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Antimicrobial Activity of Powdered Bark Extract of Albizzia Lebbeck on Some

Bacteria.

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Running title: Antimicrobial Activity of Albizzia Lebbeck

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**ABSTRACT** 

The present study was conducted to investigate the antibacterial effect of Albizzia lebbeck (powdered

bark) against human pathogens such as Escherichia coli (E.coli) and Pseudomonas aurogenosa (P.

aurogenosa). Minimum inhibitory concentration (MIC) of the aqueous powdered bark extract of

Albizzia lebbeck (AL) was determined using the following concentrations 200 mg/ml, and 400 mg/ml.

It indicates that the concentration of test sample is directly proportional to the zone of inhibition. Zone

of inhibition of AL at 200mg/kg and 400 mg/kg is 13 mm & 18 mm respectively for E.coli, whereas

zone of inhibition of AL 200mg/kg and 400 mg/kg is 17 mm & 18 mm respectively for P.aurogenosa.

This study indicates that Albizzia lebbeck has an important antimicrobial effect, which justifies its

potential use in development of new antimicrobial medicines for the treatment and management of

diseases.

Key Words: Albizzia lebbeck, Antibacterial activity, E-coli, P.aurogenosa

INTRODUCTION

Infectious diseases caused by many pathogenic bacteria and yeast are a major problem despite the

tremendous achievement in human health care. According to a statement from the WHO, infectious

diseases are the primary cause of early death worldwide and account for around 17 million deaths

each year. [1] Some of the multidrug-resistant (MDR) pathogenic microbes commonly reported

worldwide are;

• Staphylococcus aureus

• Salmonella typhimurium

Escherichia coli

Klebsiella pneumonia

• Candida albicans [1]

In the allopathic treatment, azithromycin, ampicillin, levofloxacin and tetracycline are used but

simultaneously these drugs also cause adverse effect like gastric upset, diarrhea, and

hypersensitivity. [2] In this aspect, on the basis of literature survey, we selected *Albizzia lebbeck* to

evaluate its antimicrobial activity.

Albizzia lebbeck (Shirish) [3] is a tree found in the Fabaceae family (formerly leguminosae), and

sub-family Mimosae) [4, 5]. The plant is found throughout India, Bangladesh and planted in tropical

and subtropical Asia and Africa [6, 3]. Plant may reach 25 m, usually 8-14 m; trunk often short,

crown low and spreading. Leaves are compound, pairs of pinnae, 3-11 pairs of leaflets, each oblong,

tip rounded, usually 2-3 cm. The flowers are green to yellow; fragrant brush heads on a stalk, short

lived. The fruits are shiny yellow to brown pods in clusters decorate the tree for a long time, each

pod up to 30 cm long, bulging over seeds, the seeds and pods "chatter" in the wind [7], Considering

these, the present investigation was undertaken and evaluates the antimicrobial activity of Albizzia

lebbeck.

**MATERIAL AND METHODS** 

Plant source and identification

The powdered bark extract (10:1) of Albizzia lebbeck was obtained from Amsar Private Limited,

INDORE - 425006, Madhya Pradesh.

Source of test organisms

All the microbial strains were obtained from from Dr. D. Y. Patil Medical College, Hospital &

Research Centre, Pimpri, Pune.

### Culture media

Nutrient agar was used for the antimicrobial sensitivity test. [10]

### Standardization of inoculums

Nutrient agar was prepared and sterilized with the support of an Autoclave at 121°C. [14] After the bacterial cultures were inoculated into separate flasks and incubated in a shaker for 24 and 48 hours for preparation of fresh culture and turbidity of fresh culture was visually adjusted to equal that of a 0.5 McFarland turbidity standard.

## Antibacterial activity of bark extracts

The antibacterial efficacy of the aqueous extract of *Albizzia lebbeck* was tested by cup plate method. 100µl of above fresh bacterial cell suspension/culture was poured in sterilized Petri dishes (9 cm diameter) onto which 20 ml of sterile nutrient agar were poured and thoroughly mixed. It was allowed to solidify at room temperature. In the plate of the nutrient agar medium, cup cavities of 7 mm diameter were made with a sterilized cork-borer. These cups were filled with fifty micro liters of each dilution i.e. 200mg/ml concentration, 400mg/ml concentration, and control. The Petridishes were incubated for 24 hrs. At 25±2°C for bacteria and the observations were recorded as diameter of an inhibitory zone in mm. All experiments were repeated three times. [10]

