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## Comparative nutritional value and antimicrobial activities between three *Euphorbia* species growing in Saudi Arabia



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### ABSTRACT

Plants are excellent sources of nutrition and highly bioactive substances that might use in the development of new drugs and pharmaceutical agents. Three species of the Genus *Euphorbia* (Family Euphorbiaceae), namely; *Euphorbia granulata* Forssk, *Euphorbia helioscobia* L., and *Euphorbia hirta* Linn growing in Riyadh, KSA were air-dried, powdered, and their active materials were extracted with alcohol. The nutritional value phytochemical constituents and antimicrobial activity of the plants were determined. The chemical contents were similar in the three species; however, lipid profile of the plants showed that the stearic acid and lignoceric acid were detected only in *E. helioscobia* and *E. hirta*, while palmitoleic acid was detected only in *E. hirta*. The percentage of unsaturated fatty acid methyl esters were 52.48%, 69.39% and 66.52% in *Euphorbia granulata*, *Euphorbia helioscobia*, *E. hirta*, respectively. Three compounds, 1-ethoxypentacosane, heptacosan-1-ol and  $\beta$ -sitosterol were isolated from the three plant extracts and identified using different spectroscopic analysis. The percentage of crude protein was 43.65%, 25.00% and 18.75% in *E. granulata*, *E. helioscobia*, and *E. hirta*, respectively. The free amino acids and amino acid composition were quantitatively determined using amino acid analyzer. All the plant extracts were active against bacterial and fungal test organisms, however, the antimicrobial activity were varied according to both the *Euphorbia* species and the test organism.

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### 1. Introduction

Nowadays, the use of herbal medicines and phytonutrients and/or nutraceuticals continues significantly to expand quickly around the world with many people now turning to these natural products for treatment of various health challenges in different national healthcare settings (WHO, 2004). Recently, there was a tremendous surge in interest in herbal therapies in developing and devel-

oped countries, with these natural products being available in drug stores, food stores and supermarkets as well. Interestingly, almost 80% of the world's populations (4 billion) which are living in the developing world rely on natural products as a primary source of healthcare and traditional medical practice (Mukherjee, 2002; Bodeker et al., 2005).

Genus *Euphorbia* is important in herbal remedy due to its various phytochemical constituents as phenolic compounds (Duarte et al., 2008; Mueller and Pohl, 1970), terpenoids (Liu et al., 2002; Cao et al., 1992), tannins (Giordani et al., 2001; Yashida et al., 1994), and alkaloids, cyanogenic glycosides, flavonoids, and lipids (Uzair et al., 2009). Moreover, it is used for treatment of variable health problems including spasmolytic (Bondarenko, 1972), diuretic (Liu et al., 2002), increase capillary strength (Bondarenko, 1972), antileukemic (Kupchan, 1976), anti-inflammatory and analgesic (Heirmann and Bucar, 1994; Singh et al., 1984). The extract of *Euphorbia stenoclada* was proved to have positive effect on human airway smooth muscle cells (HASMC) (Chaabi et al., 2007). While

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the extract of *Euphorbia esula* showed a mild antiviral activity (Halowish et al., 2003).

The extract of different species of *Euphorbia*; *E. wallichii*, *E. neoboutonia mannii*, *E. fusiformis*, *granulate*, *helioscopia* and *E. hirta* are biologically active and used in treatment of fever and intestinal disorders and wound, bacterial and fungal infections (Ali et al., 2009; Uzair et al., 2009; Ramezani et al., 2008; Tene et al., 2008). The current study was carried out to determine the phytochemical constituents and antimicrobial, antioxidant and anticancer activities of *Euphorbia granulata*, *Euphorbia helioscobia* and *Euphorbia hirta*.

## 2. Material and methods

### 2.1. Plant materials

The aerial parts of; *Euphorbia granulata* Forssk, *Euphorbia helioscobia* L., and *Euphorbia hirta* Linn were collected from territory desert of Riyadh, KSA in 2016. The plant samples were identified by Dr. Jacob T. Pandalayil (Assistant Professor of Plant Taxonomy, Botany and Microbiology Department, Faculty of science, King Saud University) and also compared with the published plant description (Migahid, 1996). A voucher specimen has been deposited in the herbarium of Faculty of Sciences, King Saud University. The plant materials were air-dried in shade, reduced to fine powder, packed in tightly closed containers and stored for phytochemical and biological studies.

