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## Minimum Inhibitory Concentration of Marine Microalgae *Dunaliella salina* on Fish Pathogenic Bacteria *Edwardsiella tarda*

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### KEYWORDS

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**Abstract** *Dunaliella salina* is a type of marine microalgae. The objective of this research were investigated the effect of *D. salina* to inhibit the growth of *E. tarda*. The method used in this study was examined antibacterial activity of *D. salina* using disc diffusion and co culture test. The secondary metabolite compound in *D. salina* was tested using phytochemical screening and FTIR methods. The results obtained *D. salina* extracted using n-hexane showed the best activity for inhibiting the growth of *E. tarda*. Minimum concentration of 100 mg.L<sup>-1</sup> crude extract can inhibit *E. tarda* with a total of bacterial colonies 137x10<sup>11</sup> CFU.mL<sup>-1</sup>. The phytochemical test results showed that *D. salina* extract using n-hexane contained flavonoids, saponins, alkaloids, terpenoids and phenols. The FTIR analysis showed phenol and carotene compounds are one of the secondary metabolites that can be used as antibacterial. It can be concluded that the extract has strong antibacterial activity against *E. tarda* and potentially as antibacterial in aquaculture.

### Introduction

One of the techniques in aquaculture to pursue the production target by implementing an intensive system. The aquaculture production sustainability influenced by pathogenic microorganisms. This condition is positively correlated with the more intensive cultivation systems developed (Cao *et al.*, 2007). The application of this intensive aquaculture system can also cause fish susceptible to bacterial and viral diseases (Labh and Shakya, 2014; Mehana *et al.*, 2014).

In the aquaculture system, bacteria are considered the main cause of infection in intensive aquaculture system of fish or shrimp in the world (Jin *et al.*, 2012; Austin and Austin, 2016). One species of this bacterium is *Edwardsiella tarda*. This infection of *E. tarda* causes disease attacks, commonly called Edwardsiellosis (Firma *et al.*, 2012; Li *et al.*, 2015). The prevalence of deaths due to *E. tarda* infection reaches 100% in common carp

(*Charassius auratus*), celeges rainbow (*Telmatherina celebensis*) and carp types *Catla catla* (Narwiyani and Kurniasih, 2011; Devi *et al.*, 2016). Not only that, the infection of *E. tarda* can also cause economic losses. Many research showed that economic losses due to *E. tarda* infection on Japanese flounder (*Paralichthys olivaceus*) reached 487.9 billion Korean Won in 2010 years (Park *et al.*, 2012; Syafitrianto *et al.*, 2016).

Antibiotics commonly used as treatment to control *E. tarda* infection (Kholil *et al.*, 2015). However, the use of antibiotics can cause bacteria to be resistant to some antibiotics that has been used (Kadlec *et al.*, 2011; Kathleen *et al.*, 2016; Qiao *et al.*, 2018). Several studies have been conducted to determine the resistance of *E. tarda* due to the use of antibiotics. Among them mentioned that *E. tarda* is resistant to antibiotics colistin, tetracycline and trimethoprim or sulfamethoxazole (Shin *et al.*, 2017). Furthermore, antibiotics from the types

of nalidixic acid, streptomycin, levofloxacin and amoxicillin also cause resistance to *E. tarda* bacteria (Ogbonne et al., 2018).

Resistant bacteria will transfer genes to another bacteria by conjugation, transformation and transduction, which will produce bacteria that are resistant to certain antibiotics (Bbosa et al., 2014). The resistance that occurs will also cause bacteria to be resistant to the drugs given, so the death of fish will increase. Liu et al. (2017) added another effect of the use of chemicals or antibiotics is that residues can accumulate in the fish's body and endanger humans who consume it. Therefore, the other alternative materials are needed as candidates for antibiotic substitutes from natural ingredients, which is microalgae.

In marine resources, microalgae are considered as the actual producers of some highly bioactive macromolecules, including carotenoids, long-chain polyunsaturated fatty acids, proteins, chlorophylls, vitamins, and unique pigments (Pasquet et al., 2011). Some secondary metabolites derived from marine microalgae have the potency to be the new material for pharmacy (Ely et al., 2004). Marine microalgae constitute attractive sources of novel and active metabolites, comprising proteins, enzymes, pigments and polyunsaturated fatty acids (PUFA) that could be exploited in pharmaceutical, food, feed and cosmetic industries (Mendes et al., 2003; Cardozo et al., 2007; Surendhiran et al., 2014).

