


Antioxidant Activity of *n*-hexane and Etil Acetate Fractions of Bangkal (*Nauclea subdita* (Korth.) Steud.) Leaves

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Abstract

Bangkal (*Nauclea subdita* (Korth.) Steud.) is a tropical plant belonging to the Rubiaceae family, commonly found in South Kalimantan. This plant is one of the plants that has efficacy as a medicinal plant. This study aimed to quantitatively identify secondary metabolites and antioxidant activity in the *n*-hexane and ethyl acetate fractions of *N. subdita* leaves. The method of identification of secondary metabolites using the test tube. Antioxidant activity using the DPPH method based on IC₅₀ value. The results of identifying secondary metabolites in the *n*-hexane fraction of *N. subdita* leaves contain alkaloids, flavonoids, steroids, and phenolic compounds, while the ethyl acetate fraction of *N. subdita* leaves contain alkaloids, flavonoids, steroids, tannins, saponins, and phenolics. The results of the antioxidant activity test of the *n*-hexane fraction and the ethyl acetate fraction of the leaves of *N. subdita* showed IC₅₀ values of 229.61178±3.65919 and 54.54296±0.02236 ppm, respectively. Based on the IC₅₀ value, the *n*-hexane fraction of *N. subdita* leaves had weak antioxidant activity, and the ethyl acetate fraction of *N. subdita* leaves had strong antioxidant activity.

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INTRODUCTION

Medicinal plants can be defined as plants that are part, all parts, and or parts of plant exudates that can be used as drugs, medicinal ingredients, or medicinal ingredients¹. Medicinal plants are known to have efficacy because they contain secondary metabolite compounds, such as phenolic compounds, alkaloids, flavonoids, and terpenoids. These secondary metabolites are believed to have efficacy as a medicine for a disease which can also be used to maintain a healthy body².

Antioxidants have essential functions in the health of the body, including inhibiting and neutralizing the oxidation reactions that involve free radicals³. Antioxidants are substances that function as free radical inhibitors; generally, antioxidants work by inhibiting the formation of radicals that have the potential to carry out autoxidation⁴. Antioxidants are commonly found in various parts of plants, such as roots, stems, leaves, flowers, fruits, skins, and seeds⁵. One of them is found in the bangkal (*Nauclea subdita* (Korth.) Steud)⁶.

Nauclea subdita is a tropical plant belonging to the Rubiaceae family, which is generally found in swamps, lowlands, watersheds and rivers, and mountain forests⁶. People typically use this plant for such treatments by applying the leaves to boils for tumors, and the boiled water of the leaves is used to treat diarrhea and toothache. This plant also contains antioxidants and steroids to help the growth of cells in the skin, so many people from Banjar Tribe use it as a basic powder ingredient and call it *pupur bangkal*⁷. This is supported by research conducted by Wardhani and Akhyar⁸, stating that phytochemical screening was carried out on extracts from the stem bark of the *N. subdita*, which contain compounds belonging to the alkaloids, flavonoids, saponins, and polyphenols, and quinones. Research on the leaves of *N. subdita* will contribute to developing the utilization of this plant, and the leaves are abundantly available and easy to harvest and process. Previous research on the antioxidant activity of leaf and stem bark extracts of *N. subdita* has IC₅₀ values of 79.62 ppm and

307.1496 ppm⁸. This activity needs to be investigated further by researching to identify the content of secondary metabolites and the antioxidant activity of the *n*-hexane and ethyl acetate fractions of *N. subdita* leaves as a basis for obtaining the active compounds responsible for their antioxidant activity.

MATERIALS AND METHODS

Materials

The tools used in this study included a blender (Panasonic), separating funnel (Schott Duran), fume hood (Local), refrigerator, oven (Finco), pro pipette, analytical balance (Pioneer), water bath (Mettler), UV lamp with wavelengths of 254 and 366 nm, and UV-Vis Spectrophotometer (Perkin Elmer). The materials used in this study included distilled water, Mayer's reagent, Dragendorff's reagent, Mg powder, concentrated HCl, Liebermann-Burchard reagent, 1% gelatin, 5% FeCl₃, chloroform, 10% H₂SO₄, DPPH, quercetin, thin-layer chromatography (TLC) plate silica gel GF₂₅₄, methanol p.a., *n*-hexane p.a., ethyl acetate p.a., and leaves of *N. subdita*.

