

**Studies on the Antibacterial Activity and Chemical Composition of Methanol Extract of  
*Cochlospermum Tinctorium* Root**

**ABSTRACT**

The antibacterial activity of the methanol extract of *Cochlospermum tinctorium* root powder were tested against 10 strains of antibiotic resistant food-borne pathogens *Staphylococcus aureus* and *Listeria monocytogene* whereby the pathogens showed sensitivity at different concentration. The antibacterial activity of the methanol extract of *Cochlospermum tinctorium* root powder were tested against Ten (10) strains of antibiotic resistant food-borne pathogens *Staphylococcus aureus* and *Listeria monocytogene* procured from Microbiology Research Laboratory Usman Danfodiyo University Sokoto. Methanol was used for extraction. The results revealed the percentage yield of the methanol extract 5.17%. The methanol extract of *Cochlospermum tinctorium* was effective in inhibiting the isolates at high concentration of 10 mg/mL. The results thin layer chromatography revealed four spots with  $R_f$  values 0.02, 0.37, 0.44 and 0.80 respectively. The GC-MS analysis of the active methanol extract of *Cochlospermum tinctorium* root powder revealed the existence of major peaks 1-(+)-Ascorbic acid 2,6-dihexadecanoate (R.T: 13.666), Diethyl phthalate (R.T: 10.440), Undecyl acetate (R.T: 10.007), 3-tetradecanone (R.T: 9.793), 3-hexadecanone (R.T: 12.427). The result provided evidence that *Cochlospermum tinctorium* root powder has immense potential to be used in the area of pharmacology as it possess antimicrobial activity against the antibiotic resistant food-borne pathogens, thus could be exploited as alternative antimicrobial drugs for the treatment of diseases caused by this pathogens.

**Keywords:** Methanol, *Cochlospermum tinctorium*, Antibiotic-resistant, Pharmacology and Pathogens.

**Introduction**

*Cochlospermum tinctorium* is a shrub that can grow up to 10 meters high. The slash is iodine-like in colour. Leaves are alternate, palmately lobed with stipules. Inflorescence consists of brightly colored yellow flowers that are regular and borne in racemes or panicles. Fruits are elongated, 3-5 valve, capsules containing seeds that are embedded in cotton foam. The seeds are bean-shaped with brown to black colour. It contains oily endosperm with broad cotyledon, it is a savannah plant found on fallow farm lands [1]. The bark, roots and seeds are used in the treatment of various ailments in different areas around the world. In Nigeria, a decoction of the root is used for treating gonorrhoea. It is used in the treatment of diabetes by the Iggede people of Benue State [2]. The leaves are used in the treatment of malaria fever in some parts of Kogi State. In Mali the plant is variously used against jaundice, abdominal pains, haemorrhoids,

39 intestinal worms, helminth, bilhazia and hepatitis. It was also reported to have been used against  
40 gastrointestinal diseases like ulcer, stomach ache, flatulence and constipation [3].

41 *Staphylococcus aureus* is capable of reproducing in wide range of physical conditions of  
42 temperature, pH and salt concentration [4]. *Staphylococcus aureus* can be found in a variety of  
43 foods because of its ability to reside broad array of spaces in close proximity of human beings  
44 [5][6]. Moreover, *Staphylococcus aureus* is a leading cause of foodborne illness worldwide  
45 causing 2.41 million illnesses per year in the United State alone [7]. The basic cause of all these  
46 reported illness is by consuming food contaminated with *Staphylococcus aureus* derived toxins.  
47 About 1000 patients are hospitalized based on the severity of infection; 6 deaths may happen  
48 each year [7]. Severity of the symptoms depends on the amount of toxin consumed [8]. Disease  
49 condition is caused when the concentration of toxin in the body is increased from  $10^5$  CFU/ml.  
50 Disease symptoms generally appear in 1-6 hours after eating the contaminated food.

51 *Listeria monocytogenes*, a member of the genus *Listeria*, naturally occurs in agricultural  
52 environments such as soil, manure and water [9]. Scientific literature frequently discusses the  
53 ability of this microorganism to survive in the food-processing, produce-packing environment  
54 and equipment, diverse habitat like soil, silage, marine and freshwater, sewage, vegetation,  
55 domestic and wild animal as well as humans [10][11][12]. Adzitey and Huda [13] pointed out  
56 that studies on *L. Monocytogene* and its association with foods is important to create more  
57 awareness in order to reduce its colonisation, transmission, cross contaminations and infections.  
58 Even though the reasons for the increasing number of pathogens causing food and water diseases  
59 in North America are found in Nigeria, occurrence of food-borne *Listerial* infection is not well  
60 reported. The reasons for the increasing number of pathogens include improved ability to isolate  
61 and identify organisms, import of a variety of products from abroad, large animal feeding  
62 stations and an increase in the number of immune compromised persons [14]. Hoelzer *et al* [15]  
63 have reported that one major determinant of the listeriosis risk is the ability of a food to support  
64 the growth of *L. monocytogenes* during storage but data regarding the ability to support growth  
65 of the organisms are scarce or non-existent for many produce commodities.

