



EVALUATION OF ANTIBACTERIAL PROPERTIES OF *Acacia nilotica*

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ABSTRACT

Acacia nilotica is a medicinal plant known for various medicinal uses. The present study was conducted to evaluate the antibacterial properties of leaves, stem, twig and bark of *Acacia nilotica* extracted using various solvents like water (room temperature and elevated temperature), 80% methanol (room temperature and elevated temperature), 70% ethanol (room temperature and elevated temperature), acetone, ethyl acetate and hot mixture of solvents (methanol + ethanol). Extracts were used in a final concentration of 100 mg/ml for assessment of antibacterial properties against two gram negative bacteria namely *Escherichia coli*, *Pseudomonas aeruginosa* and a gram positive bacteria namely *Staphylococcus aureus* using agar well diffusion method. The standard antibiotic Tetracycline was used in a final concentration of 1mg/ml. Hot ethanolic extract of *Acacia nilotica* bark and hot mixture of solvent extract of leaves gave the maximum inhibitory zone among all the extracts prepared.

Keywords: *Escherichia coli*, *Pseudomonas aeruginosa*, *Staphylococcus aureus*, *Acacia nilotica*, Agar Well Diffusion, Solvent Extraction, Zone of Inhibition

INTRODUCTION

Acacia nilotica is the one of the most potent member of medicinal plants. It belongs to the Fabaceae family. *Acacia nilotica* is a medium sized tree with a dense spheric crown, stems, branches and fissured bark, grey pinkish slash, exuding a reddish low quality gum. It is found in dry part of Africa, India, Australia, Arabia and other area. *Acacia nilotica* is used in traditional

African herbal medicine and in Ayurvedic and Siddha medicines, which are traditional healing system in India [1].

Research studies are being conducted on many potential health benefits of *Acacia nilotica* confirming many phytochemicals present in the species which are responsible for its use in various disease [2, 3]. Ayurvedic medicines uses all of the parts of