Compounds with pharmaceutical characteristics, as antioxidative, anti-inflammatory, antimicrobial or antitumoral properties, has been identified. Some of them has been in the clinical trial state (Guedes et al., 2011). Antimicrobial activities are among the most researched features in natural extracts. They have been attributed to different compounds, including, indoles, terpene derivatives, acetogenins, phenols, fatty acids and hydrocarbons (Bhakuni and Rawat, 2005; Keskin et al., 2010).

In recent years, microalgae in aquaculture has been further developed where its use has the potential to inhibit bacterial growth (Falaise et al., 2016; Kokou et al., 2012). Some types of microalgae used to inhibit bacterial growth include *Scenedesmus obliquus* (Guedes et al., 2011), methanol extract *Chlorella vulgaris* (Syed et al., 2015), *Isochrysis galbana* and *Pavlova lutheri* microalgae (Bashir et al., 2018). The other microalgae can be used to inhibit bacterial growth in aquaculture environments are marine microalgae *D. salina* (Jafari et al., 2018).

*D. salina* has various important components such as, flavonoids and phenolic and the highest content is carotenoids (Lamers et al., 2010; Cakmak et al., 2014). This content can be used as an antibacterial candidate (Jafari et al., 2018). The other studies also state that the high content of protein, vitamins and minerals and the active compounds of chlorophyll  $\alpha$  and  $\beta$ -carotene in *D. salina* can be used for fish health management as antiviral, antioxidant and antimicrobial (Bhat and Madyastha, 2000). The bacterial species tested challenge is a type of pathogenic bacteria that easily invade the freshwater, brackish water and brine water fish. So, by testing in vitro results of an extract of *D. salina*, we get pertinent information about power extracts of *D. salina* against *E. tarda*.

### Materials and methods

This research was conducted in December to January 2019 at the Laboratory of Fish Health Disease (Faculty of Fisheries and Marine Sciences, University of Brawijaya), Laboratory of Materia Medika Batu, and Organic Chemistry Laboratory (Faculty of Science and Technology, State Islamic University of Malang). The laboratory equipment used in this study, is a set of rotary evaporator, phytochemical analysis and FTIR analysis. The materials used in this study, marine microalgae *D. salina* were

collected from Brackishwater Aquaculture Center (BBAP) Situbondo, East Java, Indonesia.

#### *Microalgae Extraction*

Extraction process was performed based on the methods of Jafari *et al.* (2018), with some modification. *D. salina* powder (200 g) macerated with a ratio of 1:5 (w/v), soaked in 1000 mL of solvent for 1 days using hexane and ethyl acetate. After 24 hours on a closed erlenmeyer flask filtered through Whatman filter paper No. 42 to obtain a clear filtrate. The filtrate were evaporated and dried at 40°C with a rotation speed of 80 rpm under reduced pressure using rotatory vacuum evaporator. The extract yields were weighted, stored in a small bottle in fridge at 5°C.

#### *Bacterial preparation*

The isolate of *E. tarda* was originated from Jepara Brackishwater Aquaculture Center. These bacteria were kept in *Trypticase Soy Agar* (TSA) media at 4°C and sub-cultured *Trypticase Soy Broth* (TSB) in overnight before use.

#### *Antimicrobial assay*

The antimicrobial activities of the crude extract were assayed against bacteria. The extract was weighed according to the dosage used and dissolved in 10% dimethyl sulfoxide (DMSO) at an initial concentration of 1000 mg.L<sup>-1</sup>, 500 mg.L<sup>-1</sup>, 100 mg.L<sup>-1</sup>, 10 mg.L<sup>-1</sup>, 1 mg.L<sup>-1</sup> and used a positive and negative control. Positive control used 5 mg.L<sup>-1</sup> synthetic antibacterial (*Chloramphenicol*) and negative control is only given by *E. tarda* bacteria.

Antimicrobial assay was carried out using the disc diffusion method and co-culture method. In the disc test, Muller Hinton Agar (MHA) in plates were inoculated with 0.1 mL each bacterium suspension overnight culture is adjusted to a 0.5 McFarland turbidity standard (10<sup>7</sup> CFU.mL<sup>-1</sup>) and uniformly spread out. The

plates were incubated at 37°C for 24 and 48 hours after the incubation period the inhibition zone was around the discs were measured and recorded.

