ANTIOXIDANT POTENTIAL OF DIFFERENT PARTS OF BOGOR PINEAPPLE (ANANAS COMOSUS [L.] MERR. VAR. QUEEN) CULTIVATED IN WEST JAVA-INDONESIA

IRDA FIDRIANNY*, VELIANA VIRNA, MUHAMAD INSANU

Department of Pharmaceutical Biology, School of Pharmacy, Bandung Institute of Technology, Indonesia. Email: irdafidrianny@gmail.com

Received: 15 August 2017, Revised and Accepted: 29 September 2017

ABSTRACT

Objective: The aims of this research were to observe antioxidant activities from different parts of Bogor pineapple [Ananas comosus [L] Merr. Var. Queen] using two antioxidant testing methods which were 2,2-diphenyl-1-picrylhydrazyl (DPPH) and ferric reducing antioxidant power (FRAP) and correlation of total phenolic and flavonoid contents with their inhibitory concentration 50% (IC\textsubscript{50}) of DPPH and their IC\textsubscript{50} FRAP.

Methods: Each sample was extracted by reflux using different polarity solvents. Antioxidant activities were determined using DPPH and FRAP assays, total phenolic content (TPC) using Folin–Ciocalteu reagent, flavonoid content by Chang’s method, and correlation with their IC\textsubscript{50} DPPH and EC\textsubscript{50} FRAP were analyzed by Pearson’s method.

Results: IC\textsubscript{50} DPPH of various extracts of different parts of Bogor pineapple ranged from 0.13 to 68.17µg/ml. The ethyl acetate peel extract of Bogor pineapple presented the highest TPC (7.84 g GAE/100 g) while the highest total flavonoid content (10.84 g QE/100 g) was shown by ethyl acetate bract extract of Bogor pineapple. TPC in peel extract of Bogor pineapple had negative and significant correlation with their IC\textsubscript{50} DPPH. The IC\textsubscript{50} FRAP of peel extract of Bogor pineapple showed positive and significant correlation.

Conclusion: All different part extracts of Bogor pineapple (except n-hexane flesh extract, peel extract, and bract extract) were categorized as a very strong antioxidant by DPPH method. Phenolic compounds in peel extract of Bogor pineapple were the major contributor in antioxidant activities by FRAP method. DPPH and FRAP methods gave linear results in antioxidant activities of Bogor pineapple peel extract.

Keywords: Antioxidant, 2,2-diphenyl-1-picrylhydrazyl, Ferric reducing antioxidant power, Bogor pineapple.

INTRODUCTION

The excessive of free radical in oxidative stress condition can be scavenged by antioxidant, which related to many degenerative diseases. Phenolic compounds included flavonoid compounds have many effects such as antioxidant, antibacterial, and antidiabetic activities [1-4]. Phenolic compounds are commonly used as a subject in many researches. Many plants are resources of natural antioxidant because they contain phenolic and flavonoid compounds which have the antioxidant capacity [5-7].

Some methods have been used to determine antioxidant activity in many plants extracts such as 2,2-diphenyl-1-picrylhydrazyl (DPPH), ferric reducing antioxidant power (FRAP), and 2,2’-azino-bis (3-ethylbenzthiazoline-6-sulphonic acid (ABTS) methods [8]. The previous researches [6,8] presented that DPPH, ABTS, and FRAP can be performed to observe antioxidant activity of fruits, vegetables, and food.

The previous researches revealed that pineapple contained flavonoid compounds and other phenolic compounds [9,10] which can act as antioxidant. The previous study [11] presented that the fruit pulpal of pineapple (Ananas comosus) had antioxidant capacity. Parts of the plant may contain similar compounds, and hence, they have similar effects. Peel and bract of pineapple are waste of pineapple and may have antioxidant activity.

Bogor pineapple (A. comosus [L] Merr. Var. Queen) is one variety of pineapple. There was no research regarding antioxidant activity of different parts of extract of Bogor pineapple (A. comosus [L] Merr. Var. Queen) which were flesh, peel, and bract extracted using increasing polarity solvents (n-hexane, ethyl acetate, and ethanol) and observed by DPPH and FRAP assays.

