



Research Article

In vitro Anthelmintic Activities of *Artocarpus heterophyllus* (Jackfruit) and *Artocarpus camansi* (Breadnut) Leaf Extracts on the Model Nematode, *Caenorhabditis elegans*

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Abstract | *Caenorhabditis elegans* can represent a model organism for herbal medication against parasitic nematodes in determining the anthelmintic potential for the following concentrations of *Artocarpus heterophyllus* and *Artocarpus camansi*, 10000 ppm, 7500 ppm, 5000 ppm. The phytochemical results revealed the presence of alkaloids, flavonoids, saponins, steroids, and tannins in both plant crude extracts. Different developmental stages of *C. elegans* (i.e., 1st to 4th larval stages (L1-L4), young adult (YA) and adult nematodes) were used for *in vitro* anthelmintic assay, mortality, development of life stages, and reproduction of the nematode. Both plant extracts caused high mortality in the L4 stage for their LC₅₀ and LC₉₀ values. Notably, the crude extracts of both plants delayed the development of L4 for almost 48 hours. Thus, the results suggest that the extracts of *A. heterophyllus* and *A. camansi* can be a potential alternative for anthelmintic treatment or with further research, can be utilized as a natural source and active ingredient for a bio-based anthelmintic pharmaceutical drug.

Received | July 20, 2024; **Accepted** | August 07, 2024; **Published** | September 14, 2024

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Citation | Tacbas, E.A., Sumaya, N.P.D. and Sumaya, N.H., 2024. *In vitro* anthelmintic activities of *Artocarpus heterophyllus* (Jackfruit) and *Artocarpus camansi* (Breadnut) leaf extracts on the model nematode, *Caenorhabditis elegans*. *Pakistan Journal of Nematology*, 42(2): 136-145.

DOI | <https://dx.doi.org/10.17582/journal.pjn/2024/42.2.136.145>

Keywords | Anthelmintic, Moraceae, Parasitic nematodes, Phytoconstituents, Plant extracts



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Introduction

Parasitic nematodes continue to place a considerable burden on human health, the productivity of developing countries, and the livestock industry. These nematodes threaten the health of the livestock and cause a major financial and socioeconomic burden to modern society (Vadnal *et al.*, 2017; Zanzani *et al.*, 2014). The parasitic gastrointestinal nematodes, such

as *Ascaris lumbricoides*, *Trichuris trichuria*, *Necator americanus*, and *Ancylostoma duodenale* are a group of gastrointestinal soil-transmitted helminths that pose a significant public health concern in the Philippines (Bethony *et al.*, 2006). If infected, children can suffer from profound physical deficits, including anemia and malnutrition, stunted growth, reduced fitness, and cognitive delays (Soares *et al.*, 2015).

Despite this, only a few anthelmintic drugs are presently available on the market. These include benzimidazoles, macrocyclic lactones (ivermectin), imidazothiazoles (levamisole), and cyclic octadepsipeptides (emodepside), most of which were introduced decades ago (Wink, 2012). However, the extensive and sole reliance on anthelmintics with their indiscriminate use is under serious threat due to the rapid and widespread emergence of anthelmintic-resistant strains of parasites worldwide including in the Philippines (Rupa and Portugaliza, 2016). Moreover, some of these drugs are unaffordable, inaccessible, or inadequately available to the resource-poor farmers of developing countries. Thus, this paved the way for traditional herbal remedies to be used as an alternative source of anthelmintic.

It has been well evidenced that traditional medicines including plants and plant-derived preparations hold great promise as a source of easily available effective anthelmintic treatments, including anthelmintic agents (Aremu et al., 2012). The genus *Artocarpus* of the Moraceae family is used traditionally in many types of diseases, including the treatment of various parasites (*Rotylenchulus reniformis*, *Meloidogyne incognita*, etc.) with its nematicidal effect. *Artocarpus heterophyllus* (Jackfruit) and *Artocarpus camansi* (Breadnut) are the species belonging to this genus which are known to possess phytochemicals that may potentially be used as an anthelmintic, and it is also known for its high nutritional value (Hari et al., 2014).