In the co-culture test, Muller Hinton Broth (MHB) liquid media was given a bacterial inoculum of 10<sup>7</sup> CFU.L<sup>-1</sup> in a test tube, then extracted a *D. salina* crude extract by dilution method. Each treatment concentration was incubated for 24 hours at 37°C. The absorbance value of the media was measured by spectrophotometer. The bacterial subculture was then carried out from each treatment, both growing and not. On the subculture, each treatment was grown on Trypticase Soy Agar (TSA) media, then incubated for 24 hours at 37°C to determine the inhibitory power of bacterial growth.

#### *Phytochemical analysis*

The phytochemical analysis was carried out in accordance with (Evans, 2002) method. It was aimed to observe the active compound in crude extract. Compounds were analyzed include: flavonoids, alkaloids, phenolic, steroids, tannins and saponins.

#### *FTIR (Fourier Transform Infrared Spectroscopy) analysis*

As many as 1 mg of *D. salina* crude extract was crushed with 100 mg KBr (Potassium Bromide) homogeneously. Then, it measured by infrared ray absorption at a wavelength of 4000-400 cm<sup>-1</sup> to determine the functional group of *D. salina* crude extracts.

## **Results and discussions**

#### *Antimicrobial Test*

The results of the antimicrobial assay of the crude extract of *D. salina* against *E. tarda*, it can be seen in Table 1.

**Table 1. The results of disc test *D. salina* against *E. tarda***

Concentration Extract (mg.L <sup>-1</sup> )	Clear Zone Diameter (mm)		Classification of Bacterial Inhibitory Responses
	24 hours	48 hours	
(K-)	0±0.0	0±0.0	Weak
1	0±0.0	0±0.0	Weak
10	0±0.0	0±0.0	Weak
100	6.92±0.40	7.72±0.19	Medium
500	16.71±1.09	16.14±0.80	Strong
1000	20.33±0.14	20.07±0.19	Very Strong
(K+)	25.24±0.09	25.64±0.68	Very Strong

Note: Classification of clear zone diameter, weak ≤ 5 mm, medium 5-10 mm, strong 10-20 mm, very strong ≥ 20 mm (Davis and Stout, 1971).

The largest inhibition zone is 1000 mg.L<sup>-1</sup> (20.33±0.14 mm) indicating that the inhibitory response concentration of bacteria is very strong. This means that the higher of *D. salina* crude extract, the more the inhibitory activity against *E. tarda*. The smallest or largest of the inhibition zone is also influenced by several factors including the toxicity of the test material, the diffusion ability of the test material in the media, the interaction between media components, and the in vitro microenvironment conditions (Candrasari et al., 2012).

The follow-up test was carried out by the co-culture method. The difference results of co-culture test of *D. salina* using n-hexane and ethyl acetate solvent have obtained the data presented in Table 2.

**Table 2. The result of co-culture test**

Concentration Extract (mg.L <sup>-1</sup> )	N-hexane		Ethyl Acetate	
	Absorbance (Å)	Colony Forming Unit (CFU.mL <sup>-1</sup> )	Absorbance (Å)	Colony Forming Unit (CFU.mL <sup>-1</sup> )
Control (-)	1.724	238 x 10 <sup>20</sup>	1.766	243 x 10 <sup>21</sup>
1	1.325	227 x 10 <sup>20</sup>	1.426	231 x 10 <sup>21</sup>
10	1.246	190 x 10 <sup>19</sup>	1.368	226 x 10 <sup>21</sup>
100	0.098	137 x 10 <sup>11</sup>	1.133	212 x 10 <sup>18</sup>
500	0.124	110 x 10 <sup>9</sup>	0.245	155 x 10 <sup>11</sup>
1000	0.162	63 x 10 <sup>7</sup>	0.362	127 x 10 <sup>10</sup>
Control (+)	0.065	0	0.068	0

Note: Positive control using chloramphenicol 5 mg.L<sup>-1</sup>, negative control only bacteria.

Based on Table 2. the data show that minimum concentration of *D. salina* extract can be inhibit *E. tarda* bacterial growth is 100 mg.L<sup>-1</sup> in n-hexane solvents while in ethyl acetate at a dose of 500 mg.L<sup>-1</sup>. This difference can be seen from the colony forming unit value of the extract and the absorbance value of the solution after being tested using a spectrophotometer. The best co-culture value was obtained from a minimum dose of extract whose absorbance value was close to positive control.

