Antioxidant and Phytochemical Test of Ziziphus mauritiana Ethanol Extract

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Abstract—Ziziphus mauritiana is one of the plants that can grow in Indonesia. Many of these plants have potential antioxidant compounds. Z. mauritiana ethanol extract was obtained through maceration of ziziphus mauritiana bark, toward the extract was then continued to do phytochemical screening and antioxidant activity testing using DPPH method. The phytochemical screening results shown that the extract contains a classes of compound are alkaloid, flavonoid, phenolic, saponin, and tannin. It was known that IC₅₀ value of ethanol extract was 75.8304 ppm.

Keywords—antioxidants, DPPH, phytochemicals, phenolics, Ziziphus mauritiana

I. INTRODUCTION

Free radicals form the basis of various biochemical reactions and play an important role in the aerobic and metabolic systems. Free radicals in the body are produced continuously through enzymatic and non-enzymatic reactions such as respiration reactions, phagocytosis, prostaglandin synthesis, the cytochrome P450 system and oxidative phosphorylation (aerobic respiration) in the mitochondria. In addition, free radicals are also found in the environment such as pollutants, cigarette smoke, pesticides and others. Antioxidant is a substance which at a small concentration can significantly inhibit or prevent oxidation on the substrate [3].

Ziziphus mauritiana is known by various names in several regions in Indonesia such as Bidara (Java, Sunda), Bekul (Bali), Kalangga (Sumba), and Rangga (Bima) [2]. Ziziphus mauritiana plants as a whole contain several classes of compounds such as flavonoids, alkaloids, glycosides, saponins, resins, polyphenols, mucilage and vitamins [2]. Z. mauritiana fruit screening results showed flavonoids, glycosides, phenols, lignins, saponins, and tannins [6]. Phytochemical screening of ethanol extracts of Z. mauritiana plants as a whole contain several classes of compounds such as flavonoids, alkaloids, glycosides, saponins, resins, polyphenols, mucilage and vitamins [2]. Z. mauritiana fruit screening results showed flavonoids, glycosides, phenols, lignins, saponins, and tannins [6]. Phytochemical screening of ethanol extracts of Z. mauritiana plants as a whole contain several classes of compounds such as flavonoids, alkaloids, glycosides, saponins, resins, polyphenols, mucilage and vitamins [2]. Z. mauritiana plant extracts were tested by maceration method using 96% ethanol until the sample was submersed ± 1 cm against the solvent. Maceration is done for 1 x 24 hours and repeated 3 times. Then filtering is done using a Buchner funnel so that the resulting filtrate and residue. Furthermore, the filtrate obtained was evaporated using a vacuum rotary evaporator to produce a thick ethanol extract.

II. RESEARCH MATERIALS AND PROCEDURES

Material used in this research are Z. mauritiana bark, ethanol 96%, methanol, sulfuric acid, filter paper, HgCl₂, KI, distilled water, Bi(NO₃)₃, HNO₃, I₂, HCl 2N, acetic anhydrous, concentrated H₂SO₄, FeCl₃ 1%, 70% ethanol, Mg band, concentrated HCl, 1N HCl, 10% NaCl, 1% gelatin, and DPPH. The tools used in this research are Buchner funnel, pipette, analytical balance, micropipette, measuring flask, vial, test tube, and UV-Vis spectrophotometer (Shimadzu UV-1800).

A. Z. Mauritiana Extraction

Samples in the form of 4 kg fine bark powder were extracted by maceration method using 96% ethanol until the sample was submersed ± 1 cm against the solvent. Maceration is done for 1 x 24 hours and repeated 3 times. Then filtering is done using a Buchner funnel so that the resulting filtrate and residue. Furthermore, the filtrate obtained was evaporated using a vacuum rotary evaporator to produce a thick ethanol extract.

B. Phytochemical Screening

The ethanol extract of Z. mauritiana bark was tested by phytochemicals as follows:

1) Phenolic

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1 ml Ethanol extract is added with 0.5 mL methanol 60-70% and 10 drops of 1% FeCl₃ solution. A positive test for the presence of phenolic compounds is displayed the formation of red, blue, purple, black or green [1].

2) Flavonoids

1 mL of Ethanol extract was mixed with 3 mL of 70% ethanol, then shaken, heated in a water bath, and shaken again then filtered. The filtrate was added with 0.1 gram Mg band and 2 drops of concentrated HCl. Positive tests containing flavonoid are characterized by changing red color [1].