### 2.2. Phytochemical screening

The air-dried powder of the *E. granulata* Forssk, *E. helioscobia* L., and *E. hirta* Linn were subjected to screening for their phytochemical constituents according to the method described by Khan et al. (2011).

### 2.3. Extraction and isolation

The air-dried powder of *E. granulata*, *E. helioscobia* and *E. hirta* was extracted according to the method described by Awaad et al. (2016). One-hundred grams of the plant powder was extracted by percolation in 95% ethanol at room temperature for two days. The extract was then filtered and the residue was re-percolated for another two days. The re-percolation process was repeated four times during 8 days. The combined filtrates of each plant were concentrated under reduced pressure at low temperature. The obtained residue (20, 22 and 17 g for *E. granulata*, *E. helioscobia* and *E. hirta*, respectively) was suspended in 100 ml distilled water and then filtered. The un-dissolved pellets (9, 8 and 6 g; lipid contents (A1–A3) of *E. granulata*, *E. helioscobia* and *E. hirta*,

respectively) were kept for further investigation. The aqueous layer which have been filtered off to give the **polar components (P1–P3)** were separately dried by lyophilization. The obtained dry residues were kept for determinations of its nutritional values.

#### 2.3.1. Lipid contents

Lipid contents of the three plants (**A1–A3**) were separately saponified using the method described by Mathew et al. (2007) to obtain the **saponifiable (S1–S3)** and **unsaponifiable (US1–US3)** fractions (Percentages are recorded in Table 1).

**2.3.1.1. The saponifiable fractions (S1–S3).** The saponifiable fractions (S1–S3) were subjected to GLC (after methylation) to determine their fatty acids content according to the method described by Fakhry and Maghraby (2013). Results are represented in Table 2.

**2.3.1.2. Unsaponifiable fractions (US1–US3).** Unsaponifiable fractions (US1–US3) were applied simultaneously on top of 3 glass column (120 × 2 cm) packed with silica gel (120 g) and eluted using hexane: ethyl acetate (95:5). Eighty fractions were collected (40 ml. each) all similar fractions (according to color, number and  $R_f$  of spots), from each column, were collected and combined together. In the end, three subfractions were obtained and used for isolation of three compounds (**T1–T3**) by purifications and recrystallization from methanol. The isolated compounds were identified and screened for their antimicrobial activity (Results are recorded in Table 3).

**2.3.1.2.1. T1: 1-ethoxy-pentacosane.** White crystals (198.7 mg) with  $R_f = 0.45$  (in system Benzene: ethyl acetate 86/14 v/v).  $^1\text{H-NMR}$  ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ ) showed signals at  $\delta$ : 3.62 ppm (2H q,  $J = 4.98$ , H-26) its position indicate that its  $\text{CH}_3$  occurs next to Oxygen atom;  $\delta$  1.55 ppm (3H t,  $J = 5.34$ , H-27); multiple  $\delta$  1.27 ppm (48H, m,  $(\text{CH}_2)_{24\text{H}-1} \rightarrow 24$ );  $\delta$  0.86 ppm (3H t,  $J = 6.48$ , H-25) for the terminal  $\text{CH}_3$  group.  $^{13}\text{C-NMR}$  ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ ) showed 27 carbons 14 carbons of them were similar. HMQC, DEPT-135 and HMQC confirmed the structure in addition to comparing with published data (Awaad et al., 2013).

