Trolox served as control(i.e., 0.1ml methanol+3.9ml ABTS radical solution). The ABTS radical scavenging activity of the extracts was calculated using the following formula and the results were expressed as Trolox equivalent antioxidant capacity (TEAC) values.

ABTS radical scavenging activity = $\frac{A_0 - A_1}{A_0} \times 100$

Where, A₀ is the absorbance of the ABTS solution without extract/Trolox and A₁ absorbance the ABTS solution in the presence of extract/Trolox. The IC₅₀ values was calculated. IC₅₀ denotes the concentration of extract required to scavenging 50% of the radicals.

Reducing power:

The reducing power of extracts were determined by the method of(26). 1ml of each extract of different concentration (50, 100, 200, 400, and 800µg/ml prepared with methanol) and standard (ascorbic acid) were mixed with 5ml of sodium phosphate buffer (0.2M, pH6.6) and 5ml of 1% potassium ferricyanide and the mixture was incubated at 50°C for 20 min. After that, trichloroacetic acid (10%, 2.5ml) was added to the mixture and centrifuged. Finally, the upper layer was mixed with distilled water (2.5ml) and 0.5ml of 0.1% ferric chloride (FeCl₃). The absorbance of the solution was measured at 700nm is spectrophotometer. Higher absorbance of the reaction mixture indicated that the reducing power is increased. Ascorbic acid, BHA and

α-tocopherol were used as positive control.

β-Carotene bleaching method: The antioxidant activity of Three edible mushroom extracts was determined according to the β-carotene bleaching method described by(27). A reagent mixture containing 1ml of β-carotene (sigma) solution (0.2mg/ml in chloroform), 0.02ml of linoleic acid (sigma), and 0.2ml of Tween 80 (Sigma) was evaporated to dryness under a nitrogen stream. Fifty milliliters oxygenated distilled water and 0.2ml of mushroom crude extracts (Methanol) with different concentrations (4-20mg/ml) were added. Pure methanol was used as the control, and the blank contained all the earlier chemicals except β-carotene. All these mixtures were then shaken to form a liposome solution and then incubated at 50°C for 2h. The absorbance of an aliquot (1ml) of these solutions' liposome at 470nm was monitored by a spectrophotometer at time intervals of 20min. All samples were assayed in triplicate. Tert-butyl-hydroquinone (TBHQ) 2mg/ml was used as the standard. The bleaching rate (R) of β-carotene was calculated according to

$$\text{Eq. (1) } R = \ln(a/b)/t$$

Where: ln=natural log, a=absorbance at time 0, b=absorbance at time t, and t=20,40,60,80, 100- or 120-min. The antioxidant activity (AA) was calculated in terms of percent inhibition relative to the control, using

$$\text{Eq. (2) } AA = [(R_{\text{control}} - R_{\text{Sample}}) / R_{\text{control}}] \times 100$$

Extraction and quantification of β-glucans:

Mushroom β-glucans were isolated and quantified according to(28).750mg of dry mushroom powder was heated with 60 ml 1M KOH during 20 min at 60°C under constant stirring. Then, the suspension was filtered, the filter cake was washed with distilled water and the filtrate was collected and neutralized with 6 M HCl. The neutralized filtrate volume was adjusted to 100 ml with distilled water in a volumetric flask. This fraction was called KOH-fraction. The filter cake was resuspended in 65ml Of 0.58 M HCl and heated in an oil bath at

100°C for 1h. The suspension was again filtered and the filter cake was washed with distilled water. The collected filtrate was neutralized with 6M NaOH, transferred to a 100 ml volumetric flask and the volume adjusted with distilled water. This fraction was named HCl-fraction. The filter cake was again resuspended with 60 ml of 1M NaOH and heated at 60°C for 20min. The suspension was filtered and the filter cake was washed with distilled water. This fraction was called NaOH- fraction. The three fractions were used for the β-glucans determination. For quantification of the β-glucans 350μL of each fraction were mixed with 300μL of 0.2 M citric acid /sodium hydroxide buffer pH7 and50μL of dye solution (8mg of Congo red diluted in 10mL of buffer) was added. The mixture absorbances were read at 523 nm against 350 μLof distilled water, 300 μL of buffer and 50μL of dye solution as a blank. Because of the light brownish color of some of the fraction, a measurement of the back ground absorption at 523 nm was necessary. Therefore, 350μL the sample was mixed with 350 μL of the buffer, and the absorption was measured at 523 nm. The calibration curve was obtained with stock schizophyllan solutions in the range of 225-600μg/mL. All analyses were performed in triplicate. The total content of the β-glucan is expressed as mg of β-glucan per g of dry mushroom.

