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RESEARCH ARTICLE

NUTRITIONAL AND ANTIMICROBIAL ACTIVITIES OF GUAVA (*PSIDIUMGUAJAVA*) SEED FROM MUBI ADAMAWA STATE, NIGERIA

Ezekiel Tagwi Williams, Sunday Godwin and Nachana'a Timothy

Department of Chemistry Adamawa State University Mubi, Nigeria

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ABSTRACT

The nutritional and antimicrobial activity of Guava seed collected from Mubi and Mararaba main market were investigated. The nutritional and antimicrobial activities were determined by standard methods, while the elemental composition by using Atomic absorption spectrophotometer (AAS). The result revealed that the proximate analysis: protein content, fat, fibre, ash content, moisture and carbohydrate were 7.845 %, 6.280 %, 15.415 %, 8.220 %, 9.250 % and 52.990 % respectively. The result of the mineral composition showed that potassium has the highest value with 3241.532 ± 0.012 mg / 100 g and Magnesium having the least value of 8.525 ± 0.005 mg / 100 g. Also Guava seed contains beta carotene, B1, B2, B3, B5 and vitamin C with 47.530 ± 0.010 µg / 100 g, 0.530 ± 0.010 mg / 100 g, 4.155 ± 0.005 mg / 100 g, 0.625 ± 0.005 mg / 100 g, 0.325 ± 0.005 mg / 100 g and 514.355 ± 0.005 mg / 100 g values respectively. The result of the antibacterial activity against three clinical isolated organisms was *Staphylococcus aureus* (12.436 ± 0.009 mm), *Escherichia coli* (17.536 ± 0.009 mm) and *Streptococcus faecalis* (4.560 ± 0.006 mm). The minimum inhibitory concentrations (MICs) for *Staphylococcus aureus*, *Escherichia coli*, *Streptococcus faecalis*, *Candida Albicans* and *Aspergillus Niger* were 5.0, 5.0, 5.0, 10.0 and 10.0 mg / ml respectively. From the result, guava seed can be regarded as a good source of nutrients and also can be used in pharmaceutical industries.

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INTRODUCTION

Guava (*Psidiumguajava*) is a small ever green sub deciduous tree; it is a native of tropical America. Guava fruit is still enjoyed as sweet treat by indigenous people throughout the rain forest and the leaves and barks of the guava tree has a long history of medicinal uses that are still employed today. The leaves and barks of Guava are used as a cure of diarrhea, sore throat, vomiting, and stomach upset etc. In a recent study with guinea pigs Brazilian researches reported that Guava leave extract plays numerous important roles in cardiovascular system (Barbalho *et al.*, 2012; Anita *et al.*, 2018). Guava can be consumed processed as jellies, jams and juices. It is particularly rich in minerals and functional compounds such as vitamin C, dietary fibre, carotenoids and phenolic compounds (Thomas *et al.*, 2014; Barbalho *et al.*, 2012). *Psidiumguajava* L. is particularly known as Guava (family myrtaceae) and has been used traditionally as a medicinal plant throughout the world for a number of ailments. There are two most common varieties of Guava; the red (*p.guajava* var. *pomifera*) and the white (Barbalho *et al.*, 2012).

All parts of *psidiumguajava*, including, leaves, bark and roots have been used for treating stomach arch and diarrhea in many countries. Leaves, pulp and seed are used to treat respiratory and gastrointestinal disorder and as an antispasmodic, anti-inflammatory, as a cough sedative, antidermic, in the management of hypertension, obesity and in the control of diabetes mellitus. Also it possesses anticancer property (Ryu *et al.*, 2012; Anita *et al.*, 2018). The seed are used as antimicrobial, gastrointestinal, anti-allergic and anti-carcinogenic activities. The high cost of pharmaceutical medications conduces to such for alternative medicine to treat many ailments (Bontempo *et al.*, 2012). The main constituents of Guava are vitamins, tannin, phenolic compounds, flavonoids, essential oil, sesquiterpene alcohols and triterpenoid acid. These and other compounds are related to many health effect of Guava. Some authors have found high concentrations of carotenoids (Beta carotene, lycopene and B-cryptoxanthin), vitamin C and polyphenols in Guava pulp. Lycopene has been correlated with prevention of cardiovascular damage because of its positive effect on dyslipidemia. Ascorbic acid is recognizing for its important antioxidant effect (Barbalho *et al.*, 2012; Shu *et al.*, 2010). Guava leave extract has analgesic, inflammatory, antimicrobial, hepatoprotective and antioxidant activity. This effect is probably due to the presence of phenolic compounds (Hawrelak, 2003). Wang, Jiao, Liu & Hong

*Corresponding author: Ezekiel Tagwi Williams,
Department of chemistry Adamawa State University Mubi, Nigeria.