*Phytochemical screening*

The results of phytochemical analysis observations showed the difference results *D. salina* extracted using 2 solvents, were obtained in Table 3.

**Table 3. Phytochemical analysis for the hexane and ethyl acetate extract of *D. salina***

Metabolites	Characteristic	Result	
		Hexane	Ethyl acetate
Alkaloid	Orange Color Reaction (Dragendrof)	+	+
	White Sediment Reaction (Meyer)		
	Brown Sediment Reaction (Bouchardat)	+	+
Flavonoid	Brick Red Color Reaction	+	+
Saponin	Stable Foam	+	+
Tannin	Green-Blackish Color Reaction	-	-
Terpenoid	Brownish Color Reaction	+	-
Phenol	Green-Blackish Color Reaction	+	+

Note: Positive (+) detected and negative (-) not detected.

The results of phytochemical screening have found secondary metabolite. Preliminary qualitative phytochemical analysis made for the crude extract of *D. salina* revealed the presence of alkaloids, flavonoids, saponins, tannins, terpenoids and phenols. They are reported to have many biological and therapeutic properties (Prasad *et al.*, 2012; Anusha and Bai, 2017) so this microalgae is expected to have many medicinal uses. From this table we can declare that tannins not detected with n-hexane solvent. While, tannins and terpenoids not detected with ethyl acetate solvent. It is explained that the polarity level are playing major role in extracting the secondary metabolites product (Ghasemzadeh, 2011; Senguttuvan *et al.*, 2014).

Flavonoids are the content of secondary compounds from plants or a hydroxylated phenolic substance synthesized due to a response to microbial infections. Flavonoids can be used as antimicrobial substances against various types of pathogenic microorganisms. This is due to their ability to interact to dissolve with extracellular proteins and can bacterial cell

walls damage (Pandey *et al.*, 2010; Mishra *et al.*, 2013). Flavonoids are the largest group of natural phenolic compounds and polar compounds because they have some hydroxyl groups (Kumar and Pandey, 2013).

From the results of phytochemical analysis, the best solvent is hexane. Therefore, the extract of *D. salina* with hexane solvent produces the highest content of terpenoids. One of the terpenoids derivatives can be antibacterial found in *D. salina* is  $\beta$ -carotene. It can be seen in FTIR analysis. The mayor pigments present in microalgae to act effectively inhibiting bacteria and microbial growth is chlorophyll and  $\beta$ -carotene (Bhagavathy *et al.*, 2011).

*FTIR (Fourier Transform Infrared Spectroscopy) analysis*

Based on the FTIR analysis curve (Figure 1), it can be seen that some secondary metabolites contained in *D. salina*. Wave number absorption spectrum is shown in Fig. 1 and the lists of functional groups identified were shown in Table 4.

