Comparison of extraction methods for evaluating antioxidant and antibacterial properties of Vernonia amygdalina leaves extract

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Abstract: In this study, we were interested in comparing the influence of different extraction methods on antioxidant and antibacterial activities of V.amygdalina leaves extracts. The extracts were also analyzed for their total phenolic and flavonoid content. The extraction methods used maceration, soxhlet, and fractionation, the evaluation of antioxidant activity using DPPH (1,1-diphenyl-2-picryl-hydrazyl) method and antibacterial activity by agar diffusion method. The total phenolic and flavonoids are determined by the spectrophotometric method. Ethanol extract by fractionating on this method showed the highest antioxidant properties compared to other extracts with IC₅₀ 170 μg/mL in category potent antioxidant with total phenolic content 28.83 ± 2.62 mg GAE/g, and the total flavonoid content 18.78 ± 0.15 mg QE/g. Evaluation of antibacterial properties the extracts of V. amygdalina showed moderate antibacterial activity against all bacteria tests with inhibition zone 6.1 ± 0.1 to 9.4 ± 0.9 mm at variation concentration 62.5 – 1000 μg/mL. The fractionation method using ethanol solvent is the best for the extraction of antioxidant compounds from V. amygdalina.

Keywords: Antioxidant; antibacterial; phenolic; flavonoids; Vernonia amigdalina.

1. Introduction

The selection of the extraction method is one of the decisive steps in the research for obtaining bioactive compounds from natural materials. Usually, the solute extracted is insoluble or slightly soluble in one solvent but easily dissolves with other solvents 1. The effectivity of extraction depends on the experimental conditions applied, such as extraction time, type of extraction, and solvent used. The extraction method and solvent used determine the discovery of bioactive compounds from medicinal plants. Based on the literature studies, the research showed differences in biological activities from the extracts of plants, depending upon the extraction methods and solvents used. Optimization of the extraction process was required to obtain bioactive compounds. Marugan and Thangaraj 2 report at extracts of Osbeckia parvifolia showed the highest antioxidant by the maceration method compared to soxhlet extraction.

One traditional medicine is V. amigdalina which belongs to the family Asteraceae and in Indonesia is known as the insulin leaf 3. V.amigdalina is distributed in tropical and subtropical regions of Africa, Asia, and America. In southern Sumatra, especially at the Musi banyuasin, people have traditionally used this plant to treat diabetes. These plants are used as traditional medicines for anti-inflammatory, rheumatism, antimalarial, diarrhea, intestinal diseases, diabetes, and amoebiasis 4. The use of V. amigdalina as traditional medicine was related to the chemical content of antioxidants and antibacterials of extract.

Biological activity of V. amygaldina species has been reported as antimicrobial 5, antitumor 6,7, anticancer 8,9, anti-inflammatory 10, and antidiabetic 11. Extracts of the leaves of V. amygdalina contain flavonoid compounds, which are secondary metabolites to act as antioxidant 12. Various chemical compounds that have been found in the leaves of V. amygdalina include flavonoid Luteolin 7-O-β-glucorinoside, Luteolin 7-O-β-glucoside, and Luteolin. The leaves extract of V. amygdalina also has been reported to contain compounds of sesquerpen e vernolida, and veodanol. These compounds are shown active against gram-positive and two-gram negative bacteria 13. In this research, we reported the comparison extraction methods for evaluating antioxidant and antibacterial properties of Vernonia amygdalina leaves extract. Extraction according to three methods: maceration, soxhlet, and fractionation with ethanol and ethyl acetate as solvent.

2. Experimental

2.1. Chemicals

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The chemical used was ethanol p.a, ethyl acetate p.a, methanol p.a (Merck®), DPPH (1,1-diphenyl-2-picryl-hydrazyl) (Sigma-Aldrich®), ascorbic acid, DMSO (dimethyl sulfoxide), gallic acid, quercetin, folin cichalteu, sodium carbonate, aluminum chloride 10%, potassium acetate, CH:COOK (Merck®), distilled water, NA (nutrient agar), NB (nutrient broth) (Sigma-Aldrich®), Escherichia coli (ATCC 25922), Staphylococcus aureus (ATCC 25923), Bacillus subtilis (ATCC 6633), and Shigella dysenteriae (ATCC 23354) (Bio farma), tetracycline (Bio farma). All chemicals and solvents used were of analytical grade.