Methods

Determination

The leaves of *N. Subdita* were taken from the Banua Banjarbaru Botanical Garden, Jalan Dharma Praja I, Trikora, Cempaka, South Kalimantan Provincial Government Office Area, Banjarbaru, South Kalimantan, Indonesia. Plant determination was carried out at the Technical Implementation Unit of the Regional Research and Development Agency of the Banua Banjarbaru Botanical Garden, South Kalimantan with voucher number of 050/03-LIT/KRB. Plant samples in stems, leaves, roots, and fruit were made into a herbarium, and further determination was carried out.

Sample extraction

The leaves of *N. Subdita* were collected, processed into simplicia, and ground into powder. The powder weighed as much as 300 g, was then put into a macerator, then added methanol solvent up to 1 cm above the surface of the powder while measuring the volume of the inserted solvent. After all the powder was submerged, the leaves were stirred gently, then covered using aluminum foil. Extraction was carried out for 7 × 24 hours by changing the solvent every 24 hours and stirring every 8 hours or three times per 24 hours of the extraction process. Stirring and maceration were performed to increase the extraction process's effectiveness. The maceration results were then filtered and evaporated to obtain a thick extract. The thick extract was stored in a tightly closed container⁹.

Fractionation

Fractionation was performed using a separating funnel with the liquid-liquid method. Fractionation was carried out using *n*-hexane and ethyl acetate as solvents. The extract from the maceration was taken, weighed 10 g, then suspended with 25 mL of distilled water. The extract suspension was then put into a separating funnel, then added with *n*-hexane into the separating funnel. The separating funnel was shaken slowly, then allowed to stand until two layers formed: the water and solvent. The *n*-hexane layer was removed, and the water layer was put back into a separatory funnel to be refracted using *n*-hexane solvent until it was wholly marked with the mixed solvent becoming clear. The same method was repeated for fractionation using ethyl acetate. The obtained liquid fraction was then evaporated using a water bath at a temperature of 50°C to obtain a thick fraction with constant weight, and the results were expressed in percent yield¹⁰.

Identification of secondary metabolites

Identifying secondary metabolites of *n*-hexane and ethyl acetate fractions of *N. Subdita* leaves was used to determine the content of alkaloids, flavonoids, steroids, tannins, saponins, and phenolics¹¹.

Alkaloids: About 1 mL of *n*-hexane and the ethyl acetate fractions of *N. subdita* leaves were put into different test tubes, then 5 drops of Mayer's reagent were added to the first test tube of each fraction, and 5 drops of Dragendorff's reagent were added into the second test tube of each fraction.

Flavonoids: About 1 mL of *n*-hexane and the ethyl acetate fractions of *N. subdita* leaves were put into different test tubes, then 1 mg of Mg powder was added to each test tube, then 5 drops of concentrated HCl were added.

Steroids: About 1 mL of *n*-hexane and the ethyl acetate fractions of *N. subdita* leaves were put into different test tubes, then 10 drops of Liebermann-Burchard reagent were added.

Tannins: About 1 mL of *n*-hexane and the ethyl acetate fractions of *N. subdita* leaves were put into different test tubes, then 5 drops of 1% gelatin solution were added.

Saponins: About 1 mL of *n*-hexane and the ethyl acetate fractions of *N. subdita* leaves were diluted with 10 mL of distilled water in different test tubes, then shaken vigorously for 10 seconds.

Phenolics: About 1 mL of *n*-hexane and the ethyl acetate fractions of *N. subdita* leaves were put into different test tubes, then 5 drops of 1% FeCl₃ were added.

Thin-layer chromatography

The methanol extract, *n*-hexane, and ethyl acetate fraction of *N. Subdita* leaves were dissolved using methanol : chloroform (1 : 1) v/v. The TLC plate was prepared, then activated in an oven at 105°C for 15 minutes. Each extract and fraction was spotted on the TLC plate, then eluted using *n*-hexane : ethyl acetate eluent in a ratio of 8 : 2, 5 : 5, and 2 : 8 v/v. The TLC plate was then observed under UV light at 254 and 366 nm, and each spot's R_f value was calculated.

Qualitative antioxidant activity

The TLC plate eluted and observed before was sprayed using 0.1 mM DPPH and allowed to dry. TLC spots with antioxidant activity change color to yellow on a purple background¹², then the R_f value for each stain that appears on the TLC plate that has been sprayed was calculated.

