







Antibacterial potential test for *Scheonoplectus Triqueter (L) Palla*

Nawaz Khan<sup>1,\*</sup> , Amir Hassan<sup>1,\*</sup> , Himayat Ullah<sup>1,\*</sup> , Zakarya Akmal<sup>2</sup> , Muhammad Yasser Khan<sup>2</sup> ,  
Sana Ullah Khan<sup>2</sup> 

<sup>1</sup>Department of Chemistry, Govt Post Graduate College Mardan 23200 Khyber PakhtunKhw, Affiliated with Abdul Wali Khan University Mardan KP Pakistan

\*corresponding author e-mail address: [himayat1982@gmail.com](mailto:himayat1982@gmail.com); [spicybaboo1234@gmail.com](mailto:spicybaboo1234@gmail.com)

## ABSTRACT

Our present investigation aims to test the antibacterial action of *Scheonoplectus triqueter (L) palla* against the gram negative bacteria i.e. *Escherichia coli* and gram positive bacteria i.e. *staphylococcus aureus*. The crude extract is taken in ethanol which is then fractionated into a different fraction in n-hexane, ethyl acetate, di-chloro methane (DCM) and water. The fractions are then separately applied to *E.coli* and *s.aureus* bacterial strains. Ampicillin (10 micro gram), Clindamycin (2 microgram) and Kanamycin sulfate (30 microgram) are used as a positive control while di-methyl sulfoxide (DMSO) is used as negative control. The result of antibacterial activity of *Scheonoplectus triqueter (L) palla* revealed to us that n-hexane section of the crude extract displayed relatively highest activity for *E.coli* (gram negative bacteria) and ethyl acetate fraction displayed relatively high activity for *S.aureus* (gram positive bacteria).

**Keywords:** *Scheonoplectus triqueter (L) palla*; crude extract; fractionation; antibacterial activity.

## 1. INTRODUCTION

There are about 258,650 types of species of the upper plants in which only 10% are used as medicine to treat different infections or diseases of ailing communities. The following major problems encounter to generation of income, preservation and farming to the plants that are used as a medicines in Pakistan are the Potential of curative plants of Pakistan, Increased worldwide demands of herbal medicines, reasons of some problems to the existing curative plants of Pakistan, preservation of medicinal plants and case study and policy problems in order to promote the cultivation in huge scale [1]. Human used different therapeutic plants in order to cure many diseases over the centuries. Medicinal Plants are very important throughout the world which is use to treat a number of diseases using plant extracts at first stage of infection [2]. The taxonomist didn't give the desired attention to the family Cyperaceae although this family contains a significant number of monocotyledon plants [3]. Cyperaceae are the halophytic plants found in Pakistan most species of the Cyperaceae are fibrous [4]. *Scheonoplectus* is a genera of the Cyperaceae plants family having about 60 species distributed all over the world in which 11 species are found in Pakistan [5].

About forty-nine compounds are isolated from the *Scheonoplectus lacustris* in alcohol and water and all of the compounds are separately applied to the Green Algae i.e. *Selenastrum capricornutum* (a unicellular organism that is normally used in the tests of toxicity as a bioindicator of eutrophic spots) in order to test the phytotoxic effect of all the forty-nine compounds isolated from *Scheonoplectus lacustris*, of all these compounds the utmost active compound was (-)catechin displaying similar inhibition to the Algacide copper sulfate [6].

The *Scheonoplectus triqueter (L) palla* do not contain any anti-fungal compound because it inhibits the following fungus (a) *Pestalotia Palmarum* Cooke (b) *hyalotalateripes* (Ellis & Ev) Guba, (c) *Polyschema olivacea* (Ellis & Everh), it acts as a host for these fungus [7]. The taxonomy of the *S.triqueter* may be as

follow, kingdom plantae, phylum is Tracheophyta, the class is Liliopsida, order is Cyperales, family is Cyperaceae, genera are *Scheonoplectus* and specie is *Scheonoplectus triqueter (L) palla*. The *Scirpustriqueter* plays a very economical role to degrade the pollutants that are originated from diesel in the wetland.