The goals of this research were to observe antioxidant activities in various polarity extracts (n-hexane, ethyl acetate, and ethanol) from different parts of Bogor pineapple grown in West Java, Indonesia, using DPPH and FRAP assays and correlations of total phenolic and flavonoid with their antioxidant activities.

MATERIALS AND METHODS

Materials

DPPH, 2,4,6-tripyridyl-s-triazine (TPTZ), gallic acid, and quercetin were purchased from Sigma-Aldrich (MO, USA), different parts of Bogor pineapple (A. comosus). All of other reagents were analytical grades.

Preparation of sample

Bogor pineapple was collected from Bogor, West Java, Indonesia, and determined as Bogor pineapple (A. comosus [L] Merr. Var. Queen) at Herbarium Bandungense, School of Life Sciences and Technology, Bandung Institute of Technology. Different parts of Bogor pineapple which were used in this research: Flesh named as flesh of Bogor pineapple (FLE), peel as peel of Bogor pineapple (PEE), and bract as bract of Bogor pineapple (BRC), thoroughly washed with tap water, sorted while wet, cut, dried, and grinded into powder. Peel and bract are the waste product which not used by the people.

Extraction

Each sample was extracted by reflux using different polarity solvents. Three hundred grams of powdered samples was extracted using n-hexane was repeated 3 times. The remaining residue was then
extracted triplicate using ethyl acetate. Finally, the remaining residue was extracted triplicate using ethanol. Therefore, totally, there were nine extracts: Three n-hexane extracts (namely, FLE1, PEE1, and BRC1), three ethyl acetate extracts (FLE2, PEE2, and BRC2), and three ethanolic extracts (FLE3, PEE3, and BRC3).

**Antioxidant activity by DPPH assay**

Antioxidant activity by DPPH assay was performed using Blois's method [12] with minor modification. Two ml of various concentration of each extract was added into 2 ml DPPH solution 50 µg/ml to initiate the reaction for obtaining a calibration curve. The absorbance was observed after 30 min incubation at wavelength 515 nm by UV-Vis spectrophotometer (Beckman Coulter DU 720). Ascorbic acid was used as a standard, methanol as a blank, and DPPH 50 µg/ml as a control. The analysis was done in triplicate for standard and each extract. Antioxidant activity was presented as inhibition concentration 50% (IC\(_{50}\)) of DPPH scavenging activity by calculating IC\(_{50}\) of each extract using its calibration curve.

**Antioxidant activity by FRAP assay**

Antioxidant capacity by FRAP method was conducted by Benzi’s method with minor modification [13]. FRAP solution was prepared in acetate buffer pH 3.6. 2 ml of various concentration of each extract was added into 2 ml FRAP solution 50 µg/ml to initiate the reaction. After 30 min incubation, the absorbance was observed at wavelength 593 nm. Acetate buffer was used as a blank, FRAP 50 µg/ml as control, and ascorbic acid as standard. The analysis was performed in triplicate for standard and each extract. Antioxidant capacity was expressed as exhibiting concentration 50% (EC\(_{50}\)) of FRAP capacity by determining EC\(_{50}\) using its calibration curve.

**Total phenolic content (TPC)**

TPC was determined using Folin–Ciocalteu reagent [14]. The absorbance was seen at wavelength 765 nm. The analysis was conducted in triplicate for each extract. Gallic acid solution 50-160 µg/ml was used to observe a calibration curve. TPC was presented as g gallic acid equivalent per 100 g extract (g GAE/100 g).

**Total flavonoid content (TFC)**

Determination of TFC was performed using a modification of Chang’s method [15]. The absorbance was determined at wavelength 415 nm. The analysis was carried out in triplicate for each extract. Quercetin standard 50-125 µg/ml was used to obtain a calibration curve. TFC was expressed as g quercetin equivalent per 100 g extract (g QE/100 g).