66 Nigeria is bestowed with rich and diverse resources of plant wealth including an enormously  
67 large number of medicinal plants which are used extensively as anti-tumor, immune-modulators,  
68 anti-diabetics, purgatives, anti-inflammatory, anti-oxidants and antidotes. Most of these medicinal  
69 plants are undocumented in regards to their phytochemical characteristics, pharmacognostic  
70 characters, extractive value and also antibacterial activities. Since plants produce a diverse range

71 of bioactive molecules making them a rich source of different types of medicines, researches in  
72 bioactive substances might result to the discovery of new compounds that could be used to  
73 formulate new and more potent antibacterial drugs to overcome the problem of resistance to the  
74 currently available antibiotics. Also the importance of proper identification of these medicinal  
75 plants and their individual peculiar traits cannot be overstressed, it is vital that proper taxonomy  
76 is recorded in order not to confuse the plant in question with closely related species. The aim of  
77 this research is to study the antibacterial activity and chemical composition of methanol extract  
78 of *Cochlospermum tinctorium* root powder and to determine the chemical composition of the  
79 most active methanol extract of *Cochlospermum tinctorium* root powder using GC-MS (Gas  
80 chromatography- Mass spectrometry).

## 81 **Material and Method**

### 82 **Sample Collection**

83 The roots of *Cochlospermum tinctorium* were collected from the rock side in Dambu Gomo,  
84 Rafin Zuru District, Zuru Local Government Area of Kebbi State. The samples were packaged in  
85 sterile polythene bags and it was transported to the Department of Microbiology Laboratory of  
86 Usmanu Danfodiyo University, Sokoto.

### 87 **Sample Processing and Preparation**

88 *Cochlospermum tinctorium* roots were washed, air-dried and milled to powder using mortal and  
89 pestle and sieved to obtained fine powder and stored at room temperature with plastic packaging  
90 until use.

### 91 **Methanol Extraction of Plant**

92 The method of extraction employed in this research was maceration extraction. The powdered  
93 plant material (300 g) of the root of *Cochlospermum tinctorium* was extracted with 2000 mL of  
94 methanol by subjecting it to maceration at room temperature (35°C) for 24 hours and later  
95 filtered with Whatmans filter paper 12. The extract were transferred into an evaporating dish and  
96 allowed to dry at 35°C. The percentage (%) yield of methanol extract of *Cochlospermum*  
97 *tinctorium* was calculated as follow:

$$\begin{array}{l} 98 \quad \text{Percentage yield} = \frac{\text{Mass of Extract}}{\text{Mass of Sample}} \times 100 \\ 99 \end{array}$$

100

101

## 102 **Test Bacteria**

103 The test bacteria used in this research were obtained from an ongoing research . The organisms  
104 collected from Ten (10) food-borne isolates strains of *Staphylococcus aureus* and *Listeria*  
105 *monocytogene* isolated from onion, cabbage, lettuce and tomato

## 106 **Antimicrobial Screening of *Cochlospermum tinctorium* against Test Bacteria**

### 107 **Preparation of Extract Concentrations**

108 In different test tubes One (1 gram) of the extract was weighed and were dissolved in 5 mL of  
109 DiMethyl Sulphoxide (DMSO) to obtained concentration of 200 mg/mL. This was the initial  
110 concentration of the extract used to check the antimicrobial activities of the plant. Mueller  
111 Hinton agar was used as the growth medium for antibacterial screening [16].

### 112 **Preparation of Inocula**

113 The stock cultures were sub-culture on nutrient agar and incubated at 37°C for 24 hours. After  
114 incubation, a sterile wire loop was used to pick up the colonies of test bacterium and suspended  
115 in a test tube containing 10 mL of sterile normal saline. The turbidity of the innocula suspension  
116 was adjusted and standadized to that of 0.5 McFarland standard.

### 117 **Antibacterial Sensitivity**

118 The antibacterial activity of methanol extracts of *Cochlospermum tinctorium* was determined  
119 using agar well diffusion method. Sterilized cotton swabs were dipped in the bacterial culture in  
120 nutrient broth and then swabbed on the Mueller Hinton plates. Wells of equal size (10.00 mm)  
121 were made with the aid of sterile cork borer and the plant extracts were added aseptically into  
122 the well. Then the plates were incubated at 37°C and observed for zones of growth inhibition  
123 after 24 hours.

