

Antiprotease and Membrane Stabilizing Activities of Extracts of *Fagara Zanthoxyloides*, *Olax Subscorpioides* and *Tetrapleura Tetraptera*

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Abstract

The saline and alkaline extracts of *Fagara zanthoxyloides*, *Olax subscorpioides* and *Tetrapleura tetraptera* were investigated for antiprotease and membrane stabilizing activities by spectroscopic procedures. Saline extracts of these plants stabilized human red blood cell membrane subjected to hypotonic- and heat-induced lyses. The results revealed that the degree of membrane stabilization was 84% for *F. zanthoxyloides* while *T. tetraptera* and *O. subscorpioides* exhibited 70% and 63.2%, respectively. Also, sodium hydroxide extracts of the three plants exhibited antiprotease activity. A 1:5 dilution of *F. zanthoxyloides* gave 80% inhibition while undiluted extracts of *O. subscorpioides* and *T. tetraptera* showed 96% and 73% inhibitions, respectively.

Keywords: Antiprotease, Anti-Inflammatory, Hypotonic Lysis, Antinutritional Factors

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