The free-living nematode *Caenorhabditis elegans* may offer a convenient alternative model system to search for medicinal plants with anthelmintic activity (Burns et al., 2015). *C. elegans* is a small, free-living soil nematode (roundworm) that lives in many parts of the world and survives by feeding on microbes, primarily bacteria (Palikaras and Tavernakis, 2013). This nematode completes a reproductive life cycle in 2.5-3 days at 25 °C (or in 3.5 days at 20 °C), progressing from fertilized embryos which take 14 hours to complete, then hatch to L1 stage which proceeds through four larval stages (L1-L4) for the next 50 hours to become egg-laying adults. According to Katiki et al. (2011), this nematode satisfies many of the criteria needed for an *in vitro* test of anthelmintics because it is cheap, readily available, and easy to work with.

The mode of action of anthelmintics can be evaluated *in vitro* through nematode mortality, development,

and reproduction. This study aims to investigate the anthelmintic activity of *A. heterophyllus* (jackfruit) and *A. camansi* (breadnut) against the model nematode, *C. elegans*, screen the phytochemical components of *A. heterophyllus* and *A. camansi* leaves extract, assess the mortality of the *C. elegans* after 24 hours of exposure to different concentrations of the extracts, observe the development and reproduction of the surviving nematodes after exposure to varying concentrations of the extracts, and compare the anthelmintic efficacy of *A. heterophyllus* and *A. camansi* with the commercially available anthelmintic drug. With further research, it may be utilized as an alternative for a new environmentally safe and sustainable medicine for anthelmintic treatments or can be used as a natural source and active ingredient for a pharmaceutical drug.

Materials and Methods

Plant collection and preparation

Mature leaves of *Artocarpus heterophyllus* and *Artocarpus camansi* were collected from the rural area of Midsalip, Zamboanga del Sur (8.027792, 123.318313). The area where the leaves were collected is far from the public road, the soil is dry, slightly rocky and the trees are fully exposed to the sunlight. After collection, the leaves were washed with tap water to remove dust that was on the leaves. Then, the leaves were air dried at room temperature (25°C-27 °C) under the shade of light with sufficient air circulation around the leaves. When the leaves dried, they were ground to a coarse powder by using a blender.

Extraction and phytochemical screening

The powdered leaves were sent to the Chemistry Department of Mindanao State University, Iligan Institute of Technology (MSU-IIT), and were extracted and analyzed for the presence of phytochemicals viz alkaloids, anthraquinones, flavonoids, glycoside, steroids, and tannins using the standardized methods.

Preparation of Escherichia coli

Standard methods (Riley et al., 2017) were used to grow a liquid culture of *E. coli* OP50 strain obtained from e-nema GmbH, Schwentingen Germany. A small volume of existing bacterial culture was inoculated into a 20-milliliter test tube of fresh LB broth and was incubated for 12 hours. The bacterium was used as a food source for the nematode *C. elegans*.

Bacterial cell count of Escherichia coli

Following the protocol of [Abcam \(2019\)](#), a hemacytometer was used to provide for a more quantified and standardized distribution of bacterial cells in each plate. About 10 microliter of cultured broth was taken from the 20 milliliters test tube and transferred to an Eppendorf tube. The broth in the Eppendorf tube was then diluted using a dilution factor of 5, and a drop of the diluted broth was then placed on the side of the coverslip. Live cells of *E. coli* OP50 were counted on the large squares (16) of the hemacytometer. After counting the live cells, the formula below was used to obtain the target density of 10⁵ bacterial cells. This target density of 10⁵ will be used to seed the nematodes on the anthelmintic assay later on.

$$FV = \frac{[(\text{total cells}/\text{no. of squares})] (DF) (\text{volume in uL})}{TD}$$

FV= Final volume (uL); No. of squares= 16; DF= dilution factor (5); Volume in uL= 104 (constant); TD= Target density (106).