Quantitative antioxidant activity

DPPH solution: As much as 4 g of DPPH powder was weighed and dissolved with methanol p.a using a 25 mL volumetric flask, added with methanol p.a to the limit mark, then shaken until homogeneous to obtain a 0.4 mM DPPH solution. The solution was stored in a dark glass bottle and away from light.

Determination of maximum wavelength: About 1 mL of 0.4 mM DPPH solution was added with 4 mL of methanol p.a, then vortex for 1 minute. The solution was incubated in a dark room for 30 minutes. Determination of the maximum absorption wavelength of the DPPH solution was carried out using a UV-Vis spectrophotometer at a wavelength (λ) of 450-550 nm.

Determination of operating time: About 1 mL of 0.4 mM DPPH solution was put in a test tube with aluminum foil, then added with 4 mL of quercetin solution. The mixture was vortex for a minute, then the absorbance was read using a UV-Vis spectrophotometer every 2 minutes for 40 minutes, at the maximum wavelength of DPPH.

Determination of IC₅₀ of quercetin: About 5 mg of quercetin was dissolved with methanol p.a, then put into a 50 mL volumetric flask, added methanol p.a to the limit mark, then shaken until homogeneous to obtain 100 ppm mother liquor. The grade series solution is prepared with a concentration of 1, 2, 4, 8, 10, and 12 ppm of 100 ppm quercetin mother liquor using a 10 mL volumetric flask. Each of the concentration series solutions was taken as much as 4 mL and then put into a test tube, added with 1 mL of 0.4 mM DPPH solution, vortex for a minute, then left in a dark room according to the operating time that has been obtained. After that, the absorbance of each solution was read using a UV-Vis spectrophotometer at the maximum wavelength of DPPH received.

Determination of IC₅₀ of n-hexane and the ethyl acetate fractions of N. subdita leaves: As much as 25 mg of *n*-hexane thick fraction was dissolved with methanol p.a, put into a 50 mL volumetric flask, added methanol p.a to the limit mark, then shaken until homogeneous to obtain 500 ppm mother liquor. The 500 ppm solution was then made into a series of solutions with a concentration of 50, 100, 150, 200, 250, 300, and 350 ppm using a 10 mL volumetric flask. For ethyl acetate fraction, as much as 5 mg of *n*-hexane thick fraction was dissolved with methanol p.a, put into a 50 mL volumetric flask, added methanol p.a to the limit mark, then shaken until homogeneous to obtain 100 ppm mother liquor. The 100 ppm solution was then made into a series of solutions with a concentration of 10, 20, 30, 40, 50, 60, and 70 ppm using a 10 mL volumetric flask. As much as 4 mL from each concentration series solution was taken into a test tube, then 1 mL of 0.4 mM DPPH solution was added, vortex each tube for a minute, then allowing it to stand according to the operating time obtained. After that, the absorbance of each concentration was read using a UV-Vis spectrophotometer at the maximum wavelength of DPPH received.

Data analysis

The antioxidant activity of the *n*-hexane and ethyl acetate fractions of *N. Subdita* leaves in inhibiting DPPH radicals could be seen from the calculation results of the % inhibition value of the compounds tested. Determination of the IC₅₀ value was accomplished by making a linear regression between the concentration of the test solution (*x*-axis) and the percentage of inhibition (*y*-axis), as shown in Equation 1¹³.

$$IC_{50}: \frac{(50-a)}{b} \quad [1]$$

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Extraction

Extraction was carried out using the maceration method and methanol as a solvent. The methanol extract of *N. subdita* leaves obtained was 49.13 g from 300 g of simplicia powder, with a percentage yield of 19.86%. Extraction separates a substance from its mixture by dividing it between two immiscible solvents to take the solute from one solvent to another¹⁴. Extracts obtained were dry, viscous, or liquid preparations made by extracting vegetable or animal simplicia according to a suitable method, outside the influence of direct sunlight¹⁵.

Fractionation

Fractionation is carried out after obtaining the methanol extract of *N. subdita* leaves. The solvents used are *n*-hexane and ethyl acetate because they have different levels of polarity, *n*-hexane solvent has non-polar properties, and ethyl acetate solvent has semi-polar¹⁶. The results of the % yield of the fraction of *N. subdita* leaves obtained in this study are 10.8% for the *n*-hexane and 9.4% for the ethyl acetate fraction. The percentage yield shows that the *n*-hexane fraction is more in number than the ethyl acetate fraction. The difference in the percentage yield of the *n*-hexane and ethyl acetate fractions is caused by the difference in the number of compounds attracted to each solvent according to the level of polarity. Fractionation is separating compounds based on their level of polarity¹⁷. The principle of separation in the fractionation process is based on the difference in polarity level and a specific gravity between the two fractions¹⁸.

