

Evaluation of Antioxidant activities of *Brassica napus*'s seeds by CUPRAC, ABTS/Persulphate and DMPD methods

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ABSTRACT

The antioxidant activities of the extracts prepared from *Brassica napus*'s seeds (canola seeds) was determined in this study. *Brassica napus*'s seeds were collected from eight different regions of Turkey. Extraction experiments were carried out with 100% hexane, 100% acetone, 100% methanol, 100% ethanol, %75 hexane-water, %75 acetone-water, 75% methanol-water, 75% ethanol-water, %50 hexane-water, 50% acetone-water, 50% methanol-water, 50% ethanol-water at 25 °C overnight and were mixed by magnetic stirrer during 1h, 2h, 4h, 8h to determine optimal extraction conditions. According to the results of UV/VIS spectra, 100% hexane extraction managed at 25 °C overnight was chosen for working with ABTS/

Persulphate, N,N-dimethyl-p-phenylenediamine (DMPD) and CUPRAC methods. CUPRAC and ABTS/Persulphate methods' total antioxidant capacity (TAC) were calculated as Trolox equivalent. In DMPD method, antioxidant capacity of the extracts was determined by inhibition of DMPD radical cation. DMPD method analysis results of *Brassica napus*'s seeds showed the greatest effectiveness, with inhibition values of $2.00 \pm 0.07\%$ and $17.1 \pm 0.03\%$. The antioxidant activities of *Brassica napus*'s seeds ranged from 0.29 ± 0.04 mol/g and 0.48 ± 0.01 mol/g for CUPRAC method and 0.36 ± 0.01 mol/g and 0.55 ± 0.05 mol/g for ABTS/Persulphate method.

Keywords: Antioxidant activity, *Brassica napus*'s seed, ABTS/Persulphate, CUPRAC, DMPD Methods, Trolox

1. INTRODUCTION

Plants contain a wide variety of free radical scavenging molecules, such as flavonoids, anthocyanins, carotenoids, dietary glutathione, vitamins and endogenous metabolites and these natural products are wealthy in antioxidant activities (1-4). Herbs have been used in many domains including medicine, nutrition, flavoring, beverages, dyeing, repellents, fragrances, cosmetics, smoking, and other industrial purposes. Since the prehistoric era, herbs have been the basis for nearly all medicinal therapy until synthetic drugs were developed in the nineteenth century (5-6). The preservative effect of many plant spices and herbs proposes the presence of antioxidative and antimicrobial constituents in their tissues (7). Recently, interest has increased greatly in finding naturally occurring antioxidants for use in foods or medicinal materials to alter synthetic antioxidants, which are being restricted due to their carcinogenicity (8). Free radicals are comprised by the physiological processes that occur naturally in the body and by external sources such as excessive exposure to sunlight

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or smoking and have been linked to several degenerative diseases (9). Although these physiological processes are in themselves not harmful, excess free radical production beyond the body's ability to cope with them can lead to immune system impairment. Oxidative stress has also been related to cardiovascular diseases, hypertension, cancer, and other ailments (10). In this study, experimental studies were performed by determining the total antioxidant capacities using three spectrophotometric methods, cupric ion reducing antioxidant capacity (CUPRAC) and 2,2'-azino-bis(3-ethylbenzothiazoline-6-sulphonate) (ABTS/Persulphate), N,N-dimethyl-p-phenylenediamine (DMPD) methods. Solvent effect is an essential parameter on the chemical behaviour of antioxidant compounds. The choice of extracting solvents with different polarities can have a significant effect on the performance of HAT (Hydrogen Atom Transfer) - and ET (Electron Transfer) - based antioxidant reactions (11-12).

This work aims to investigate the solvent effect of selected antioxidants using CUPRAC and other TAC assays. Therefore, hexane, acetone, methanol, ethanol/water mixtures of differing compositions (containing 100, 75, and 50 volume per cent of methanol), were selected as solvents. 100% hexane extraction were chosen for ABTS/Persulphate, DMPD and CUPRAC methods. Finally, *Brassica napus* extracts prepared in these solvent media were analyzed for antioxidant capacity by the CUPRAC, ABTS/Persulphate and DMPD methods.

2. MATERIAL AND METHODS

2.1. Chemicals and Instruments

All chemicals, solvents, reagents and standards used in the experiments were purchased from Sigma Chemical Co. All chemicals were of analytical grade. All spectrophotometric measurements were made with a pair of matched Hellma quartz cuvettes using a Shimadzu-1601 UV-VIS spectrophotometer

2.2. Preparation of plant extracts

Brassica napus's seeds were collected in July 2013 from different regions of Turkey. The specimens collected by the authors are deposited in the herbarium of Namık Kemal University (NAKU).

