



## Extraction of poppy seed (*Papaver somniferum* L.) oil and its antioxidant activity by DPPH Assay

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**ABSTRACT:** *The huge mainstream of plants, especially agricultural raw materials possesses extractable oils that may have some commercial value. Poppy seeds have high nutritional value and are used as a source of food and cooking oil. Its oil is rich in polyunsaturated fatty acids. It is well known that polyunsaturated fatty acids not only provide basic nutrients for the body, but their absorption into the body are very important for the prevention of cardiovascular disease and many inflammatory diseases. In this study, poppy seed oil was extracted with a yield of  $32.50 \pm 1.80\%$  and free radical scavenging activity was evaluated by 2, 2-diphenyl-1-picrylhydrazyl (DPPH) method. Antioxidant activity was found to be in the range of  $22.28 \pm 1.40$ - $58.32 \pm 3.40\%$  at concentrations of 20-100  $\mu$ l. It was concluded in this study that poppy seeds were found as an effective source of natural antioxidants and can be used to substitute synthetic antioxidants.*

**Keyword:** Poppy seed, Oil content, Antioxidant activity, DPPH assay

### INTRODUCTION

Poppy (*Papaver somniferum* L.) is an ancient edible crop that has been used for medical and dietary reasons for ages (Fig. 1). It is grown all over the world and considered as a raw material of prime importance and use for the

production of pharmaceutically important drugs and seeds (Lančaričová et al., 2016). Narcotic alkaloids, lipid and oils are absent in poppy seeds.

Because of improper harvesting procedures or the usage of poppy seeds by technological poppy cultivars as a derivate of the cultivation in the

pharmaceutical industries, opium alkaloids may contaminate the final product (López et al., 2009). Several important minerals were present in

seeds such as Na, K, Mg, Ca and also the rich amount of omega-6 fatty acids and fibers were reported in it (Levent et al., 2020; Senila et al., 2020).



Fig. 1. Poppy seed plant

(<https://powo.science.kew.org/taxon/urn:lsid:ipni.org:names:673724-1>)

Biomolecule such as vitamin E was present in sufficient quantities as alpha-tocopherol with range of 22.0–45.8 ppm and gamma-tocopherol with range of 195.4–280.9 ppm was reported. Also the Important phytosterol (Beta-sitosterol) was also reported in seeds. Beta-tocopherol (309.5–567.3 ppm) also found in significant concentrations in poppy seed oil (Erinç et al., 2009). Oil content varies from 28 to 52 percent based on seed colour, variety, environmental circumstances, and growing technique (Ghafoor et al., 2019, Luhmer et al., 2021). Fatty acids play a variety of roles in the body. They are precursors of numerous molecules

engaged in the processes of energy storage and transport of vitamins as it is the key components of bio-membranes (Petrovi et al., 2010, Labdelli et al., 2019). The major fatty acids in poppy seed oil are polyunsaturated one, particularly linoleic fatty acids, which account for 56.4–74.8 percent of all fatty acids (Bozan and Temelli, 2008). Varied percentage (13.2–17.8%) of several monounsaturated fatty acids were present in seed oil such as 9–2.3% of stearic acid (Valizadeh et al., 2014), 17–0.40% of palmitic acid (Zbek and Ergönül, 2020; Dbrowski et al., 2020) and oleic acid (Rahimi et al., 2011). Synthetic antioxidants impart serious

side effects due to which researchers were focussing on getting natural antioxidants. The majority of natural antioxidants derived from plants, aid in adsorption, neutralisation, and quenching of singlet/triplet oxygen, as well as degrading peroxides (Uttara et al., 2009; Fahad et al., 2021). Several complications can be caused by those reactive oxygen species such as neurological disorders, cardiovascular diseases, diabetes, asthma, cancer and inflammatory disorders, if those reactive

species were not captured by oxidant scavenging species i.e. antioxidants (Chan et al., 2011; Lamine et al., 2019; Masooda et al., 2023). Bukhari et al. (2009) and Al-Nemari et al. (2020) have found that a various oil seeds exhibited numerous beneficial benefits, such as demonstrating antioxidant activity. GC-MS analysis of ethanolic extract of *Papaver somniferum L* confirmed the presence of 39 volatile compounds (Fig. 2).

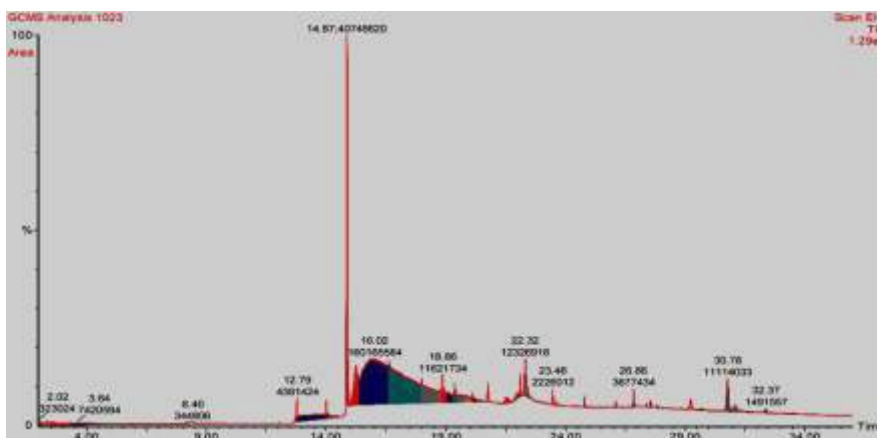


Fig. 2. GC-MS Chromatogram of poppy seed (Muthukumaran et al., 2019)