Identification of secondary metabolites

Secondary metabolites are identified using the tube method to determine the secondary metabolites contained in the *N. subdita* leaves resulting from a metabolic process. The compounds tested included alkaloids, flavonoids, steroids, tannins, saponins, and phenolics. The results from the *n*-hexane and the ethyl acetate fractions of *N. subdita* leaves are shown in Table I. The identification test in the *n*-hexane fraction is positive for alkaloids, flavonoids, steroids, and phenolics, while the tannins and saponins are negative. Meanwhile, the test of ethyl acetate fraction is positive for alkaloids, flavonoids, steroids, tannins, saponins, and phenolics. Saponin compounds are active compounds that are polar. Therefore, the ethyl acetate fraction has positive results for tannins and saponins because the ethyl acetate solvent has semi-polar properties, which can also attract polar compounds¹⁹. Tannin compounds can be extracted using semi-polar solvents such as ethyl acetate²⁰. Therefore, the test results for tannins and saponins in the *n*-hexane fraction, a non-polar solvent, are negative.

Table I. Secondary metabolites of the *n*-hexane and the ethyl acetate fractions of *N. subdita* leaves

Secondary metabolites	Sample	
	<i>n</i> -hexane fraction	Ethyl acetate fraction
Alkaloids	+	+
Flavonoids	+	+
Steroids	+	+
Tannins	-	+
Saponins	-	+
Phenolics	+	+

Note: (+): Present; (-): Absent

Thin-layer chromatography

A test of TLC is carried out to ensure that the fractionation process that has been carried out has separated the mixture of compounds in the extract entirely based on the level of polarity. The samples tested using the TLC method are methanol extract, *n*-hexane, and ethyl acetate fractions of *N. subdita* leaves. The results of these readings obtained that the TLC plate is fluorescent, and the spots are dark in UV light at 254 nm, while at UV light at 366 nm, the TLC plate is dark in color, and the spots are fluoresced²¹. The TLC test results are the chromatograms observed under UV light at 254 and 366 nm, and the Rf values are calculated as presented in **Table II**.

The appearance of the TLC stain under a UV lamp at 254 nm is a dark stain on the fluorescent plate. This happens because of the interaction between UV light and the fluorescence indicator on the scale²². The appearance of the TLC stain under a 366 nm UV lamp produces a dark-colored plate because the plate will not fluoresce under the light of that wavelength, while the resulting stain will fluoresce. This fluorescent stain occurs because of the interaction between UV light and stains with a chromophore group bound by auxochrome²³.

Table II. Rf from TLC of methanol extract, *n*-hexane, and ethyl acetate fractions of *N. subdita* leaves at UV light 254 and 366 nm

Mobile phase (<i>n</i> -hexane : ethyl acetate)	Sample	UV Wavelength (nm)		
		254	366	
8 : 2	Methanol extract	1). 0.44	1). 0.08	
		2). 0.6	2). 0.28	
		3). 1.0	3). 0.44	
	<i>n</i> -hexane fraction	4). 0.62	1). 0.08	
		5). 0.52	2). 0.5	
		6). 0.64	3). 0.68	
		7). 1.0	4). 0.86	
	Ethyl acetate fraction	1). 0.24	1). 0.06	
		2). 0.4	2). 0.26	
		3). 0.6	3). 0.42	
	5 : 5	Methanol extract	4). 0.98	4). 0.62
			1). 0.12	1). 0.06
2). 0.8			2). 0.14	
3). 0.88			3). 0.9	
<i>n</i> -hexane fraction		4). 0.99	4). 0.98	
		1). 0.1	1). 0.05	
		2). 0.16	2). 0.16	
		3). 0.76	3). 0.46	
		4). 0.86	4). 0.82	
Ethyl acetate fraction		5). 0.96	5). 0.46	
		1). 0.06	6). 0.82	
		2). 0.12	7). 0.9	
	3). 0.18	8). 0.98		
2 : 8	Methanol extract	4). 0.98	1). 0.22	
		1). 0.06	2). 0.54	
		2). 0.42	3). 0.96	
	<i>n</i> -hexane fraction	1). 0.26	1). 0.2	
		2). 0.48	2). 0.56	
		3). 0.92	3). 0.74	
	Ethyl acetate fraction	1). 0.08	1). 0.22	
		2). 0.18	2). 0.5	
		3). 0.26	3). 0.58	
			4). 0.98	4). 0.78
				5). 0.98

Qualitative antioxidant activity

A qualitative test of antioxidant activity is carried out using TLC. This test is carried out by spraying using a DPPH reagent. If the sample has the potential as an antioxidant, the stain on TLC will change color to pale yellow on a purple background¹². Antioxidant compounds will donate hydrogen atoms to DPPH radicals to form a yellow color²⁶. The results of the qualitative antioxidant test are shown in **Table III**.