### 124 **Determination of minimum inhibitory concentration (MIC) of the extracts.**

125 The minimum inhibitory concerntration of the extracts was determined using the broth dilution  
126 method in nutrient broth. Normal saline was used to make a turbid suspension of the microbes;  
127 the dilution of microorganisms was done continuously in normal saline until the turbidity  
128 matched that of the McFarland's standard by visual comparison. Five hundred micro-litres  
129 (500µL) of the test organism were aseptically inoculated in each of the four tubes containing the  
130 extract in order of increasing dilution (500, 250, 125 and 62.5 mg/mL). Thereafter, the test tubes  
131 were incubated at 37°C for 24 hours. After incubation, the test tube with the lowest

132 concentration of extracts without visible turbidity was taken to be the minimum inhibition  
133 concentration (MIC) [16].

#### 134 **Determination of Minimum Bactericidal Concentration (MBC) of the Extracts.**

135 Sample were taken from the broth with no visible growth in the MIC assay and subculture on  
136 freshly prepared nutrient agar and incubated at 37°C for 24 hours. The MBC was taken as the  
137 concentration of the extracts that did not show any visible growth on a new set of agar plates  
138 [17].

#### 139 **Thin-Layer Chromatography Analysis of *Cochlospermum tinctorium* Methanolic Extracts**

140 The TLC plate used for the separation was made with silica gel on aluminium (TLC silica gel  
141 60<sub>254</sub> 20.0cm × 20.0cm). Thin layer chromatography was carried out using TLC pre-coated plate  
142 (TLC silica gel 60 F<sub>254</sub>) by conventional one dimensional ascending technique. Spotting was  
143 done using capillary tube and developed chromatography tank at room temperature. TLC  
144 separations were conducted using 100% methanol as the solvent system. The positions of the  
145 different compounds were observed on TLC plates. They were placed under UV light which  
146 showed the presence of different spots on the chromatogram. The movement of the active  
147 compound was expressed by its retention factor ( $R_f$ ), values were calculated for different  
148 samples.

$$149 \quad R_f = \frac{\text{Distance traveled by the solute}}{\text{Distance moved by solvent front}}$$

151

#### 152 **Column chromatography (CC) analysis of *Cochlospermum tinctorium* methanolic extracts**

153 A glass tube with a circle large inlet and a small outlet with a plug or tap known as column was  
154 cleaned and dried. Cotton pad was placed at the bottom of the column. The column was packed  
155 with 107 gram of column grade silica ( 60 grade, Mesh size was 70-230um). The silica was  
156 added to the column by;

157 **Elution:** The elution was done using methanol, and ethyl acetate in different ratio as given  
158 below:

Solvent system	Ratio
Methanol and Ethyl acetate	80:20
Methanol and Ethyl acetate	60:40
Methanol and Ethyl acetate	0:100
Methanol and Ethyl acetate	100:0

159 All the fractions were collected separately and subjected to antimicrobial screening.

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#### 161 **Antibacterial Sensitivity of Active Fractions of *Cochlospermum tinctorium* root powder**

162 The antibacterial activity of active fractions of *Cochlospermum tinctorium* root powder was  
163 determined by well diffusion method. Sterilized cotton swabs were dipped in the bacterial culture  
164 in nutrient broth and then swabbed on the Mueller Hinton plates. Wells of 10.00 mm size were  
165 cut on Mueller Hinton agar and the extracts were added into it. Then the plates were incubated at  
166 37°C and observed for zones of growth inhibition after 24 hours.

#### 167 **Gas Chromatography Mass Spectroscopy (GC-MS) analysis of the active fractions**

168 GC-MS analysis was performed using GC-MS-QP2010 Plus (Shimadzu, Japan) and Gas  
169 chromatograph interfaced to a mass spectrometer (GC-MS) instrument employing the following;  
170 Column Elite-1 fused silica capillary column (30m x 0.25mm ID x  $\mu$ l df, composed of 100%  
171 Trisil). For GC-MS detection, an electron ionization system with ionization energy of 70eV was  
172 used. Helium gas (99.999%) was used as the carrier gas at constant flow rate 1ml/min and an  
173 injection volume of 2  $\mu$ L was employed (Split ratio of 20:0) injector temperature 250°C; ion-  
174 source temperature 200°C. the oven temperature was programmed from 60.0 (for 0.00 minute)  
175 with an increase of 160°C (Isothermal for 2.00 minutes) ending with a 2.00 minutes isothermal  
176 at 280°C. Mass spectra were taken at 70eV; a scan interval of 0.5s and fragments from 45 to  
177 700Da. Total GC running time was 19 minutes. The relative percentage amount of each  
178 component was calculated, by comparing its average peak area to the total areas, Software  
179 adopted to handle mass spectra and chromatogram was a turbomass. The detection employed the  
180 NIST Ver.2.0 year 2009 library [18].

#### 181 **Identification of components**

182 Interpretation on mass spectrum of GC-MS was done using the database of National Institute of  
183 Standard and Technology (NIST) having more than 62,000 patterns. The mass spectrum of the  
184 unknown component was compared with the spectrum of the known components stored in the  
185 NIST library. The name, molecular weight and structure of the components of the test materials  
186 were ascertained.