Preparation of nematode Caenorhabditis elegans

Standard methods of [Katiki et al. \(2011\)](#) were followed with some modifications. A monoxenic strain of N2 (wild type) of *C. elegans* acquired from the Aging Physiology and Molecular Evolution Laboratory of Ghent University, Belgium was sliced and transferred to a nematode agar (NA) medium composed of 400 milliliter of distilled water and 11.2 grams of agar. The medium was cooked and then supplemented with 10 milliliters of buffer (KH₂PO₄) and 75 microliters of cholesterol. When the medium solidified, it was then seeded with 500 microliters of *E. coli* and was incubated for 12 hours. After 12 hours, a sliced strain of N2 *C. elegans* was transferred and raised to the nematode agar medium and incubated for 7 days at 25°C.

In vitro anthelmintic assay

The following procedure followed is according to the study of [Santhi et al. \(2017\)](#) with some modifications. About 500 microliters of *Escherichia coli* with a target

density of 10⁵ were grown on the nematode agar medium supplemented with different concentrations (5000, 7500, and 10000 ppm) of the two plant extracts (*A. heterophyllum* and *A. camansi*) in a 5-centimeter diameter Petri dishes. Treatment of Albendazole drug was used as a positive control and phosphate-buffered saline (PBS) as a negative control. Following 12 hours of incubation, each plate was inoculated with 10 individuals of L4 stage nematode. L4 stage larvae can be distinguished by the presence of a small white half-circle patch in the worm midsection which will eventually develop to vulva in the adult stage. Each treatment (plant extract at a given concentration) consisted of 5 replicates (wells) with 3 trials, multiplied by 2 (plants) so there were 40 plates per trial. The incubated nematodes were examined for 3 consecutive days (72 hours). Assessment of the mortality of the nematodes was checked on day 1 (24 hours after inoculation of nematodes), and observation of the development and reproduction rates of the nematodes were checked on days 2-3 (48-72 hours).

Statistical analysis

For the effect of plant extracts on anthelmintic assays, the data (numerical data - number of each nematode stage) were transformed into percentages) was analyzed using a repeated-measures analysis of two-way variance ANOVA, and a post-hoc Tukey's test to confirm the differences that occurred between groups. Probit analysis and LC₅₀ were also used to determine the lethal concentration required to kill 50% of the population.

Results and Discussion

Phytochemical screening of crude extract

The results of the phytochemical screening showed that both *A. heterophyllum* and *A. camansi* extracts contain alkaloids, flavonoids, saponins, steroids, and tannin compounds ([Table 1](#)). Despite similarities in the presence of the compounds, it was evident that *A. heterophyllum* contains a higher amount of saponins and tannins than that of *A. camansi*.

Table 1: *Phytochemical screening of the ethanolic leaf extracts of Artocarpus heterophyllum and Artocarpus camansi.*

Plant	Alkaloids	Antraquinones	Glycosides	Flavonoids	Saponins	Steroids	Tannins
<i>Artocarpus heterophyllum</i>	(+)	(-)	(-)	(+++)	(+++)	(+++)	(+++)
<i>Artocarpus camansi</i>	(+)	(-)	(-)	(+++)	(+)	(+++)	(++)

Legend: (+) present, (-) absent.

Leaf extracts of both *A. heterophyllum* and *A. camansi* have been characterized before (Durga *et al.*, 2022; Adan *et al.*, 2020; Rabeta *et al.*, 2016) and phytochemical constituents identified were more or less similar to this study. The presence of such phytoconstituents in both plant extracts, especially flavonoids and tannins, is significant since they are known effective against parasitic nematodes (Speigler *et al.*, 2017). To maximize the potential of plant extracts, proper extraction procedures could be the key. This is evident in a recent report showcasing that the extraction method could affect the content and bioefficacy of compounds. For example, Indrianingsih *et al.* (2024) highlighted that jackfruit leaves extracted with the use of the ultrasonication method yielded better results in terms of antioxidant and antibacterial activity, and total phenolic content than the traditional maceration technique. This could serve as a basis for further studies utilizing jackfruit and breadnut leaf extracts to maximize their potential.

statistical analysis, there was no significant difference between the two ($P>0.860$).