The experimental data revealed to us that HYRE wetland isolated hydrocarbon degrading microorganism (HDMs) has a significant degrading effect on soil pollutants. A community of HDMs and STL indicated an incredible capacity to degrade HCs component of diesel. For example. 15000 mg / kg concentration of diesel, the removal ratio was 72.62% and 67.41% in the STL MS and HDMs respectively [8]. There was no report on the antibacterial activity of *Scheonoplectus triqueter* while some literature is available on the antifungal activity of *S.triqueter* so my main objective in this research paper is to study the antibacterial activity of the *Scheonoplectus triqueter (L) palla*. M.F Fay *et al.*, 2003 reported that the samples of *Scheonoplectus* studied from river of medway, Tamar with the help of AFLP genetic fingerprint to examine the basic of species of *S.triqueter* to *S.lacustris* and *S.tabernaemontani*. The dominant specie found in *Scheonoplectus* was *S.lacustris* during genetic fingerprinting.

(especially between *S.triqueter* and *S.tabernaemontani*) in all type of situations. While the specie *S.tabernaemontani* is the hybrid in this family which possess too much phenotypic plasticity. [9].

Pedro Jimenez Mejias *et al.*, 2007 reported that the *Schoenoplectus corymboses* (Cyperaceae) is vastly distributed mainly in Pakistan, Africa and India. This species also reported in wetland of Morocco, Spain and also found at western extreme of the Mediterranean.

It mainly grows in visited or picnic areas such as Deanna National Park [10]. Eric H. Hoalson *et al.*, 2008 reported that the family Cyperaceae shows a wide variation in chromosome numbers both within the genera. Recently update have reported 4231 chromosome numbers tally in the family. Approximately only

16% species have been currently recognized. We observed a variation within the genera where a maximum possible number of tally had been made. Count distribution within the genera is the proof for both agmatoploid and polyploid chromosome numbers variation [11].

Xiaoyan Liu *et al.*, 2010 in this research paper they have studied the *Scirpus triquetus* (*Scheonoplectus triquetus* (*l*) *palla*) which is a species from the family (Cyperaceae) play a very economical role in the degradation of diesel originated pollutants in the wetland. The process of degradation was conducted to restore the pollutants in soil. The experimental data showed that hydrocarbon degrading microorganisms (HDM's) isolated from HYRE wetland has a degradation effect on soil pollutants. A community of STL and HDM's indicated or showed an incredible capacity to degrade HC's component in diesel. For example 15000 mg / kg diesel concentration the removal ratio was 67.41% and 72.62 in the HDM's and STL MS respectively [8].

## 2. MATERIALS AND METHODS

The present investigation is conducted on the species *Scheonoplectus triquetus* (*L*) *palla* of the genera *Scheonoplectus*. The plant was collected in the winter season from the Mardan district KPK Pakistan. Only the powdered stem of the *S. triquetus* is used for antibacterial activity. Three types of antibiotics are used as a standard i.e. Ampicillin (10 microgram), Clindamycin (2 microgram) and Kanamycin sulfate (30 microgram).

The solvents are used for extraction of crude from plant, fractionating purposes and dissolution of different fractions in DMSO to apply it to bacteria. The following solvents used are Ethanol (C<sub>2</sub>H<sub>5</sub>OH), n-hexane (C<sub>6</sub>H<sub>12</sub>), water (H<sub>2</sub>O), ethyl acetate (C<sub>2</sub>H<sub>5</sub>COOH), DCM (di-chloro methane) and DMSO (di-methyl sulphoxide). The plant extract was applied on two types of bacterial strains i.e. gram negative bacteria (*Escherichia Coli*) and gram positive bacteria (*Staphylococcus aureus*).