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## 192 RESULTS

193 The percentage yield of the crude extracts (g) obtained from the methanol extracts are presented  
194 on Table 1. The result indicates that methanol had the percentage yield of 5.17%.

195 **Table 1:** Percentage Yield of Crude Methanol Extract of *Cochlospermum tinctorium* Root  
196 Powder

Solvent	Mass of sample (g)	Yield of the extract (g)	Percentage Yield (%w/w)
Methanol	300	15.5	5.17

197

198 The result of the thin layer chromatography (TLC) of *Cochlospermum tinctorium* crude methanol  
199 extract are presented on Table 2. The solvent system used was 100% methanol and four spots  
200 were visible and their R<sub>f</sub> values are 0.02, 0.37, 0.44 and 0.80.

201 **Table 2:** Thin layer chromatography (TLC) of the Crude Methanolic Extract of *Cochlospermum*  
202 *tinctorium* Root Powder

Solvent system	Spots movement (cm)	Solvent front (cm)	R <sub>f</sub> value
Methanol extract	0.2	9.8	0.02
	3.6	9.8	0.37
	4.3	9.8	0.44
	7.8	9.8	0.80

203

204 The result of the column chromatography (CC) of *Cochlospermum tinctorium* crude methanol  
205 extract are shown on Table 3. The result indicates that ratio (80:20) had the highest number of  
206 active fractions of 3, followed by ratio (60:40) having 2, and lastly ratio (100:0) having 1  
207 fraction only.

208 **Table 3:** Column Chromatography (CC) of the Crude Methanolic Extract of *Cochlospermum*  
209 *tinctorium* Root Powder

Solvent	Solvent ratio	Fractions
Methanol	80:20	3
	60:40	2
	0:100	0
	100:0	1

210

211 The antibacterial activity of the crude methanol extracts of the roots of *Cochlospermum tinctorium*  
212 against antibiotic resistant *Staphylococcus aureus* and *Listeria monocytogene* (Table 4). The  
213 methanol extract reveals maximum zone of inhibition of 22.00 mm against antibiotic resistant

214 *Staphylococcus aureus* isolated from tomato and 21.00 mm against *L. monocytogene* R1 at  
 215 concentration of 10mg/ml, while the lowest zones of inhibition of 12.00 mm was recorded  
 216 against *Staphylococcus aureus* isolated from spring onion and *L. monocytogene*.

217 **Table 4:** Antibacterial activity of *Cochlospermum tinctorium* crude methanol extract against the  
 218 antibiotic resistant *Staphylococcus aureus* and *Listeria monocytogene*

Test Organisms	Concentrations/Zone of inhibition in (mm)				
	10 mg/mL	5 mg/mL	2.5 mg/mL	Negative Control	Positive Control
<i>Staphylococcus aureus</i> SP1	19.0±0.6	16.0±0.2	12.0±0.9	0.00	22.0±0.3
<i>Staphylococcus aureus</i> SP2	20.0±0.9	18.0±0.4	13.0±0.8	0.00	20.0±0.8
<i>Staphylococcus aureus</i> SP2	19.0±0.5	15.0±0.6	12.0±0.6	0.00	20.0±0.4
<i>Staphylococcus aureus</i> L	20.0±0.4	16.0±0.1	14.0±0.2	0.00	21.0±0.6
<i>Staphylococcus aureus</i> T	22.0±0.6	20.0±0.6	17.0±0.4	0.00	24.0±0.6
<i>L. monocytogene</i> R1	21.0±0.5	18.0±0.5	13.0±0.7	0.00	25.0±0.3
<i>L. monocytogene</i> R2	20.0±0.6	18.0±0.3	14.0±0.3	0.00	26.0±0.5
<i>L. monocytogene</i> R3	21.0±0.1	19.0±0.4	14.0±0.5	0.00	26.0±0.4
<i>L. monocytogene</i> R4	19.0±0.4	16.0±0.6	12.0±0.6	0.00	24.0±0.2
<i>L. monocytogene</i> R5	20.0±0.3	15.0±0.6	14.0±0.3	0.00	28.0±0.6

219 **Key:** SP = Spring onion, R = Cabbage, L = Lettuce and T = Tomato. The result is presented  
 220 as mean±SD

221 The result of the minimum inhibitory concentration (MIC) of *Cochlospermum tinctorium* crude  
 222 methanol extract against antibiotic resistant *Staphylococcus aureus* and *L. monocytogene* are  
 223 presented on Table 5. It was observed that the *Staphylococcus aureus* SP1, SP2, and L showed  
 224 MIC at 2.5mg/mL while *Staphylococcus aureus* T show MIC at 1.25 mg/mL, the *L.*  
 225 *monocytogene* R1, R2, R3, R4 showed MIC at 2.5 mg/mL while R5 showed MIC at 0.625  
 226 mg/mL. The minimum inhibitory concentration of the crude methanol extract was obtained  
 227 between 2.5-0.625 mg/mL for both *Staphylococcus aureus* and *L. monocytogene*.