**Statistical analysis**

Each sample analysis was performed in triplicate. All of presented results are means (± standard deviation) of three independent experiments. Statistical analysis using ANOVA with a statistical significance level set at p<0.05 and post hoc Tukey procedure was carried out with the SPSS 16 for Windows. Correlation between the total phenolic and flavonoid content and antioxidant activities and correlation between two antioxidant testing methods were analyzed using the Pearson’s method.

**RESULTS AND DISCUSSION**

Extraction of each crude drug sample was conducted using three different polarity solvents, to separate component in crude drug based on their polarity. Non-polar compound was extracted triplicate using n-hexane solvent. The residue of crude drug was extracted triplicate by ethyl acetate solvent to separate most of semi-polar compound. Then, the crude drug residue was separated by ethanol solvent to obtain most of the polar compound.

The activities and phytochemical content among the extracts can be compared if density among the extracts were similar. One extract with high density may show the higher activity and higher phytochemical content than low-density extract. Hence, all extracts (nine extracts) which were used in the present study should be prepared in similar density. The density of extract did not evaluate in 100% concentrated extract, due to its difficult to determine density of concentrated extract using pycnometer, so the density of the extracts was revealed as density 1% extract (Table 1).

Apak et al. [16] stated that there are two category antioxidant assays, which are single electron transfer (SET)-based assay and hydrogen atom transfer (HAT)-based assay. SET is based on the ability of antioxidant to transfer one electron to reduce oxidant, meanwhile HAT based on the ability of antioxidant to quench radical by hydrogen donation [17]. Increasing or decreasing in absorbance at a given wavelength is depended to the concentration of antioxidant in sample, will be shown by changing of color degree [16]. SET and HAT mechanisms almost always occur together. Ionization potential (IP), bond dissociation energy (BDE), redox potential, pH, and solvent will influence the predominant mechanism will be occurred [16,17]. HAT mechanism compound will be predominantly if compound has IP <~36 kcal/mol, meanwhile SET with DIP =>45 kcal/mol [17].

**Antioxidant activity by DPPH assay**

DPPH is free radical and has absorption at wavelength 516 nm. Antioxidant will transfer the hydrogen atom to scavenge DPPH free radical, and then, DPPH will stable. DPPH in methanol gives the purple color and the color change to yellow when free radicals are scavenged by antioxidant [18]. Decreasing in absorbance of DPPH is correlated to antioxidant potential IC\(_{50}\) of DPPH scavenging activity is a concentration of sample or standard that can inhibit 50% of DPPH radical activity. The lowest IC\(_{50}\) is the highest antioxidant activity. IC\(_{50}\) was used to evaluate antioxidant activity of the sample and compared to standard.

Sample was categorized a very strong antioxidant if had IC\(_{50}\) lower than 50 µg/ml, strong antioxidant 50-100 µg/ml, medium antioxidant 101-150 µg/ml, while IC\(_{50}\) >150 µg/ml a weak antioxidant [12]. IC\(_{50}\) DPPH in various extracts of Bogor pineapple parts was exposed in Fig. 1 and compared to IC\(_{50}\) DPPH of the ascorbic acid standard.

Li et al. [19] studied regarding major polyphenolic extract in Bali pineapple peel stated that methanol peel extract of Bali pineapple which was extracted by reflux method had IC\(_{50}\) DPPH 1.13 mg/ml categorized as a weak antioxidant (IC\(_{50}\) >150 µg/ml). It was different with the present study which demonstrated that ethanolic peel extract of Bogor pineapple showed IC\(_{50}\) DPPH 0.13 µg/ml classified as a very strong antioxidant. The previous research presented that methanol fruit pulp extract of MD2 genotype pineapple gave the highest DPPH scavenging activities (22.85 µmol TE/fresh weight) among 26 six genotypes of pineapples from China [11]. A study by Kongsupan et al. [20] exhibited that frozen fruit pulp Nanglae pineapple showed stronger antioxidant activity of the sample and compared to standard.

