

Interactive
Comment

Interactive comment on “Study on the antibacterial activity of selected natural herbs and their application in water treatment” by P. S. Harikumar and C. M. Manjusha

Anonymous Referee #2

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Comments on paper: “Study on the antibacterial activity of selected natural herbs and their application in water treatment”

The manuscript entitled, “Study on the antibacterial activity of selected natural herbs and their application in water treatment” has evaluated the effectiveness of antimicrobial activity of 10 plants extracts. While no major criticism for revision is made by this reviewer, however following may need author’s attention.

1. Major portion of abstract, introduction and significance, of this manuscript need to be rephrased or changed to avoid plagiarism from other documents. a. Abstract: Page 200, Line 4 to 6; b. Introduction: Page 200, Line 25-26 and Page 201, Line 1-7; 7-18

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- c. Significance of the study (Page 207, Line 22 to 26 and Page 208, line 1 to 11)
2. Findings should also be discussed in the abstract instead of making general statements.
3. Could you please be more explicit about sample preparation of plant extract? The leaves were fresh or dried; what volume was obtained from 20g of leaves, was there any dilution with water or any solvent. The extracts were used as it was or filtered before antimicrobial analysis and stability analysis.
4. Determination of self-life of the plant extract is not clear. Is the relative value of absorbance is sufficient to determine the self-life of a plant extract? The stability graph shown on page 230 is questionable as the absorbance was almost stable from 3rd day to 15th day and how suddenly it could be zero. This should be checked once again.
5. Assessment of antimicrobial activity through spread plate method is confusing (Page 202, Line 7-12). It is not clear that antimicrobial tests were done on well water sample or pure culture.
6. As most of the medicinal plants have pungent aroma therefore the public acceptance of drinking water containing 15% of any plant extract is questionable.
7. The findings of the present work should be discussed in details and should be supported and compared with the relevant work done elsewhere.

Interactive comment on Drink. Water Eng. Sci. Discuss., 6, 199, 2013.

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