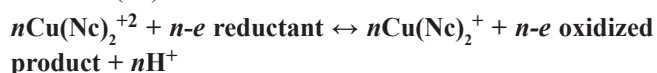
Extraction experiments were carried out with 100% hexane, 100% acetone, 100% methanol, 100% ethanol, 75% hexane-water, 75% acetone-water, 75% methanol-water, 75% ethanol-water, 50% hexane-water 50% acetone-water, 50% methanol-water, 50% ethanol-water at 25 °C overnight and mixed by magnetic stirrer for 1h, 2h, 4h, 8h

to determine optimal extraction conditions. For 100 % hexane extraction, 1 g sample was powdered in a mill and mixed with 40ml hexane and stored overnight in dark room. Then, the extract was filtered over Whatman No. 1 paper. Filtrates were removed and solutions were re-extracted with 50% acetone-water by extraction flask. Bottom phase were used for DMPD, ABTS/Persulphate and CUPRAC methods. The standard solutions at 1.0×10^{-3} M concentration of antioxidant compounds were all prepared in 100% hexane for DMPD, ABTS/Persulphate and CUPRAC methods. Solutions were re-extracted 50% acetone-water by extraction flask. All working solutions of antioxidant compounds were freshly prepared.

2.3. Modified CUPRAC Assay (Cuprac ion reducing antioxidant activity method)

0.2 ml sample was taken and added 0.5 mL of $2 \cdot 10^{-3}$ M Cu(II) chloride, 0.5 ml ethanol, 1 ml of $7.5 \cdot 10^{-3}$ M neocuproine solution (Nc), 1 ml of 1 M NH_4Ac buffer solutions (pH 7) and 0.8 ml ethanol to test tube so as to make the final volume: 4 mL. Nc and NH_4Ac solutions were prepared daily by dissolving in absolute ethanol. The tubes were stoppered, and after 1/2 h, the absorbance at 450 nm (A_{450}) was recorded against water blank. The CUPRAC method is based on the reduction of a cupric neocuproine complex (Cu(II)-Nc) by antioxidants to the cuprous form (Cu(I)-Nc). The standard calibration curve of trolox was constructed as absorbance vs. concentration, and the molar absorptivity of the CUPRAC method for each antioxidant was found from the slope of the calibration line concerned (14).

The CUPRAC method of total antioxidant capacity (TAC) assay uses bis (2,9-dimethyl-1,10-phenanthroline: neocuproine) Cu(II) chelate cation as the chromogenic oxidant, which is reduced in the presence of antioxidants to the cuprous neocuproine chelate [Cu(I)-Nc] showing maximum light absorption at 450 nm. Colour development in the CUPRAC method is based on the following reaction: (15).



Since the calibration curve for pure trolox is a line passing through the origin, the trolox equivalent molar concentration of the plant extract sample in final solution may be found by dividing the observed absorbance to the molar absorptivity (ϵ) for trolox (optical cuvette thickness = 1 cm). The trolox equivalent antioxidant capacity may be traced back to the original extract considering all dilutions, and proportionated to the initial mass of plant sample taken to find the capacity in the units of mmol TR/g dry matter.

$$(\text{mmol TR g}^{-1}) = (\text{Absorbance}/\epsilon_{\text{TR}})(4/0.2)(20/0.5) \\ (100/\text{g-plant weight}) (1/\text{dry matter \%})$$

where the molar absorptivity of trolox in the CUPRAC method is $\epsilon_{\text{TR}} = 1.67 \times 10^4$

$\text{Lmol}^{-1}\text{cm}^{-1}$. In CUPRAC method's analyses, *Brassica napus*'s seeds have essential oils. 100% hexane extraction is proved with the best solubility for CUPRAC method. 100% hexane extraction, probably due to facilitated e-transfer in ionizing solvents capable of anion (phenolate) solution. CUPRAC assay results, expressed as the trolox equivalent antioxidant capacity.

2.4. Determination of ABTS/persulphate assay

For the ABTS test of TAC, the chromogenic radical reagent ABTS, at 7.0 mM concentration, was prepared by dissolving this compound in water and adding $\text{K}_2\text{S}_2\text{O}_8$ to this solution such that the final persulphate concentration in the mixture is 2.45 mM. The resulting ABTS radical cation solution was left to mature at room temperature in the dark for 12–16 h, and then used for ABTS assays. ABTS radical solution of blue-green colour was diluted with 96% ethanol at a ratio of 1:30. To 1 mL of the radical cation solution, 2 mL of ethanol were added, and the absorbance at 734 nm was read at the end of the sixth minute. The procedure was repeated for the *Brassica napus*'s seed extract. To 2 mL of dilute sample, 1 mL of the radical cation solution and 4 mL of ethanol were added. The absorbance difference (ΔA) was calculated by subtracting the extract absorbance from that of the reagent blank (pure radical solution) (16).

