

1 **STUDY ON ANTIBACTERIAL ACTIVITY OF CALOTROPIS**  
2 **PROCERA**

3  
4 **ORIGINAL Research Article**

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6 **Author: MUHAMMAD MUZAMMAL**  
7 **MPHIL SCHOLAR**

8 **[Email.mustafamuzammal@yahoo.com](mailto:Email.mustafamuzammal@yahoo.com)**

9  
10 **Dept of Biosciences, Gomal University**  
11 **Dera Ismail Khan**  
12 **PAKISTAN**

13  
14 **MOBILE:03059139135**

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4 Study On The Antibacterial Activity Of Calotropis Procera  
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6 **ABSTRACT:**  
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8 Comparative study of plant extracts crude and aqueous, methanolic and ethanolic with  
9 antibiotics, provide evidence that calotropis procera extracts has the similar antibacterial  
10 activity as these antibiotics against test pathogens i.e. Salmonella typhi and E.coli. The  
11 analysis of antimicrobial activity of aqueous, methanolic and ethanolic extract of leaves and  
12 flower of *Calotropis procera* was carried out in disc method and also determined MIC value at  
13 600nm through optical density using spectrophotometer. The zone of inhibition produced by  
14 extracts was examined and compares it with zone produced by antibiotics. The effect exhibited  
15 by ethanolic extract of leaves and flower was significantly greater than the aqueous and  
16 methanolic extract of leaves and flower. Crude extracts i.e. latex, leaves, fruit and flower crude  
17 extracts. Among them, flower crude extracts shows similar zone of inhibition to test  
18 antibiotics.while in MIC value, we made different concentration of extracts and antibiotics.i.e  
19 for crude we made 25%, 50%.75% and 100% concentration of crude juice and for the aqueous,  
20 methanolic and ethanolic we made 0.5mg/mL,1mg/mL,2mg/mL,3mg/mL,4mg/mL, 5mg/mL  
21 and 6mg/mL in Dimethyl salfoxide, and same antibiotics concentration. Aqueous leaves  
22 extracts show MIC at 0.5mg/ml against E.coli while against Salmonella it shows MIC at  
23 1mg/ml... We also determine phytochemical analysis for presences of different compounds in  
24 crude extracts. The obtained results provide a support for the use of *Calotropis procera*, in  
25 traditional medicine and suggest its further advance investigation.  
26

27 **Keywords:** Antimicrobial, *Calotropis Procera*, Crude extracts salmonella typhi, *Escherichia*  
28 *coli*.  
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32 **INTRODUCTION:**

1  
2 Different plants are used as medicinal purposes for long time. The folk and traditional  
3 medicinal system uses the plant material for the treatment of various diseases. It has been  
4 proved that plants are one of the major sources of drug discovery and development. Plants are  
5 reported to have anticancer, antimicrobial, ant diabetic, anti inflammation, antioxidant  
6 properties (Gaurav Kumar et al., 2010). Calotropis procera commonly known as milk weed (or)  
7 swallow wart is a glabrous or hairy laticiferous shrub or small tree found in subtropical Asia  
8 and tropical and Africa (Perwez Alam et al., 2008). Traditional doctors in West Africa have  
9 claimed to have successfully used the plant to cure many diseases. In the traditional Asian  
10 medical system, it has been used for bronchitis, pain, asthma and tumors. The plant is also  
11 known for its toxic properties that include dermatitis, iridocyclites and acts like a poison and  
12 produces lethal effects (Vadlapudi Varahalarao et al., 2009). The latex of Calotropis procera  
13 extract is easily available and is used in medicine for treatment of many diseases. It is used as  
14 wound healing agent, anti-diarrheas, anti inflammatory, and anti- rheumatism agent. It is also  
15 used against malaria and skin infection (Sammer H Qari et al., 2008). The milky latex and  
16 flowers were considered to improve digestion, Catarrh and increases appetite (Oudhia, 2001).  
17 In this report, we provide new information on the antibacterial activities of Calotropis procera  
18 using known bacterial pathogens as test organism. It is also used by traditional medicine  
19 practitioners in Gwari communities for the treatment of ring worms. (Kuta, 2008). Various  
20 pharmaceutical companies have produce a number of new antibacterial drugs in the last  
21 ten years, resistance to these drugs by bacteria has increased and has now become a global  
22 concern. In general, bacteria have the genetic ability to transmit and acquire resistance to drugs  
23 used as therapeutic agents (Nascimento et al. 2000).the bioactive plant extract is a new  
24 concept and has been recently reported (Aburjai et al. 2001).  
25 Main objective of our work is to examine the antibacterial activity of CALOTROPIS  
26 PROCERA and to compare its antibacterial potency with antibiotics.