**Table 1: Density of various extracts of Bogor pineapple**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sample</th>
<th>Density 1% extract (g/ml)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>N-hexane extract</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Flesh</td>
<td>0.66</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Peel</td>
<td>0.67</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bract</td>
<td>0.69</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Antioxidant activities can be demonstrated by percentage of DPPH scavenging activity and compared to percentage of DPPH scavenging activity of ascorbic acid as standard. The percentage of DPPH scavenging activity of ascorbic acid did not achieve 100% because there was still residual yellow color in solution after antioxidant giving hydrogen atom to DPPH [23,24]. The percentage of DPPH scavenging activity cannot present the real antioxidant activity because the higher concentration of sample does not always give the higher percentage of DPPH scavenging activity. The linear result will be exposed in some concentration only. It can be seen in the previous study, which showed that methanol peel extract of pineapple which was extracted by maceration with concentrations of 25 µg/ml, 50 µg/ml, 100 µg/ml, 200 µg/ml and 400 µg/ml had percentage of DPPH scavenging activities 95.52%, 95.67%, 95.74%, 95.17%, and 94.96%, respectively [25]. The methanolic peel extract 100 µg/ml gave a higher percentage of DPPH scavenging activity (95.74%) than methanolic peel extract 200 µg/ml (95.17%) and 400 µg/ml (94.96%). This condition can be occurred in extract or sample which contained more than one compound. The extract consisted of many compounds. Maybe some of them have antioxidant activities, and the other compounds may act as an antagonist of antioxidant activities. The compounds will act as antagonist of antioxidant activities if their minimum effective concentration has been reached. In methanolic peel extract, 200 µg/ml above may be the antagonist antioxidant compounds reached their effective minimum concentration and against the effect of antioxidant activity, and hence, the percentage of DPPH will be decreased. Therefore, this reason can explain why the extract with lower concentration can give higher activity than higher concentration.

**Antioxidant activity by FRAP assay**

The reducing capacity was a significant indicator for antioxidant potential [22]. The presence of Fe (III) can be catalyzed a reaction in the human body which was related to the presence of free radical. In FRAP method, antioxidant will reduce Fe (III) to Fe (II), and then, Fe (II) will form a complex with TPTZ in acetate buffer pH 3.6. Complex of Fe (II)-TPTZ shows blue color and gave absorption at maximum wavelength 593 nm. The reduction potential of Fe (III)/Fe (II) 0.77 V, hence, an antioxidant compound will reduce Fe (III) to Fe (II) if its reduction potential lower than 0.77 V. Increasing in absorbance of Fe (II)-TPTZ related with antioxidant capacity. EC$_{50}$ of FRAP capacity is a concentration of sample or standard that can exhibit 50% of FRAP capacity. EC$_{50}$ FRAP of each extract was compared to EC$_{50}$ DPPH of ascorbic acid standard and can be seen in Fig. 2.

Previous research found that frozen fruit pulp of Nanglae pineapple gave higher FRAP capacity (205.73 mol AAE/100 g fresh weight) than Phulae pineapple 165.28 mol AAE/100 g fresh weight [20]. Lu et al. [11] exposed that methanolic fruit pulp extract of MD2 pineapple genotype had the highest antioxidant activity by TEAC method (17.30 µmol TE/g fresh weight) among 26 six genotypes of pineapple. The present study demonstrated that EC$_{50}$ FRAP of various extracts of different parts of Bogor pineapple varied from 97.34 to 370.16 µg/ml while the ethanolic extract of flesh, peel, and bract extract of Bogor pineapple showed EC$_{50}$ FRAP 375.58, 259.08, and 370.16 µg/ml, respectively. A study by Rashad et al. [22] revealed that methanolic peel extract of FPW 8 mg/ml showed the highest antioxidant activity by reducing power and beta-carotene-linoleic acid assays compared to concentrations of 2, 4, 6, and 10 mg/ml and methanolic peel extract of UFPW. This result also expressed that higher concentration did not always give higher activity than lower concentration. It is different from a pure compound which shows the higher concentration always gave higher activity.