A similar trend was observed in LC₉₀ where 11500 ppm of *A. heterophyllum* was required to kill 90% of the nematodes whereas a higher concentration of 14700 ppm for *A. camansi* was needed (Figure 2). This also indicated that *A. heterophyllum* was numerically more toxic than *A. camansi*, but similar to the LC₅₀, there was no significant difference between the two ($P>0.096$).

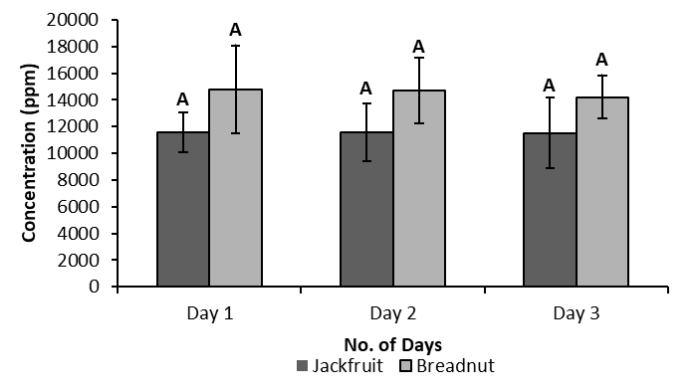


Figure 2: LC₉₀ of *Artocarpus heterophyllum* and *Artocarpus camansi* from day 1 to day 3. The darker bar indicates the mean concentration of LC₅₀ for the *A. heterophyllum* and the lighter bar for *A. camansi* with their standard error mean. The letters above the bars denote no statistical difference ($P>0.096$) between the two by one-way ANOVA with Tukey-Kramer HSD multiple comparisons.

Although the results were statistically comparable for the two plant extracts tested, the potency of jackfruit extract could be attributed to the fact that it has a higher level of tannin present compared to breadnut. Tannins bind in nematode cuticle and interfere with the cuticle structure ultimately leading to increased cuticle rigidity (Greiffer *et al.*, 2022). So far, this is the first study that showed the lethal concentration values of jackfruit and breadnut leaf extracts against the model nematode, *C. elegans*.

Effect of A. heterophyllum and A. camansi on C. elegans mortality

The exposure of L4 to the different concentrations of the extract shows a significant effect on the mortality of *C. elegans* in any concentration ($P<0.0001$) (Figure 3). At 10000, 7500, and 5000 ppm, *A. heterophyllum* exhibited 85-87%, 71-73%, and 59-62% mortality, respectively. The different concentrations of the extract killed more than 50% of the population and it is concentration dependent, starting from the most

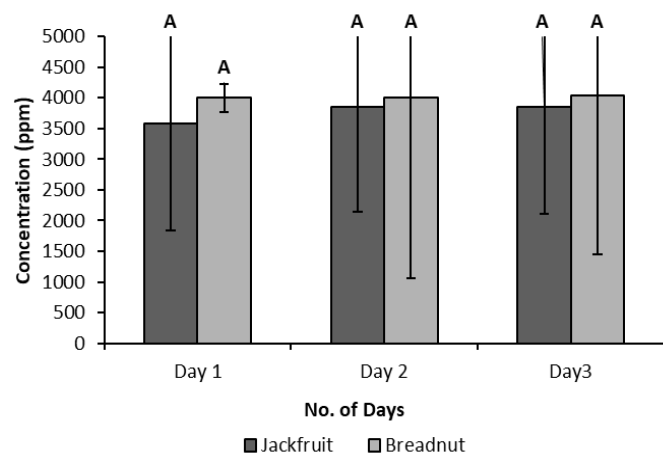


Figure 1: LC₅₀ of *Artocarpus heterophyllum* and *Artocarpus camansi* from day 1 to day 3. The darker bar indicates the mean concentration of LC₅₀ for the *A. heterophyllum* and the lighter bar for *A. camansi* with their standard error mean. The same letters above the bars denotes no statistical significant difference ($P>0.860$) between the two by one-way ANOVA with Tukey-Kramer HSD multiple comparisons.