Antimicrobial activity

Microorganisms and media: The following bacteria were used as test organism in this study: *Chromobacterium violaceum* (MTCC2656), *Paeruginosa* NCIM 2037, *B. subtilis* NCIM 2193. Bacterial cultures were maintained on Miller-Hinton agar substrates (Hi-Media). All cultures were stored at 4°C and sub cultured every 15days.

Determination of inhibition zone diameter:

The susceptibility of bacterial strains to the 3 edible mushrooms were tested by disc diffusion method on Muller Hinton agar plates. Sterile blank discs of 6 mm diameter (sigma) loaded with 10 μl and 20μl and 50 μl and 0.5 to 2mg/

ml of mushrooms were placed on an agar plate previously inoculated with 10^5 bacteria. The plates were incubated at 37 C for 24 h. The diameter of inhibition zone was measured.

Statistical Analysis: All data presented in the study as mean \pm SD & SE, were statistically analysed by MS Excel for windows version 2019. Mean and standard deviation & standard error were calculated.

Results and Discussion

Determination of total phenolic compounds: The results of the determination of total phenolics are demonstrated in figure 1. *A. bisporous*, *L. edodus*, *T. heimii* samples were 244.56 mg GAE/g. The minimum detected amount was 43.77mg GAE/g, while the maximum one was 388.51mg GAE/g. *L. edodus* mushroom methanolic extract of polyphenols content was 388.51mg GAE/g. *T. heimii* methanolic extract of polyphenols content was 376.42mg GAE/g. & *A. bisporous* methanolic extracts of polyphenols content was 272.75mg GAE/g. *L. edodus* has the highest polyphenols content 388.51mg GAE/g. *A. bisporous* has the lowest polyphenols content 272.75mg GAE/g. The results of this study were comparable to other similar ones (29,30). These results indicated that the phenolic compounds had a major contribution to the antioxidant capacity of edible mushrooms.

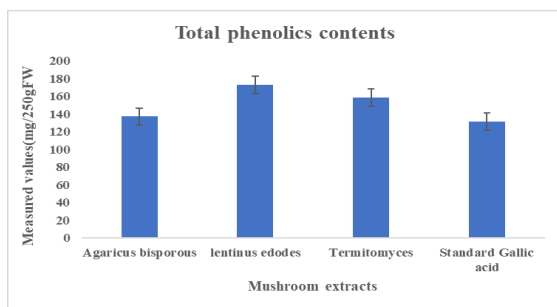


Figure 1: Determination of the number of phenolic compounds in the extracts of three edible mushrooms; Bars shown mean values of triplicates independent experiments and SD \pm

SE are shown.

Determination of total flavonoids content:

The highest total flavonoid content was observed in *A. bisporous* 248.82mg QE/g. Which has higher than the reported value 57.06 mg QE/g (31). *T. heimii* had a value of 239.18 mg QE/g and *L. edodus* had a value of 213.48mg QE/g, higher than the reported value of 53.52 mg QE/g (32). It was served that *L. edodus* had the lowest total flavonoid content (213.48 QE/g) as shown in figure (2).

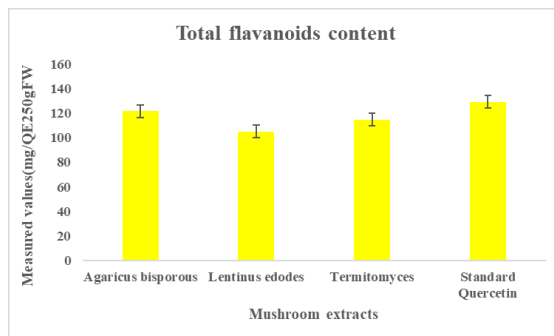


Figure 2: Determination of the flavonoids content in the extracts of three edible mushrooms; Bars shown mean values of triplicates independent experiments and SD \pm SE are shown.