2.2. Instrumentation
The instrumentation used for the studies is soxhlet devices, UV-Vis spectrophotometry (Beckman Coulter), rotary evaporators (Sciolog RE100-Pro), laminar airflow, incubators, autoclaves, analytical balances (Ohaus®), UV lamps (CAMAG).

2.3. Plant material
The leaves of V. Amygdalina were collected during February 2019 from Indralaya Ogan Ilir South Sumatera, Indonesia. This plant has been the identification, and plant voucher specimens deposited in Herbarium Andalas (ANDA), Departement of Biology, Faculty of Mathematics and Natural Sciences, Andalas University, West Sumatera, Indonesia. The leaves of V. amygdalina were cleaned and cut in small pieces and then were extracted by three methods: maceration, soxhlet, and fractionation with two solvents, ethanol, and ethyl acetate Bio Farma.

2.4. Extraction
2.4.1. Maceration
The leaves V. amygdalina (small pieces) each 100 g was taken in a conical flask and extracted with 500 mL organic solvent (ethyl acetate and ethanol) at room temperature for 24 hours. The filtrate was filtered using filter paper Whatman 42. The filtrate was evaporated under vacuum in a rotary evaporator at 50°C to obtain concentrated ethyl acetate and ethanol extracts, and each extract determined the yield percentage.

2.4.2. Soxhlet
The leaves of V. amygdalina (small pieces) each 100 g were prepared to extraction using soxhlet equipment (solvent: ethyl acetate and ethanol) with a ratio of 5:1 (mL/g) for 6 hours at temperature 70°C. The filtrate obtained was evaporated using a rotary evaporator at 50°C, and The residue obtained determined the yield percentage.

2.4.3. Fractionation
200 g of plant material extracted left for 24 hours with ethanol in the maceration method. The extraction was repeated three times until complete extraction. A rotary vacuum evaporator evaporated the filtrate. The crude ethanol extract further extracted was organic solvent ethyl acetate and after evaporating to obtain concentrated ethyl acetate extract and ethanol extract. The yield percentage determined each extract.

2.5. Water content
The water content was determined by weighed 1-2 g of the extract carefully and dried it at 105°C for 4 hours then weighed. The drying process was continued for 1 hour and considered until the difference between the last 2 weighings were not more than 0.25%.

2.6. Antioxidant Activity Analysis using DPPH Method
The antioxidant activity of the extracts was tested by DPPH method. The solution of DPPH (1,1-diphenyl-2-picyrylhydrazyl) at 0.05 mM is obtained by dissolving 1.98 mg of the DPPH powder in 100 mL methanol. The donating ability of the hydrogen atom of the plant extractives was determined by the decolorization of solution 2,2-diphenyl-1-picyrylhydrazyl (DPPH) from violet/purple color into yellow color in the presence of antioxidants. The extract samples at various concentrations (1000; 500; 250; 125; and 62.5 μg/mL) and standard antioxidant ascorbic acid (100; 50; 25; 12.5; and 6.25 μg/mL) were prepared. The test was carried out by mixing 0.2 mL of sample or standard at different concentrations with 3.8 mL 0.05 mM DPPH solution. The positive control consists 5 mL of DPPH solution without extract. The reaction mixtures were vortexed and incubated for 30 min in the dark at room temperature. The absorbance was measured using spectrophotometer UV-Vis at 517 nm. As blanks used methanol. Radical scavenging activity against DPPH was calculated as a percentage of inhibition, according to the following formula:

\[
\%DPPH \text{ radical scavenging activity} = \left(\frac{(A_0 - A_i)}{A_0}\right) \times 100
\]

where A0 is the absorbance of the control, and AI is the absorbance of the extractives/standard. Then % of inhibition was plotted against concentration, and from the graph, IC50 was calculated. The experiment was repeated three times at each concentration.

