

The Antibacterial Activity of Dayak Onion (*Eleutherine palmifolia* (L.) Merr towards Pathogenic Bacteria

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Abstract	<p>Antibacterial activity of indigenous Dayak onion (<i>Eleutherine palmifolia</i> (L.) Merr) was investigated. The Dayak onion was solvent extracted with n-hexane, ethyl acetate, and ethanol 96% consecutively. Each extract was tested its antibacterial activity towards methicillin-resistant <i>Staphylococcus aureus</i> (MRSA), <i>Bacillus cereus</i>, <i>Shigella</i> sp., and <i>Pseudomonas aeruginosa</i> using disc diffusion method. The test results showed that the n-hexane, ethyl acetate, and ethanol 96% extracts positively inhibited the growth of MRSA, <i>B. cereus</i>, <i>Shigella</i> sp., and <i>P. aeruginosa</i>. The highest inhibition activity of each extract was obtained with 10 mg/mL of extract concentration; whereas the minimum inhibitory concentration (MIC) of each extract was 2 mg/mL. Extract with the highest inhibition activity was ethyl acetate extract against <i>B. cereus</i> (139.58%). TLC evaluation of ethyl acetate extract showed four spots and bioautography indicated that ethyl acetate extract contained four types of compounds with inhibition activity against <i>B. cereus</i>, in which two compounds have higher antibacterial activity than the other two.</p>
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