**2.3.1.2.2. T2: Heptacosan-1-ol.** White crystals (700 mg) with  $R_f$  0.33 (in system Benzene: ethyl acetate 86/14 v/v).  $^1\text{H-NMR}$  ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ ) showed signals at  $\delta$ : 3.62 ppm (2H q,  $J = 5.52$ , H-2) this proton near to  $-\text{OH}$  group, quintet  $\delta$  1.55 ppm (2H q,  $J = 7.38$ , H-3) this proton between two  $\text{CH}_2$ , multiplet  $\delta$  1.28 ppm (48H m,  $(\text{CH}_2)_{24} \text{H}-3 \rightarrow 26$ ), and triplet at  $\delta$  0.86 ppm (3H t,  $J = 7.08$ , H-28).  $^{13}\text{C-NMR}$  ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ ) showed 13 carbons 9 of them were similar. HMQC, DEPT-135 and HMQC confirmed the structure in addition to comparing with published data (Awaad et al., 2013).

**2.3.1.2.3. T3:  $\beta$ -sitosterol.** Whitish crystal residue (300 mg) with  $R_f$  0.45 (in system Benzene: ethyl acetate 86/14 v/v).  $^1\text{H-NMR}$  ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ ) showed signals at  $\delta$  5.34 ppm (1H d,  $J = \text{H}-7$ ) this proton double bound, singlet at  $\delta$  3.51 ppm (1H, s,  $-\text{OH}$ ), at  $\delta$  2.26 ppm

**Table 1**  
GLC analysis of fatty acid methyl esters of *Euphorbia granulata*, *E. helioscopia* and *E. hirta*.

Peak No.	$t_R$	$t_{RR}$	Authentic methyl ester of	No of carbons	<i>E. granulata</i>	<i>E. helioscopia</i>	<i>E. hirta</i>
1	11.76	00.81	Myristic acid	14	01.61	03.43	03.18
2	14.18	00.97	Palmitoleic acid	16.1	00.00	00.00	00.18
3	14.59	01.00	Palmitic acid	16	50.45	60.72	57.92
4	16.22	01.11	Heptadecanoic acid	17	04.75	06.11	10.59
5	17.62	01.21	Oleic acid	18.1	36.88	18.87	13.49
6	18.02	01.22	Stearic acid	18	00.00	03.19	04.77
7	19.16	01.31	Linoleic acid	18.2	05.99	05.63	09.23
8	21.52	01.47	Arachidic acid	20	00.42	01.00	00.28
9	25.27	01.73	Lignoceric acid	24	00.00	01.05	00.37
Unsaturated fatty acids					52.48	69.39	66.52
Saturated fatty acids					47.62	30.61	33.49
Total					100%	100%	100%

$t_R$ ; Retention time,  $t_{RR}$  is relative retention time to Palmitic acid.

**Table 2**The free, protein- hydrolysate and total amino acids of *Euphorbia granulata*, *E. helioscopia* and *E. hirta*.

No	t <sub>R</sub>	Amino acid	Percentage of amino acid (mg/g)								
			<i>E. granulata</i>			<i>E. helioscopia</i>			<i>E. hirta</i>		
			Free	Protein hydolysate	Total	Free	Protein hydolysate	Total	Free	Protein hydolysate	Total
1	11.53	Aspartic	04.70	10.48	18.18	04.50	11.19	13.69	01.25	13.84	15.09
2	14.85	Therionine	03.89	09.12	12.01	02.54	06.45	08.99	01.67	07.44	09.11
3	16.26	Serine	01.55	06.99	08.54	01.03	03.05	04.08	02.31	00.68	05.31
4	18.47	Glutamic acid	02.67	03.81	06.48	02.20	08.69	10.89	05.40	04.06	09.46
5	25.54	Glycine	01.66	04.55	06.20	01.15	05.43	06.58	02.63	06.18	08.81
6	26.87	Alanine	03.01	01.40	04.41	00.50	01.59	02.09	01.52	03.14	04.64
7	30.22	Valine	00.41	00.50	00.91	00.10	00.09	00.19	01.20	04.06	05.26
8	32.57	Methionine	02.30	03.32	05.62	02.20	07.12	09.32	01.04	00.11	00.15
9	34.20	Isoleucine	02.96	06.01	08.90	00.91	04.03	04.94	01.20	04.05	04.25
10	35.44	Leucine	03.45	07.13	10.50	00.44	05.01	05.45	03.20	01.60	04.83
11	39.70	Tyrosine	01.54	01.73	03.27	01.50	05.16	06.66	01.00	00.91	01.91
12	42.40	Phenyl alanine	00.95	00.76	01.71	02.02	02.82	04.84	02.03	05.02	07.05
13	50.57	Histidine	00.90	02.03	02.93	04.08	05.03	09.21	02.18	04.22	06.40
14	54.19	Lysine	01.77	01.04	02.81	02.00	01.02	03.02	02.30	05.12	07.52
15	63.02	Argenine	04.79	02.82	07.61	03.03	07.02	10.05	2.00	06.01	08.01
<b>Total%</b>			<b>100.00</b>			<b>100</b>			<b>99.9</b>		