2.7. Antibacterial Activity of Extracts
The antibacterial activity of the formula extracts was measured by the Paper disc agar diffusion method on strains of Escherichia coli (ATCC 25922), Staphylococcus aureus (ATCC 25923), Bacillus subtilis (ATCC 6633), and Shigella dysenteriae (ATCC 23354). An aliquot of 10 μL of the extract evaluated (1000, 500, 150, 62.5 μg/mL) of each extract was applied to sterile filter paper discs (Whatman no. 1; 6 mm in diameter). The discs were placed on the medium nutrient agar (NA) plates previously seeded with the tested bacteria culture as control used standard antibacterial tetracycline susceptibility discs (10 μg/disc). In comparison, 10 μL of dimethyl sulfoxide (DMSO) was included.
as negative control. The plates were then incubated for 24 h at 37°C. The antibacterial activity was evaluated by measuring the diameter of inhibition zones. All samples were analyzed in triplicate, and the means of inhibition zone diameters were determined \(^{16,17}\).

2.8. Determination of total phenolic and flavonoid content
The total phenolic content was determined according to the base on the modification method described \(^{18–20}\). 5 mg of each sample of different extracts were dissolved in 2 mL ethanol, and the volume was made up to a volume of 5 mL with distilled water. Each standard and sample was added 0.5 mL of 50% Folin Ciocalteu’s phenol reagent (1:1 with water) and incubated for 5 minutes. Then, 1 mL sodium carbonate solution (5%), and the liquid was homogenized. The reaction tube was placed at room temperature for 1 hour. The absorbance was recorded using spectrophotometer UV-Vis at wavelength 725 nm, as a reagent blank used the mixture reaction without sample. A calibration curve is carried out in parallel under the same operating conditions using gallic acid as a positive control with a concentration of 5,10,15, 20 μg/mL. The amount of total phenolic of each extract was calculated as milligrams (mg) equivalent of gallic acid per gram of dry plant (mg GAE/g).

The flavonoid content of extracts was determined according to the method described \(^{20–22}\). Each extract and the standard solution were added to 1.5 mL of methanol, 0.1 mL of aluminum chloride 10%, 1 mL of sodium nitrate 1M, and 2.8 mL of distilled water. The liquid was homogenized using the vortex, incubated for 30 minutes, and measured using spectrophotometer UV-Vis at 415 nm. A calibration curve is carried out in parallel under the same operating conditions using quercetin as a positive control with a concentration of 50,100,150, and 200 μg/mL. The amount of flavonoid content each extract was calculated as milligrams (mg) equivalent of quercetin per gram of dry plant (mg GAE/g).

2.9. Data analysis
Quantitative data obtained were analyzed descriptively. For the measurement with three measurements, data are given as the mean ± SD. Data was statistical analysis ANOVA alpha 0.05, followed by Duncan New Multiple Range Test (DNMRT) test at alpha 0.05.

3. Results and Discussion
3.1. Determination yield percentage extract
Biologically active compounds usually occur in low concentrations in plants. So the choice of extraction method is necessary for the amount extracts obtained with high yield \(^{23}\). Several studies reported the use of different extraction methods and solvent showed a result that the biological activities are different. Therefore, it is necessary to select suitable extraction methods as well as solvents based on the desired properties \(^{25}\). The leaves of *V. Amigdalina* were extracted by three extraction methods maceration, soxhlet, and fractionation, with two solvents (ethanol and ethyl acetate), respectively. Each extract obtained was determined yield percentage and water content, antioxidant and antibacterial activity, and the total phenolic and flavonoid contents. The yield percentage is a measure of the solvent effective to extract specific compounds from the material. The result of the yield percentage of each extract is shown in Table 1. The yield percentage of the extract obtained at the maceration method with the ethanol solvent to give the highest value than the soxhlet and fraction method with a value of 3.23 %. Statistical analysis showed that the different solvents had a significant effect on yield percentage (p < 0.05). Statistical analysis for the extraction, the maceration, and fractionation methods showed no considerable difference for ethanol solvent. Still, the ethyl acetate solvent showed a significant difference in yield percentage among all extraction methods.