Different percentage of various phytochemical were reported as follow 30.72% of 9-octadecenoic, 24.02% of 9-tetradecen-1-ol, acetate acid (E), 7.82% of methyl 9,12-octadecadienoate Esters, (E,E), 7.43% of cis-9,10-Epoxyoctadecan-1-ol and 4.36% of Undec-10-ynoic acid. Reported chemical groups are as follow, amino acids (1.42%), monoterpenes (1.33%),

fatty acids (51.03%), aromatics (0.47%), nitrogenous compounds (0.14%), acetates (24.31%), alcohols (0.73%), aldehydes (0.33%), alkanes (1.22%), alkenes (1.07%), ketones (0.75%), naphthalenes (0.71%), epoxides (2.23%) and esters (0.94%). Poppy seed oil's quality and application in the culinary business have become increasingly popular in recent years. In this regards

the purpose of current study is to estimate the oil content by using the DPPH technique and to investigate antioxidant effects.

## MATERIALS AND METHODS

### Chemicals

DPPH (2, 2-Diphenyl-1-picrylhydrazyl) was purchased from Sigma-Aldrich (St. Louis, Missouri, USA). Analytical graded Methanol and  $\text{CHCl}_3$  was purchased from local market.

### Materials

The poppy seed was purchased from local supermarket Lahore, Pakistan and was dried in an electric oven at 40-50 °C. Grinded it with an agate mortar and pestle to obtain a homogeneous powder.

### Oil extraction

The Bligh and Dyer technique 1959 was used to extract the oil using a  $\text{CHCl}_3$ -MeOH combination with the

$$\% \text{ Oil yield} = \text{Wt}_{(\text{oil})} / \text{Wt}_{(\text{seed})} \times 100 \text{ ----- (I)}$$

### Antioxidant study by DPPH assay

Brand-William, (1995) method was employed with some modifications to evaluate the free radical scavenging activity by using DPPH reagent (Saeed

et al., 2021). About 2 ml of 0.004% of methanolic solution of DPPH was prepared and mixed it with 20-100  $\mu\text{l}$  of poppy seed oil. Shake the mixture thoroughly and incubate for 30 mins and goal of recovering antioxidants from the MeOH- $\text{H}_2\text{O}$  mixture ensured to minimise the loss by making the procedure more practicable to obtain heat sensitive antioxidants. Powdered material of about 500 g was mixed with 2 liter of  $\text{CHCl}_3$ /MeOH (1:2, v/v) and thoroughly homogenised. After that, 500 ml of  $\text{CHCl}_3$  was added, homogenised, followed by adding 500 ml of double-distilled water, homogenised again, and lastly subjected to centrifugation for 5 mins at 1000 rpm to generate two phases as  $\text{CHCl}_3$  on bottom and MeOH-water on top layer. Bottom phase of about 95% was recovered by using separating funnel while the remaining 5% is collected after adding 50-100 mL of  $\text{CHCl}_3$ , shaken vigorously and gathered at the bottom.  $\text{CHCl}_3$  was evaporated at 40 °C on a rotary evaporator to collect the oil fraction from the chloroform phase. Equation I was used to compute the oil yield in percent.

et al., 2021). About 2 ml of 0.004% of methanolic solution of DPPH was prepared and mixed it with 20-100  $\mu\text{l}$  of poppy seed oil. Shake the mixture thoroughly and incubate for 30 mins and

the absorbance was taken at 517 nm by using UV-Visible spectrophotometer (1700, Shimadzu, Japan). Percentage

inhibition of free radical was measured by using Equation II

$$\text{Antioxidant activity \%} = 1 - [A_{\text{sample}}/A_{\text{control}}] \times 100 \text{ ----- (II)}$$

### Statistical Analysis

Three triplicates of tested sample were utilized to conduct statistical analysis and expressed as mean  $\pm$  standard deviation.

## RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

### Oil Recovery

In this extraction method, 162.5 g of oil was obtained from 500 g of white poppy seeds and the percent recovery was calculated by using equation-I. The

results of oil yield showed that the oil content of poppy seeds was 32.50% in this variety by the above extraction method (Fig. 3). The oil yield generally depends on the quality of the oilseed. However, in order to maximize oil production, certain factors, can control during pre-treatment such as moisture content, particle size and temperature (Yusuf, 2018).