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**Table 5:** Minimum Inhibitory Concentration (MIC) of *Cochlospermum tinctorium* Crude Methanol Extract Against Antibiotic Resistant *Staphylococcus aureus* and *L. Monocytogene*

Test Organisms	Concentrations of extracts				
	10 mg/mL	5 mg/mL	2.5 mg/mL	1.25 mg/mL	0.625 mg/mL
<i>Staphylococcus aureus</i> SP1	-	-	©	+	+
<i>Staphylococcus aureus</i> SP2	-	-	©	+	+
<i>Staphylococcus aureus</i> SP2	-	-	©	+	+
<i>Staphylococcus aureus</i> L	-	-	©	+	+
<i>Staphylococcus aureus</i> T	-	-	-	©	+
<i>L. monocytogene</i> R1	-	-	©	+	+
<i>L. monocytogene</i> R2	-	-	©	+	+
<i>L. monocytogene</i> R3	-	-	©	+	+
<i>L. monocytogene</i> R4	-	-	©	+	+
<i>L. monocytogene</i> R5	-	-	-	-	©

**Key:** SP = Spring onion, R = Cabbage, L = Lettuce and T = Tomato and © = MIC

The result of the minimum bactericidal concentration (MBC) of *Cochlospermum tinctorium* crude methanol extract against antibiotic resistant *Staphylococcus aureus* and *L. monocytogene* are presented in Table 6. From the results obtained isolates *Staphylococcus aureus* SP1, SP2 and L showed MBC at 5 mg/mL while *Staphylococcus aureus* T showed MBC at 2.5 mg/mL, the *L. monocytogene* R1, R2, R3, R4 showed MIC at 5 mg/mL while R5 showed MBC at 2.5 mg/mL.

**Table 6:** Minimum bactericidal concentration (MBC) of *Cochlospermum tinctorium* Crude Methanol Extract Against Antibiotic Resistant *Staphylococcus aureus* and *L. Monocytogene*

Test isolate	Concentrations				
	10 mg/mL	5 mg/mL	2.5 mg/mL	1.25 mg/mL	0.6 mg/mL
<i>S. aureus</i> SP 1	-	¢	+	+	+
<i>S. aureus</i> SP 2	-	¢	+	+	+
<i>S. aureus</i> C	-	¢	+	+	+
<i>S. aureus</i> L	-	¢	+	+	+
<i>S. aureus</i> T	-	-	¢	+	+
<i>L.monocytogene</i> R1	-	¢	+	+	+
<i>L.monocytogene</i> R2	-	¢	+	+	+
<i>L.monocytogene</i> R3	-	¢	+	+	+
<i>L.monocytogene</i> R4	-	¢	+	+	+
<i>L.monocytogene</i> R5	-	-	¢	+	+

**Key:** SP = Spring onion, R = Cabbage, L = Lettuce and T = Tomato, ¢ = MBC

The results for the antibacterial activity of the active methanol extract of *Cochlospermum tinctorium* root powder against antibiotic resistant *Staphylococcus aureus* and *L. monocytogene* are presented in Table 7. The active methanol extract of *Cochlospermum tinctorium* root powder reveals maximum zone of inhibition 26.00 mm against *Staphylococcus aureus* L, 20.00 mm against *L. monocytogene* R4 and minimum inhibition of 15.00 mm against *Staphylococcus aureus* L, 12.00 mm against *L. monocytogene* R2.

**Table 7:** Antibacterial activity of active methanol fractions of *Cochlospermum tinctorium* root powder against antibiotic resistant *Staphylococcus aureus* and *L. Monocytogene*

Fraction	Test organism	Zone of Inhibition (mm)		
Fraction A	<i>Staphylococcus aureus</i> L	22.0±0.6	26.0±0.5	23.0±0.6
Fraction B	<i>Staphylococcus aureus</i> L	15.0±0.3	16.0±0.6	16.0±0.2
Fraction D	<i>L. monocytogene</i> R5	14.0±0.8	14.0±0.9	13.0±0.3
Fraction E	<i>L. monocytogene</i> R4	20.0±0.6	19.0±0.4	21.0±0.8
Fraction F	<i>L. monocytogene</i> R2	13.0±0.5	13.0±0.1	12.0±0.4

**Key:** L = Lettuce, R = Cabbage. The result is presented as mean±SD

The result of the minimum inhibitory concentration (MIC) of the active methanol fractions of *Cochlospermum tinctorium* root powder against antibiotic resistant *Staphylococcus aureus* and *L. monocytogene* are presented on Table 8. From the results obtained isolate *Staphylococcus aureus* L showed MIC at 4.0 mL, *L. monocytogene* R5 showed MIC at 5.0 mL, *L. monocytogene* R2 showed MIC at 3.0 ml and *Staphylococcus aureus* R showed MIC at 3.0 mL.

