

# Citrus Hystrix D.C Fluid Inhibits the Growth of *Escherichia Coli*, *Pseudomonas aerogenosa*, and *Bacillus subtilis*

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## Abstract

**Background:** Citrus hystrix D.C is a plant traditionally used for herbs and medicinal plants in Indonesia. Citrus hystrix D.C fluid is proven to inhibit the growth of *Staphylococcus aureus*. The purpose of this study was to determine the ability of the fluid of Citrus hystrix D.C concentrations of 25%, 50%, 75%, and 100% in inhibiting the growth of *Escherichia Coli*, *Pseudomonas aerogenosa*, *Bacillus subtilis*.

**Material and Method:** This research is experimental with Posttest Only Control Group Design. The material used was local Citrus hystrix D.C, fresh and clean green, obtained from the Astambul area, Banjar Regency, South Kalimantan Indonesia.

**Results:** The results showed that there was a zone of inhibition of Citrus hystrix D.C fluid at a concentration of 25%, 50%, 75%, and 100% on the growth of *Escherichia Coli*, amounting to 7mm, 10mm, 13mm, 15mm. *Pseudomonas aerogenosa*, amounting to 6mm, 9mm, 13mm, 14mm. *Bacillus subtilis*, amounting to 6mm, 8mm, 11mm, 14mm.

**Conclusion:** It concluded that the fluid of Citrus hystrix D.C affected the growth of *Escherichia Coli*, *Pseudomonas aerogenosa*, *Bacillus subtilis* with the most significant inhibition zones respectively 15mm, 14mm, and 14mm.

**Keywords:** *Citrus hystrix D.C*; Antibacterial; *Escherichia Coli*; *Pseudomonas aerogenosa*; *Bacillus subtilis*

## Introduction

Unhealthy lifestyles and poor sanitation are factors that support bacterial infections. The bacterial infection is still a health problem in Indonesia. Bacterial diseases such as tuberculosis<sup>1,2,3</sup> and *Staphylococcus aureus*<sup>4,5</sup>. There are also problems with bacterial environmental contaminants such as *Salmonella*<sup>6</sup>, *E. coli*<sup>7</sup>, *Staphylococcus aureus*<sup>8,9</sup> and *Bacillus*<sup>10,11</sup>.

Gram-positive *Bacillus subtilis* can cause bacteremia, septicemia, and endocarditis<sup>12</sup>. *E. coli* bacteria are Gram-negative bacteria that cause infections of the urinary tract and digestive disorders such as diarrhea<sup>13</sup> whereas *P. aeruginosa* is a Gram-negative bacterium that causes urinary tract infections, meningitis, diarrhea, necrosis of enterocolitis and pneumonia<sup>14</sup>.

We are handling bacterial infections, in general, using synthetic bacteria. Synthetic antibacterial has side effects that can cause allergic reactions for users who are

not suitable to use the antibacterial. So the manufacture of natural antibacterial originating from plants began to be investigated<sup>15</sup>.

Indonesia is a country rich in herbal plants as medicinal plants such as *Anredera cordifolia*<sup>16</sup>, *Cananga odorata* (Lamk). Hook<sup>17</sup>, lime<sup>18</sup>, *Syzygium polyanthum*<sup>19</sup>, *Carica papaya* Linn<sup>20</sup>, *Jatropha curcas*<sup>21</sup>, *Kaempferia galanga* L.<sup>22</sup>, *Cinnamomum burmannii*<sup>23</sup>, *Eleutherine palmifolia* (L) Merr<sup>24</sup>, *Hibiscus sabdariffa* L.<sup>25</sup> *Ocimum basilicum* Linn<sup>26</sup>, *Citrus hystrix D.C.*<sup>27</sup>. *Citrus hystrix D.C.* is an Indonesian endemic plant originating from the family Rutaceae, genus *Citrus*. The community has commonly used plants belonging to the genus *Citrus* for the treatment of various diseases<sup>28</sup>.

*Citrus hystrix D.C* fruit fluid has a pH of 1.62, which shows very acidic, compared with lime (*Citrus aurantifolia* swingle) Research that has carried out on the fluid owned by the plant genus *Citrus* proves its activity

as an antioxidant and antibacterial (male). Citrus hystrix D.C fluid contains flavonoids which play a significant role in inhibiting bacterial growth<sup>29</sup>.

The results of Kusumawardhani (2019) Citrus hystrix D.C fluid can inhibit the growth of *Staphylococcus aureus* at concentrations of 25%, 50%, 75%, and 100%, respectively 13.75mm, 17.25mm, 19.75mm, and 21.75mm. The inhibitory water of Citrus hystrix D.C against *Staphylococcus aureus* has known, but the inhibition has not been identified yet on *Escherichia Coli*, *Pseudomonas aerogenosa*, *Bacillus subtilis*. The purpose of this study was to determine the antibacterial ability of Citrus hystrix D.C fluid against *Escherichia Coli*, *Pseudomonas aerogenosa*, *Bacillus subtilis*.