t<sub>R</sub>; Retention time.**Table 3**Antimicrobial activities of *Euphorbia granulata*, *E. helioscopia* and *E. hirta*.

Microorganism	Sample Diameter of the inhibition zone (mm)						
	<i>E. granulata</i>	<i>E. helioscopia</i>	<i>E. hirta</i>	T1	T2	T3	Standard
	<b>Gram negative bacteria:</b>						
<i>Proteus vulgaris</i> (RCMB 010085)	00.0	00.0	00.0	00.0	00.0	00.0	20.3 ± 0.30
<i>Klebsiella pneumoniae</i> (RCMB 0010093)	18.9 ± 0.44	16.7 ± 0.35	24.4 ± 0.19	18.3 ± 0.44	23.7 ± 0.58	00.0	26.3 ± 0.15
<i>Escherichia coli</i> (RCMB 010056)	14.2 ± 0.35	13.5 ± 0.58	21.4 ± 0.35	15.8 ± 0.58	18.9 ± 0.39	00.0	25.3 ± 0.18
<b>Gram positive bacteria:</b>							<b>Ampicillin</b>
<i>Staphylococcus aureus</i> (RCMB 010027)	20.3 ± 0.35	16.8 ± 0.19	23.8 ± 0.25	18.2 ± 0.44	22.4 ± 0.44	00.0	28.9 ± 0.14
<i>Staphylococcus epidermidis</i> (RCMB 010024)	21.1 ± 0.44	18.9 ± 0.25	21.2 ± 0.19	16.5 ± 0.35	20.8 ± 0.19	00.0	25.4 ± 0.18
<i>Streptococcus pyogenes</i> (RCMB 010015)	00.0	00.0	00.0	00.0	00.0	00.0	26.4 ± 0.34
<b>Fungi</b>							<b>Amphotericin B</b>
<i>Aspergillus fumigatus</i> (RCMB 02564)	18.4 ± 0.58	15.9 ± 0.58	19.8 ± 0.25	15.3 ± 0.25	18.2 ± 0.44	00.0	23.7 ± 0.10
<i>Candida albicans</i> (RCMB 05035)	16.8 ± 0.63	12.9 ± 0.25	18.9 ± 0.25	12.7 ± 0.39	15.4 ± 0.58	00.0	21.9 ± 0.12
<i>Candida tropicalis</i> (RCMB 05042)	15.4 ± 0.25	13.4 ± 0.35	19.8 ± 0.58	13.6 ± 0.63	18.6 ± 0.44	00.0	25.4 ± 0.16
<i>Geotricum candidum</i> (RCMB 05096)	19.8 ± 0.25	17.6 ± 0.25	21.6 ± 0.58	16.7 ± 0.58	20.4 ± 0.44	00.0	26.4 ± 0.20
<i>Microsporium canis</i> (RCMB 0834)	17.5 ± 0.58	13.6 ± 0.44	22.6 ± 0.19	14.5 ± 0.19	20.4 ± 0.58	00.0	22.2 ± 0.34
<i>Trichophyton mentagrophytes</i> (RCMB 0925)	19.2 ± 0.44	15.8 ± 0.35	16.8 ± 0.44	13.9 ± 0.25	15.7 ± 0.19	00.0	24.1 ± 0.18