DPPH radical scavenging activity: Free radicals are molecules, usually of oxygen, which have lost an electron and are continuously generated during human body metabolism. DPPH is stable free radical and accepts an electron or hydrogen radical to become a stable diamagnetic molecule which is widely used to investigate to investigate radical scavenging activity. In DPPH radical scavenging assay, antioxidants react with DPPH (deep violet color) and convert it to yellow colored α , α -diphenyl- β -picryl hydrazine. The degree of discoloration indicates the radical -scavenging potential of the antioxidant (23). The effect of three edible mushroom extracts of *A. bisporous*, *L. edodus*, *T. heimii* and standard ascorbic acid on DPPH radical scavenging activity were shown in figure 3. The DPPH radical scavenging activity of all the samples was highly depended on concentrations

namely antioxidant activity increased with increase in extract concentrations. Among the tested extracts of *A. bisporous*, *L. edodus*, *T. heimii*. *L. edodus* exhibited high DPPH radical scavenging activity. Results show that 100µg/ml concentration of methanolic extract from the *L. edodus* exhibited the highest DPPH (92.64%) scavenging activity compared to the other extracts. The IC₅₀ value of ascorbic acid was 41.50µg/ml; whereas, methanolic extract was found to contain 47.60µg/ml IC₅₀ value.

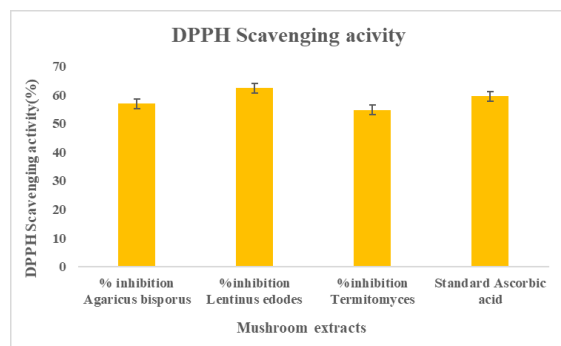


Figure 3:Detection of DPPH radical scavenging activity in the extracts of three edible mushrooms; Bars shown mean values of triplicates independent experiments and SD ± SE are shown.

Hydroxy radical scavenging activity: Hydroxyl radical scavenging activity was measured by studying the competition deoxyribose and the extracts for hydroxyl radicals generated from Fe²⁺/EDTA/H₂O₂ system (Fenton reaction). The hydroxyl radicals attack deoxyribose, which eventually results in the formation of thiobarbituric acid substance (TBARS) (33). Among the reactive oxygen species, the hydroxyl radicals are the most reactive and predominant radicals generated endogenous during aerobic metabolism. A single hydroxyl radical results in the formation of many molecules of lipid hydroperoxides in the cell membrane which may severely, disrupts its function and leads to cell death (34). The methanol extracts of three edible mushrooms were found to possess concentration dependent scavenging activity on hydroxyl radicals and the results were given in figure (4).

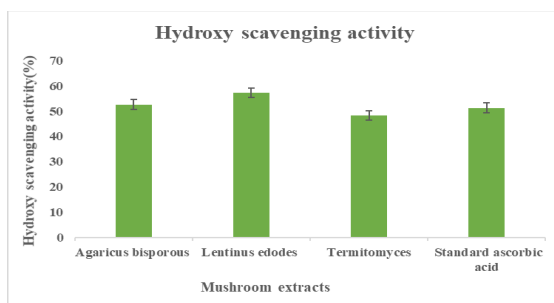


Figure 4:Detection of Hydroxy radical scavenging activity in the extracts of three edible mushrooms; Bars shown mean values of triplicates independent experiments and SD ± SE are shown.

Among all the tested extracts, methanol extracts of three edible mushrooms (100µg/ml) *L. edodus* showed high levels of hydroxy radical scavenging activity (80.10%) respectively. *A. bisporous* showed of hydroxyl radical scavenging activity (78.50%). *T. heimii* showed low levels of hydroxyl radical scavenging activity (71.69%). The IC₅₀ Value of ascorbic acid was 45.66%; whereas, IC₅₀ value of methanolic extract of *L. edodus* was found to be 49.17%. & *A. bisporous* IC₅₀ was found to be 46.15% and *T. heimii* IC₅₀ was 47.66%.