| Solvent       | Maceration Yield percentage ± SD | Soxhlet Yield percentage ± SD | Fractionation Yield percentage ± SD |
|---------------|----------------------------------|--------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| Ethanol       | 3.23 ± 0.62\(^b\)                | 1.28 ± 0.11\(^a\)             | 3.15 ± 0.33\(^b\)                   |
| Ethyl acetate | 2.06 ± 0.21                      | 2.48 ± 0.17                   | 1.12 ± 0.17                        |

Numbers followed by the same subscript indicate not significantly different, SD: Standard deviation

3.2. Determination of the water content
The total water content in each extract was analyzed and showed in Table 2. Based on these data, ethanol extract in the maceration method offers the highest water content (21.46%) compared to other methods. For ethyl acetate extract, the water content in maceration also to highest (15.57%). Based on the Indonesian Ministry of Health, the limit allowed for water content in extract <10% \(^{14}\). The result of determination showed only ethyl acetate extract by soxhlet, which has water content <10% (7.4%). The water content of the other extracts from leaves the *V. amygdalina* was exceeding the water content limit allowed in the extract, so the extract must be dried before usage to prevent microbial contamination. The statistical analysis showed the Soxhlet method with ethyl acetate solvent had a significant difference in the percentage of water content (p <0.05) compared to other methods.
Table 2. Percentage water content of extracts V. Amigdalina.

| Solvent   | Percentage of water content ± SD |
|-----------|----------------------------------|
|           | Maceration                         | Soxhlet                      | Fractionation                  |
| Ethanol   | 21.46 ± 0.07                       | 15.16 ± 0.01<sup>a</sup>     | 17.15 ± 0.33                   |
| Ethyl acetate | 15.57 ± 0.04<sup>a</sup>         | 7.40 ± 0.06                 | 12.52 ± 0.26                   |

Numbers followed by the same subscript indicate not significantly different, SD: Standard deviation.

3.3. Antioxidant activity

The biological activities of the extracts of plants showed differences, depending upon the extraction methods and solvents used. The extracts of *Osbeckia parvifolia* showed high antioxidant by the maceration method compared to soxhlet extraction<sup>2</sup>. The antioxidant activity of *V. amigdalina* extracts was determined by the DPPH method<sup>15</sup>. This method is generally used for the evaluation of the antioxidant activity of various plant extracts. The antioxidant activity of different solvent extracts and extraction method were measured and shown in Table 3 and as compound standart antioxidant used ascorbic acid.

Table 3. The influence of concentration on DPPH inhibition of *V. Amigdalina* extracts ethanol and ethyl acetate with maceration and soxhlet method.

| Concentration (μg/mL) | Inhibition percentage (%I) ± SD |
|-----------------------|---------------------------------|
|                       | Maceration                      | Soxhlet                       | Fractionation                  |
|                       | Ethanol                        | Ethyl acetate                | Ethanol                        | Ethyl acetate                |
| 1000                  | 88.05 ± 3.14                   | 63.34 ± 0.15                 | 89.78 ± 0.15                   | 65.76 ± 0.15                 | 92.65 ± 0.15                 | 74.15 ± 0.15                 |
| 500                   | 44.30 ± 2.66                   | 50.18 ± 1.90                 | 45.00 ± 2.03                   | 52.92 ± 2.22                 | 67.56 ± 7.57                 | 60.21 ± 2.40                 |
| 250                   | 38.16 ± 0.97                   | 36.60 ± 3.38                 | 22.75 ± 2.81                   | 23.79 ± 2.30                 | 59.15 ± 2.20                 | 48.02 ± 3.27                 |
| 125                   | 25.45 ± 1.41                   | 19.54 ± 2.54<sup>a</sup>     | 20.12 ± 1.92                   | 18.40 ± 1.58                 | 49.55 ± 2.94                 | 32.91 ± 4.78                 |
| 62.5                  | 15.13 ± 0.79                   | 18.35 ± 0.81<sup>a</sup>     | 11.56 ± 1.82                   | 10.22 ± 1.29                 | 37.51 ± 1.56                 | 21.25 ± 1.62                 |

Numbers followed by the same subscript indicate not significantly different, SD: Standard deviation.

