

## Abstract

This research was made to study the antimicrobial activity of fungal isolates from different regions of maritime, Antarctica, namely, King George Island and Greenwich Island (Barrientos Island, Dee Island and Ambato point). A total of 17 isolates composed of 7 mesophilic and 10 psychrotrophic fungi were tested in-vitro against Gram-positive, Gram-negative bacteria and yeast human pathogens. Initial antimicrobial activity screening of Antarctic isolates was made using plug assay method. Five test-microorganisms namely *Candida albicans*, *Staphylococcus aureus*, *Bacillus subtilis*, *Escherichia coli* and *Pseudomonas aeruginosa* were used. Only five (out of 17) fungal isolates showed inhibition potency against the test-microorganisms and majority showed antibacterial activity rather than antifungal activity. Of these five species, three were psychrotrophic and two were mesophilic fungi. It should be pointed out that only two of the screened isolates inhibited the growth of *Candida albicans* despite the clearing zone diameter was smaller than 20mm. Based on these result, the five fungal isolates with good inhibition potency were selected for further studies. These species were then tested against large number of test-microorganisms by disc diffusion method. That showed only two fungal strains *Penicillium* sp. 20 and Deuteromycete sp. 25 have antibacterial activity against *P. aeruginosa* and *B. cereus*. Later, quantification assay using broth microdilution method was performed to determine the minimum inhibitory concentration (MIC) that showed from 12.5-25 mg/ml, minimum bactericidal concentration (MBC) showed between 25–1.56 mg/ml and minimum fungicidal concentration (MFC). The break point of minimum inhibitory concentration (MIC) was confirmed using indicator dye and both minimum bactericidal concentration (MBC) and

minimum fungicidal concentration (MFC) were confirmed by sub-culturing from the different dilutions of crude extract.

## Abstrak

Penyelidikan ini dilakukan untuk mengkaji aktiviti antimikrob daripada isolasi kulat yang diperoleh dari kawasan maritim yang berbeza di Antartika iaitu Pulau King George dan Pulau Greenwich (Pulau Barrientos, Pulau Dee dan Ambato Point). Sebanyak 17 isolasi kulat yang terdiri daripada 7 kulat psikrotrofik dan 10 kulat mesofilik telah diuji secara *in-vitro* terhadap bakteria Gram-positif, bakteria Gram-negatif dan yis patogen manusia. Pemeriksaan awal aktiviti antimikrob terhadap isolasi kulat Antartika telah dilakukan dengan menggunakan kaedah cerakin palam (plug assay). Lima mikroorganisma ujian iaitu *Candida albicans*, *Staphylococcus aureus*, *Bacillus subtilis*, *Escherichia coli* dan *Pseudomonas aeruginosa* telah digunakan untuk penyelidikan ini. Hanya lima (daripada 17) isolasi kulat menunjukkan potensi perencatan terhadap mikroorganisma ujian dan majoriti daripada kulat-kulat tersebut menunjukkan aktiviti antibakteria berbanding aktiviti antikulat. Daripada kelima-lima spesies, tiga adalah kulat psikrotrofik dan dua lagi adalah kulat mesofilik. Perlu ditegaskan bahawa hanya dua daripada keseluruhan isolasi kulat yang disaring berjaya menghalang pertumbuhan *Candida albicans* walaupun diameter zon jernih adalah lebih kecil daripada 20 mm. Berdasarkan keputusan ini, lima isolasi kulat yang mempunyai potensi perencatan yang baik telah dipilih untuk kajian seterusnya. Spesies-spesies kulat ini telah diuji dengan sejumlah besar mikroorganisma ujian melalui kaedah resapan cakera (disc diffusion). Hanya dua strain kulat *Penicillium* sp. 20 dan Deuteromycete sp. 25 mempunyai aktiviti antibakteria terhadap *P. aeruginosa* dan *B. cereus*. Kemudian, assay kuantifikasi menggunakan kaedah *broth microdilution* dilakukan untuk menentukan kepekatan penghalang minimum (MIC) yang menunjukkan dari 12.5-25 mg/ml, kepekatan bakteria minimum (MBC) menunjukkan antara 25-1.56 mg/ml

dan kepekatan kulit minimum (MFC). Takat rehat kepekatan kulit minimum (MIC) telah disahkan dengan menggunakan penunjuk pewarna manakala kepekatan bakteria minimum (MBC) dan kepekatan kulit minimum (MFC) telah disahkan dengan menggunakan sub-pengkulturan daripada pencairan ekstrak mentah yang berbeza.