Table III. Rf from TLC of methanol extract, *n*-hexane, and ethyl acetate fractions of *N. subdita* leaves by DPPH

Mobile phase (<i>n</i> -hexane : ethyl acetate)	Sample	Rf value
8 : 2	Methanol extract	1). 0.53
	<i>n</i> -hexane fraction	1). 0.69
		2). 0.86
		3). 0.94
	Ethyl acetate fraction	1). 0.1
		2). 0.52
5 : 5	Methanol extract	1). 0.18
	<i>n</i> -hexane fraction	1). 0.17
	Ethyl acetate fraction	1). 0.18
		2). 0.32
2 : 8	Methanol extract	1). 0.1
		2). 0.3
	<i>n</i> -hexane fraction	1). 0.08
		2). 0.27
	Ethyl acetate fraction	1). 0.12
		3). 0.46
	4). 0.6	

Quantitative antioxidant activity

Determination of the maximum wavelength of DPPH is carried out to determine the wavelength with complete sensitivity. The purpose of determining the maximum wavelength is that the absorbance obtained is maximal, the difference in absorbance of each concentration series will be more significant because the sensitivity is higher, and the shape of the curve obtained will be linear²⁴. This is indicated by the maximum or most significant absorbance²⁵. The DPPH wavelength range is 515-520 nm²⁶. The results obtained are at a wavelength of 515.30 nm, as shown in **Figure 1**.

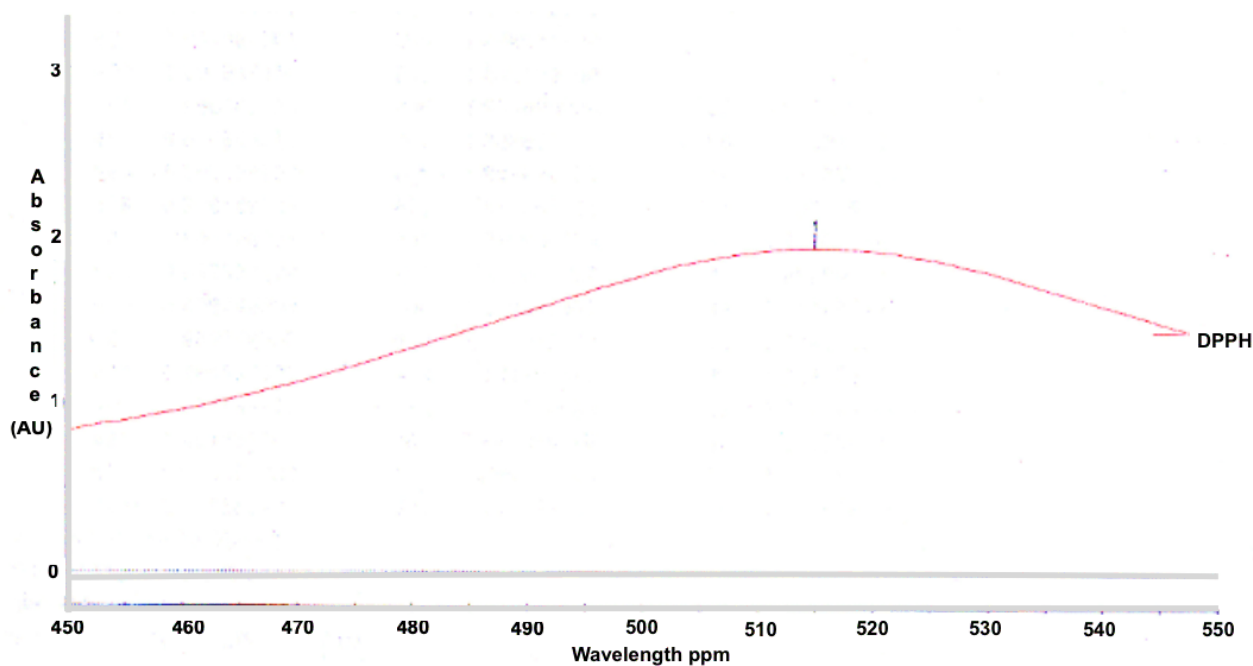


Figure 1. The maximum wavelength of DPPH.