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## 28 **MATERIALS AND METHODS:**

29 Collection and identification of plant materials

1 Fresh leaves .Flower Fruit and latex of Calotropis procera were collected from the D.I.KHAN  
2 city and maintained in the Microbiology laboratory GOMAL UNIVERSITY, DERA ISMAIL  
3 KHAN

#### 4 5 **Extraction of plant materials:**

6 The plant material (leaves and flower of Calotropis procera) was air dried at room temperature  
7 for 20 days after which it was grinded to a fine powder. The extracts of ethanol, methanol and  
8 water were prepared by soaking 100g each the dry powdered plant materials in 1 litter of  
9 ethanol, methanol and water at room temperature for 4 days with continuous stirring. The  
10 extracts were filtered, through a Whitman filter paper and than placed in water bath.

#### 11 12 13 **Test Microbe:**

14 Test organisms used were, E. coli and salmonella typhi.

#### 15 16 **Morphological and biochemical characterization of the isolates:**

17 Morphological and biochemical characterization of bacterial strain was tested in laboratory.the  
18 presences of colonies was confirmed by salmonella shagella agar,oxidase test and indole test.

#### 19 20 **Phytochemical screening:**

21 Phytochemical analysis of all crude extracts was carried out according to the methods  
22 described by Ayoola G A (2008).

#### 23 24 **Antibacterial activity:**

25 The antimicrobial activities of water, methanol and ethanol extracts were determined by using  
26 disc diffusion method (Kareem SO, Akpar I, and Ojo OP, 2008, Koshyphilip, Sri Nurestri Abd  
27 Malek, Wirakarnain Sani, Sim Kae Shin, Saravana kumar, 2009.)

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1 **Disc diffusion:**

2 The nutrient agar plates seeded with bacterial test organisms were allowed to solidify and  
3 placed a 6mm filter paper disc, soaked with test extract. The plates were incubated at 37°C for  
4 48hrs. (Omenka and Osuoha2000).

6 **Determination of minimum inhibitory concentration (MIC):**

8 MIC is the lowest concentration of an antimicrobial that inhibit or kills the visible growth of  
9 microorganism. MIC is generally regarded as the most basic laboratory measurement of the  
10 activity of an antimicrobial agent against microorganisms. For crude extracts four different  
11 concentrations i.e. 100%, 75%, 50%, 25% were prepared for each of fresh *Calotropis procera*  
12 juices. For antibiotics and ethanolic, methanolic and aqueous extracts eight test tubes of  
13 different concentration i.e. 0.5mg/mL, 1mg/mL, 2mg/mL, 3mg/mL, 4mg/mL, 5mg/mL and  
14 6mg/mL in Dimethyl sulfoxide were prepared. The nutrient broth was prepared. From the broth  
15 9ml broth was added in test tube.

16 Then 1ml of each concentration of crude and powdered ethanolic, methanolic, aqueous extract  
17 and antibiotics was added into respective test tube. After this step 0.1 ml test pathogen  
18 suspension were inoculated into respective labeled test tube. After inoculation, the test tubes  
19 were kept at shaking incubator for overnight at 37°C and results were observed in the form of  
20 turbidity and O.D were observed at 600nm on U.V spectrophotometer.

22 **RESULT AND DISCUSSION:**

23 The phytochemical screening of the studies showed the presence of terpenoids, saponins,  
24 tannins alkaloids, cardiac glycosides, phenol and tannin, steroids, protein, acidic compounds in  
25 crude flower extracts. The crude extract of *Calotropis procera* leaf showed the absence of  
26 steroids and alkaline reagent. The crude fruit and latex extracts of *Calotropis procera* showed  
27 the absence of phenol and tannin (Table1). The antimicrobial activity showed that the leaves of  
28 *Calotropis procera* have bactericidal effects on pathogenic microorganisms. Among the crude  
29 extracts (both aqueous and ethanolic) of *Calotropis procera* flower (aqueous) gave the widest  
30 zone of inhibition  $32 \pm 5$ mm against *E. coli* at 75% crude extracts which was nearly similar to  
31 zone produced by antibiotic doxycycline and vibramycine was  $35 \pm 2$ mm and volosef  $33 \pm 5$  at