LC₅₀ and LC₉₀ of A. heterophyllum and A. camansi

Lethal concentration (LC) is a very important parameter in determining the efficacy of plant extracts. Based on the in vitro assay, the most lethal concentration that can kill 50% of the population of nematodes is 3500-3800 ppm for *A. heterophyllum* and 4000 ppm for *A. camansi* (Figure 1). Based on the figure, it can easily be observed that *A. heterophyllum* is much more toxic than *A. camansi* but according to the

lethal group; Group A (10000 ppm and Albendazole), group B (10000 ppm and 7500 ppm), group C (7500 ppm and 5000 ppm) and group D (PBS). Groups A, B, and C showed a significant difference to the (-) control group D (PBS) having the lowest mortality. On the other hand, group A, Albendazole and 10000 ppm have no significant difference with each other ($P = 0.0993$) indicating that the concentration of 10000 ppm of *A. heterophyllum* is as effective as that of the anthelmintic drug Albendazole.

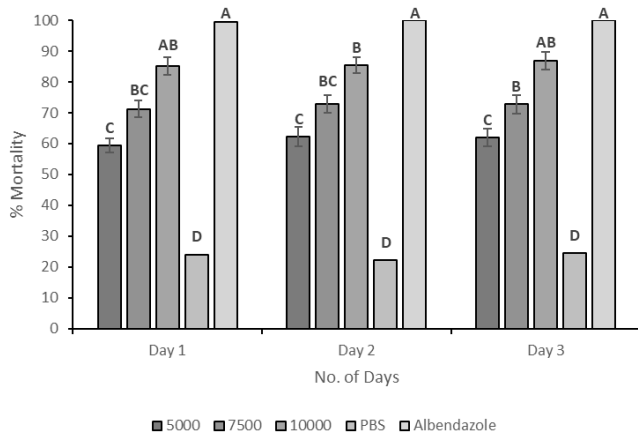


Figure 3: Mortality of *Caenorhabditis elegans* larvae (L4) treated with *Artocarpus heterophyllum* extract, observed from day 1 to 3. Each bar denotes the percent mortality of the nematodes in each concentration with standard error mean. The differing letters above the bars indicate statistically significant ($P < 0.0001$) differences between concentrations and contrary for the bars with the same letters.

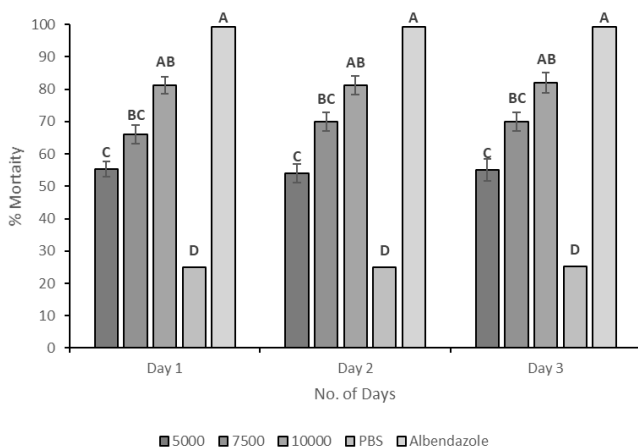


Figure 4: Mortality of *Caenorhabditis elegans* larvae (L4) treated with *Artocarpus camansi* extract, observed from day 1 to 3. Each bar denotes the percent mortality of the nematodes in each concentration with standard error mean. The differing letters above the bars denotes statistically significant ($P < 0.0001$) differences between concentrations and contrary for the bars with the same letters.