Operational time is the measurement time taken when the solution absorbs a stable absorption light. The operating time determines the most appropriate time for the test solution to reduce DPPH radicals. In addition, the operating time also

shows that the reaction between the test solution and DPPH has stabilized, which can be indicated by the absence of a decrease in absorbance²⁷. The results obtained in the stable reaction started from the 24th minute to the 40th minute (Figure 2) with a difference in absorbance value of 0.0006. This shows that the operating time obtained in this determination has different values but produces absorbance values that are uniform with each other, so it shows that DPPH has reacted stably with a standard solution of quercetin²⁸.

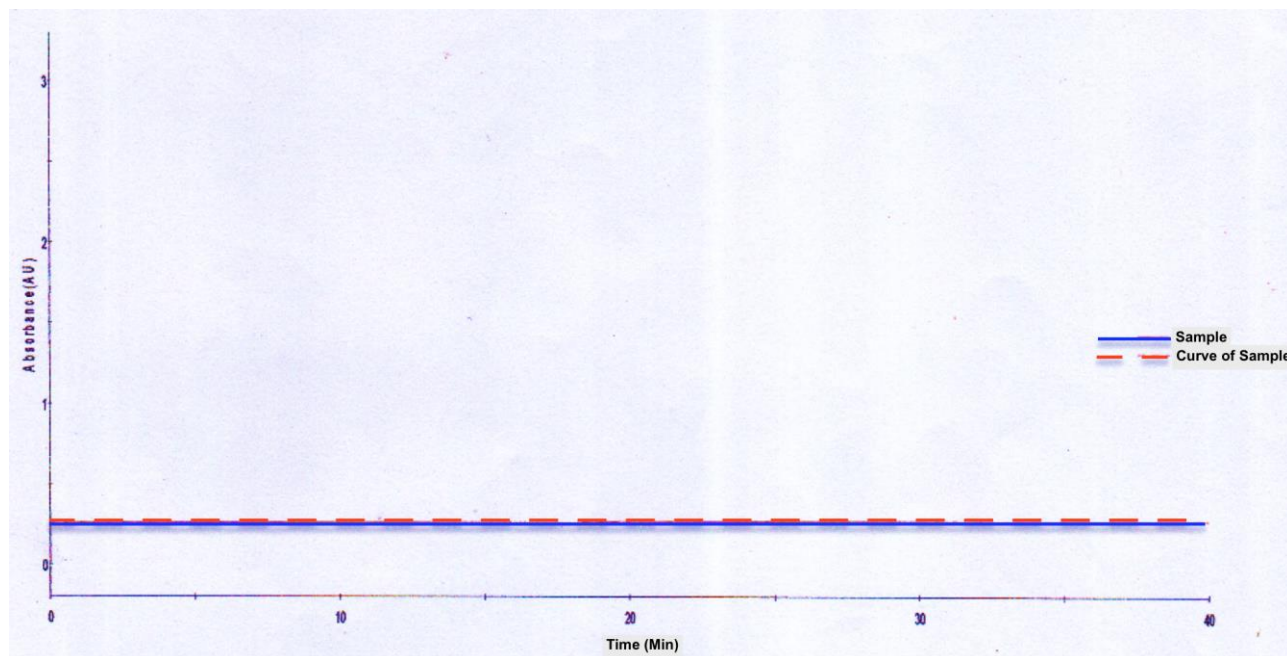


Figure 2. The determination of operating time.

Quercetin is the main flavonoid compound in the flavonol group and can be easily found in plants. In addition, quercetin is chosen because it has been shown to have potent antioxidant activity²⁹. Quercetin will donate its proton to DPPH and become a radical compound. The unpaired electrons generated in the chemical structure of quercetin are localized into the aromatic system so that the quercetin revolutionary compound is relatively less reactive and has low energy³⁰. Compared with other positive controls, ascorbic acid or gallic acid, quercetin can better stabilize DPPH radicals³¹. The antioxidant activity of the samples is tested by comparing their antioxidant activity with a positive control or comparison. The comparison or positive control used is quercetin in determining the IC₅₀ value.