1 20mg/ml. The crude flower and Fruit (aqueous) gave the widest zone of inhibition  $24 \pm 5$  mm  
2 against *Salmonella typhi* at 75% (Flower) and (Fruit) 25% which was nearly similar to zone  
3 produced by antibiotic velosef at 5mg/ml  $27 \pm 3$ mm, doxycycline at 5mg/ml gave  $29 \pm 1$ mm and  
4 vibromycine at 10mg/ml gave  $31 \pm 1$ mm  
5 and among Powdered plant material (Leaves and Flower) was extracted with ethanol, methanol  
6 and water, which were used in 5mg/ml, 10mg/ml and 20mg/ml respectively, high zone  
7  $29 \pm 4$ mm was shown by methanolic leaves extract at 20mg/ml against *E. coli* and while against  
8 *Salmonella typhi*, ethanolic leaves extracts gave  $29 \pm 2$ mm at 20mg/ml. on the other hand  
9 ethanolic flower extract gave  $34 \pm 0$  mm at 20mg/ml against *salmonella typhi* and methanolic  
10 flower extracts shows  $23 \pm 3$ mm against *E. coli* at 20mg/ml (Table 2 to 6) while antibiotic  
11 velosef shows  $29 \pm 2$ mm at 10mg/ml against *E.coli* and Doxycycline show  $34 \pm 3$ mm at 20mg/ml  
12 against *salmonella typhi* nearly equal to our extracts  
13 In determining the minimum inhibition concentration, we examine different results. Crude  
14 latex and flower shows MIC at 25% against *E.coli* while leaves and fruit show on 75%, while  
15 against *salmonella typhi* latex show MIC on 100%. flower on 50%. leaves on 75% and fruit on  
16 25% when diluted in water. but when we dilute crude extract in ethanol result were different,  
17 crude flower, leaves and fruit show MIC against both the pathogen at 25% dilution of crude  
18 extract while latex show variation against *E.coli* it show MIC at 50% and against *salmonella* at  
19 100%.  
20 Now for powdered ethanolic .methanolic and aqueous leaves extracts, MIC value was  
21 0.5mg/ml against *E.coli* and 1mg/ml against *salmonella typhi*. while for powdered  
22 ethanolic .methanolic and aqueous Flower extracts, MIC value was different. Against  
23 *salmonella typhi*, aqueous extract show MIC at 3mg/ml. methanolic at 1.5mg/ml and ethanolic  
24 extracts shows MIC at 1mg/ml. ang against *E.coli* MIC value of aqueous extract was 1.5mg/ml,  
25 for ethanolic MIC was 4mg/ml and for methanolic MIC was 1mg/ml (Table 7 to 11).  
26 While for antibiotics MIC value of Doxycycline against *E.coli* was 0.0685 and *salmonella*  
27 *typhi* was 0.0670 at 0.5mg/ml, MIC value of vibramycine against *E.coli* was 0.0866 at 6mg/ml  
28 and *salmonella typhi* was 0.0647 at 1mg/ml, similarly MIC value of velosef was 0.0782 against  
29 *E.coli* at 5mg/ml and *salmonella typhi* was 0.0629 at 1.5mg/ml.

1 Finally the results agree with the use of *Calotropis procera* in treatment of different diseases  
2 because of its bactericidal effects. Finally the results established a good support for the use of  
3 *Calotropis procera* in traditional medicine for many diseases.

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#### **CONCLUSION:**

The phytochemical analysis reports the presence of antimicrobial active agents such as alkaloids, flavonoids, tannins, saponins etc. The flavonoids and tannins are phenolic compounds and plant phenolics are major group of compounds that act as primary anti oxidants. The present investigation clearly reveals the antibacterial nature of this plant and suggests that this plant could be exploited in the management of diseases caused by these bacteria in human and plant systems and has same antibacterial activity as antibiotics shows. The phytochemical analysis revealed that the active principle responsible for the activity is a phenolic compound. So the result established a good support for the use of *Calotropis procera* in traditional medicines.

