

SJSU Undergraduate Research Grants

Research of Biologically Natural Products from Emmenanthe penduliflora "Whispering Bells"

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Abstract

The goal of our project is to investigate and learn about potential bioactive chemicals in California Native Plants. This study involves the plant

Emmenanthe penduliflora also known as "Whispering Bells", an interesting native species whose seeds only germinates after being exposed to a wildfire.

In this study, we describe our work to test for toxicity and antimicrobial that the plant potentially possess and to isolate potential active bioproducts



Emmenanthe penduliflora "Whispering Bells" (ref. 1)

E. pendiliflora BSTA and antimicrobial results

BSTA result

Sample Fractions	ID#	*10 ppm (avg)	*100 ppm (avg)	SD	Avg % Death (10 ppm)	Avg % Death (100 ppm)
Crude Sample	CNP -	3.96	7.36	± 0.95	40.17	80.72
Hexane Fraction	CNP -	2.89	6.36	± 0.93	30.14	60.39
Ethyl Acetate Fraction	CNP -	0.77	1.28	± 0.55	5.14	9.59
Aqueous Methanol Fraction	CNP -	Will be analyzed in the future.				

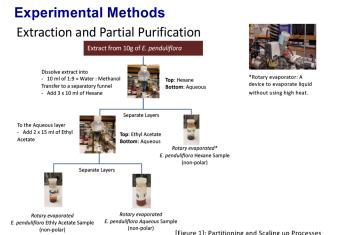
* Indicates how many shrimps are dead out of 8-12 shrimps inside of each well.

Antimicrobial assay result





Sample Fraction	Zone of Inhibition (mm)		
Hexane Fraction	-		
Ethyl Acetate Fraction	8		
Aqueous Methanol Fraction	Will be analyzed in future		
Ampicillin (positive control)	15		
100% Ethanol	-		



[Figure 1]: Partitioning and Scaling up Processes

Antimicrobial Assay

Antimicrobial assay was performed using disc diffusion method. 6mg of sample was dissolved in 20µl of 100% ethanol and transferred onto sterile 6mm filter disc. The ethanol was removed under vacuum.

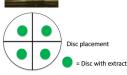
Petri dishes with nutrient agar was prepared and 100µl of Escherichia coli broth was plated onto the prepared media.

Finally discs were placed onto the surface of agar. The plates were inverted and incubated at 37°C overnight.

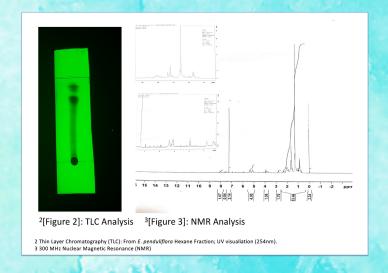
Results are read by measuring the diameter of zone of inhibition.



Prepared Nutrient agar media



Positive Control - Ampicillin 30mg (AM10) Negative Control - 100% ethanol 100 µl (E15)



Conclusion

We have found that hexane and ethyl acetate extracts of E. penduliflora contains one or more compounds which are active against BSTA and antimicrobial test respectively. Future studies will involve purification and structural analysis of the active chemical compounds. As far as can be determined, E. penduliflora has not previously been investigated for presence of bioactive compounds.

Acknowledgements & References

- Lars Rosengreen, College of Science Green House Manager
- Justin Dang
- SJSU Undergraduate Research Program