**Table 8:** The minimum inhibitory concentration (MIC) of the active methanol active fractions of *Cochlospermum tinctorium* root powder

Fraction	Test organism	0.1mL	0.2mL	0.3mL	0.4mL	0.5mL	0.6mL	0.7mL
Fraction A	<i>S. aureus</i> L	-	-	-	-	+	+	+
	<i>L.monocytogene</i> R5	-	-	-	-	-	+	+
Fraction E	<i>L.monocytogene</i> R2	-	-	-	+	+	+	+
	<i>S. aureus</i> R	-	-	-	+	+	+	+

**Key:** L= Lettuce, R = Cabbage, + = Positive, - = Negative

The result of the volatile organic compound profile of the active methanol fraction (A) of *Cochlospermum tinctorium* root powder tested against antibiotic resistant *Staphylococcus aureus* and *Listeria monocytogene* are presented on Table 9a. The chromatogram shows 23 peaks (compounds) in fraction A of which the highest peak intensity was observed at peak 3 (3-Tetradecanone- 20.99%) and the lowest at peak 15 (5-Hexyn-1-ol- 0.22%).

**Table 9a:** Volatile organic compound profile of the active methanol fraction A of *Cochlospermum tinctorium* root powder tested against antibiotic resistant *Staphylococcus aureus* and *L. monocytogene*

RT <sup>-1</sup>	Compound	Molecular formular	Peak Area Normalised (%)
4.673	Tris (trimethylsilyl) amine	C <sub>9</sub> H <sub>27</sub> NSi <sub>3</sub>	9.60
9.702	Undecane, 3-methylene-	C <sub>12</sub> H <sub>24</sub>	11.36
9.793	3-Tetradecanone	C <sub>14</sub> H <sub>28</sub> O	20.99
10.007	Undecyl acetate	C <sub>13</sub> H <sub>26</sub> O <sub>2</sub>	7.82
10.926	1-Tridecene	C <sub>13</sub> H <sub>26</sub>	1.16
11.231	2-Heptanone, 4-methyl-	C <sub>8</sub> H <sub>16</sub> O	0.45
11.950	Saccharin	C <sub>7</sub> H <sub>5</sub> NO <sub>3</sub> S	0.23
12.285	Heptanoic acid, 2-ethyl-, methyl ester	C <sub>10</sub> H <sub>20</sub> O <sub>2</sub>	1.50
12.359	Tridecane, 3-methylene-	C <sub>14</sub> H <sub>28</sub>	1.80
12.427	3-Hexadecanone	C <sub>16</sub> H <sub>32</sub> O	2.05
12.584	1-Hexadecanol, acetate	C <sub>18</sub> H <sub>36</sub> O <sub>2</sub>	20.82
12.947	Butanoic acid, 3-methyl-, 3,7-dimethyl-6-octenyl ester	C <sub>15</sub> H <sub>28</sub> O <sub>2</sub>	0.99
13.022	3,3-Dimethyl-4-heptanol	C <sub>9</sub> H <sub>20</sub> O	0.68
13.436	(R)-(-)-(Z)-14-Methyl-8-hexadecen-1-ol	C <sub>17</sub> H <sub>34</sub> O	0.80
13.819	5-Hexyn-1-ol	C <sub>6</sub> H <sub>10</sub> O	0.22
14.311	Lauric acid, isopentyl ester	C <sub>17</sub> H <sub>34</sub> O <sub>2</sub>	10.05
14.537	Heptanal n-Heptaldehyde	C <sub>7</sub> H <sub>14</sub> O	1.02
14.792	1-Hexadecanol, acetate	C <sub>18</sub> H <sub>36</sub> O <sub>2</sub>	3.09
14.870	Stearic acid, ethyl ester	C <sub>20</sub> H <sub>40</sub> O <sub>2</sub>	0.77
15.300	(R)-(-)-(Z)-14-Methyl-8-hexadecen-1-ol	C <sub>17</sub> H <sub>34</sub> O	0.76
16.010	Oleyl alcohol, trifluoroacetate	C <sub>20</sub> H <sub>35</sub> F <sub>3</sub> O <sub>2</sub>	0.60
16.318	Tridecane, 3-methylene-	C <sub>12</sub> H <sub>24</sub>	1.67
17.077	Oleyl alcohol, trifluoroacetat	C <sub>20</sub> H <sub>35</sub> F <sub>3</sub> O <sub>2</sub>	1.58