**TPC**

TPC among the various extracts from different parts of Bogor pineapple was stated in terms of gallic acid equivalent and gave result ranged from 0.47 to 7.84 g GAE/100 g, PEE2 extract (ethyl acetate peels extract of Bogor pineapple) showed the highest TPC (7.84 g GAE/100 g) and the lowest for ethanolic flesh extract of Bogor pineapple (FLE3) 0.47 g GAE/100 g (Fig. 3).

**Fig. 1: Inhibitory concentration 50% of 2, 2-diphenyl-1-picrylhydrazyl scavenging activity in various extracts of Bogor pineapple (n=3)**

**Fig. 2: Exhibitory concentration 50% of ferric reducing antioxidant power capacity in various extracts of Bogor pineapple (n=3)**

**Fig. 3: Total phenolic content in various extracts of Bogor pineapple (n=3)**

Flavonoids, tannins, and phenolic acids are included in phenolic groups. The stronger antioxidant capacity will be given by ortho and para hydroxyl substitution [26]. Cinnamic acid had higher antioxidant capacity than benzoic acid [27]. Antioxidant activity might be related to TPC [14,28].

Previous research [19] showed that methanolic peel extract of Bali pineapple had TPC 0.790 g GAE/100 g dry weight or 0.148 g/100 g fresh weight. It was different from the present study which stated that TPC in ethanolic peel extract of Bogor pineapple 1.36 g GAE/100 g dry weight. A study by Kongsuwan et al. [20] presented that TPC and vitamin C of frozen fruit pulp of Phulae pineapple (26.20 mg GAE/100 g and 18.88 mg/100 g fresh weight, respectively) were higher than Nanglae pineapple (20.28 mg GAE/100 g and 6.45 mg/100 g fresh weight). The previous study [11] expressed that TPC in methanolic fruit pulp extract of MD2 pineapple genotype (77.55 mg GAE/100 g fresh weight) was the highest TPC among 26 six pineapple genotypes. The methanolic peel extract of pineapple from Egypt exhibited that PFW showed higher TPC than UFPW [22].
Table 2: Pearson's correlation coefficient of total phenolic and flavonoid content in various extracts of Bogor pineapple with their antioxidant activities

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Antioxidant parameter</th>
<th>Pearson's correlation coefficient (r)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>TPC</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>IC&lt;sub&gt;50&lt;/sub&gt; DPHH FLE</td>
<td>0.17 ns</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>IC&lt;sub&gt;50&lt;/sub&gt; DPHH PEE</td>
<td>-0.28 ns</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>IC&lt;sub&gt;50&lt;/sub&gt; DPHH BRC</td>
<td>-0.35 ns</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EC&lt;sub&gt;50&lt;/sub&gt; FRAP FLE</td>
<td>-0.99**</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EC&lt;sub&gt;50&lt;/sub&gt; FRAP PEE</td>
<td>-0.93**</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EC&lt;sub&gt;50&lt;/sub&gt; FRAP BRC</td>
<td>-0.99**</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Pearson's correlation coefficient (r) was significantly negative if \(-0.61 \leq r \leq -0.97\) and significantly positive if \(0.61 \leq r \leq 0.97\). The highest antioxidant activity will be shown by the lowest IC<sub>50</sub> of DPHH scavenging activities and EC<sub>50</sub> of FRAP capacity. Increasing in TFC and TPC may be related with increasing in antioxidant activities, which was exposed by lower IC<sub>50</sub> DPHH and EC<sub>50</sub> FRAP. Hence, the good correlation between TFC and TPC with IC<sub>50</sub> DPHH or EC<sub>50</sub> FRAP was significantly negative correlation [30].

**Pearson correlation coefficient**

Pearson’s correlation coefficient was significantly negative if \(-0.61 \leq r \leq -0.97\) and significantly positive if \(0.61 \leq r \leq 0.97\) [8]. The highest antioxidant activity will be shown by the lowest IC<sub>50</sub> of DPHH scavenging activities and EC<sub>50</sub> of FRAP capacity. Increasing in TFC and TPC may be related with increasing in antioxidant activities, which was exposed by lower IC<sub>50</sub> DPHH and EC<sub>50</sub> FRAP. Hence, the good correlation between TFC and TPC with IC<sub>50</sub> DPHH or EC<sub>50</sub> FRAP was significantly negative correlation [30].

