ABSTRACT

The petroleum ether, chloroform, methanol and aqueous extracts of Galium aparine, Veronica agrestis, Geranium rotundifolium and stem, leaf and root portion of Reinwardtia indica were screened for their in vitro anti-microbial, antioxidant, anthelmintic activities and X-ray diffraction analysis. Antimicrobial activity was determined by using disk diffusion assay. Petroleum ether extract of Geranium rotundifolium had shown significant antimicrobial activity against Staphylococcus aureus. The susceptibility of the microorganisms to the extracts of the plants was compared with each other and with selected antibiotics. Total phenolic content of extracts from selected plants were determined. β-carotene bleaching assay and Folin-Ciocalteu reagent were used to determine total antioxidant activity and total phenols of plant extracts. Antioxidant activity and total phenolic content speckled among plants used. Petroleum ether extract of Geranium rotundifolium had the highest antioxidant for reducing DPPH (86.71 %) and total phenolic content was highest in aqueous extract of root portion of R. indica (415.14 µg of gallic acid equivalent to 1 g of extract). Reinwardtia indica had shown best anthelmintic results against Haemonchus contortus using adult motility assay and comparing with the standard medicine, levamisole. X-ray diffraction analysis of crystals obtained from plant extracts revealed S₈ structure. The results provided evidence that the studied plant might indeed be potential sources of natural antioxidants, antimicrobial agents and anthelmintics.