### 2.1. Extraction.

The identification of *Scheonoplectus triquetus* (*L*) *palla* was done by the taxonomist professor Muhammad Israr of GPGC Mardan collected in the winter season. The plant is dried in the shade for 30 days. The dried stem (100 grams) is then grinded in the grinder. The crude extract of 60 grams powdered plant is taken in 900 ml of ethanol in 1 liter Soxhlet apparatus. The extract is then evaporated from which 8.958 grams of solid crude extract is obtained. The crude extract was then dissolved in 100 ml of water which is then fractionated between water and n-hexane, then the n-hexane fraction is again fractionated between n-hexane and ethyl acetate and at last the n-hexane fraction is fractionated between n-hexane and DCM. In the entire above fraction the water fraction contains the highest quantity of the crude extract i.e. 3.65 grams, ethyl

## 3. RESULTS

### 3.1. Extraction and Fractionation.

*Scheonoplectus triquetus* (*L*) *palla* is a halophytic plant which is not too much concentrated with phytochemicals. About 60 grams of the powdered plant stem is taken for extraction in 900 ml of ethanol from which we obtained 8.958 grams of the solid crude extract which is then fractionated so the water fraction contains the highest quantity of the crude extract i.e. 3.65 grams, secondly, the n-hexane containing a high quantity i.e. 1.928

Riffat Batool *et al.*, 2013 reported that three species of *Scheonoplectus* were obtained from three different areas of Punjab.

All of the species were introduced to salt stress. *Scheonoplectus triquetus* have advanced root anatomical adaptation for its best/better growth under very crucial high saline condition. When there is an increase in epidermis thickness, cortical cell area, Meta xylem area, phloem area etc in roots were difficult for water loss checking and increased water storing capacity. *S. triquetus* has a very high aerenchyma area for gas exchanging and a bulk salt movement. An increase in the number and thickness of cortex and area of vascular tissues lead to a difficulty for its better growth under very harsh saline environment [12]. Our present investigation aims to test the antibacterial action of *Scheonoplectus triquetus* (*L*) *palla* against the gram negative bacteria i.e. *Escherichia coli* and gram positive bacteria i.e. *Staphylococcus aureus*.

acetate contains 1.62 grams, DCM contains 1.178 grams and n-hexane contains 1.928 grams.

### 2.2. Antibacterial Assay.

The media is prepared in Moller Hinton agar (MHA) for growing the bacterial strain, 9.5 grams of MH agar was taken in 250 ml of distilled water [13-23]. The media and the empty Petri dishes were autoclaved at 121°C for about one hour to sterilize the media and Petri dishes. The media was then cooled at room temperature and then it is poured into twelve Petri dishes i.e. 20 ml to each Petri dish. The media was then let to solidify and then two types of bacterial strains were applied to the Petri dishes, six plates were strained with *E. coli* bacteria and six plates were strained with *Staphylococcus aureus* bacteria. The bacteria is lawned with the help of sterilized cotton swabs and then wells are formed in ten plates i.e. five of *E. coli* bacterial strain and five of *Staphylococcus aureus* bacterial strain by means of sterilized micro syringe, the well size was 7 mm, the remaining two plates were left for standard antibiotics which were tested by disk diffusion method. Then 20 micro liter of each of four different extracts and DMSO (negative control) were applied to ten plates while three types of standard antibiotics (positive control) were applied to the remaining two Petri dishes i.e. Ampicillin (10 microgram), Clindamycin (2 microgram) and Kanamycin sulfate (30 microgram). The Petri dishes were then packed with parafilm and then stored in the incubator for minimum time of 24 hours, the growth appeared after 24 hours then the inhibition zones of treatments (extracts), positive control (antibiotics) and negative control (solvent) were measured.

grams, thirdly most concentrated is ethyl acetate contain 1.62 grams and at last DCM containing 1.178 grams of crude extract. All these results are presented in the Figure 1.

### 3.2. Antibacterial Activity.

The antibacterial activity of different extracts, negative control (DMSO) and standards show that the inhibition zones of the standard antibiotics are more significant relative to the

treatments and negative control. The mean of zone of inhibition is shown in the Table 1 and Figure 2.