The results of the linear regression equation between the concentration of quercetin and the percentage of inhibition are $y = 5.9683x - 2.1812$ with a correlation coefficient (*r*) of 0.995 (Figure 3). The range of values for the *r* is 0.98, so the resulting data is by the provisions. The antioxidant activity value of the quercetin comparison solution is shown in Table IV. Comparing quercetin's antioxidant activity results obtained an average IC₅₀ of 8.74306 ± 0.09144 ppm. The IC₅₀ value obtained is included in the strong category with an IC₅₀ value range of <50 ppm²⁶.

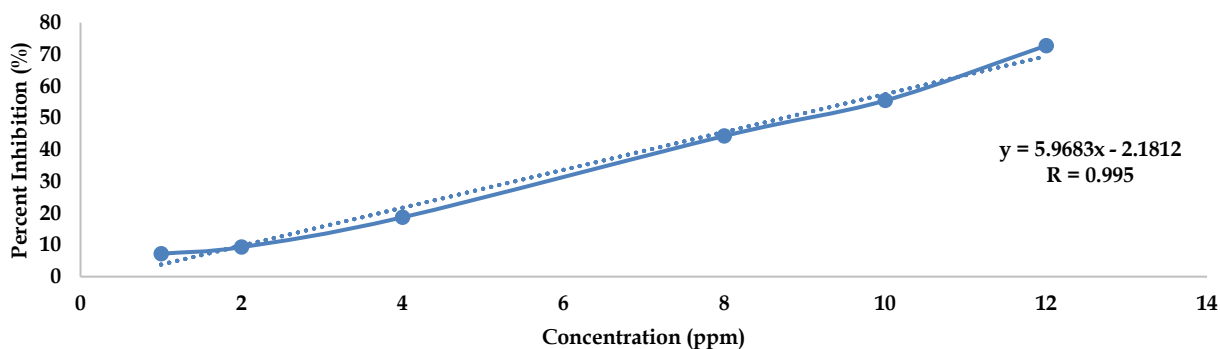


Figure 3. Linear regression equation of quercetin.

Table IV. The antioxidant activity of the quercetin

Concentration (ppm)	\bar{x} Inhibition (%)	SD	RSD (%)	\bar{x} IC ₅₀ ± SD (ppm)	RSD (%)
1	7.225	0.00269	0.156	8.74306 ± 0.09144	1.04571
2	9.300	0.00708	0.419		
4	18.672	0.00201	0.133		
8	44.302	0.00466	0.450		
10	55.476	0.02412	2.910		
12	72.765	0.00970	1.914		

Determination of the IC₅₀ value of the *N. subdita* leaves *n*-hexane fraction is carried out by making test solutions in a series of concentrations of 50, 100, 150, 200, 250, 300, and 350 ppm, which are taken from the results of the dilution of the standard solution of 500 ppm. The regression equation (Figure 4) was obtained from the relationship between the *n*-hexane fraction concentration series of *N. subdita* leaves with the percent inhibition of $y = 0.1494x + 15.696$ with the *r* of 0.962. The IC₅₀ value is inversely proportional to antioxidant activity, so the lower the concentration that can reduce DPPH radicals by 50%, the stronger the antioxidant activity³². The results of the antioxidant activity of the *n*-hexane fraction of *N. subdita* leaves obtained an average IC₅₀ of 229.61178 ± 3.65919 ppm (Table V). The IC₅₀ value obtained is included in the weak category, with an IC₅₀ value range of >200 ppm²⁶.

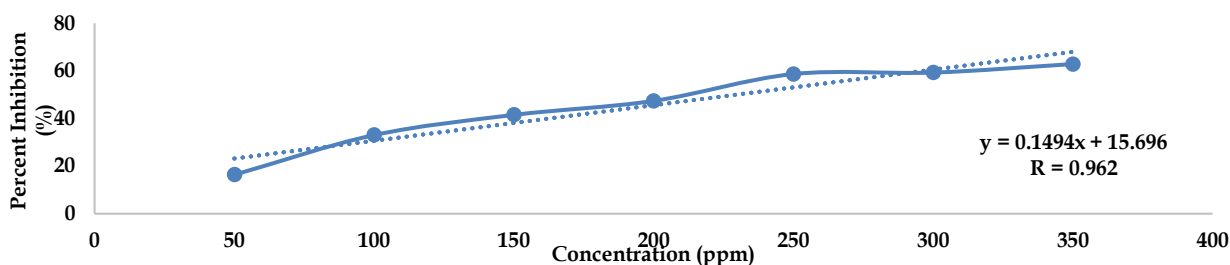


Figure 4. Linear regression equation of *n*-hexane fraction of *N. subdita* leaves.

