



Fatty Acid Analysis and Biological Activity of Jordanian Propolis

Ashok K. SHAKYA^{1*}, Shankar KATEKHAYE^{2,3}, Ghaleb A. ORIQUAT¹, Rajashri R. NAIK¹,
Anant PARADKAR^{2,4}, Hugo FEARNLEY^{3,4}, James FEARNLEY^{3,4}

¹ Faculty of Pharmacy and Medical Sciences, Al-Ahliyya Amman University, Amman-19328, Jordan.

² Centre for Pharmaceutical Engineering Science, School of Pharmacy, University of Bradford, Bradford, BD7 1DP, UK.

³ Nature's Laboratory, Unit 3b, Enterprise Way, Whitby, North Yorkshire, YO22 4NH, UK

⁴ Apiceutical Research Centre, Unit 3b, Enterprise Way, Whitby, North Yorkshire, YO22 4NH, UK

*ashokshakya@hotmail.com

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*Corresponding author /Yazışılan yazar

Abstract

Propolis is a resinous natural product collected by bees (*Apis mellifera*) from tree exudates which is widely used in folk medicine¹. Reports on Jordanian Propolis reveal the presence of new chemical compound 4(Z)-1-3-dihydroxyeupha-7,24-dien-26-oic acid² along with other compounds like pinobanksin-3-O-acetate, pinocembin, chrysin³ and lignoceric acid². The present study was carried out to investigate the fatty acid composition, antioxidant and xanthine oxidase inhibition activity of Jordanian Propolis, collected from Al-Ghour region. The hexane extract of Jordanian Propolis contains different fatty acids, which are reported first time, using GC-FID. The major fatty acid identified were palmitic acid (44.5%), Oleic acid (18:1 Δ^9 *cis*, 24.6%), Arachidic acid (7.4%), Stearic acid (5.4%), linoleic acid (18:2 Δ^{9-12} *cis*, 3.1%), caprylic acid (2.9%), lignoceric acid (2.6%), *cis*-11,14-eicosadienoic acid (20:2 Δ^{11-14} *cis*, 2.4%), palmitoleic acid (1.5%), *cis*-11-eicosenoic acid (1.2%), α -linolenic acid (18:3 $\Delta^{9-12-15}$ *cis*, 1.1%), *cis*-13,16-docosadienoic acid (22:2 Δ^{13-16} *cis*, 1.0%), along with minor constituents like saturated fatty acids. Antioxidant properties of the hexane extract were determined via DPPH radical scavenging, β -carotene bleaching assay and NO scavenging assay. The extract produced significant antioxidant activity *in-vitro*. The extract also exhibit appreciable xanthine oxidase inhibitory activity *in-vitro*.

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