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# List of Figures

Figures	Title	Page
1.1	Geographic map of Antarctica.	3
2.1	Map of collection area and Islands: Greenwich Island (Barrientos Island, DEE Island and Ampato Point-Greenwich Island) and King George Island.	16
3.1a	<b>A:</b> Photograph show the green colony of the Antarctic fungus ( <i>Aspergillus fumigatus</i> ) grown in PDA media. <b>B:</b> Light micrographs of Antarctic fungi under light microscopy ( <i>Aspergillus fumigatus</i> ).	25
3.1b	<b>A:</b> Photograph show the gray colony of the Antarctic fungus (Hyphomycete sp.1) grown in PDA media. <b>B:</b> Light micrographs of Antarctic fungi under light microscopy (Hyphomycete sp.1).	25
3.2	Photographs of antibacterial activity from plug assay results, <b>A-C:</b> showing intermediate to very good inhibition zones on <i>Escherichia coli</i> , <i>Staphylococcus aureus</i> and <i>Bacillus subtilis</i> . <b>D:</b> showing weak activity against <i>Pseudomonas aeruginosa</i> .	28
3.3	Photographs of Antifungal activity from plug assay results	28
3.4	Photographs of antibacterial activity of fungal extracts in disc	31

diffusion. **A:** only Deuteromycete sp. 25 extract showed good to intermediate activity against *Bacillus cereus*. **B:** showing no activity against antifungal activity (*Candida albicans*).

- 3.5 Photograph of U96 micro-well plate in broth microdilutions method. The red marked wells illustrate the MIC of *Penicillium* sp. 20 and Deuteromycete sp. 25 extracts on *Pseudomonas aeruginosa*. 32
-

## List of Tables

---

<b>Table</b>	<b>Title</b>	<b>Page</b>
2.1	List of 17 strains of micro-fung, collection site, GPS location (Global Positioning System), date of collection and their thermal classes.	17
3.1	List of of fungal strains	24
3.2	Preliminary screening result of fungal against microorganisms in plug assay.	27
3.3	List of the selected fungal species used in the disc diffusion method.	29
3.4	Biological activity of fungal extracts, Chloramphenicol and Dimethyl Sulfoxide (DMSO) on test microorganisms in millimetres using disc diffusion method.	30
3.5	Quantified values of MICs and MBCs of fungal extracts against test microorganism in broth micro-dilutions method.	33

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## List of Symbols and Abbreviations

<b>%</b>	<b>Percentage</b>
<b>°C</b>	<b>Degree centigrade</b>
<b>BaCl<sub>2</sub></b>	<b>Barium chloride</b>
<b>C</b>	<b>Carbon</b>
<b>CFU</b>	<b>Colony Forming Unit</b>
<b>cm</b>	<b>Centimeter</b>
<b>CO<sub>2</sub></b>	<b>Carbon Dioxide</b>
<b>DMSO</b>	<b>Dimethyl Sulfoxide</b>
<b>EPS</b>	<b>Exopolysaccharide</b>
<b>EtOAc</b>	<b>Ethyl Acetate</b>
<b>g</b>	<b>Gram</b>
<b>GPS</b>	<b>Global Positioning System</b>
<b>H<sub>2</sub>O</b>	<b>Water</b>
<b>H<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub></b>	<b>Sulphuric acid</b>
<b>IPY</b>	<b>International Polar Year</b>
<b>Km</b>	<b>Kilometre</b>

<b>LBA</b>	<b>Luria Base Agar</b>
<b>M</b>	<b>Mole</b>
<b>Mbar</b>	<b>Millibar</b>
<b>MBC</b>	<b>Minimum Bactericidal Concentration</b>
<b>MFC</b>	<b>Minimum Fungicidal Concentration</b>
<b>MIC</b>	<b>Minimum Inhibitory Concentration</b>
<b>mg</b>	<b>Milligram</b>
<b>MERGE</b>	<b>Microbiological and Ecological Response to Global Environmental changes in Polar Regions</b>
<b>ml</b>	<b>Millilitre</b>
<b>mm</b>	<b>Millimetre</b>
<b>N</b>	<b>Nitrogen</b>
<b>NMR</b>	<b>Nuclear Magnetic Resonance spectroscopy</b>
<b>NCCLs</b>	<b>National Committee of Clinical Laboratory Standards</b>
<b>No.</b>	<b>Number</b>
<b>PDA</b>	<b>Potato Dextrose Agar</b>
<b>pH</b>	<b>Potential of Hydrogen</b>

<b>psi</b>	<b>Pounds per Square inch of pressure</b>
<b>rpm</b>	<b>Round Per Minute</b>
<b>S</b>	<b>South</b>
<b>SDA</b>	<b>Saboraud Dextrose Agar</b>
<b>Sp.</b>	<b>Species</b>
<b>UV</b>	<b>Ultra Violet</b>
<b>W</b>	<b>West</b>
<b>w/v</b>	<b>Weight Per Volume</b>
<b>ml</b>	<b>Microliter</b>
<b>µg</b>	<b>Microgram</b>