Trolox equivalent antioxidant concentration was correlated to with the aid of a linear calibration curve.

$$(\text{mmol TR g}^{-1}) = (\Delta A/\epsilon_{\text{TR}})(3.0/2.0)(40/1) (100/\text{g-plant weight}) (1/\text{dry matter \%})$$

where the molar absorptivity of trolox in the ABTS method is $\epsilon_{\text{TR}} = 2.6 \times 10^4 \text{ Lmol}^{-1}\text{cm}^{-1}$. The absorbance of the reagent blank (A_0) diminished in the presence of antioxidants, the absorbance decrease (ΔA) being proportional to antioxidant concentration. The decrease in absorbance (ΔA) caused by antioxidants, recorded at 734nm against ethanol at the end of 6th min, reflected the $\text{ABTS}^{+\cdot}$ radical cation scavenging capacity and was plotted against the concentration of the antioxidant. The effect of extraction solvent on radical scavenging capacity estimation was also evaluated against radical cation

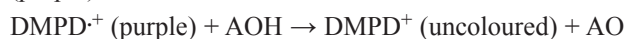
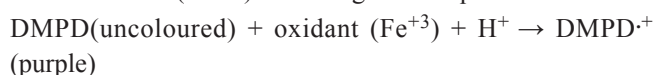
2.5. Determination of DMPD method

The principle of the assay is that at an acidic pH and in the presence of a suitable oxidant solution DMPD can form a stable and colored radical cation ($\text{DMPD}^{+\cdot}$). Antioxidant compounds which are able to transfer a hydrogen atom to

$\text{DMPD}^{+\cdot}$ quench the color and produce a discoloration of the solution which is proportional to their amount.

1 ml sample was taken from hexane extract To a test tube were added 0.5 mL of 1.10×10^{-2} M FeCl_3 , 1 mL of sodium acetate buffer solution (pH 5.7), 1 mL of H_2O_2 (3%), and x mL of sample solution, and the volume was completed to (9-x) mL with distilled water. The mixture was shaken after each addition and then allowed to stand on a water bath at 25 °C for 5 min. After the addition of 4.8×10^{-3} M (1 ml) DMPD solution (DMPD solution at 2.4×10^{-2} M described in the original method was diluted 5 times with distilled water to get a final absorbance of ~ 0.9–1.0 in the absence of scavenger sample solution), the mixture was kept on the water bath for an additional 20 min, and the absorbance in the absence or presence of sample was recorded against distilled water at 514 nm. The decrease in absorbance in the presence of sample linearly correlated with antioxidant concentration over a reasonable range (17).

Antioxidant compounds which are able to transfer a hydrogen atom to $\text{DMPD}^{+\cdot}$ quench the color and produce a decoloration of the solution. This reaction is rapid and the end point, which is stable, is taken as a measure of the antioxidative efficiency. The absorbance at 514 nm as percentage of the absorbance of the uninhibited radical cation solution (blank) according to the equation:



Inhibition of A_{514} (%) = $(1 - A_f / A_0) \times 100$, where: A_0 is the absorbance of uninhibited radical cation and A_f is the absorbance measured 20 min after the addition of antioxidant samples. Therefore, this assay reflects the ability of radical hydrogen-donors to scavenge the single electron from $\text{DMPD}^{+\cdot}$ (15,17-19)

3. RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

CUPRAC, ABTS/persulphate, DMPD methods were suitable for assay of all the tested antioxidants. When regression of calibration curves carried out, good coefficients of determination were found for the three methods. The antioxidant activities of *Brassica napus*'s seeds were investigated with different TAC methods, extraction methods and solvents. The molar absorptivity of trolox in the above reference methods were as follows: $\epsilon_{\text{TR}} = 1.67 \times 10^4 \text{ L mol}^{-1} \text{ cm}^{-1}$ (CUPRAC method); $\epsilon_{\text{TR}} = 2.6 \times 10^4 \text{ L mol}^{-1} \text{ cm}^{-1}$ (ABTS method). I found good coefficients of determinations in a range 0.9927–0.9992 for the CUPRAC, 0.9915–0.9982 for the ABTS/Persulphate, 0.9973–0.9996 for the DMPD method