Meanwhile, different concentrations of *A. camansi* also showed a significant effect on the mortality of L4 of *C. elegans* ($P < 0.0001$) (Figure 4). At 10000 ppm and 7500 ppm, *A. camansi* exhibited 81-82% and 66-70% of mortality, respectively. While at 5000 ppm exhibited 55% and no more than 60%. Nevertheless, each concentration killed 50% of the population. The mortality rate is also concentration dependent starting from the most lethal group; group A (Albendazole and 10000 ppm), group B (10000 ppm and 7500 ppm), group C (7500 ppm and 5000 ppm), and the (-) control group D (PBS). Groups A, B, and C showed a significant difference to the (-) control group D (PBS) having the lowest mortality. On the other hand, like *A. heterophyllum*, Albendazole, and 10000 ppm have no significant difference with each other ($P = 0.2074$) indicating that the concentration of 10000 ppm of *A. camansi* is as effective as that of the anthelmintic drug albendazole.

Direct anthelmintic effects of tannin-rich plants have already been reported to have negative effects on the mortality and development of gastrointestinal nematodes (Novobilsky *et al.*, 2011) and a study (Katiki *et al.*, 2013) showed up to 80% mortality of *C. elegans* treated with a tannin-rich plant. *A. heterophyllum* is a tannin-rich plant (Table 1) which also showed nematocidal activity against various nematodes (Prakash *et al.*, 2009). *A. camansi* (++) is also a tannin-rich plant next to *A. heterophyllum* (+++) (Table 1). Like *A. heterophyllum*, exhibits a significant nematocidal effect. In line with the study of Katiki *et al.* (2013), plants with the most amount of tannin are much more effective in anthelmintic activity than those who have less, which correlates to the results (Figures 3 and 4) showing that *A. heterophyllum* is much more effective than *A. camansi*.

Effect of A. heterophyllum and A. camansi on the development and reproduction of C. elegans

The extracts of *A. heterophyllum* on day 1 (24 hours) (Figure 5A), delayed the development of L4 stage larva to young adult ($P < 0.0001$). At concentrations of 10000 ppm, 7500 ppm, and 5000 ppm, 1, 3, and 4 nematodes, respectively stayed in their L4 stage for at least 24 hours. Whereas (-) control treatment (PBS) showed a higher development rate with 5 young adults and 2 fully developed adults, on the other hand, the (+) control treatment (albendazole) showed the least number of survivors. The survival of nematodes within the different concentrations