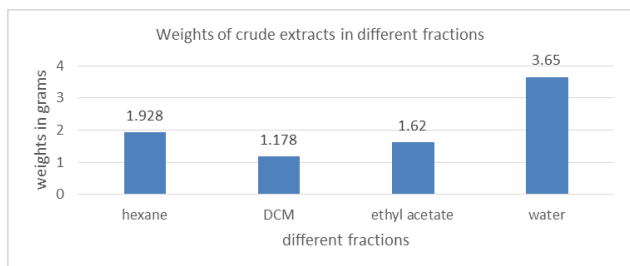


Figure 1. Weights of Crude Extracts in different Fractions.

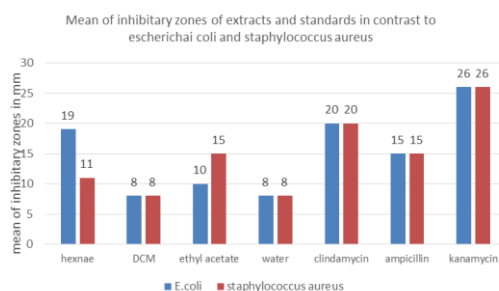


Figure 2. Mean of the inhibitory zones of different extract and standards in contrast to *E. coli* and *S. aureus*.

*E. coli* (gram negative): For *E. coli* the kanamycin antibiotic showed the highest zone of inhibition i.e 26 mm while the n-hexane fraction (treatment) showed relatively high zone of inhibition i.e 1 mm which is higher than ampicillin antibiotic i.e 15 mm, secondly the relatively high zone of inhibition showed by

ethyl acetate i.e 10 mm while the water and DCM both fractions showed 8 mm inhibitory zone.

*Staphylococcus aureus* (gram positive): Kanamycin antibiotic is the most significant antibiotic for *s.aureus* showing 26 mm inhibition zone. For *staphylococcus aureus* the fraction ethyl acetate show relatively high zone of inhibition i.e 15 mm which is similar to ampicillin antibiotic which also showing 15 mm inhibition zone, for *S.aureus* the n-hexane fraction showed 11 mm inhibitory zone while the DCM and water fractions showed 8 mm of inhibition zone.

The ethanolic extract of the stem of *Scheonoplectus triquetter (L) palla* is taken through soxhlet extraction method. About 60 grams of the powdered stem of the plant is taken for extraction. The extract wasevaporated so, the solid extract obtained was 8.958 grams. Different fractions of the ethanolic extracts of the stem of *Scheonoplectus triquetter (L) palla* are evaluated for the antibacterial activity against two types of bacteria i.e. *staphylococcus aureus* and *Escherichia coli*.

The fractions of ethanolic extracts were taken in n-hexane, water, DCM and ethyl acetate through fractionation method. The results of the antibacterial activity show that n-hexane fraction is relatively an active fraction for the anti-bacterial activity of *E. coli* (gram negative) while the least active fractions were DCM and water against *E. coli*.

On the other hand for *staphylococcus aureus* (gram positive) the relatively most active fraction was ethyl acetate showing 15 mm zone of inhibition while the least active fractions were DCM and water.

Table 1. Mean of the inhibitory zones for different extracts and standards against *E. coli* and *S. aureus*.

Strains used	hexane	DCM	Ethyl acetate	water	clindamycin	ampicillin	kanamycin
<i>Escherichia coli</i>	19mm	8mm	10mm	8mm	20mm	15mm	26mm
<i>S. aureus</i>	11mm	8mm	15mm	8mm	20mm	15mm	26mm

4. CONCLUSIONS

The *Scheonoplectus triquetter (L) palla* showing intermediate antibacterial activity in contrast to gram negative as well as against gram positive. The most significant antibacterial agent is absent in the proceeding of this plant as an antibacterial

agent. This plant posses very low potential towards antibacterial activity.. Since no antibacterial activity was reported on the *Scheonoplectus triquetter (L) palla*. So it's important to do not proceeds their extracts for further purification and characterization