Solvent effects may also be considered from the standpoint of choosing the reagents encountered in common AOA assays. If the AOA assay reagent is a coordinatively saturated metal complex species (involving different oxidation states of a given metal ion in the same ligand environment such as bis(neocuproine)copper(II,I), tris(1,10-phenanthroline)iron(III,II), hexacyanoferrate(III,II)) capable of outer-sphere e-transfer with the polyphenol (20), then ligand addition or removal is out of question, and a negligible reorientation of the already existing ligands around the central metal ion may be expected in the formation of the transient intermediate during e-transfer, and consequently, the rate of e-transfer may only be affected to a limited extent by solvent polarity. However, innersphere e-transfer reactions of the assay reagent (e.g., $\text{Fe}(\text{H}_2\text{O})_6^{3+}$) with the phenolic compound will naturally be affected by the H bonding behaviour of the solvent due to stabilization or inhibition of the intermediary state formed during e-transfer. When other factors are not considered or assumed to remain constant, AOA assay methods based on H-atom donation (e.g., ORAC, TRAP, and ABTS assays) from a phenolic compound are generally affected to a greater extent by the solvent behaviour (polarity, HBA, etc.) than methods based on outer-sphere e-transfer (e.g., CUPRAC, ferricyanide, and FRAP).

Amarowicz and et al. were examined crude tannins of canola and rapeseed hulls was evaluated by β -carotenelinoleate, α, α -diphenyl- β -picrylhydrazyl (DPPH) radical, and reducing power assays. Crude tannins were extracted from three samples of Cyclone canola (high-tannin) hulls and Kolner, Ligaret, and Leo Polish rapeseed (low-tannin) hulls with 70% (vol/vol) acetone. The total phenolic content in crude tannin extracts ranged between 128 and 296 mg of sinapic acid equivalents per 1 g of extract (21).

Cumby and et.al were investigated antioxidant activity and water-holding capacity of canola protein hydrolysates. Canola protein hydrolysates were prepared using commercial enzymes, namely Alcalase, an endo-peptidase and Flavourzyme with both endo- and exo-peptidase activities. The hydrolysates so prepared were effective as antioxidants in model systems, mainly by scavenging of free radicals and acting as reducing agents. This effect was concentration-dependent and also influenced by the type of enzyme employed in the process. The scavenging capacity of DPPH radicals (%) by various concentrations of different Canola hydrolysates were ranged from 16.8 ± 0.68 to 73.2 ± 1.30 . Analysis results of Reducing power of the hydrolysate samples at different concentrations measured as absorbance (103) at 700 nm were ranged from 2.06 ± 4.97 to 91.7 ± 10.0 (22).

Table 1. Antioxidant activity results of *Brassica napus*'s seeds collected from Turkey.

Sample Region	CUPRAC (TR) mol/g	ABTS (TR) mol/g	DMPD(%)
Kayı village / Tekirdağ	0.33±0.06	0.41±0.08	12.7±0.05
Muratlı/Tekirdağ	0.45±0.02	0.39±0.09	8.5±0.08
Yazır village / Tekirdağ	0.29±0.04	0.36±0.01	9.8±0.02
Gündüzlü village / Tekirdağ	0.36±0.05	0.53±0.04	8.5±0.05
Yenice/Çorlu/ Tekirdağ	0.37±0.03	0.44±0.04	11.4±0.01
Hayrabolu/ Tekirdağ	0.39±0.02	0.47±0.03	8.6±0.01
Silivri/istanbul	0.40±0.08	0.51±0.02	17.1±0.03
Yağcı village / Tekirdağ	0.48±0.01	0.55±0.05	2.00±0.07

^a Values are expressed as mean \pm standard deviation(n=3)

^b TR: Trolox

Amarowicz and et al. were examined condensed tannins were extracted from beach pea, Cyclone canola hulls, evening primrose and faba bean using 70% aqueous acetone. The dried crude tannin extracts were purified on a Sephadex LH-20 column using first 95% ethanol as a mobile phase for elution of nontannin phenolics and then 50% aqueous acetone to elute tannins. The total content of polyphenolics in tannin extracts ranged between 10 and 405 mg catechin equivalents per 1 g extract (23).

Jun et al., investigated the antioxidant activities of various extracts from canola (*Brassica napus*) seed using the DPPH assay, ABTS radical assay, and reducing power. The EC50 values of the ethyl acetate fraction were 4.2, 5.3, and 4.1 times lower than those of the 80% methanol extract for DPPH radical assay, ABTS radical assay, and reducing power, respectively (24).

Canola oil is low in saturated fat and contains both omega-6 and omega-3 fatty acids in a ratio of 2:1. If consumed, it also reduces low-density lipoprotein and overall cholesterol levels, and as a significant source of the essential omega-3 fatty acid is associated with reduced all-cause and cardiovascular mortality. Canola oil has been given a qualified health claim from the United States Food and Drug Administration due to its high levels of cholesterol-lowering fats (25).