(Wang, 2017) reported the presence of high amount of phenolic compounds with antioxidant activity in the leaves of white (*psidiumguajava* var. *pyrifer* L.) and red guava (*psidiumguajava* var. *pomi fera* L.) when compared with other vegetable species (Fu *et al.*, 2010). Plant seed are a good source of food for humans as well as animals, since they contain nutrient necessary for body growth, including many healthy fats, such as omega fats. In fact, the majority of foods consumed by human beings are seed – based food. Guava fruit is consumed by human while its seed when consumed is not easily digested by human and is assumed to have no nutritional value. This research work is aimed at ascertaining the proximate composition and elemental analysis of Guava fruit and its seed

MATERIALS AND METHODS

Sample collection: Random samples of the fruits (*psidiumguajava* L.) of different varieties that was used in the study was collected in plastic bags with appropriate labeling and was stored in an ice cooler for transportation to laboratory for pre-treatment and extraction.

Sample preparation: The seeds samples were removed from the flesh and dried in an air circulation oven for approximately 48 hours. After dehydration the seed and the flesh were grounded into a fine powder using a domestic blender. The particle size selected for extraction was from 0.2 – 0.3 mm. The sample was packaged in plastic bag and stored in the dark and dry place until the extraction was performed

Chemicals and reagent: All Chemicals and reagents used were of analytical grade.

Proximate analysis: The proximate composition (moisture, crude fibre, crude fat, ash content, protein and carbohydrate) of powdery sample of *psidiumguajava* was determined following the standard method described by AOAC (AOAC, 2000).

Determination of mineral Composition: The dried samples were weighed into crucible and placed in muffle furnace at room temperature and the temperature raised to 550°C for 3 hours to complete ash. The ash was then dissolved in hot 10 % HNO₃, filtered and diluted to required volume in a standard flask with deionized water. This was used to determine the elemental composition using atomic absorption spectrophotometer (AAS) following the standard method of AOAC (AOAC, 2015).

Test organisms: Clinical isolate of staphylococcus, *Escherichia coli* and *streptococcus faecalis* were obtained from Mubi General Hospital laboratory, Adamawa State Nigeria. The isolate were propagated on nutrient agar plate and maintained on the Plate at 4°C. The isolate were sub – cultured in nutrient broth at 37°C for 8 hours prior to antibacterial testing.

Antibacterial sensitivity testing: Agar well diffusion technique as described by Nwinyi, Chinedu & Ajani (2008) was used to determine the antibacterial activity of the extracts.

Determination of minimum inhibitory concentrations (MICs): Agar well dilution method as described by Nwinyi, Chinedu & Ajani (Nwinyi, 2008) was used to determine the minimum inhibitory concentration (MIC) of the extract.

Statistical Analysis: All determinations were replicated three times and results were reported in mean (±) standard deviation

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Results

The result of proximate composition of Guava seed were presented in Table 1, while Table 2 shows the result of the mineral composition. Also Tables 3, 4, 5 and 6 shows the results of vitamin composition, antibacterial activity, antifungal activity and minimum inhibition concentration respectively.

Table 1. The result of proximate composition of Guava seed

Proximate	Value (%)
Protein	7.845
Fat	6.280
Fibre	15.415
Ash	8.220
Moisture	9.250
Dry matter	90.750
Carbohydrate	52.990

Table 2. Mineral composition of Guava seed

Mineral	Value (mg / 100 g)
Ca	241.260 ± 0.010
Fe	14.535 ± 0.015
P	502.365 ± 0.985
K	3241.532 ± 0.012
Na	74.585 ± 0.005
Mg	321.535 ± 0.015
Mn	8.525 ± 0.005
Zn	40.165 ± 0.015

Table 3. Vitamin composition of Guava seed

Vitamin	Value
Beta carotene (µg/ 100g)	47.532 ± 0.015
B1 (mg / 100g)	0.530 ± 0.010
B2 (mg /100 g)	4.155 ± 0.005
B3 (mg / 100 g)	0.625 ± 0.005
B5 (mg / 100 g)	0.325 ± 0.005
C (mg / 100 g)	514.355 ± 0.005

Table 4. Antibacterial activity of the ethanolic extract of Guava seed (5 mg/ ml) on different test organism

Bacteria Zone of inhibition	(mm)
Staphylococcus	12.436 ± 0.009
Escherichia coli	17.536 ± 0.009
Streptococcus faecalis	4.560 ± 0.006

Table 5. Antifungal activity of the ethanolic extract of Guava seed (5 mg / ml) on different test organism

Fungi (mm)	Zone of inhibition
Candida albicans	20.153 ± 0.015
Aspergillus niger	18.543 ± 0.012

Table 6. MIC of the ethanolic extract of Guava seed

Bateria	MIC (mg / ml)
Staphylococcus aureus	5.00
Escherichia coli	5.00
Streptococcus faecalis	5.00
Fungi	
Candida	10.00
Aspergillus niger	10.00

