

Research Article

Evaluation of In-Vitro free Radical Scavenging Potential of Whole Plant of *Ziziphusxylopyrus* Retz.

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Abstract

The antioxidant activity of the entire plant of *Ziziphusxylopyrus* Retz. was studied in this study using several in-vitro techniques. Total antioxidant activity (Phosphomolybdic acid technique), FRAP test with reference standard ascorbate, and total flavonoids concentration were utilised to assess antioxidant activity. The total antioxidant activity of the ethanolic extract of *Ziziphusxylopyrus* Retz was determined to be modest. The IC₅₀ values of the ethanolic extract of *Ziziphusxylopyrus* Retz and ascorbate were found to be 470µg/ml and 410µg/ml respectively. The ethanolic extract of *Ziziphusxylopyrus* Retz was found moderate effective in FRAP assay. However, as compared to the ethanolic extract containing ascorbate (standard), the *Ziziphusxylopyrus* Retz ethanolic extract performed better. There are a lot of flavonoids in the ethanolic extract of *Ziziphusxylopyrus* Retz. Furthermore, the findings were shown to be concentration dependant. All of the in-vitro tests show that the ethanolic extract of *Ziziphusxylopyrus* Retz has higher antioxidant activity. These in-vitro tests show that this plant extract is a greater source of natural antioxidants, which may aid in the prevention of different oxidative stresses.

Key words: *Ziziphusxylopyrus* Retz, In-vitro antioxidant, Total antioxidant activity, FRAP assay, Total flavonoids.

1.0 Introduction

Antioxidants act as a major defense against radical-mediated toxicity by protecting against the damages caused by free radicals¹. Oxidative damage to the cells occur due to cellular oxidative stress. The cellular antioxidant status is usually altered during oxidative stress and it determines the susceptibility to cellular oxidative damage.²

In the prevention of various human diseases, anti-oxidants are known to play an important role. Antioxidants obtained from natural sources such as leafy vegetables and seeds (like ascorbic acid, vitamin E and phenolic compounds) possess the ability to reduce the cellular oxidative damage associated with wide variety of diseases, including cancer, cardiovascular disease, cataracts, atherosclerosis, diabetes, arthritis, immune deficiency diseases and ageing^{3,4,5}.

Jujab is the English name for *Ziziphusxylopyrus* (Retz) Wild (F. Rhamnaceae)⁶. It's a tiny tree or huge trailing shrub with spines that grows up to 4 metres tall. Fruits are globose, three-celled (sometimes two or four-celled), and have a seed in each cell. They are hard and

woody. India, Pakistan, and China⁷ are all home to this species. Different sections of this plant, according to ethno medicinal literature, have a variety of therapeutic properties⁸. It also possesses anthelmintic⁹, antimicrobial¹⁰ antidepressant¹¹, analgesic and anti-inflammatory activities¹². Quercetin is found in the leaves. Tannins may be found in the fruits, including oleanolic acid, l-leucocyanidin, l-epicatechin, and 3, 3, 4-tri-O-methyl-ellagic acid. Tannins, d-7, 3', 4'-trihydroxy flavan-3, 4-diol, and oleanolic acid are all found in the bark. Alkaloids (xylopyrine-A and B), triterpenoids, and flavonoids have been found in the plant's stem wood¹³. Leaves are reported to contain flavonoids like quercetin, which can ameliorate the oxidative stress caused by liver damage¹⁴. A great number of medicinal plants containing antioxidant properties in the form of phenolic compounds and help to protect the cells against the oxidative damage by the free radicals¹⁵.

However, there is no information in the literature about the antioxidant properties of the *Ziziphusxylopyrus* entire plant. As a result, we conducted this study to test the antioxidant activity of an ethanolic extract of the entire plant of *Ziziphusxylopyrus* using several in vitro models.

2.0 Materials and Methods:

2.1 Collection and authentication of plant material:

The whole plant *Ziziphusxylopyrus* Retz.were collected and authenticated by P.Sara. Lecturer in Botany, Department of Botany & Micorbiolgy, P.R.Govt.College, Kakinada, Andhra Pradesh, India. The authentication number is DBGCAP125. The whole plant of *Ziziphusxylopyrus* was dried under shade and powdered by pulverising in the mechanical grinder and the powder is passed through the 40mesh sieve.

2.2 Preparation of the extract

The powdered plant material was successively extracted with ethanol by hot continuous percolation method in Soxhlet apparatus for about 24 hours. The concentration of the extracts was done by rotary evaporator and was subjected to freeze drying in the lyophilizer until dry powder was obtained. The extracts were suspended in 2% tween 80¹⁶.

3. Evaluation of Antioxidant activity by *in-vitro* Techniques:

3.1 Total antioxidant activity (Phosphomolybdcic acid method)¹⁷

Converting Mo (VI) to Mo (V) to create phosphomolybdenum complex was used to determine the antioxidant activity of ethanolic extract (Prieto et al., 1999). In a vial with 4 ml of reagent solution, an aliquot of 0.4 ml of ethanolic extract was added (0.6 M sulfuric acid, 28 mM sodium phosphate and 4 mM ammonium molybdate). The vials were sealed and incubated for 90 minutes in a water bath at 95°C. Cool the samples to room temperature. After that measure the absorbance at 695 nm against a blank. The antioxidant activity was expressed relative to that of ascorbic acid.