Table 1 shows CUPRAC, ABTS/persulphate, DMPD method's analysis results. Antioxidant activities of *Brassica napus*'s seeds's extracts were as follows: Yazır village > Kayı village > Gündüzlü village > Yenice/Çorlu > Hayrabolu >

Silivri > Muratlı > Yacı village for CUPRAC method. Yağcı village is highest antioxidant activity (0.48±0.01 mol/g trolox (TR)) and Yazır village is lowest activity (0.29±0.04 mol/g trolox (TR)) according to modified CUPRAC method.

The spectrophotometric assay is capable of rapid and simple determination which can be applied to antioxidant screening. Antioxidant activities of *Brassica napus*'s seeds's extracts were as follows: Yazır village > Muratlı > Kayı village > Yenice/Çorlu > Hayrabolu > Silivri > Gündüzlü village > Yağcı village for ABTS/Persulphate method. In, Yağcı village showed the highest antioxidant activity (0.55±0.05 mol/g TR) measured by ABTS assay, while Yazır village showed the lowest antioxidant activity (0.36±0.01 mol/g TR).

Antioxidant activities of *Brassica napus*'s seeds's extracts were as follows: Yağcı village > Muratlı = Gündüzlü village > Hayrabolu > Yazır village > Yenice/Çorlu > Kayı village > Silivri for DMPD method.

Silivri is highest inhibition of % (17.1 % ± 0.03) and Yağcı

village is lowest inhibition of % (2.00 % ± 0.07) according to DMPD method

The data's are expressed as mean ± standard deviation (SD) from three parallel measurements. The Pearson correlation analysis was performed between antioxidant activities. There were strong positive significant correlations between CUPRAC and ABTS/Persulfate methods. (p < 0.05). Pearson's correlation coefficient was calculated using Microsoft Excel 2010

Conclusion

This study was purposed for evaluation of the antioxidant activities of *Brassica napus*'s seeds collected from in Turkey. Three different methods were applied in antioxidant activity analysis. The results revealed that each of the 100% hexane extracts prepared from these seeds have antioxidant activities. Antioxidant compounds show variations based on solvent type and polarity, reaction mechanism, solubility parameters as well as on an essential structural property, i.e., electron-transfer capability.

***Brassica napus* tohumlarının antoksidan etkisinin CUPRAC, ABTS/Persülfat ve DMPD yöntemleriyle araştırılması**

ÖZET

Bu çalışmada, *Brassica napus* (kanola) bitkisinin tohumlarından hazırlanan ekstraktların antioksidan etkileri incelendi. *Brassica napus* bitkisinin tohumları Türkiye'nin sekiz farklı bölgesinden toplandı. Ekstraksiyon deneylerinde optimum koşulların belirlenmesi için; 25 °C'de %100 hekzan, %100 aseton, %100 metanol, % 100 etanol, % 75 hekzan-su, % 75 aseton-su, % 75 metanol-su, % 75 etanol-su, % 50 hekzan-su, % 50 aseton-su, % 50 metanol-su, % 50 etanol-su çözücülerinde bir gece boyunca bekletilerek ve 1, 2, 4, 8 saat manyetik karıştırıcılarda bu çözücülerle karıştırılarak ekstraksiyonlar yapıldı. UV/VIS

spektralarının sonuçlarına göre ABTS/Persülfat, DMPD ve CUPRAC yöntemleri için % 100 hekzanla, 25°C'de 1 gece boyunca bekletilen ekstraksiyon seçilerek optimum koşullar sağlandı. CUPRAC ve ABTS/Persülfat yöntemlerinin toplam antioksidan kapasitesi troloks eşdeğeri cinsinden ve DMPD yönteminde ekstraktların antioksidan kapasitesi ise DMPD radikal kationunun inhibisyonu ile belirlendi. *Brassica napus*'un tohumlarının antioksidan etkileri DMPD yöntemi için inhibisyon yüzdeleri 2.00 ± 0.07% ve 17.1± 0.03% aralığında bulunmuştur. CUPRAC yöntemi analiz sonuçları 0.29±0.04 mol/g ve 0.48±0.01 mol/g, ABTS/Persulphate yöntemi analiz sonuçları ise 0.36 ± 0.01 mol/g ve 0.55± 0.05 mol/g aralığında bulunmuştur.

Anahtar Kelimeler: Antioksidan etki, *Brassica napus* ohumu, ABTS/Persülfat, CUPRAC, DMPD yöntemleri, trolox

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