Based on the inhibition percentages, value was calculated the value of IC<sub>50</sub>. The IC<sub>50</sub> value for *V. amygadalina extracts* was determined by linear regression from % of inhibition was plotted against concentration. Table 3 showed the ethanol extract with the fractionation method, which has the strongest anti-free radical activity (IC<sub>50</sub> 170 μg/mL): meanwhile, ascorbic acid used as a standard gives an IC<sub>50</sub> value 9.0 μg/mL. Data in Table 4 showed The difference solvent using extraction effects on the IC<sub>50</sub> value of extracts. Extraction using ethanol solvent shown IC<sub>50</sub> is higher for all methods extraction compared to ethyl acetate solvent. The extract is categorized as a potent antioxidant if it has an IC<sub>50</sub> of less than 200 μg/mL. The IC<sub>50</sub> value around 200 to 1000 μg/mL in the moderate antioxidant category, and above 1000 μg/mL were categorized as inactive 26. For pure compounds are classified as a strong antioxidant if they have an IC<sub>50</sub> less than 10 μg/mL, 10 to 100 μg/mL in the moderate antioxidant category, and above 100 μg/mL in categorized as inactive. Based on data IC<sub>50</sub> obtained, only ethanol extract from the fractionation method in the potent category antioxidant and other extracts in the category moderate antioxidant (IC<sub>50</sub> value 200 to 1000 μg/mL). Extracts with the moderate antioxidant category are still potential as a source of antioxidant compounds<sup>15</sup>. Based on this data, ethanol extract with the fractionation method of the leaves of *V. amygadalina* can be used as a source of antioxidant compounds.
Table 4. Inhibition concentrations of 50% of DPPH*.

| Solvent       | IC₅₀ (μg/mL) | Maceration | Soxhlet | Fractionation |
|---------------|-------------|------------|---------|--------------|
| Ethyl acetate | 640         | 650        | 350     |              |
| Ethanol       | 490         | 530        | 170     |              |

3.4. Antibacterial activity

The response to the inhibition of bacterial growth by the extracts was characterized by the inhibition zone's presence around the disc paper. Antibacterial activity was done on three extraction methods using ethanol and ethyl acetate solvent with positive control groups (Tetracycline HCl) and negative controls (DMSO 10%). The result Antibacterial activity test showed that most of the extracts showed antibacterial activity against test bacteria both for ethanol and ethyl acetate extract. The test using the disc diffusion method with inhibition zones ranging from 6.1 ± 0.1 to 9.4 ± 0.9 mm at variation concentration 62.5–1000 μg/mL (Tables 5 and 6). However, the antibacterial activity of extract weaker compared tetracycline at concentration 10 μg/disc (inhibition zone, all bacterial test 15.7 ± 0.6 to 19.7 ± 0.3 mm). The antibacterial activity of the extract against B. subtilis and S. dysenteriae is weaker compared to antibacterial activity against E. coli and S. aureus. The DMSO as negative control showed no inhibition zone around the disc paper.

Data in Tables 5 and 6 also show that the higher the concentration of extract, the larger the inhibition zone's diameter. Ethanol and ethyl acetate extracts more inhibited E. coli and S. aureus bacteria compared to B. subtilis and S. dysenteriae. However, extraction by fraction showed higher antibacterial activity against Bacillus and S. dysenteriae bacteria than maceration and soxhlet extraction methods. This is because the fractionation method has a mixture compound in the extract. It is simple than maceration and soxhletation methods so that the concentration of the active compounds is higher, and the activity is more substantial. Antibacterial activity characteristics were classified into three categories, strong activity with inhibition zone diameter of 10-20 mm, moderate activity with an inhibition zone of 5-10 mm, and weak activity with inhibition zone <5 mm. Based on this category, the extracts of V. amygadalina were categorized as providing moderate antibacterial activity against all bacteria.

