ABSTRACT

Butea monosperma (Lamk.) Taub. is a medicinal plant used in the Indo-Pak subcontinent. The antimicrobial activity of leaves, bark, flowers and seeds extracts was investigated against five bacteria species (Staphlococcus aureus, Klebsiella pneumoniae, Pseudomonas aeruginosa, Bacillus subtilis and Escherichia coli) and four species of fungi (Aspergilus oryzae, Candida utilis, Humicola linuginosa and Sporotrichum thermophile) using the hole plate method. Two methods were employed for the extraction of crude extracts, the maceration method and the Soxhlet method. The crude extracts evaluated included petroleum ether, chloroform, methanol and water. The extracts of different parts of plant showed significant differences. The results obtained were encouraging as the methanol and aqueous extracts of different parts of plant exhibited comparatively higher antimicrobial activity although less than one exhibited by standard antibacterial and antifungal discs. The methanolic extract of flowers exhibited slightly better action against most of the microorganisms tested. The MIC values of the extracts against microorganisms tested were ranging from 6mg/ml to 2mg/ml.