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## TABLES

TABLE 1: PHYTOCHEMICAL ANALYSIS OF CRUDE EXTRACTS

TEST	L(1)	F(2)	F(3)	L(4)
PHENOL & TANNIN	+	+	-	-
STEROID	-	+	+	+
CARDIC GLYCOSIDE	+	+	+	+
TERPENOID S	+	+	+	+
SAPONINS	+	+	+	+
PROTEIN	+	+	+	+
ACIDIC COMPOUND	+	+	-	-
CARBOHYDRATES	+	+	+	+
ALKALINE REAGENTS	-	+	-	+

(+ = present, - = absent)

L(1)=LEAVES ,F(2)=FLOWER,F(3)=FRUIT,L(4)=LATEX

TABLE 2: Zone of inhibition of crude plant extracts against E.coli

Extracts	Aqueous				Ethanollic		
	100%	75%	50%	25%	75%	50%	25%
Latex	17 ±1	19 ±1	16 ±1	14 ±0	11 ±2	11 ±0.5	9 ±1
Leaves	15 ±0	15 ±1	17 ±1	20 ±4	9 ±1	13±1	14±0
Flower	18 ±2	32±4.5	26 ±3	16 ±2	13±1	12±1	11±1
Fruit	11±1.5	10 ±1	9 ±1	8 ±0	10±1	8±0.5	8±0

TABLE 3: Zone of inhibition of crude plant extracts against salmonella typhi

Extract	Aqueous				Ethanollic		
	100%	75%	50%	25%	75%	50%	25%
Latex	18±1	18±0.5	14±0	11±0	12±1	12±0	8±1
Leaves	15±1	12±1	16±0.5	19±0	13±1	13±2	14±1
Flower	20±2	24±5	17±1	16±1	20±1	12±1	7±1
Fruit	19±1	13±0	16±3	24±5	14±1	15±3	21±4

TABLE 4: Zone of inhibition of Leaves extracts

MICROBE	E.coli			Salmonella typhi		
	5mg/ml	10mg/ml	20mg/ml	5mg/ml	10mg/ml	20mg/ml
Aqueous	16±2	17±5	19±4	16±4	21±1	26±1
Methanolic	21±1	24±0	29±4	17±2	19±2	24±2
Ethanollic	19±2	20±3	29±2	23±3	27±2	29±2

TABLE 5: Zone of inhibition of Flower extracts

MICROBE	E.coli			Salmonella typhi		
	Dilutions	5mg/ml	10mg/ml	20mg/ml	5mg/ml	10mg/ml
Aqueous	10±0	12±1	14±1	16±1	19±0	22±2
Methanolic	15±0	17±2	23±3	17±0	20±1	21±3
Ethanolic	12±0	14±1	16±0	29±1	32±1	34±0

TABLE 6: Zone of inhibition of Antibiotics

MICROBE	E.coli			Salmonella typhi		
	Dilutions	5mg/ml	10mg/ml	20mg/ml	5mg/ml	10mg/ml
Doxycycline	33±3	35±2	37±1	29±1	32±3	34±3
vebromycine	26±1	32±3	35±2	24±3	31±1	36±1
velosef	26±1	29±2	33±5	27±3	33±3	36±3

Table7. MIC Trough O.D AT 600 of CRUDE EXTRACTS WITH AQUEOUS DILUTIONS

MICROBE	E.coli				Salmonella typhi			
	Dilutions	100%	75%	50%	25%	100%	75%	50%
Latex	0.5704	0.4192	0.4994	<b><u>0.3377</u></b>	<b><u>0.3508</u></b>	0.3899	0.3841	0.5090
Flower	0.9027	0.7178	0.7068	<b><u>0.3624</u></b>	0.7974	0.8607	<b><u>0.6714</u></b>	0.6732
Fruit	0.6866	<b><u>0.5413</u></b>	0.5754	0.6618	0.8712	0.8027	0.8035	<b><u>0.5252</u></b>
Leaves	0.9563	<b><u>0.7072</u></b>	0.7464	0.9684	1.0183	<b><u>0.8135</u></b>	1.0255	0.9452

Table8: MIC through O.D AT 600 of CRUDE EXTRACTS WITH ETHANOLIC DILUTIONS

MICROBE	E.coli				Salmonella typhi			
	Dilutions	100%	75%	50%	25%	100%	75%	50%
Latex	0.5704	0.9174	<b><u>0.4614</u></b>	0.5522	<b><u>0.3508</u></b>	0.6900	1.7442	0.4913
Flower	0.9027	0.7645	0.5050	<b><u>0.4369</u></b>	0.7974	0.7200	0.3809	<b><u>0.1663</u></b>
Fruit	0.6866	0.9474	0.3164	<b><u>0.1891</u></b>	0.8712	0.8144	0.3623	<b><u>0.1872</u></b>
Leaves	0.9563	0.7668	0.2080	<b><u>0.1665</u></b>	1.0183	1.0462	0.2124	<b><u>0.1304</u></b>