Table 5. Antibacterial activity of ethanol extracts the leaves of V. amygadalina.

| Extraction method | Concentration (μg/mL) | zone of inhibition (mm) ± SD | E. coli | S. aureus | B. subtilis | S. dysenteriae |
|-------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------------|---------|-----------|-------------|---------------|
| Maceration        | 1000                  | 9.4 ± 0.9                   | 7.2 ± 0.6 | 6.7 ± 0.5 | 7.5 ± 0.6   |
|                   | 500                   | 7.9 ± 1.1                   | 6.8 ± 0.2 | 6.2 ± 0.1 | 6.4 ± 0.3   |
|                   | 250                   | 9.2 ± 1.1                   | 6.6 ± 0.1 | NI*       | NI*         |
|                   | 125                   | 7.3 ± 1.2                   | 6.4 ± 0.1 | NI*       | NI*         |
|                   | 62.5                  | 7.2 ± 1.2                   | 6.2 ± 0.1 | NI*       | NI*         |
| Soxhlet           | 1000                  | 7.2 ± 0.3                   | 8.8 ± 1.8 | 6.8 ± 0.1 | 6.2 ± 0.1   |
|                   | 500                   | 7.1 ± 0.4                   | 7.5 ± 0.3 | NI*       | NI*         |
|                   | 250                   | 6.8 ± 0.3                   | 6.3 ± 0.1 | NI*       | NI*         |
|                   | 125                   | 6.4 ± 0.2                   | 6.2 ± 0.2 | NI*       | NI*         |
|                   | 62.5                  | 6.3 ± 0.1                   | 6.2 ± 0.2 | NI*       | NI*         |
|                   | 1000                  | 7.1 ± 0.5                   | 7.6 ± 0.1 | 7.1 ± 0.1 | 7.1 ± 0.1   |
| Fracination       | 500                   | 6.4 ± 0.1                   | 7.5 ± 0.1 | 6.9 ± 0.1 | 6.9 ± 0.1   |
|                   | 250                   | 6.3 ± 0.1                   | 7.1 ± 0.1 | 6.5 ± 0.1 | 6.5 ± 0.1   |
|                   | 125                   | 6.3 ± 0.1                   | 6.9 ± 0.4 | 6.4 ± 0.2 | 6.4 ± 0.2   |
|                   | 62.5                  | 6.2 ± 0.2                   | 6.4 ± 0.2 | NI*       | NI*         |
| Standart          | 16.7 ± 0.3            |                             | 15.7 ± 0.6 | 19.7 ± 0.3 | 17.7 ± 0.6 |
| Control           | NI*                   |                             | NI*      | NI*       | NI*         |

Control (DMSO), Standard: tetracyclin (10μg/disc), * NI: No inhibition zone, Values were expressed as mean
Table 6. Antibacterial activity of ethyl acetate extracts the leaves of V. Amigdalina.

| Extraction method | Concentration ([μg/mL]) | Zone of inhibition (mm) ± SD |
|-------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------------|
|                   |                        | E. coli | S. aureus | B. subtilis | S. dycentriae |
| Maceration         | 1000                   | 8.1 ± 0.1 | 7.6 ± 0.4 | 8.3 ± 0.3 | 7.2 ± 1.1 |
|                   | 500                    | 7.7 ± 0.5 | 7.2 ± 0.7 | 7.4 ± 0.2 | 6.8 ± 0.6 |
|                   | 250                    | 7.7 ± 0.5 | 7.1 ± 0.6 | 6.7 ± 0.2 | 6.1 ± 0.1 |
|                   | 125                    | 7.5 ± 0.5 | 6.8 ± 0.9 | 6.4 ± 0.1 | NI*      |
|                   | 62.5                   | 7.4 ± 0.4 | 6.2 ± 0.1 | NI*        | NI*      |
| Soxhlet           | 1000                   | 9.4 ± 0.9 | 7.8 ± 0.7 | 6.2 ± 0.1 | 7.2 ± 1.4 |
|                   | 500                    | 7.9 ± 1.1 | 7.1 ± 0.4 | NI*        | 6.2 ± 0.1 |
|                   | 250                    | 9.2 ± 1.1 | 6.5 ± 0.1 | NI*        | 6.2 ± 0.1 |
|                   | 125                    | 7.3 ± 1.2 | 6.3 ± 0.3 | NI*        | NI*      |
|                   | 62.5                   | 7.2 ± 1.2 | 6.3 ± 0.2 | NI*        | NI*      |
| Fraction           | 1000                   | 8.8 ± 1.8 | 8.6 ± 0.4 | 8.4 ± 1.1 | 8.1 ± 0.1 |
|                   | 500                    | 7.7 ± 0.3 | 7.1 ± 0.2 | 7.9 ± 0.6 | 7.1 ± 0.3 |
|                   | 250                    | 7.4 ± 0.1 | 6.8 ± 0.1 | 7.5 ± 0.6 | 7.0 ± 0.3 |
|                   | 125                    | 6.9 ± 0.1 | 6.6 ± 0.1 | 7.4 ± 0.7 | 6.7 ± 0.3 |
|                   | 62.5                   | 6.6 ± 0.3 | 6.3 ± 0.1 | 6.9 ± 0.6 | 6.5 ± 0.5 |
| Control            |                        | NI*     | NI*        | NI*        | NI*      |