(2H q, J = H-3) nearest from —OH, triplet at  $\delta$  1.98 ppm (2H, t, J = H-5 & H-8), at  $\delta$  1.83 ppm (3H, t, H-28), sextet at 1.63 ppm (1H, s, H-18), singlet at 1.57 ppm (8H, s, H-1, H-2, H-15 & H-16), at 1.33 ppm (5H, m, H-9, H-11, & H-12), multiplet at 1.14 ppm (6H, m, H-4, 24, 21, 17, & 22), at 1.12 ppm (6H, d, H-29 & H-30), at 0.91 ppm (4H d, J = H-19 & H-20), singlet at 0.81 ppm (9H, s, H-24, H-25 & H-26), singlet at 0.66 ppm (3H, s, H-23). <sup>13</sup>C-NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>) showed 30 carbons. HMQC, DEPT-135 and HMQC confirmed the structure in addition to comparing with published data (Awaad et al., 2013).

### 2.3.2. Polar components (P1–P3)

Polar components (P1–P3) including proteins, carbohydrates, phenols, flavonoids and tannins of the three plants were determined using the procedures published by Bhumi and Savithramma (2014).

## 3. Antimicrobial activities

### 3.1. Test organisms

Different microorganisms including six bacterial strains; Gram-negative bacteria, *Escherichia coli* (RCMB 010056), *Klebsiella*

*pneumonia* (RCMB 0010093), and *Proteus vulgaris* (RCMB 010085), Gram-positive bacteria, *Staphylococcus aureus*, *Staphylococcus epidermidis* (RCMB 010027) and *Streptococcus pyogenes* (RCMB 010015); and six fungal strains including *Aspergillus fumigatus* (RCMB 02564), *Candida albicans* (RCMB 05035), *C. tropicalis* (RCMB 05042), *Geotricum candidum* (RCMB 05096), *Microsporium canis* (RCMB 0834) and *Trichophyton mentagrophytes* (RCMB 0925) were used. The test organisms were obtained from the Microbiology Laboratory, Regional Center for Mycology and Biotechnology, Al-Azhar University, Cairo, Egypt.

### 3.2. Antimicrobial activity assay

The antimicrobial activity, for ethanolic extract and the isolated compounds, of *Euphorbia granulata*, *E. helioscopia* and *E. hirta* was determined using the well diffusion method according to National Committee for Clinical Laboratory Standards (NCCLS) (Zain et al., 2012). Petri plates containing 20 ml of, nutrient (for bacteria) or malt extract (for fungi), agar medium were seeded with 1–3 day cultures of microbial inoculums. Wells (6 mm in diameter) were cut off from agar and 50  $\mu$ l of plant extracts were tested in a concentration of 100 mg/ml and incubated at 37 °C for 24–48 h

(bacterial strains) and at 25 °C for 3–5 days (fungal strains). The antimicrobial activity was determined by measurement of the diameter of the inhibition zone around the well.

### 3.3. Determination of minimum inhibitory concentration (MIC)

The minimum inhibitory concentration (MIC) was determined by micro-dilution method using serially diluted (2 folds) plant extracts and the isolated compounds according to the National Committee for Clinical Laboratory Standards (NCCLS) (Zain et al., 2012). The MIC of *Euphorbia granulata*, *E. helioscopia* and *E. hirta* extracts and isolated compounds were determined by dilution of concentrations from 0.0 to 100 mg/ml. Equal volume of each extract and nutrient broth were mixed in a test tube. Specifically, 0.1 ml of standardized inoculum ( $1-2 \times 10^7$  cfu/ml) was added in each tube. The tubes were incubated at 25 °C and 37 °C for 24–48 h and/or 3–5 days. Two control tubes, containing the growth medium, saline and the inoculum were maintained for each test batch. The lowest concentration (highest dilution) of the extract that produced no visible microbial growth (no turbidity) when compared with the control tubes were regarded as MIC.

## 4. Results and discussion

### 4.1. The primary phytochemical

The primary phytochemical screening showed that the *E. granulata*, *E. helioscopia* and *E. hirta* were similar in their chemical contents, particularly, carbohydrates and/or glycosides, flavonoids, tannins, sterols and/or triterpenes, and proteins and/or amino acids, traces of anthraquinones. On the other hand, alkaloids and/or nitrogenous bases, cardiolides, saponins, anthraquinones and oxidase enzyme were absent.