3.2 FRAP Assay¹⁸

Benzie and Strain A modified method of (1996)¹⁶ was adopted for the FRAP assay. The stock solutions included 300 mM acetate buffer, pH 3.6, 10 mM TPTZ (2, 4, 6-tripyridyl-s-triazine) solution in 40 mM HCl and 20 mM FeCl₃. 6H₂O. the fresh solution was prepared, in that 25 ml acetate buffer, 2.5 ml TPTZ and 2.5 ml FeCl₃.6H₂O was mixed. Prior to use, The solution was heated to 37⁰ Celsius. For 30 minutes in the dark, ethanolic extract (0.15 ml) was allowed to react with 2.85 ml of FRAP solution. The readings of the coloured product

(Ferrous tripyridyltriazine complex) were taken at 593 nm. Between 200 and 1000 M FeSo₄, the standard curve was linear. The results were compared to those of ascorbic acid and represented in μM (Fe (II) /g dry mass).

3.3 Total flavonoids¹⁹

The 0.2g of ethanolic extract was ground in two different ratios of ethanol-water, 9:1 and 1:1, respectively. These two ratios were blended after the homogenate was filtered. This was evaporated and dried until all traces of ethanol were gone. The resulting aqueous extract was extracted with chloroform or hexane in a separating funnel. The extracted aqueous layer of solvent was concentrated, and a 0.5 ml aliquot was pipette-out into a test tube. 4 mL vanillin reagent (1 percent vanillin in 70% conc. H₂SO₄) was added and maintained for 15 mints in a hot water bath. At 360 nm, the absorbance was measured. Catechol(110 $\mu\text{g}/\text{ml}$) was used as a standard.

4.0 Results and Discussion

Antioxidant chemicals can operate as scavengers of free radicals, initiators of pro-oxidant metal complexes, reducing agents, and quenchers of singlet oxygen formation²⁰. Due to the presence of phenolic compounds and flavonoids as main ingredients, most plants have been documented to have antioxidant and free radical scavenging activities²¹. As a result, the relevance of finding natural antioxidants has grown in recent years, and many academics have focused on this topic.²²

4.1 Total antioxidant activity (Phosphomolybdic acid method)

Table 1 shows the proportion of total antioxidant activity of an ethanolic extract of *Ziziphusxylopyrus* Retz. At 1000 $\mu\text{g}/\text{ml}$, the ethanolic extract of *Ziziphusxylopyrus* Retz had a maximum total antioxidant activity of 68.73 percent, whereas ascorbate (standard) had a maximum total antioxidant activity of 55.23 percent. The IC₅₀ of *Ziziphusxylopyrus* Retz and ascorbate ethanolic extract was determined to be 470 $\mu\text{g}/\text{ml}$ and 410 $\mu\text{g}/\text{ml}$, respectively.

Table 1: Total antioxidant activity of Ethanolic extract of *Ziziphusxylopyrus* Retz.

S.No	Concentrations ($\mu\text{g}/\text{ml}$)	% of activity ($\pm\text{SEM}^*$)	
		Sample (Ethanolic extract)	Standard (EDTA)
1	125	24.36 \pm 0.042	26.87 \pm 0.076
2	250	35.30 \pm 0.024	30.30 \pm 0.054
3	500	48.16 \pm 0.042	60.64 \pm 0.022
4	1000	68.73 \pm 0.032	55.23 \pm 0.014
		IC₅₀ = 470$\mu\text{g}/\text{ml}$	IC₅₀ = 410$\mu\text{g}/\text{ml}$

4.2 FRAP assay

The capacity of *Ziziphusxylopyrus* Retz to decrease TPTZ-Fe (III) complex to TPTZ-Fe (II) complex was determined using the FRAP assay (II). Table 2 shows the results of testing the reducing ability of the ethanolic extract of *Ziziphusxylopyrus* Retz and ascorbate at various concentrations (125, 250, 500, 1000 $\mu\text{g}/\text{ml}$). At 1000 $\mu\text{g}/\text{ml}$, ethanolic extract and ascorbate had maximal reduction abilities of 76.43 percent and 98.04 percent, respectively. The IC₅₀ values for ethanolic extract and ascorbate were 236 and 50 g/ml, respectively.

Table 2: FRAP assay of Ethanolic extract of *Ziziphusxylopyrus* Retz

S.No	Concentrations (µg/ml)	% of activity (±SEM*)	
		Sample (Ethanolic extract)	Standard (EDTA)
1	125	32.73 ± 0.032	72.02 ± 0.012
2	250	47.81 ± 0.025	81.03 ± 0.025
3	500	64.24 ± 0.034	88.04 ± 0.033
4	1000	76.43 ± 0.026	98.04 ± 0.023
		IC₅₀ = 236µg /ml	IC₅₀ = 50 µg /ml

4.3 Total flavonoids

Flavonoids, which are found in plant-based foods, are also potential antioxidants²³. Flavonoids' antioxidant and chelating properties are credited with the majority of their positive effects,^{24,25}. Table 3 shows the total quantity of flavonoids in an ethanolic extract of the complete plant of *Ziziphusxylopyrus* Retz.

Table 3: The total flavonoids content of ethanolic extract of whole plant of *Ziziphusxylopyrus* Retz

S.No.	Extract	Total flavonoids content (mg/g) (±SEM)*
1	Ethanolic extract of <i>Ziziphusxylopyrus</i> Retz	3.165 ± 0.034

* Values are expressed as mean ± SEM for all three determinations

Based on the result the ethanolic extract of *Ziziphusxylopyrus* Retz was found higher content of flavonoids.

5.0 Conclusion

The present study shows when compared to standard ascorbate, the ethanolic extract of *Ziziphusxylopyrus* Retz demonstrated modest antioxidant activity as measured by total antioxidant activity and FRAP test. Furthermore, the ethanolic extract of *Ziziphusxylopyrus* was discovered to have a significant quantity of flavonoids, which play an important role in antioxidant regulation.

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