Control (10 % DMSO), Standard: Tetracyclin (10μg/ disc). *NI: No inhibition, Values were expressed as mean ± SD.

3.5. Analysis of Total phenolic and Flavonoid Compounds

The amount of total phenolic in each extract was calculated as milligrams (mg) equivalent of gallic acid per gram of dry plant (mg GAE/g). In contrast, flavonoid content was calculated as milligrams (mg) equivalent of quercetin per gram of dry plant (mg QE/g). Gallic acid is the standard generally used for measurement of total phenolic, while quercetin standard is usually used for flavonoid content. The extraction method and various solvent used affected the total phenolic and flavonoid content obtained. The total phenolic and flavonoid content obtained by the three extraction methods was presented in Table 7. Based on the analysis obtained that the phenolic content of V. amigdalina extracts varies according to the polarity solvent and the extraction method used. Besides, the extracts obtained by the fractionation method using ethyl acetate solvent showed the highest total phenols 28.83 ± 2.62 mg GAE/g compared to other methods. Table 7 also shows that the flavonoid content of V. amigdalina extracts varies according to the solvent and the extraction method used. The extraction using the maceration method with ethyl acetate solvent showed the highest flavonoid content 38.36 ± 0.14 mg QE/g compared to other methods. The content of flavonoid in the ethyl acetate with the maceration method is 38.36 ± 0.14 mg QE/g.

Table 7. Total phenolic and flavonoid contents of extract Vernonia amigdalina.

| Sample     | Phenolic (mg GAE/g extract) | Flavonoids (mg QE/g extract) |
|------------|----------------------------|-------------------------------|
|            | Maceration                  | Soxhlet                      | Fraction               | Maceration                  | Soxhlet                      | Fraction               |
| Ethanol    | 7.59 ± 0.05                 | 18.69 ± 1.75                 | 14.10 ± 0.07           | 14.16 ± 0.01              | 31.97 ± 0.01                | 7.07 ± 0.12           |
| Ethyl acetate | 18.90 ± 0.54               | 21.67 ± 0.54                 | 28.83 ± 2.62           | 38.36 ± 0.14              | 11.20 ± 0.01                | 18.78 ± 0.15           |

Phenolic and flavonoid compounds have been reported to have biological activities variety. Such as anticancer, antidiabetic, antihypertensive, antitumor, and including antioxidant properties. The research showed that the extraction methods influence the yield percentage, the phenolic and flavonoid content of extract, and the antioxidant properties and antibacterial activity. Phenolic and flavonoid compounds of the V. amigdalina are
allegedly responsible for the traditional use of this plant in diabetic treatment.

4. Conclusion

Extraction methods influence the yield percentage extract, antioxidant activity, total phenolic, and flavonoid; but, no significant influence at the antibacterial activity. Extraction using ethyl acetate solvent by fractionation method is the best method to find the antioxidant compounds of V. amygdalina. The extracts of V. amygdalina were categorized as providing moderate antibacterial activity against all bacteria test.

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