The result of the volatile organic compound profile of the active methanol fraction (E) of *Cochlospermum tinctorium* root powder tested against antibiotic resistant *Staphylococcus aureus* and *Listeria monocytogene* are presented on Table 9 b. The chromatogram shows 11 peaks (compounds) in fraction E of which the highest peak intensity was observed at peak 11 (i-Propyl 9,12-octadecenadienoate - 69.12%) and the lowest at peak 3 (Silane, trimethyl(2-phenylethoxy)- 0.26%). Other compounds identified in fraction E include; Cyclotrisiloxane, hexamethyl-, 4- Isothiazolocarboxamide, .Omega.-Phenylacetic acid, Benzeneethanol, 4-hydroxy-, Pyrazolo[5,1-c]-as-triazine-, 1,2-Butadiene, 1,1,4-triphenyl-3-trimethylsilyl-4-trimethylsilyloxy-, Diethyl Phthalate, 1-(+)-Ascorbic acid 2,6-dihexadecanoate, Heptanoic acid, 2-ethyl-

**Table 4.9b:** Volatile organic compound profile of the active methanol fraction (E) of *Cochlospermum tinctorium* root powder tested against antibiotic resistant *Staphylococcus aureus* and *L. monocytogene*

RT <sup>1</sup>	Compound	Molecular Formular	Peak Area Normalised (%)
5.014	Cyclotrisiloxane, hexamethyl-	C <sub>6</sub> H <sub>18</sub> O <sub>3</sub> Si <sub>3</sub>	2.31
6.071	4-Isothiazolecarboxamide	C <sub>4</sub> H <sub>4</sub> N <sub>2</sub> OS	0.59
6.490	Silane, trimethyl(2-phenylethoxy)-	C <sub>11</sub> H <sub>18</sub> OSi	0.26
6.670	.Omega.-Phenylacetic acid	C <sub>8</sub> H <sub>8</sub> O <sub>2</sub>	0.38
8.654	Benzeneethanol, 4-hydroxy-	C <sub>8</sub> H <sub>10</sub> O <sub>2</sub>	0.64
10.042	Pyrazolo[5,1-c]-as-triazine-	C <sub>7</sub> H <sub>6</sub> N <sub>4</sub> O <sub>2</sub>	0.58
10.234	1,2-Butadiene,1,1,4-triphenyl-3-trimethylsilyl-4-trimethylsilyloxy-	C <sub>28</sub> H <sub>34</sub> OSi <sub>2</sub>	0.36
10.440	Diethyl Phthalate 1	C <sub>12</sub> H <sub>14</sub> O <sub>4</sub>	2.83
13.666	1-(+)-Ascorbic acid 2,6-dihexadecanoate	C <sub>38</sub> H <sub>68</sub> O <sub>8</sub>	22.02
13.934	Heptanoic acid, 2-ethyl-	C <sub>9</sub> H <sub>18</sub> O <sub>2</sub>	0.92
15.064	i-Propyl 9,12-octadecenadienoate	C <sub>21</sub> H <sub>38</sub> O <sub>2</sub>	69.12

285

## 286 Discussions

287 The methanol extract yield obtained in this study appears promising for the plant. This is similar  
 288 with the finding of Ibrahim *et al.* [19] who reported 5% yield for methanol extract of *Ceiba*  
 289 *pentandra*. Plants are known to possess different chemical constituents and varies between plant  
 290 species. The % yield obtained might be attributed to the variability in the constituents of the  
 291 plant that have impact on the solubility of the constituents and the polarity of methanol [20]. The  
 292 yield obtained is within ranges reported and suggest that the root of *C. tinctorium* possess posses  
 293 an extractable yield of phyto-chemicals. The choice of methanol is due to the fact that it has been  
 294 shown to be suitable for the isolation of lipophilic compounds [21]. The lipophilic activity has  
 295 been shown to significantly affect the antibacterial activity of certain class of compounds [22]

296

297 The result of the column chromatography of *Cochlospermum tinctorium* crude methanol extract  
 298 revealed that the methanol and ethyl acetate in ratio of 80:20 had the highest fractions of three  
 299 compound. This indicated its suitability in separation of different phyto-chemical constituents  
 300 found within the plants. It was reported that the column chromatography is one of the most  
 301 popular and widely used separation techniques used in characterizing both organic and inorganic  
 302 material and thus suggesting its potential usefulness in chemical analysis of complex extract  
 303 materials [23].

304

305 The results of thin layer chromatography revealed different  $R_f$  values. The differences in  $R_f$  value  
306 is an indication that different compounds were presence in the methanol extract of plant. The  
307 used of TLC is an inexpensive which provides answer as to how many components are in a  
308 mixture. It is also used to support the identity of a compound in a mixture when the  $R_f$  of a  
309 compound is compared with the  $R_f$  of a known compound. The TLC is one of the common  
310 practice for isolation and separation of the bioactive compounds that are then used for the  
311 determination of structure and biological activity [21]. It was reported that the component which  
312 shows less  $R_f$  value in a less polar solvent has high polarity and a high  $R_f$  values in less polar  
313 solvents shows that the compound is less polar [24]