### 4.2. Lipid contents

#### 4.2.1. The saponifiable fractions isolated compounds

The saponifiable fractions of *E. granulata*, *E. helioscopia*, and *E. hirta* (S1–S3) were analyzed using GLC for the methyl esters derivatives of the fatty acids. The major fatty acids were palmitic acid (50.45%, 60.72% and 57.92%) and oleic acid (36.88%, 18.87% and 13.49%) for *E. granulata*, *E. helioscopia*, and *E. hirta*, respectively (Table 1). On the other hand, the lowest fatty acid percentage was arachidic acid (0.42%, 1.00% and 0.28%) for *E. granulata*, *E. helioscopia* and *E. hirta*, respectively. Interestingly, stearic acid and lignoceric acid were present only in *E. helioscopia* and *E. hirta*, while palmitoleic acid was detected only in *E. hirta* (Table 1).

The percentage of unsaturated fatty acids methyl esters (52.48, 69.39 and 66.52) is remarkable compared to that of saturated fatty acids methyl esters (47.62, 30.61 and 33.49) in *E. granulata*, *E. helioscopia*, and *E. hirta*, respectively. The amount of unsaturated fractions is between 1.00% and 60.72%, while that of saturated is between 36.88% and 0.18%.

#### 4.2.2. The unsaponifiable fractions isolated compounds

Three compounds (Fig. 1) were isolated from each plant under investigation and identified as; (T1: 1-ethoxypentacosane, T2: heptacosan-1-ol and T3:  $\beta$ -sitosterol). Identifications were carried out using different spectroscopic analysis and compare with published data (Awaad et al., 2013).

### 4.3. Polar components (P1–P3)

#### 4.3.1. Protein content

The percentage of crude protein, as determined by the A.O.A.C method, was found to be 43.65, 25.00 and 18.75% for *E. granulata*, *E. helioscopia*, and *E. hirta* respectively. The free amino acids and

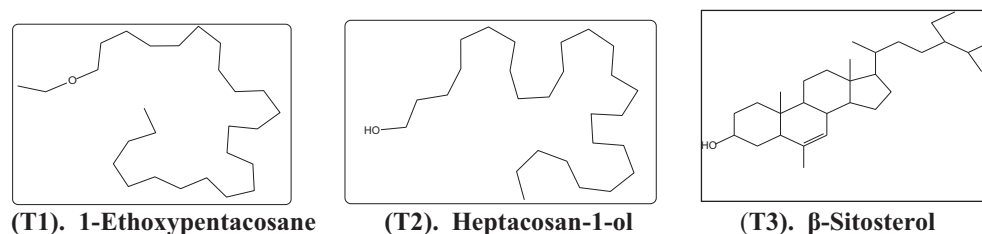


Fig. 1. The isolated compounds from *E. granulata*, *E. helioscopia*, and *E. hirta*.

Table 4

The minimum inhibitory concentration (MIC) of *Euphorbia granulata*, *E. helioscopia* and *E. hirta*.