5. REFERENCES

- Shinwari, Z.K. Medicinal plants research in Pakistan. *Journal of medicinal plants research* **2010**, *4*, 161-176.
- Dabanka, C.P. Antibacterial Activity of Phyllanthusamarus (Schumand Thonn) Extract against Salmonella Typhicausative Agent Of Typhoid Fever. **2013**.
- Sanyal, B.; Sharma, A. Cytological Studies in Indian Cyperaceae. *Cytologia* **1972**, *37*, 13-32, <https://doi.org/10.1508/cytologia.37.13>.
- Qasim, M.; Gulzar, S.; Khan, M.A. *Halophytes as medicinal plants*. NAM Meeting in Denizli, Turkey, 2011.
- Marwat, S.K.; Usman, K.; Shah, R.A.; Shah, A. Floristic account of emergent-aquatic and marshland angiosperms of DIKhan District, KPK. Pakistan. *Pak. J. Bot* **2013**, *45*, 279-288.
- D'abrosca, B.; Dellagrecia, M.; Fiorentino, A.; Isidori, M.; Monaco, P.; Pacifico, S. Chemical constituents of the aquatic plant *Schoenoplectus lacustris*: evaluation of phytotoxic effects on the green alga *Selenastrum capricornutum*. *Journal of chemical ecology* **2006**, *32*, 81-96, <https://doi.org/10.1007/s10886-006-9354-y>.

- Wu, C.G.; Tseng, H.Y.; Chen, Z.C. Fungi Inhabiting on *Schoenoplectus triquetter (L.) Palla (I)*. *Taiwania* **1982**, *27*, 35-38.
- Liu, X.; Wang, Z.; Zhang, X.; Wang, J.; Xu, G.; Cao, Z.; Zhong, C.; Su, P. Degradation of diesel-originated pollutants in wetlands by *Scirpus triquetter* and microorganisms. *Ecotoxicology and environmental safety* **2011**, *74*, 1967-1972, <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.ecoenv.2011.06.005>.
- Fay, M.; Cowan, R.; Simpson, D. Hybridisation between *Schoenoplectus tabernaemontani* and *S. triquetter* (Cyperaceae) in the British Isles. *Watsonia* **2003**, *24*, 433-442.
- Jiménez-Mejías, P.; Luceno, M.; Castroviejo, S. *Schoenoplectus corymbosus*: a tropical Old-World sedge (Cyperaceae) discovered in Spain and Morocco. *Nordic Journal of Botany* **2007**, *25*, 70-74, [https://doi.org/10.1111/j.0107-055X.2007.00007\\_26.x](https://doi.org/10.1111/j.0107-055X.2007.00007_26.x).
- Roalson, E.H. A synopsis of chromosome number variation in the Cyperaceae. *The Botanical Review* **2008**, *74*, 209-393, <https://doi.org/10.1007/s12229-008-9011-y>.