**TPC in peel extract of Bogor pineapple**

TPC in peel extract of Bogor pineapple was 0.73 g QE/100 g dry weight in terms of quercetin equivalent in the range of 0.17 - 10.94 g QE/100 g. The lowest TFC was given by ethanolic peel extract of Bogor pineapple (PEE3) 1.36 g GAE/100 g dry weight, while the highest TCF (10.84 g QE/100 g) presented by ethanolic bract extract of Bogor pineapple (BRC2) [2]

**TFC among three extracts of Bogor pineapple**

TFC among three extracts of Bogor pineapple was 0.73 g QE/100 g dry weight in terms of quercetin equivalent in the range of 0.17 - 10.94 g QE/100 g. The lowest TFC was given by ethanolic peel extract of Bogor pineapple (PEE3) 1.36 g GAE/100 g dry weight, while the highest TCF (10.84 g QE/100 g) presented by ethanolic bract extract of Bogor pineapple (BRC2) [25].

**Flavonoid may have antioxidant effect as a hydrogen-donating compound, metal chelating ion, single oxygen transfer, and singlet oxygen quencher** [29]. Hydrogen donating and metal chelating are related to ortho di- OH structure in ring B, C-2-C-3 double bond, and oxo group at C-4 [29]. Flavonoid had higher antioxidant capacity than phenolic acid [27]. Flavonoid would give higher antioxidant capacity if flavonoid had ortho di-OH in C 3',4', OH in C3, oxo function in C4, and double bond at C2 and C3. The di-OH with ortho position in C3'-C4' had the highest influence to antioxidant capacity of flavonoid. The flavonoid glycosides had lower antioxidant capacity than flavonoid aglycones [27].

**Fig. 4: Total flavonoid content in various extracts of Bogor pineapple (n=3)**

The previous study [21] exposed antioxidant activities of methanol fruit pulp extract in terms of mol Trolox equivalent (TE)/g fresh weight. Therefore, the higher antioxidant activities will demonstrate by higher mol TE/g fresh weight. Methanol fruit pulp extract of MD2 pineapple genotype gave the highest TPC and also presented the highest antioxidant activities by DPPH and TEAC methods. It was proved by statistical analysis that TPC in methanol fruit pulp extract of MD2 pineapple genotype had significant and positive correlation with their antioxidant activities by DPPH and TEAC methods. It was proved by statistical analysis that TPC in methanol fruit pulp extract of MD2 pineapple genotype had significant and positive correlation with their antioxidant activities by DPPH and TEAC methods.
extract of MD2 pineapple genotype (r = 0.912, p<0.01). TPC in frozen fruit pulp of Phulae and Nanglae pineapple from Thailand had a higher correlation with their antioxidant capacities by FRAP method (r = 0.78, p<0.01) [29]. It was similar to the present study which demonstrated that TPC and TFC in peel extract and bract extract of Bogor pineapple had a significant correlation with their EC₅₀, FRAP. It can be concluded that phenolic compounds in flesh and bract extracts of Bogor pineapple together with flavonoid compounds contributed in their antioxidant activities by FRAP method.

CONCLUSION
Antioxidant activities should be performed by different methods in parallel, due to various methods could give different results. All different parts of the extracts of Bogor pineapple (A. comosus [L.] Merr. Var. Queen) except n-hexane flesh extract, peel extract, and bract extract can be classified as a very strong antioxidant, using DPPH assay. Phenolic compounds in peel extracts of Bogor pineapple were the major contributor in their antioxidant activity by FRAP method. DPPH and FRAP methods gave linear results in antioxidant activity of peel extract of Bogor pineapple. Peel and bract (pineapple waste) of Bogor pineapple have potential to develop as sources of natural antioxidant for further exploitation.

REFERENCES