Microorganism	Sample MIC $\mu$ g/ml					
	<i>E. granulata</i>	<i>E. helioscopia</i>	<i>E. hirta</i>	T1	T2	Standard
<b>Gram negative bacteria:</b>						
<i>Klebsiella pneumoniae</i> (RCMB 0010093)	15.62 $\pm$ 0.23	62.50 $\pm$ 0.11	03.90 $\pm$ 0.41	15.62 $\pm$ 0.43	03.90 $\pm$ 0.07	<b>Gentamycin</b> 00.97 $\pm$ 0.23
<i>Escherichia coli</i> (RCMB 010056)	62.50 $\pm$ 0.12	250.00 $\pm$ 0.15	15.62 $\pm$ 0.43	62.50 $\pm$ 0.23	15.62 $\pm$ 0.11	00.06 $\pm$ 0.11
<b>Gram positive bacteria:</b>						
<i>Staphylococcus aureus</i> (RCMB 010027)	03.90 $\pm$ 0.33	15.62 $\pm$ 0.22	01.95 $\pm$ 0.35	03.90 $\pm$ 0.19	01.95 $\pm$ 0.44	<b>Ampicillin</b> 00.06 $\pm$ 0.12
<i>Staphylococcus epidermidis</i> (RCMB 010024)	03.90 $\pm$ 0.09	07.80 $\pm$ 0.25	03.90 $\pm$ 0.22	07.80 $\pm$ 0.11	03.90 $\pm$ 0.18	00.24 $\pm$ 0.32
<b>Fungi</b>						
<i>Aspergillus fumigatus</i> (RCMB 02564)	07.80 $\pm$ 0.24	07.80 $\pm$ 0.09	03.90 $\pm$ 0.31	15.62 $\pm$ 0.13	03.90 $\pm$ 0.44	00.24 $\pm$ 0.12
<i>Candida albicans</i> (RCMB 05035)	125.00 $\pm$ 0.25	250.00 $\pm$ 0.58	31.25 $\pm$ 0.24	250.00 $\pm$ 0.39	125.00 $\pm$ 0.16	03.9 $\pm$ 0.54
<i>Candida tropicalis</i> (RCMB 05042)	500.00 $\pm$ 0.25	500.00 $\pm$ 0.35	31.25 $\pm$ 0.58	500.00 $\pm$ 0.63	31.25 $\pm$ 0.44	00.97 $\pm$ 0.29
<i>Geotricum candidum</i> (RCMB 05096)	03.90 $\pm$ 0.37	07.80 $\pm$ 0.35	03.90 $\pm$ 0.06	15.62 $\pm$ 0.22	03.90 $\pm$ 0.23	01.95 $\pm$ 0.19
<i>Microsporium canis</i> (RCMB 0834)	15.62 $\pm$ 0.58	500.00 $\pm$ 0.44	01.95 $\pm$ 0.19	125.00 $\pm$ 0.19	03.90 $\pm$ 0.58	01.95 $\pm$ 0.59
<i>Trichophyton mentagrophytes</i> (RCMB 0925)	03.90 $\pm$ 0.34	07.8 $\pm$ 0.35	07.8 $\pm$ 0.44	31.25 $\pm$ 0.25	07.80 $\pm$ 0.19	01.95 $\pm$ 0.23

amino acid composition of protein hydrolysates were quantitatively studied using amino acid analyzer (Table 2).

Aspartic acid was found to be the major component in the three plants; 3.69, 18.18 and 4.09 mg/g for *E. granulata*, *E. helioscobia*, and *E. hirta*, respectively. On the other hand, Valine concentration was the lowest; 0.91, 0.19 and 0.26 mg/g, for *E. granulata*, *E. helioscobia*, and *E. hirta*, respectively.

**4.3.1.1. Antimicrobial activity.** The antimicrobial activities of total alcohol and isolated compounds of *Euphorbia granulata*, *E. helioscobia*, and *E. hirta* extracts were determined using well-diffusion method (Tables 3 and 4). All the plant extracts and isolated compounds were active against different bacterial and fungal species. The highest antimicrobial activity of the extract;  $24.4 \pm 0.19$  mm ( $01.95 \pm 00.41$  µg/ml),  $23.7 \pm 0.58$  mm ( $01.95 \pm 00.35$  µg/ml) and  $22.6 \pm 0.19$  mm ( $01.95 \pm 00.19$  µg/ml) were detected by *Euphorbia hirta* against *Klebsiella pneumonia*, *Staphylococcus aureus* and *Microsporum canis*, respectively (Tables 3 and 4).

The best activity of the isolated compounds;  $23.7 \pm 0.58$  mm ( $03.90 \pm 0.07$  µg/ml),  $22.4 \pm 0.44$  mm ( $01.95 \pm 00.44$  µg/ml),  $20.8 \pm 0.19$  mm ( $03.90 \pm 00.18$  µg/ml),  $20.4 \pm 0.58$  mm ( $03.90 \pm 00.58$  µg/ml) and  $20.4 \pm 0.44$  mm ( $03.90 \pm 00.23$  µg/ml) were obtained by compound (T2) against *Klebsiella pneumonia*, *Staphylococcus aureus*, *S. epidermidis*, *Microsporum canis* and *Geotricum candidum*, respectively (Tables 3 and 4).

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