DISCUSSION

Proximate composition: The moisture value (Table 1) found in this study was higher than those reported by Uchoa, Castro, Beserra *et al.* (2014) who obtained a moisture value of 8.30 ± 0.03 for Guava seed powder. The ash value found was 8.220 ± 0.002 . This value is higher than that of Matsuzhki, Ishii, Kobiyama & Kitanaka, (2010) which was 2.40 ± 0.10 and that of Thomas, Sousa, Carioca *et al.* (2014), whose ash value was 3.12 ± 0.03 for the common guava and 3.05 ± 0.01 for the areca, a fruit of the same species. The result presented in this study is close to those reported for the guava seed on dry bases (Anita *et al.*, 2018). The protein from the seed has functional properties similar to those of other seed which has been used as food ingredient and may be an alternative source of protein for future use in processed food. Comparing the result of the protein analysis, the protein content of the powder obtained from Guava seed was lower than the one reported by Uchoa, Castro, Beserra *et al.* (2014)

Williams, Timothy & Chika (2019) & Thomas, Sousa, Carioca *et al.* (2014) reported that a food item can be considered a source of dietary fibre when it has 3 g / 100 g in the finished product for solid food and 1.5 g / 100 ml for liquid; if it has twice as this amount, it can be considered as high fibre food. Nwinyi, Chinedu & Ajani (2008) obtained the value of 67.00 g / 100 g for total dietary fibre for Guava seed powder. The result presented (Table 1) suggests that new product based on fibres obtained from residues of this fruit can be formulated to prevent diseases, especially those related to the gastrointestinal tract and the cardiovascular system. Powder obtained from guava seed is a better source of insoluble fibre than the fractions of the seed and skin of the jaboticaba, a fruit belonging to the same family which has an insoluble fibre value of 26.93 and 26.43 g / 100 g respectively (Farinazzi – Machado *et al.*, 2012).

Mineral composition: Calcium is an important mineral required for bone formation and neurological function of the body. The Ca obtained in Guava seed in this study was 241.260 ± 0.010 mg / 100 g which falls below the World Health Organization daily required of 800 mg / day for both adult and children. Sodium content obtained from the guava seed has the value 74.585 ± 0.005 mg / 100 g which was below the World Health Organization recommendation for daily intake of 500 mg for adults and 400 mg for children (World

Health organization, 2013). The mineral composition obtained from Guava seed shows that Fe has 14.535 ± 0.0015 mg / 100 g which was slightly below the recommended dietary allowance for Fe (15 mg / day) for both adult and children. This result indicates that Guava is a rich source of Fe as Fe is required for the formation of blood. Magnesium was found to be 321.535 ± 0.015 mg / 100 g which was little lower than the daily recommended dietary allowance of Mg in adult which is 350 mg / day but adequate for children which is 170 mg / day. Magnesium is very important in Ca metabolism in regulating blood pressure and insulin release (Onyiriuka *et al.*, 1997). Zinc content of the guava seed was 40.165 ± 0.015 mg / 100 g which shows that Guava seed is rich in Zn. Zinc is important in diet because it helps in the formation of protein and enzymes e.g hemoglobin which prevent anemia (Lippard and Jeremy, 1994). World health organization (WHO) recommended standard of Zn for adult and children are 15 mg / day and 10 mg / day respectively. The result of the elemental analysis of the study revealed that among elements obtained in Guava seed K has the highest value with 3241.532 ± 0.012 mg / 100 g in the seed flour, indicating that Guava seed is a rich source of K while Mn has the lowest value (8.525 ± 0.005 mg / 100 g) which was higher than the daily intake requirement (2.5 mg / 100 g) (19).

Vitamin Composition: Vitamin composition of Guava seed as investigated (Table 3) is a good source of vitamin C. A cup of Guava seed has 377 mg of vitamin C and 56 Calories (Padron-Marquez *et al.*, 2012). The vitamin C in Guava will help the body absorb Fe from the food we eat and it also plays a role in fat metabolism and brain cell communication. This vitamin helps the body grow and helps to heal wounds; as an antioxidant, it also helps prevent cancer (Sandra *et al.*, 2012). Guava also has vitamin A, another antioxidant. Vitamin A works to keep vision strong. It also helps create white blood cells and keeps bone strong. Vitamin A is a part of the process of cell growth and division. Vitamin A helps to prevent cells from growing in an abnormal way, which is often a sign of the development of cancer (Padron –Marquez *et al.*, 2012). As you eat Guava you are also consuming B – complex vitamins, particularly niacin, vitamin B5 and vitamin B6. Together, these nutrients help the cell perform chemical reactions needed for energy reduction. Niacin also plays a role in nervous system health, while vitamin B6 helps in the synthesis of red blood cell. Vitamin B5 maintains the hormone balance and promotes hormone synthesis. A single Guava fruit contains 1.8 mg of niacin, 744 and 182 µg of vitamin B5 and B6 respectively (Sandra *et al.*, 2012).