Table: 9 MIC through O.D AT 600 of LEAVES EXTRACTS against E.coli

MICROBE	E.coli							
	Dilutions	0.5mg/ml	1mg/ml	1.5mg/ml	2mg/ml	3mg/ml	4mg/ml	5mg/ml
Aqueous	<b><u>0.3009</u></b>	0.3808	0.3613	0.3560	0.4109	0.3820	0.4200	0.3503
Methanolic	<b><u>0.3179</u></b>	0.4584	0.4030	0.8233	0.8975	0.5351	0.6134	0.5468
Ethanolic	<b><u>0.1636</u></b>	0.6008	0.2440	0.3427	0.4628	0.4006	0.3968	0.6508

Table10. MIC through O.D AT 600 of LEAVES EXTRACTS against salmonella typhi

MICROBE	Salmonella typhi							
	Dilutions	0.5mg/ml	1mg/ml	1.5mg/ml	2mg/ml	3mg/ml	4mg/ml	5mg/ml
Aqueous	0.3218	<b><u>0.3170</u></b>	0.3638	0.4285	0.4050	0.3428	0.3723	0.4687
Methanolic	0.3721	<b><u>0.3580</u></b>	0.5060	0.7636	0.9026	0.5314	0.6538	0.6504
Ethanolic	0.1805	<b><u>0.1290</u></b>	0.1349	0.1954	0.2318	0.2836	0.3087	0.3606

Table11. MIC through O.D AT 600 of *FLOWER EXTRACTS* against E.COLI

MICROBE	E.coli							
Dilutions	0.5mg/ml	1mg/ml	1.5mg/ml	2mg/ml	3mg/ml	4mg/ml	5mg/ml	6mg/ml
Aqueous	0.2215	0.0901	<b>0.0784</b>	0.0866	0.0938	0.1022	0.0968	0.0931
Methanolic	0.3106	0.2913	0.2635	0.3165	0.3079	<b>0.2062</b>	0.3338	0.3115
Ethanollic	0.2638	<b>0.1635</b>	0.2897	0.3171	0.3742	0.3597	0.2471	0.4591

Table12. MIC through O.D AT 600 of *FLOWER EXTRACTS* against salmonella typhi

MICROBE	Salmonella typhi							
Dilutions	0.5mg/ml	1mg/ml	1.5mg/ml	2mg/ml	3mg/ml	4mg/ml	5mg/ml	6mg/ml
Aqueous	0.1968	0.1633	0.1677	0.1236	<b>0.0826</b>	0.1253	0.2020	0.0925
Methanolic	0.3486	0.3637	<b>0.2740</b>	0.3722	0.3929	0.3968	0.5013	0.5193
Ethanollic	0.2331	<b>0.2309</b>	0.2477	0.2705	0.3962	0.3931	0.2740	0.5225

Table13. MIC through O.D AT 600 of *ANTIBIOTICS* against E.COLI

MICROBE	E.COLI							
DILUTION	0.5 mg/ml	1 mg/ml	1.5 mg/ml	2 mg/ml	3 mg/ml	4 mg/ml	5 mg/ml	6 mg/ml
DOXYCYCLINE	<b>0.0685</b>	0.0853	0.0757	0.0738	0.0732	0.0751	0.0762	0.0891
VIBROMYCINE	0.0946	0.1328	0.1012	0.1067	0.1268	0.1319	0.3222	<b>0.0866</b>
VELOSEF	0.3375	0.4852	0.4087	0.1964	0.4540	0.2488	<b>0.0782</b>	0.0786

Table14 .MIC through O.D AT 600 of *antibiotics* against salmonella typhi

MICROBE	Salmnella typhi							
DILUTION	0.5mg/ml	1mg/ml	1.5mg/ml	2mg/ml	3mg/ml	4mg/ml	5mg/ml	6mg/ml
DOXYCYCLINE	<b>0.0670</b>	0.0697	0.0718	0.0770	0.0780	0.0777	0.0868	0.0806
VIBROMYCINE	0.1312	<b>0.0647</b>	0.0712	0.0714	0.0812	0.0772	0.0939	0.0963
VELOSEF	0.0861	0.0666	<b>0.0629</b>	0.0669	0.0784	0.0663	0.0706	0.0713