# Determination of minimum inhibitory concentration (MIC).

The minimum inhibitory concentration of the aqueous powdered bark extract of *Albizzia lebbeck* was determined using the following concentrations 400 mg/ml, and 200 mg/ml. The wells of 7 mm were punched in the inoculated plates using a sterile borer. Aliquots of 100  $\mu$ l of different concentrations of bark extract were transferred into labeled wells by using a micropipette. The plates were incubated for 24 hours at 37°C before being checked for the presence or absence of growth. The MIC was taken as the lowest concentration that prevented bacteria growth. [4]

## RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Anti-microbial activity of 200mg/ml concentration, 400mg/ml concentration, and control against E.coli (bacteria) and P.aurogenosa (bacteria) was performed. Zone of inhibition of these test samples and standard are given in table no. 1 and table no. 2.

**DISCUSSION** 

Since plant-derived medications have significantly improved human health, plants have served as a

source of inspiration for new medicinal molecules. Phytomedicine can be utilized to treat illnesses,

as is the case with the Unani and Ayurvedic medical systems, or it can serve as the foundation for

the creation of new medications, acting as a natural blueprint for their creation. [10]

Table no. 2 shows the antimicrobial activity of the aqueous extract of Albizzia lebbeck on selected

bacteria like E Coli and P. aurogenosa.

In case of E Coli, the result indicate that the antimicrobial activity of 200mg/kg concentration of test

sample shows zone of inhibition as same as that of standard, and 400mg/kg concentration of test

sample shows maximum zone of inhibition. It indicates that the concentration of test sample is

directly proportional to the zone of inhibition.

In case of P.aurogenosa, the result indicates that antimicrobial activity of 200mg kg and 400 mg/kg

concentration of test sample shows zone of inhibition minimum as compared to the standard.

This study revealed that the bark extracts of Albizzia lebbeck possess appreciable antibacterial

activity against the tested organisms as zone of inhibition was found to be above 10 mm. As per

result, this bark extract shows the highest antibacterial activity against E coli than P.aurogenosa.

This result may be due to the presence of flavonoid, tannin [9, 11] and saponin [12] in AL. So, the

presence of polyphenol compounds and antioxidant properties may be responsible for

antimicrobial activity [7, 13].

**CONCLUSION** 

Based on the results of this study, it can be concluded that Albizzia lebbeck is an antibacterial plant

that may be a valuable resource for the development of new antimicrobial medicines for the

treatment and management of various diseases.

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**CONFLICT OF INTREST** 

The authors declare there is no conflict of interest

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### **TABLES**

Table 1: Reported activities of Albizzia lebbeck [2, 4, 7, 8, 9]

Plant Part	Reported Activity	Chemical present			
Respiratory problem [Asthma], snake bite, scorpion sting and malaria/intermittent fever,					
bronchitis, leprosy, paralysis, helminth infections antiseptic, anti-dysenteric, antitubercular					
properties					
Figure 1: <i>Albizzia lebbeck</i> plant					
Leaves	Anticonvulsant activity, nootropic effect	alkaloids, flavonoids, Caffeic acid, alkaloids, flavonoids, Albiziahexoside A(1) & A(2)			
Bark	Immunomodulatory effect,	tannins, D- catechin, Isomer of leucocyanidin			
antimicrobial activity		[5,7,3',4'- tetrahydroxy flavon-3,4diol],			
	Useful in bronchospasm	Melacacidin, Leuco-anthracyanidin,			
		Lebbecacidin [8,3',4'- tri-hydroxyl flavon -3,4-			
		diol], Friedelin, Beta- Sitosterol, Betulinic acid,			
		albizia saponins A, B and C			

Table 2: Anti-microbial activity of E.coli and P.aurogenosa bacteria

effect,

Budmunchiamine

alkaloids, flavanoids, tannins, proteins, Saponins,

budmunchiamine(1), Acyclic ester heneicos – 7 (z) enyl 24-hydroxy tetracos – 10 (z) enoate

(1-3),

N-dimethyl

anti-fertility

antidiarhoeal activity

	Zone of Inhibition (mm)			
Name of	Test Samples			
micro-organism	200mg/ml	400mg/ml	Control (Negative)	Standard
Bacteria	cteria			
1. E.coli	13 mm	18 mm	-	13 mm
2. P.aurogenosa	17 mm	18 mm	-	27 mm

[\*Potential antimicrobial activity as Zone of inhibition above 10mm]

Seed

**Table 3: Observations** 

Name of micro-organism	Antimicrobial Activity
Bacteria	
E.coli	Figure 2
P.aurogenosa	Figure 3