12. Batool, R.; Hameed, M. Root structural modifications in three *Schoenoplectus* (Reichenb.) Palla species for salt tolerance. *Pak. J. Bot* **2013**, *45*, 1969-1974.
13. Hassan, A.; Ullah, H. Antibacterial and Antifungal Activities of the Medicinal Plant *Veronica biloba*. *Journal of Chemistry* **2019**, *2019*, <https://doi.org/10.1155/2019/5264943>.
14. Anwar, A.; Perveen, S.; Ahmed, S.; Siddiqui, R.; Shah, M. R.; Khan, N.A. Silver Nanoparticle Conjugation with Thiopyridine Exhibited Potent Antibacterial Activity Against *Escherichia coli* and Further Enhanced by Copper Capping. *Jundishapur Journal of Microbiology* **2019**. (In Press).
15. Chang, A.K.T.; Frias Jr, R.R.; Alvarez, L.V.; Bigol, U.G.; Guzman, J.P.M.D. Comparative antibacterial activity of commercial chitosan and chitosan extracted from *Auricularia* sp. *Biocatalysis and agricultural biotechnology* **2019**, *17*, 189-195, <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.bcab.2018.11.016>.
16. de Aragao, A.P.; de Oliveira, T.M.; Quelemes, P.V.; Perfeito, M.L.G.; Araujo, M.C.; Santiago, J.D.A.S.; Cardoso, V.S.; Quaresma, P.; de Almeida, J.R.D.S.; da Silva, D.A. Green synthesis of silver nanoparticles using the seaweed *Gracilaria birdiae* and their antibacterial activity. *Arabian Journal of Chemistry* **2019**, *12*, 4182-4188, <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.arabjc.2016.04.014>.
17. Gummuluri, S.; Kavalipurapu, V.T.; Kaligotla, A.V. Antimicrobial efficacy of Novel Ethanolic Extract of *Morinda Citrifolia* Against *Enterococcus Faecalis* by Agar Well Diffusion Method and Minimal Inhibitory Concentration-An In vitro Study. *Brazilian Dental Science* **2019**, *22*, 365-370, <https://doi.org/10.14295/bds.2019.v22i3.1731>.
18. Majumder, R.; Dhara, M.; Adhikari, L.; Ghosh, G.; Pattnaik, S. Evaluation of in vitro Antibacterial and Antioxidant Activity

- of Aqueous Extracts of *Olex psittacorum*. *Indian Journal of Pharmaceutical Sciences* **2019**, *81*, 99-109, <https://doi.org/10.4172/pharmaceutical-sciences.1000484>.
19. Raj, S.R.G.; Ng, C.H.; Mohd-Said, S.; Yu, K.X. Antibacterial Potential of Aqueous Extracts and Compounds from Selected Brown Seaweeds. *INNOSC Theranostics and Pharmacological Sciences* **2019**, *2*, <https://doi.org/10.26689/itps.v2i1.804>.
20. Singh, S.; Moses, A.; David, A. Antimicrobial Activity of *Emblca officinalis* extracts against selected bacterial pathogens. *International journal of basic and applied research* **2019**, *9*, 325-330.
21. Sujatha, R.; Siva, D.; Nawas, P. Screening of phytochemical profile and antibacterial activity of various solvent extracts of marine algae *Sargassum swartzii*. *World Scientific News* **2019**, *115*, 27-40.
22. Tlili, H.; Marino, A.; Ginestra, G.; Cacciola, F.; Mondello, L.; Miceli, N.; Taviano, M. F.; Najjaa, H.; Nostro, A. Polyphenolic profile, antibacterial activity and brine shrimp toxicity of leaf extracts from six Tunisian spontaneous species. *Natural product research* **2019**, *1-7*, <https://doi.org/10.1080/14786419.2019.1616725>.
23. Aghraz, A.; Albergamo, A.; Benameur, Q.; Salvo, A.; Larhsini, M.; Markouk, M.; Gervasi, T.; Cicero, N. Polyphenols contents, heavy metals analysis and in vitro antibacterial activity of extracts from *Cladanthus arabicus* and *Bubonium imbricatum* of Moroccan Origin. *Natural product research* **2020**, *34*, 63-70, <https://doi.org/10.1080/14786419.2019.1573424>

## 6. ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Foremost, my grateful feelings has to express to my sincere advisor professor Himayat Ullah and my great supporter professor Muhammad Israr of government post graduate college Mardan, Pakistan for continuous support of my BS research under hard conditions and low facilities with patience. Their guidness helped me in whole of my research. I would also like to say thanks to chairman of microbiology department of Abdul Wali Khan University Mardan professor Khair-ur-Rahman for their support.



© 2020 by the authors. This article is an open access article distributed under the terms and conditions of the Creative Commons Attribution (CC BY) license (<http://creativecommons.org/licenses/by/4.0/>).