314

315 The results of the antibacterial of crude methanol extracts showed that the *C. tinctorium* was  
316 active against the various test bacteria at different concentrations tested. However, the plant  
317 showed good inhibition toward test bacterial isolates. It was observed that at higher  
318 concentration of 10 mg/mL the inhibition activity fall within 19.00 – 21.00 mm which very  
319 closed to the control antibiotic with inhibition zone of 20 - 28mm. The reason for high  
320 antbacterial activity could be attributed to fact that *Staphylococcus aureus* and *L.*  
321 *monocytogene* are gram-positive bacteria whose outer peptidoglyan layer is not an effective  
322 permeability barrier. However, the high activity of crude methanol extract of the plant might  
323 attributed to the presence of varying different bioactive compounds which exerted their action in  
324 a different ways and thus resulting in inhibition the growth of bacteria. The mechanisms of  
325 action of plant constituents is not yet fully understood it is clear that the effectiveness of the  
326 extracts is largely depend on the type of solvent used. This observation is clearly indicated that  
327 the existence of non-polar residue in the plant extracts have contributed to its bactericidal and  
328 bacteristatic s activity [25]. Cowan [26] also reported that most antibiotics compounds already  
329 identified in the plants are reportedly aromatic or saturated organic molecules which can easily  
330 solubilized in the organic solvents. However, due to the emergence of antibiotic resistant, plants  
331 are being looked upon as an excellent alternate to combat the further spread of multidrug  
332 resistant microorganisms [27].

333

334 The minimum inhibitory concerntration of the crude methanol extract was obtained between 2.5  
335 - 0.625 mg/mL for both *Staphylococcus aureus* and *L. Monocytogene* while the MBC was  
336 observed between 5.0 - 2.5 mg/mL. In this study we observed that the MIC value obtained were  
337 lower than the MBC values. This indicates that the plant extracts were bacteriostatic at lower  
338 concentration but bactericidal at higher concentration. Similar finding of Aliyu *et al.* [28]

339 obtained MIC at 2.09 mg/mL against *Staphylococcus aureus* in the antibacterial activity of leaf  
340 extract of *Stereospermum kunthianum* (Bignoniaceae), and Kim *et al.* [29] obtained MIC at 2.0  
341 mg/mL against *L. monocytogene* in the antibacterial activity of *Saposhnikovia divaricata*,  
342 *Peucedanum japonicum* and *Glehnia littoralis*. The Previous studies by Okemo *et al.* [30]  
343 suggested that at higher concentration of plants extract the more rapidly organisms would be  
344 killed.

345 The active methanol extract of *Cochlospermum tinctorium* root powder reveals maximum zone  
346 of inhibition 26.00 mm against *Staphylococcus aureus* L and 21.00 mm was observed against *L.*  
347 *Monocytogene* R4. The high activity of fraction A against *Staphylococcus aureus* and fraction E  
348 against *L. monocytogene* is an indication that the active compound presence in the plant exerted  
349 more antibacterial activity when it's in active and pure form. The low activity of active fraction  
350 B, D and F against the test bacteria indicated that the constituent might exert synergistic effect in  
351 inhibiting the growth of test organisms. This study is in close agreement with a previous studies  
352 of Arora *et al.* [31] that obtained 22.30 mm against *L. Monocytogene* in the antibacterial activity  
353 of seed, pomace and leaf extract of *Hippophae rhamnoides* L.

354

355 The GC-MS analysis of the active fractions showed the existence of various bioactive  
356 compounds with different chemical structures. The major compound in both fraction (A and E)  
357 are: 1-(+)-Ascorbic acid 2,6-dihexadecanoate, Diethyl phthalate, Undecyl acetate, 3-  
358 tetradecanone, 3-hexadecanone. Previous studies reported that 1-(+)-Ascorbic acid 2,6-  
359 dihexadecanoate which is identified in the aqueous extract of *Indigofera tinctoria* possess an  
360 antioxidant, anti-inflammatory and anti-nociceptive properties [32]. Diethyl phthalate was  
361 identified in the methanol extract of the flower of *Quisqualis indica* plant extract and it was  
362 found effective against *E.coli* and least effective against *S. pneumoniae*, *Staphylococcus aureus*  
363 [33][34]. Undecyl acetate was identified in the essential oil of *C. planchonii* and was effective  
364 against diarrhoea and some other infections [35]. 3-tetradecanone, 3-hexadecanone were  
365 identified in the essential oil of whole tubercle of *C. tinctorium* and was found to possess anti  
366 plasmodial properties [36].

367

## 368 Conclusion

369 From the above research it can be concluded that *Cochlospermum tinctorium* root powder has  
370 immense potential to be used in the area of pharmacology as it possess antimicrobial activity  
371 against the antibiotic resistant food-borne pathogens, thus could be exploited as alternative

antimicrobial drugs for the treatment of diseases caused by those pathogens. Due to the presence of various compounds that are essential for good health, it can also be used to improve the health status of the mankind. The volatile organic compound profiling of the major compounds showed that they possess antimicrobial, anti-inflammatory and antinociceptive properties.

376

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