ABTS radical cation scavenging activity: The effect of three edible mushroom extracts and standard ascorbic acid on ABTS radical cation were compared and shown in figure 3. At 100µg/ml concentration of methanolic extracts of *A. bisporous*, *L. edodus*, *T. heimii* possessed 87.20%, 73.16%, 75.32% scavenging activity on ABTS. All the concentration of *L. edodus* extract showed lower activity than the ascorbic acid 89.65%. The IC₅₀ value of ascorbic acid was 46.85%. Whereas IC₅₀ values of methanolic extracts of *A. bisporous* 45.61% & *T. heimii* 42.89% showed this scavenging activity of ABTS radical by the edible mushroom extracts were found to be appreciable; this implies that the mushroom extracts useful for treating radical related pathological damage especially at higher concentration (35).

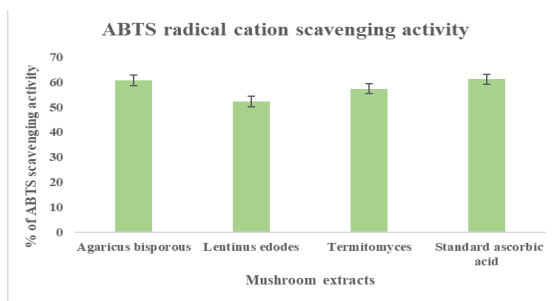


Figure 5: Detection of ABTS radical cation scavenging activity in the extracts of three edible mushrooms; Bars shown mean values of triplicates independent experiments and SD ± SE are shown.

Reducing power: Reducing power reflects the electron donating capacity of its bioactive compounds, which serves as a significant indicator of its antioxidant activity. Reduced Fe³⁺/ferricyanide complex to the ferrous form, which indicated existence of reductants in the sample solution. The reductants have been exhibiting antioxidative potential by breaking the free radical chain and donating a hydrogen atom (36). The reducing ability of the extract increased with increasing concentration; our results were in accordance to studies done by(37). In the present study, 100µg/ml concentration of *A. bisporous* showed the highest reducing power than the ascorbic acid.

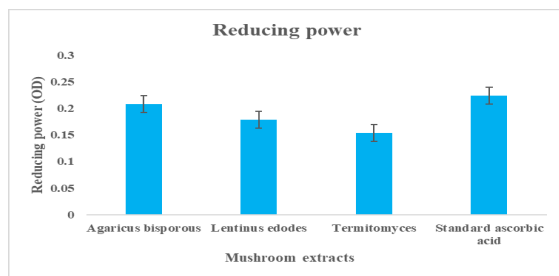


Figure 6: Detection of Reducing power in the extracts of three edible mushrooms; Bars shown mean values of triplicates independent experiments and SD ± SE are shown.

β-Carotene bleaching method: The antioxidant activities of mushrooms methanol extracts with the coupled oxidation of β-carotene and linoleic

Table 1: IC₅₀ values of methanolic extracts of three edible mushrooms

Sample Name	DPPH	Hydroxyl radicals	ABTS
<i>A. bisporous</i>	46.55	46.15	45.61
<i>L. edodus</i>	47.60	49.17	46.85
<i>T. heimii</i>	45.76	47.66	42.89

acid. The methanol extracts of *A. bisporous*, *L. edodus*, and *T. heimii*. The higher antioxidant activities showed of *L. edodus*, and *T. heimii*. The methanol extract of *L. edodus* showed a strong correlation between its antioxidant activity and concentration (R²=0.99). The methanol extract of *L. edodus* 100mg/ml exhibited 86.70% antioxidant activity which was comparable to that of ascorbic acid at 60mg/ml 87.14%. It is probable that the antioxidative components in the three edible mushroom extracts can reduce the extent of β-carotene destruction by neutralizing the linoleate free radical and other free radicals formed in the system.

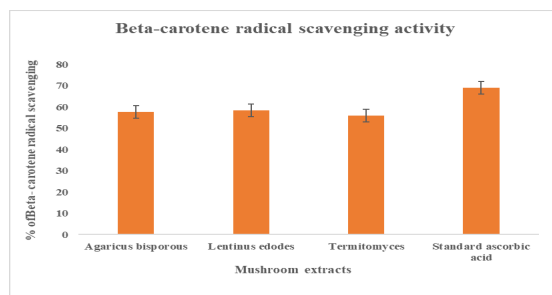


Figure 7: Detection of Beta- carotene radical scavenging activity in the extracts of three edible mushrooms; Bars shown mean values of triplicates independent experiments and SD ± SE are shown.