Table V. The antioxidant activity of the *n*-hexane fraction of *N. subdita* leaves

Concentration (ppm)	\bar{x} Inhibition (%)	SD	RSD (%)	\bar{x} IC ₅₀ ± SD (ppm)	RSD (%)
50	16.356	0.00059	0.045	229.61178 ± 3.65919	1.59383
100	33.009	0.00050	0.048		
150	41.506	0.00035	0.038		
200	47.387	0.00010	0.012		
250	58.675	0.00059	0.092		
300	59.280	0.00036	0.057		
350	62.851	0.00052	0.090		

Determination of the IC₅₀ value of the ethyl acetate fraction of *N. subdita* leaves was carried out by making a 100 ppm standard solution. Then a series of concentrations of 10, 20, 30, 40, 50, 60, and 70 ppm are made. The linear regression equation is obtained from the relationship between concentration and the percentage of inhibition of the ethyl acetate fraction of *N. subdita* leaves (Figure 5) of $y = 0.7529x + 8.9346$ with the *r* of 0.994. The results of the antioxidant activity of the ethyl acetate fraction of *N. subdita* leaves obtained an average IC₅₀ of 54.54296 ± 0.02236 ppm, as shown in Table VI. The IC₅₀ value obtained is included in the strong category, which has an IC₅₀ value range of 50-100 ppm²⁶.

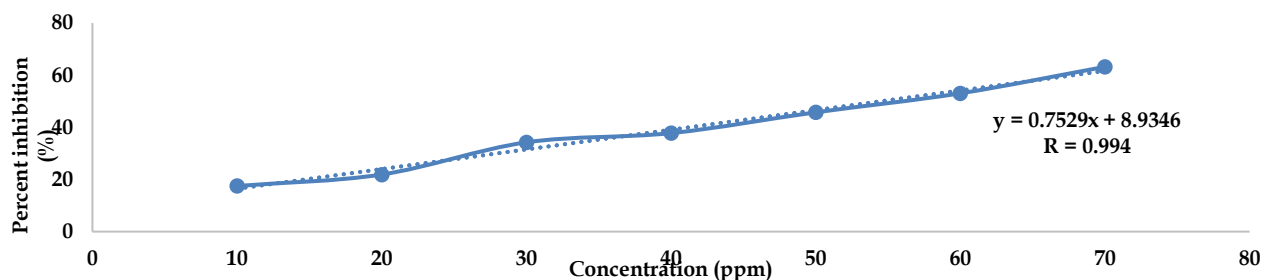


Figure 5. Linear regression equation of ethyl acetate fraction of *N. subdita* leaves.

Table VI. The antioxidant activity of the ethyl acetate fraction of *N. subdita* leaves

Concentration (ppm)	\bar{x} Inhibition (%)	SD	RSD (%)	\bar{x} IC ₅₀ ± SD (ppm)	RSD (%)
10	17.498	0.00029	0.022	54.54296 ± 0.02236	0.0499
20	21.901	0.00021	0.017		
30	34.235	0.00015	0.015		
40	37.768	0.00023	0.024		
50	45.739	0.00030	0.035		
60	53.028	0.00012	0.016		
70	63.182	0.00042	0.072		

CONCLUSION

Identification test of secondary metabolites in the *n*-hexane fraction of *N. subdita* leaves contain alkaloids, flavonoids, steroids, and phenolics, while the ethyl acetate fraction contains alkaloids, flavonoids, steroids, tannins, saponins, and phenolics. The *n*-hexane fraction of *N. subdita* leaves has weak antioxidant activity, and the ethyl acetate fraction has strong antioxidant activity.

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AUTHORS' CONTRIBUTION

Concept: A.A., A.M., S.S.; Design: A.M., A.A., S.S.; Supervision: S.S.; Data collection and processing: A.A., A.M., S.S.; Resources: S.S.; Materials: A.A., A.M., S.S.; Analysis and interpretation: A.A., A.M., S.S.; Literature search: A.A., A.M., S.S.; Writing: A.M., A.A., S.S.; Critical review: A.A., S.S.

DATA AVAILABILITY

None.

CONFLICT OF INTEREST

All authors declare that there is no conflict of interest in this manuscript.

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