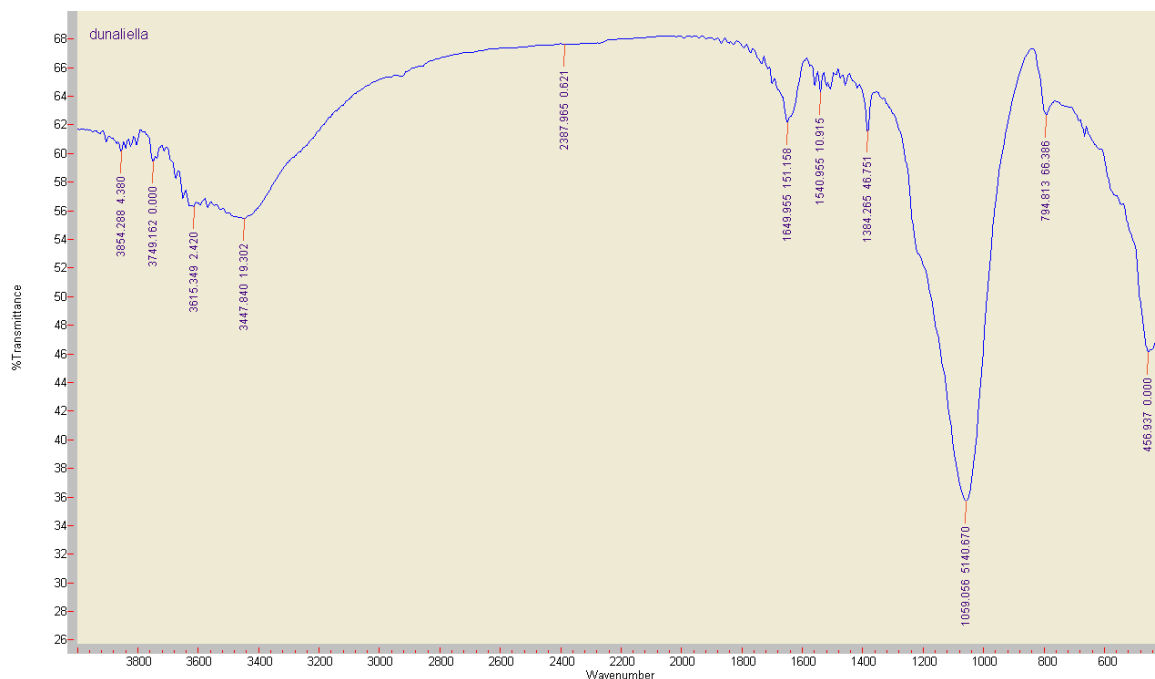


Figure 1. FTIR of Marine Microalgae *D. salina*.

Table 4. The Result FTIR analysis of *D. salina*

IR frequency (cm <sup>-1</sup> )	Bond	Functional groups	<i>D. salina</i> frequency (cm <sup>-1</sup> )
3500-3200	O-H stretch, H-bonded	Alcohols, phenols	3447
1670-1600	C=O stretch	Amides	1649
1500-1400	C-C stretch	Aromatics	1540
1400-1300	N=O bend	Nitromethane	1384
1300-1000	C-O stretch	Alcohols, carboxylic acids	1059
850-550	C-H stretch	Alkenes, Aromatics	794

The hexane extract of *D. salina* showed the peaks at 456 cm<sup>-1</sup>, 794 cm<sup>-1</sup>, 1059 cm<sup>-1</sup>, 1384 cm<sup>-1</sup>, 1540 cm<sup>-1</sup>, 1649 cm<sup>-1</sup>, 2387 cm<sup>-1</sup>, 3447 cm<sup>-1</sup>, 3615 cm<sup>-1</sup>, 3749 cm<sup>-1</sup> and 3854 cm<sup>-1</sup>. In the area of 3447.84 cm<sup>-1</sup> indicating the presence of O-H groups, 1649.95 cm<sup>-1</sup> as C=O group, peak at 1540.95 cm<sup>-1</sup> indicates the presence of a C-C stretch aromatics group, peak at 1384.26 cm<sup>-1</sup> shows N=O bend, peak at 1059.05 cm<sup>-1</sup> shows an C-O functional group of alcohol or carboxylic acids, and the pick emergence of 794.81 cm<sup>-1</sup> uptake shows the C-H aromatic.

FTIR spectrum of crude extract from *D. salina*, showed similarity with beta carotene in

fingerprinting patterns of peaks in 1059 cm<sup>-1</sup>. It indicates that extracted *D. salina* is a beta carotene or carotenoid derivative (Trivedi *et al.*, 2017; Hosseini *et al.*, 2017). In another peak, analysis of pigment highlighted the stretching of different functional groups with peaks at 1649 cm<sup>-1</sup>. FTIR peaks in the range of 1600 to 1670 correspond to protein (Suresh, *et al.*, 2016).

Hexane extract of *D. salina* showed antimicrobial activity against some bacteria and that this antimicrobial activity might result from fatty acids such as palmitic,  $\alpha$ -linolenic, and oleic acids, which are a major component of the extracts (Herrero *et al.*, 2006; Sudalayandi *et al.*,

2012). In the other research Krishnika et al. (2011), identified the antimicrobial activity of different extracts of eight microalgae, and reported that *Dunaliella* sp. showed a high degree of inhibitory effect on *Shigella boydii*, *Salmonella paratyphi* and *Pseudomonas fluorescens*.

### Conclusions and suggestions

The results of this study concluded that the *D. salina* extracts contains phenol compounds as antibacterial function. Minimum inhibitory concentration test results obtained 100 mg.L<sup>-1</sup> which is a minimum concentration that can inhibit the growth of *Edwardsiella tarda*. From FTIR analysis of *D. salina* extract indicate phenols dan terpenoid compounds as a beta caroten. The results of antimicrobial testing of *D. salina* provide valuable information and highlight the potentiality source of antimicrobial agents. Further research on the application of *D. salina* extract to aquaculture organisms infected with *E. tarda* was suggested.

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