β-glucans

β-glucans are the most abundant polysaccharide on the fungal cell wall (38), and the spectrophotometric method with Congo red detects β-1,3-1,6 glucans from mushrooms with high precision and without extensive clean-up (39). Thus, the β-glucans content determined by

this study showed highly significant differences between the mushroom species. The highest β -glucans content was detected in *L. edodus* with 247.57 mg/g of dry mushroom, while *A. bisporous* sample had a β -glucans content of 117.75mg/g and *T. heimii* sample had a β -glucans content of 97.69mg/g. It seems that *L. edodus* is a rich source of β -glucans, which will produce health benefits can have consumed. The presence of these biologically active molecules in the mushrooms studied reveals the nutraceutical potential of the mushrooms.

Antimicrobial activity: Methanolic extracts of three edible mushroom samples were subjected to antimicrobial screening and the results were promising *C. Violaceum* (MTCC2656), *P. aeruginosa* (NCIM 2037), *B. subtilis* (NCIM 2193), were observed disc diffusion method. The mushroom extracts concentration of 0.5 to 2mg/ml used to demonstrate the antibacterial activity of disc diffusion method. Gram-negative bacteria *C. violaceum*, *P. aeruginosa* which were inhibited by the mushroom extracts. The mushroom extracts which were inhibited by Gram-positive bacteria of *B. subtilis*. Methanolic extract of *L. edodus*, producing *C. Violaceum*, *P. aeruginosa*, *B. subtilis* which were inhibited the largest clear zones on the agar.

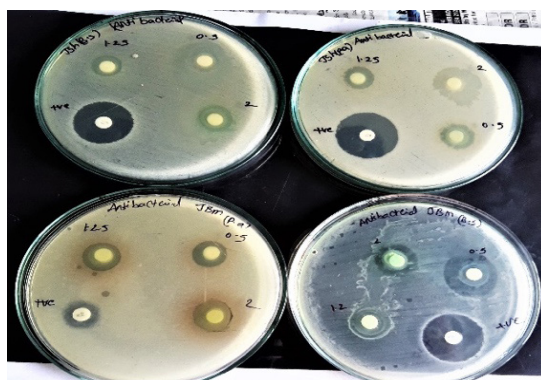
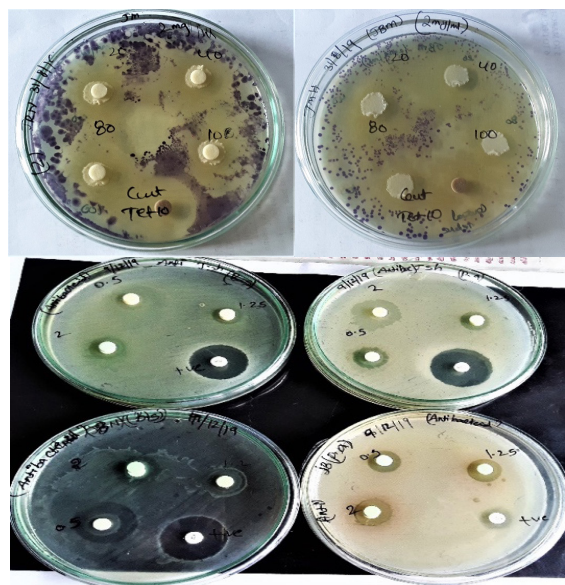


Figure 8 (a): Antibacterial activity of *C. Violaceum*

(b) Antibacterial activity of *P. aeruginosa*

(d) Antibacterial activity *B. subtilis* bacterium

Conclusion

Mushrooms are commercial substrate are a good source of natural antioxidants. In the present study, it can be concluded that methanolic extracts of *A. bisporous*, *L. edodus*, *T. heimii*. *L. edodus* has the highest polyphenols content 388.51mg GAE/g. *A. bisporous* has the lowest polyphenols content 272.75mg GAE/g. *L. edodus* have wide range of antioxidant and / or free radicals scavenging activity. Literature survey reveals that flavonoids(40), and phenolic compounds (41), are responsible for antioxidant activity. More detailed studies on chemical composition of the mushroom extracts, as well as *in vivo* assays are essential to characterize them as biological antioxidant. It should be kept in mind that antioxidant activity measured by *invitro* methods may not reflect *in vivo* effects of antioxidant (42). Many other factors such as absorption metabolism are also important.

Acknowledgements

The authors are grateful to the Head, Department of Biotechnology, Vikrama Simhapuri University, Nellore, AP, India for providing laboratory space and instruments.

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