3) Saponins

1 ml Ethanol extract was mixed with 2 mL of distilled water and shaken until homogeneous. The mixture was then heated for 2-3 minutes and cooled and shaken vigorously. Positive result for saponin if a stable foam is formed ± 7 minutes [1].

4) Tanin

1 ml Ethanol extract was added by 5 drops of 10% NaCl and filtered. The filtrate obtained was added with 1% gelatin and 10% NaCl. A positive test for the presence of tannin is characterized by the presence of white precipitate [1].

5) Steroids and Triterpenoids

1 ml Ethanol extract was added by (CH₃CHO)₂O and concentrated H₂SO₄. The presence of steroid is indicated by the formation of green or blue color. The presence of triterpenoid is indicated by the formation of golden yellow, yellow, or purple [1].

6) Alkaloids

1 ml Ethanol extract was added by 5 drops of concentrated ammonia and then filtered and added 2 mL of 2 N sulfuric acid. The mixture was then divided into 3 different tubes. Each tube was dropped by 1 drop of Mayer reagent in the first tube, in the second tube 1 was dropped by Dragendorff’s reagent, and in the third tube 1 was dropped by Wagner’s reagent. The presence of alkaloid if the addition of the Mayer reagent formed yellow precipitate, the addition of the Dragendorff reagent formed red precipitate, and on the addition of Wagner reagent a brown or red precipitate was formed [1].

C. Antioxidant Activity Test

Sample solutions with concentrations of 6.25, 12.5, 25, 50, and 100 ppm each were piped 300 µL and put into vials, each vial was added by 3 mL of DPPH 0.004% solution in methanol. The mixture is then shaken and allowed to stand in a dark room for 30 minutes. The solution is then tested for absorbance with a UV-Vis spectrophotometer with optimum wavelength. Each sample concentration was repeated 3 times. Then the results were analyzed by determining the IC₅₀ value. The same procedure was carried out for vitamin C as a positive control.

III. RESULT AND DISCUSSION

Based on the results of phytochemical screening on ethanol extract Z. mauritiana shown in Table 1.

| Phytochemical Test | Color Caused | Phytochemical Analysis Results (+/-) |
|--------------------|--------------|-------------------------------------|
| Alkaloids          |              |                                     |
| - Mayer            | white precipitate formed | + |
| - Wagner           | brown precipitate formed | + |
| - Dragendorff      | orange precipitate formed | + |
| Steroid            | Green and blue color not formed | - |
| Triterpenoid       | Brown color formed | - |
| Phenolic           | blackish purple color formed | + |
| Flavonoid          | Reddish purple color formed | + |
| Saponin            | Stable foam formed | + |
| Tanin              | white precipitate formed | + |

Information: +: Containing  
- : Does not contain

In ethanol extract of Z. mauritiana through phytochemical screening known containing alkaloids. Alkaloid tests based on K⁺ ions from test reagents (Mayer, Wagner, and Dragendorff) will bind to coordination with nitrogen atoms from the structure of alkaloid to form a precipitated potassium-alkaloid complex. The test results showed that ethanol extract contained alkaloids [9].

Steroid and triterpenoid test for Z. mauritiana ethanol extract showed negative result. Whereas the phenolic test showed a positive test which was marked by the formation of a blackish purple color caused by the formation of a complex compound between phenolic compounds with Fe⁺⁺⁺ ions from FeCl₃. Flavonoids are tested based on oxidation reduction reactions and complex formation with Mg²⁺ ions. Based on the flavonoid test, ethanol extract of Z. mauritiana showed containing flavonoids which are characterized by reddish color. Saponin test showed positive on ethanol extract of Z. mauritiana which was characterized by the emergence of a stable foam hydrolysis of saponin nto glycone and aglycone compounds. While the tannin test also showed positive marked with white precipitate formed.

For a while, the results of the antioxidant test of Z. mauritiana ethanol extract is shown in Table 2.
The principle of testing using the DPPH method is based on the ability of antioxidant compounds to donate protons to free radical compounds. The smaller the IC₅₀ value, the stronger the ability of a compound as an antioxidant. The results of measurement of antioxidant activity obtained IC₅₀ value of ethanol extract of *Z. mauritiana* was 75.8304 ppm while IC₅₀ Vitamin C was 8.134 ppm.

**IV. CONCLUSION**

The ethanol extract of *Z. mauritiana* contains alkaloid, phenolic, flavonoid, saponin, and tannin. It was reported that IC₅₀ value of ethanol extract against DPPH was 75.8304 ppm.

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