### Subjects and Method

The research carried out was an experimental study by examining the inhibitory power of Citrus hystrix D.C fluid with concentrations of 25%, 50%, 75%, and 100% when compared with the control group.

The material used in this study was Citrus hystrix D.C fluid with the criteria of local fruit, fresh and clean green, obtained from Astambul, Banjar Regency, South Kalimantan Indonesia.

The independent variable used is Citrus hystrix D.C. The Bound Variable used is the diameter of the bacterial inhibitory zone on Muller Hinton (MH). Determination test of Citrus hystrix D.C conducted at the Laboratory of Basic Mathematics, and Natural Sciences University of Lambung Mangkurat Banjarbaru Antibacterial activity test carried out using the diffusion method in a well with repeated work three times. This study uses sterile aqua dest as a thinner in various concentrations of Citrus hystrix D.C. The results obtained were read by measuring the inhibitory zone of Citrus hystrix D.C fluid against bacteria using a ruler.

### Results

Testing the antibacterial activity of Citrus hystrix D.C fluid on bacteria showed variations in the inhibition zone. Data of Citrus hystrix D.C fluid inhibition zone data for bacteria presented in Table 1-3.

**Table 1 The Zone of Inhibition of Citrus hystrix D.C fluid against Escherichia Coli at Various Concentrations.**

Various Concentrations (%)	Zone of inhibition (mm)			Average (mm)
	1	2	3	
25	7	7	7	7
50	10	10	9	10
75	13	12	13	13
100	15	14	15	15

**Table 2 The Zone of Inhibition of Citrus hystrix D.C fluid against Pseudomonas aerogenosa at Various Concentrations.**

Various Concentrations (%)	Zone of inhibition (mm)			Average (mm)
	1	2	3	
25	6	6	5	6
50	10	9	8	9
75	13	13	10	13
100	15	14	14	14

**Table 3 The Zone of Inhibition of *Citrus hystrix* D.C fluid against *Bacillus subtilis* at Various Concentrations.**

Various Concentrations (%)	Zone of inhibition (mm)			Average (mm)
	1	2	3	
25	6	5	6	6
50	8	7	8	8
75	12	11	11	11
100	14	15	14	14

### Discussion

Based on the data obtained in tables 1-3, it known that *Citrus hystrix* D.C. fluid can inhibit the growth of *Escherichia Coli*, *Pseudomonas aerogenosa*, *Bacillus subtilis*. The higher the concentration of *Citrus hystrix* D.C. fluid, the greater the diameter of the inhibition zone formed. This result shows that by increasing the level of *Citrus hystrix* D.C. fluid, the higher the content of active ingredients contained in *Citrus hystrix* D.C. fluid, which functions as an antibacterial, so the higher its ability to inhibit bacteria<sup>30</sup>.

*Citrus hystrix* D.C. fruit fluid has a pH of 1.62, which shows very acidic so that when oxidized, the structure will change, and its function will decrease and even disappear<sup>31</sup>. In general, pathogenic bacteria cannot grow very slowly at pH below 4.6<sup>32</sup>.

The *Citrus hystrix* D.C. fluid contains flavonoids which play a significant role in inhibiting bacterial growth<sup>29</sup>. Flavonoids are metabolites that often found in plants. One of the parts of flavonoids is antimicrobial and antiviral, so plants containing flavonoids widely used for traditional medicine<sup>33</sup>. Flavonoids are antimicrobial compounds because of their ability to form complexes with dissolved extracellular proteins and microbial cell walls. Flavonoids are lipophilic that are damaging to microbial membranes<sup>34</sup>.

Chowdhury et al. (2009) stated that the methanol extract of *Citrus hystrix* fruit and some of its fractions

had moderate to healthy antibacterial activity against some Gram-positive and Gram-negative bacteria<sup>35</sup>. The ethyl acetate extract and essential oil of *Citrus hystrix* rind have more effect on *S. aureus* than *E. coli*<sup>36</sup>. *Citrus hystrix* D.C. fluid used in this study also proved that the inhibition zone of *E. Coli* at a concentration of 100% was only 15mm, compared to the inhibition zone of *Staphylococcus aureus* in Kusumawardhani's study (2019) resulting in a higher inhibition zone at the same concentration of 21.75mm.

The limitation of this study is that no phytochemical tests carried out on the research material. The unknown chemical content of *Citrus hystrix* D.C., such as flavonoids, saponins, tannins, alkaloids, and others, is hidden.

### Conclusion

There is a zone of inhibition of *Citrus hystrix* D.C. fluid at concentrations of 25%, 50%, 75%, and 100% on the growth of *Escherichia Coli*, amounting to 7mm, 10mm, 13mm, 15mm. *Pseudomonas aerogenosa*, amounting to 6mm, 9mm, 13mm, 14mm. *Bacillus subtilis*, amounting to 6mm, 8mm, 11mm, 14mm.

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**Ethical Clearance:** mTaken From Health Research Ethics Committee Politeknik Kesehatan Banjarmasin Indonesia

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