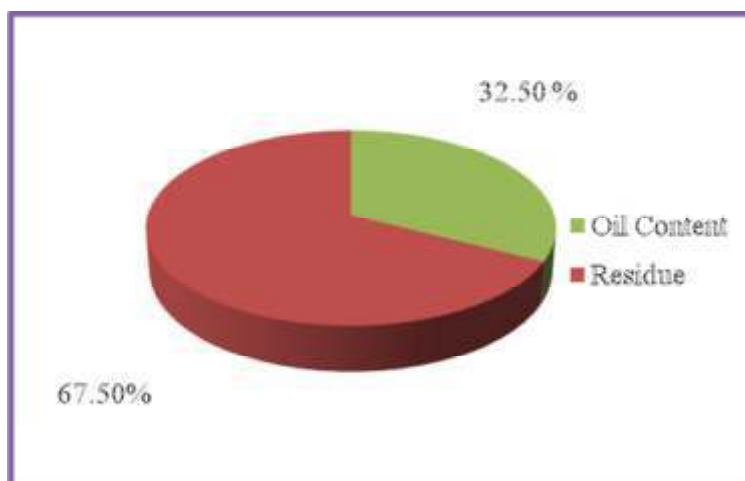


Fig. 3. Percentage yield of oil content of Poppy seed

Solvent extraction is a conventional extraction method commonly used for oilseeds. The choice of solvent is mainly depend on the

solutes leaching potential (Dutta et al., 2015). According to Olaniyan (2010), pre-treatment of oilseeds prior to oil extraction often affects quality and oil

yield. Satranský et al. (2021) conducted a study describing the oil content (40.73-44.76%) in white seed genotypes, but in current study, obtained yield was comparatively low suggested to attribute to variations in cultivar, region and extraction method. However, our results are consistent with Özcan and Atalay (2006), who showed that the oil content in poppy seeds ranges from 32.4% to 45.5%, depending on the variety.

### Antioxidant activity

Due to the carcinogenic effects of synthetic antioxidants, recent research was focussing on production of natural antioxidants such as found medicinal plants (Huang et al., 2005; Ghosh et al., 2008). Medicinal plants are considered effective source of antioxidants and can be used as an alternative medicine to assuage diseases associated with

oxidative stress (Garcia et al., 2007; Afolayan et al., 2011). DPPH antioxidant assay was used to assess the reducing potential of antioxidants in sample (Prior et al., 2005). DPPH<sup>•</sup>, a free radical, reduced to DPPH in the presence of antioxidants. Analytical conditions cause a decolourization reaction in which the purple DPPH<sup>•</sup> changes color to yellow upon reduction to DPPH. Spectrophotometer reads the absorbance of the sample at 517 nm to determine the degree of decolourization (Pisoschi et al., 2009). In our study, poppy seed oil quenched DPPH free radicals (Fig. 4) with % inhibition range from  $22.28 \pm 1.40$ - $58.32 \pm 3.40\%$  at concentrations of 20-100  $\mu$ l. It has been observed that DPPH free radical scavenging activity increases with increasing concentration (Saeed et al., 2022b).

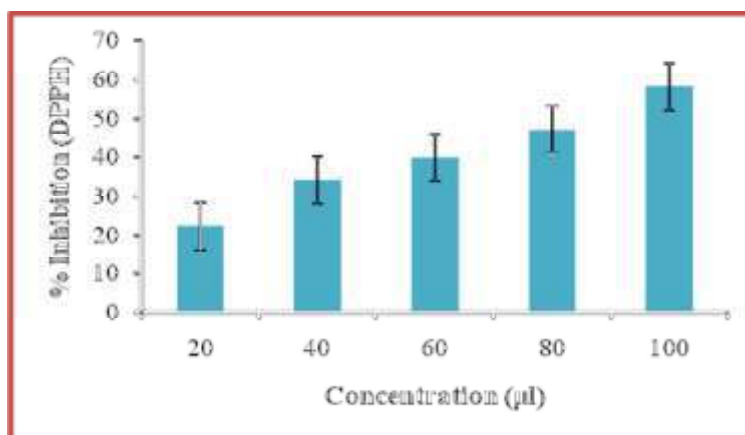


Fig. 4. % Inhibition (DPPH<sup>•</sup>) of poppy seed oil

Results were in harmony with Chmelová et al. (2018) and Shagufta et al. (2013), who characterized the free radical scavenging activity of poppy seeds in range of 33-56.4% at concentrations 50-250 µg /ml. Chan et al. (2010) reported the antioxidant activity of poppy seeds at concentrations 50-100 µg/100 µl) and the reported activity was high than our study. This may be due to differences in extracting solvents and extraction methods. Higher antioxidant activity attributed to the presence of number of hydroxyl group as it showed correlation such as higher the hydroxyl content, higher will be the antioxidant activity. (Chaieb et al., 2007; Ceriello, 2008; Ahmed Souadia, 2022)

## CONCLUSION

According to the findings, poppy seed oil has strong antioxidant properties. Seed oil is an effective source of antioxidants and utilised in very tiny amounts in food. This study also concluded that natural antioxidants suggested effective as compare to synthetic antioxidants. Such natural entities can be used as food preservative and to treat various ailments.

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