Antibacterial activities: The antimicrobial compounds extracted from the plant have great therapeutic potential against microbes as they can help in ailment without undesirable side effect which usually occurs with synthetic antimicrobial agents. The ethanolic extract of seed of *psidium guajava* was subjected to the screening for antimicrobial activity against three pathogenic bacteria including Gram positive strain *Staphylococcus aureus*, two gram negative strains *Escherichia coli* and *Streptococcus faecalis*. The activity of ethanolic extract of *psidium guajava* was observed most inhibitory at pH 6.0 and temperature 35°C. In present study, the ethanolic extract of *P. guajava* has been found possessing antimicrobial activity against test microorganisms. Many plants contain potentially useful substances which can be used as alternative chemotherapeutic agents.

Large varieties of medicinal plants have been screened and many of them have been proven to possess antimicrobial or antifungal activity. It was found that the ethanol extract showed greatest bacterial inhibition (Mahmood *et al.*, 2017). The essential oil extract showed inhibitory activity against *S. aureus* and antimicrobial effect of Guava seed extract shows that it inhibited the growth *S. aureus*. Guava leaves extract has been found to have good antimicrobial activity against different strain of *Staphylococcus aureus* (Arima and Danno, 2002). The result (Table 4) of the present study may justify and support the use of extract of these plants in traditional medicine for the treatment of certain infections. This result showed an important antimicrobial activity of guava extract with clear zone of inhibition against the bacterial tested.

Antifungal activity: Previous studies have shown the fungicidal effect of organic extract derived from plant and also have been shown that the activity of secondary metabolite may vary depending on the type of solvent used. In accordance with this, antifungal activity has been reported in polar compounds such as glycosylated, flavonoids and saponins isolated from polar extract and in nonpolar compounds (Kim *et al.*, 2010; Sandra *et al.*, 2012). In this study ethanol extract (Table 5) showed comparable activity against the fungal strain, similar result was obtained by Nair & Chanda (2008) with inhibition zone diameters of 7.5 – 18 mm against *Candida* spp and *C. neoformans* (9 ± 1.15), the best antifungal activity was shown by the hexane extract. The observed activity for hexane extract is acceptable considering that a crude extract was used and the active compound was diluted. It is possible that isolating the active compound or compounds will provide better fungicidal activity (Padron –Marquez *et al.*, 2012). The above results suggest that *P. guajava* will be an important source of non – polar compounds with antimicrobial activity. Report about antibacterial and antifungal compound isolated from leaves of *P. guajava* show that in the polar extract (alcoholic), flavonoids such as quercetin and its glycosides derivative are responsible for strong antibacterial activity including against *C. albicans* (Arima and Danno, 2002).

Minimal inhibition concentration (MIC): Generally, lower values were obtained for the aqueous extract. Higher concentrations of the respective extract were needed to exhibit *Escherichia coli*, *Staphylococcus aureus* and *Streptococcus faecalis* compared to *Candida Albicans* and *Aspergillus Niger*. The MIC of the ethanolic extract of *P. guajava* was 5.0, 5.0 and 5.0 mg / ml for *Escherichia coli*, *Staphylococcus aureus* and *Streptococcus faecalis* respectively.

Conclusion

Comparing the result of the proximate analysis of Guava seed and other fruit and food mineral, it is confirmed that Guava seed have considerable amount of protein, fats, fibre, and high amount of carbohydrate which enhance enzymes activity in the body and also a sources of energy to the body. The mineral composition showed that Guava seed is a good source of mineral in the diet which enhance the acid balance, maintenance of iron balance, teeth and bone development in young children and regulate muscles and nerve irritability in human health. Ethanolic extract of *P. guajava* showed antibacterial activity against *Escherichia coli*, *Staphylococcus aureus* and *Streptococcus faecalis*. This study has provided the bases for the use of *P. guajava* in the treatment of diarrhea, inflamed gum and stomach pain caused by *Escherichia coli*

and *Staphylococcus aureus*. The potential antibacterial effect of the plant could be enhanced by extracting with ethanol instead of water as applied in the traditional practice.

Conflict of interest: None

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Key Points

- The proximate composition and elemental analysis of locally available Guava seed was ascertained.
- Guava seed could be a source of energy to the body and minerals in diet.
- Guava seed could be used in the treatment of diarrhea, inflamed gum and stomach pain caused by *Escherichia coli* and *Staphylococcus aureus*
- The potential antibacterial effect of guava could be enhanced by extracting with ethanol instead of water as applied in the traditional practice.

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