## List of Appendices

Figures	Title	Page
4	<b>A-E:</b> Micrographs of <i>Antarctomyces</i> sp. 1 (A-C) and <i>Antarctomyces</i> sp. 7 (D-E) <b>A.</b> Clusters of asci containing ascospores. <b>B.</b> Free ascospores <b>C.</b> Naked asci produced ascospores openly on septate hypha. <b>D.</b> Asci containing ascospores. <b>E.</b> Naked asci produced ascospores openly on septate hypha. Scale bar: 15µm.	48
5	<b>A-C:</b> Micrographs <b>A-B:</b> <i>Aureobasidium</i> sp.2 <b>C:</b> <i>Aureobasidium</i> sp.1 (anamorphic fungi) Septate. The conidia are one-celled, hyaline and oval to cylindrical in shape. Scale bar: 15µm.	49
6	<b>A-C:</b> Micrographs of <b>A-B:</b> <i>Geomycescretaceus</i> sp., <b>C:</b> <i>Geomyces</i> sp. 2. Conidiophores branch verticillately at an acute angle (tree like branching of conidiophores with short chain of conidia). Conidia borne on the tips of conidiophores or on sides of the hyphae, are pyriform with truncate bases. Scale bar: 15µm.	50
7	Micrograph of <i>Veriticillium</i> sp. Conidiophores vertically branched over most of their length and phialides. Scale bar: 15µm.	51
8	<b>A-E:</b> Micrographs of <b>A:</b> Deuteromycets sp. 18. Conidiophores	52

are not clearly differentiated from the vegetative hyphae

Conidia are small, globose, smooth and hyaline. **B-C:**

Deuteromycete sp. 2 conidia hyaline, subglobose. **D-E:**

Deuteromycete sp. 25. **E:** Deuteromycete sp. 3. Scale bar:

10µm.

- 9 *Cadophora malorum*. Phialides are hyaline, develop laterally or terminally from conidiophores or directly along the hyphae itself. Conidia are elliptical, accumulate at the apices of the phialides in balls. Scale bar: 15µm. 53
- 10 Micrograph of *Mortierella* sp. Conidia large and circular. Scale bar: 15µm. 54
- 11 Micrographs of (Ascomata) **A-B:** *Thelebolus microsporus* show superficial, subglobose, hyaline. Asciclavate, 6-8 spored, apically rounded. Ascospores ellipsoidal, smooth walled. **C-D:** Ascomycetes sp. 2. Scale bar: 15µm. 55

# List of Content

---

<b>Content</b>	<b>Page</b>
<b>Abstract</b>	<b>I</b>
<b>Acknowledgement</b>	<b>V</b>
<b>List of Figures</b>	<b>Vii</b>
<b>List of Tables</b>	<b>iX</b>
<b>List of Symbol and abbreviations</b>	<b>X</b>
<b>List of Appendices</b>	<b>Xiii</b>
<b>List of content</b>	<b>XV</b>

---

## **Chapter 1**

---

1. Introduction	1
1.1 Antarctica Continent	
1.2 Biodiversity and role of Antarctic fungi in polar ecosystem	3
1.3 Thermal Classes of Antarctic Fungi	6
1.4 Adaptation mechanisms of Antarctic micro-fungi	9
1.5 Understanding the biological activity of microorganisms	10
1.5.1 Biological activity of Antarctic fungi	11
1.6 Research objectives	14

---

## **Chapter 2**

---

2. Material and Methods	15
-------------------------	----

2.1 Materials	
2.2 Methods	18
2.2.1 Potato dextrose agar (PDA) Media preparation	
2.2.2 Reviving of Antarctic fungi	
2.2.3 Identification of Antarctic fungi	
2.2.4 Reviving of Bacterial test microorganisms	19
2.2.5 Bioactivity screening	
2.2.5.1 Preliminary screening-Plug assay	
2.2.5.2 Inoculums preparation-growth method	20
2.2.5.3 Preparation of 0.5 McFarland Standards	
2.2.6 Qualitative Assay - Disc Diffusion Method	
2.2.6.1 Cultivation and Extraction	21
2.2.7 Quantitative assays- MIC, MBC and MFC	22
2.2.7.1 Minimum inhibitory concentration (MIC)	
2.2.7.2 Minimum Bactericidal Concentration (MBC) and Minimum Fungicidal Concentration (MFC)	23

---

### Chapter 3

---

3. Result	24
3.1 Identification of Antarctic fungi	
3.2 Bioactivity screening of fungi collected from King George Island and Greenwich Island based on plug assay	26
3.3 Qualitative assay- Disc diffusion method	29
3.4 Quantitative assay- Broth microdilutions method	31

3.4.1 Minimum inhibitory concentration (MIC)	
3.4.2 Minimum bactericidal concentration (MBC) and Minimum fungicidal concentration (MFC)	32

---

## Chapter 4

---

4. Discussion	34
4.1 Occurrence of Antarctic fungi from King George Island and Greenwich Island	
4.2 Bioactivity of Antarctic fungi	36
4.2.1 Preliminary bioactivity screening based on agar blocks method	40
4.2.2 Qualitative bioactivity assay based on disc diffusion method	42
4.2.3 Quantitative bioactivity assay based on broth micro-dilutions method	43

---

## Chapter 5

---

5. Conclusions	46
Appendices	48

---

## References

---

Reference	56
-----------	----

---