ABSTRACT

Stem, leaves and seeds of Loranthus pulverulentus were extracted in methanol-water (90:10) and partitioned with n-hexane, chloroform, ethyl acetate and n-butanol successively using partition chromatography. Total phenolic contents of all extracts were determined, using Folin-Ciocalteu reagent, and ranged between 151±2.1 to 396±1.6 for bark stem, 137 ± 0.9 to 430 ± 2.2 for leaves and 39 ± 0.6 to 231 ± 1.7 for seeds. The antioxidant potential of extracts was evaluated viz; DPPH, FRAP, ABTS and total antioxidant models. Interestingly ethyl acetate extract stem, leaves and seeds showed highest activity in DPPH (94 \pm 2.1%, 96.30 \pm 0.9 and 92.30 \pm 1.1, IC₅₀ 15.86 \pm 0.5 µg, 14.5 ± 0.8 and 102.7 ± 1.3 respectively) FRAP (7.7±0.6, 7.5±0.7 and 6.6±0.7 respectively) and total antioxidant (0.95±0.09, 1.19±0.09 and 0.686±0.08 respectively). Strong correlations were observed between total phenols, total antioxidant activity, DPPH and FRAP with R^2 values ranged from 0.8185 - 0.9951 for bark, 0.7486 - 0.8845 for leaves and 0.8861 - 0.977 for seed extracts. The results of the antimicrobial activity showed that the leave and bark extracts have very good antimicrobial activity against Escherichia coli, Streptococcus thermophilus and Bacillus-subtilis. The ethyl acetate extracts of bark (LBE) and leaves (LLE) showed a very remarkable antimicrobial activity against Streptococcus thermophilus (25mm, and 22mm respectively), Bacillus subtilis (25mm and 30mm respectively) and Escherichia coli (22mm and 23mm respectively) while the same fraction in seeds also gave promising results with 18mm and 20 mm zone of inhibition against Streptococcus thermophilus and Escherichia coli respectively. The hexane extracts showed little activity against the four selected strains. The GC-MS analysis of the hexane fraction of bark stem showed that Fluoroatropine (45.85%) and Scopolamine (36.07%) were the major components, while 2,3-Dihydro coumaran (25.65%), Hexyl vanillate (20.29%) were among the major components of leaves hexane fraction and Flouratropine (85.03%) was the major component of hexane fraction of seeds.