

# Antibacterial activity of extracts from *Calophyllum canum*

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## ABSTRACT

The species of the genus *Calophyllum* (Guttiferae) are mainly distributed in tropical areas. Plants from this genus are known as a rich source of secondary metabolite such as xanthenes, coumarins, chromenes, flavonoids and triterpenoids. Some of these compounds exhibit significant biological effects such as antibacterial, anti-fungal, anti-HIV and immunomodulatory activities. *Calophyllum canum* or Bentangur batu is a forest tree that is found in Peninsular Malaysia. The research is aimed to investigate the bioactivity of *Calophyllum canum* extracts against selected bacteria. The chemical constituents of the plants are also investigated. The extracts are tested for their activity to inhibit the growth of *Escherichia coli*, *Pseudomonas aeruginosa*, *Bacillus subtilis* and *Staphylococcus aureus*. The antibacterial testing is carried out by the disc diffusion method. It is concluded that *Calophyllum canum* has a great potency to inhibit the growth of bacteria. The results of the antibacterial activity of the extracts will be discussed in this paper.

Keywords: *Calophyllum canum*; *Calophyllum*, guttiferaceae; antibacterial; disc diffusion methods