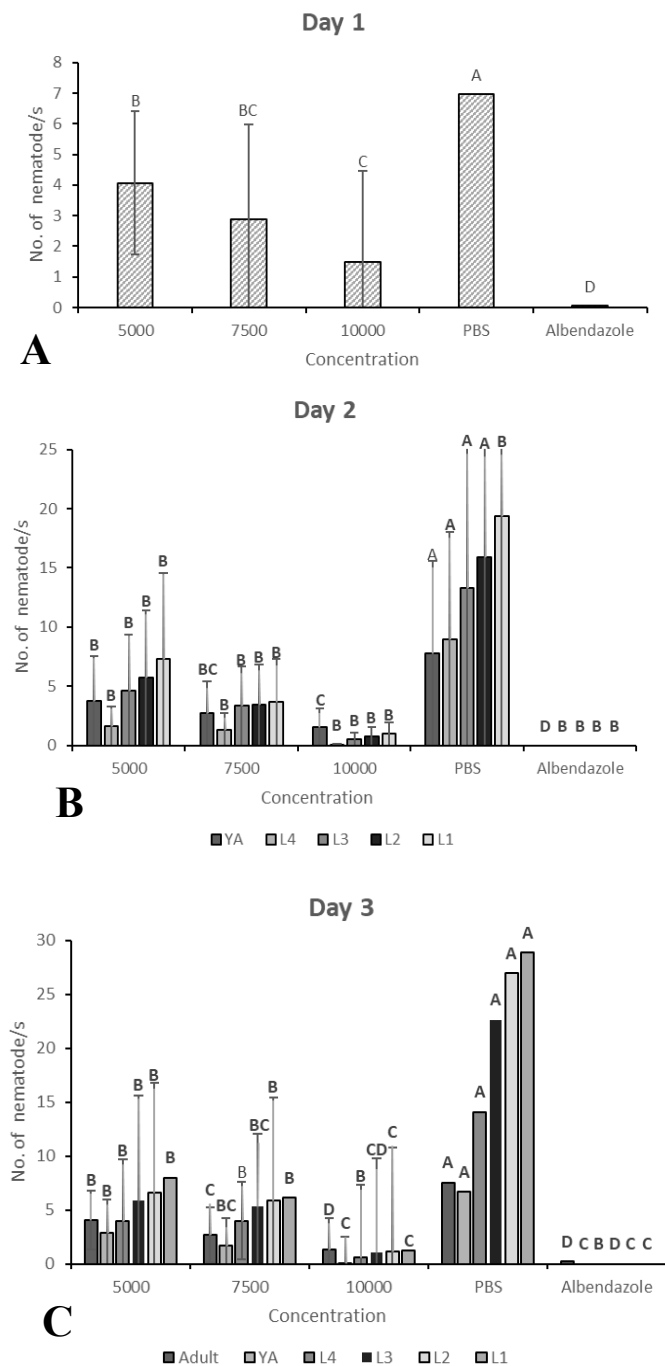


Figure 5: Number of surviving nematodes showing delay in development treated with *Artocarpus heterophyllus* extract. A, shows the development of L4 nematodes after exposure to the extract within 24 hours (day 1). B, shows the resumption of the development of L4 nematodes progressing to young adult (48 hours/day 2) and C, to fully developed adult (72 hours/day 3) together with other nematodes of different larval stages also developing to higher stages. Each bar denotes the mean number of the developmental stages in each concentration with standard error mean. Different letters above the bars denote statistically significant differences between concentrations and contrary for the bars with the same letters.

starting from the most number of survivors; group A (-) control (PBS), group B (7500 ppm and 5000 ppm), group C (10000 ppm and 7500 ppm) and group D (+) control (Albendazole) having the least number of survivors. Developmental resumption of L4 in young adults is shown on day 2 (Figure 5B) ($P < 0.0001$). This time, the L4 larvae have proceeded to develop into young adults, and reproduction of larvae (L1-L4) has started. At concentrations 10000 ppm, 7500 ppm and 5000 ppm only 1, 3 and 4 larvae have developed further to young adults, respectively. It can be observed that L1 larvae ($P = 0.0005$) have a greater number of individuals among the larval stages, with the means of 7.2778 in 5000 ppm; 3.6667 in 7500 ppm, and 0.9667 in 10000 ppm, followed by L2 ($P = 0.0004$) then L3 ($P = 0.0006$). The lowest concentration (5000 ppm) was able to produce more L1-L4 stages than the highest concentration (10000 ppm) with the least number of L1-L4 larvae which indicates that it is concentration-dependent. The (-) control treatment still showed a higher development rate with now fully developed adults.

On day 3, it has more offspring and all the life stages are present from L1 to fully developed adult (Figure 5C). It can be observed that L1 ($P < 0.0001$), has a greater number of individuals followed by L2 ($P < 0.0001$), L3 ($P < 0.0001$), and L4 ($P < 0.0001$) having the least number of individuals present per concentration.

The extracts of *A. camansi* on day 1 (24 hours) (Figure 6A), delayed the development of L4 stage larva to young adult ($P < 0.0001$). At concentrations of 10000 ppm, 7500 ppm, and 5000 ppm, only 2, 4, and 5 nematodes respectively stayed in their L4 stage for at least 24 hours. Whereas (-) control treatment (PBS) showed a higher development rate with 7 young adults, on the other hand, the (+) control treatment (Albendazole) showed the least number of survivors. The survival of nematodes within the different concentrations showed significant differences with each other, starting from the most number of survivors; group A (-) control (PBS), group B (7500 ppm and 5000 ppm), group C (10000 ppm and 7500 ppm) and group D (+) control (Albendazole) having the least number of survivors.

On day 2 (Figure 6B), the developmental resumption of L4 in young adults is shown ($P < 0.0001$). The L4 larvae have proceeded to develop into young adults, still, it was delayed because it took almost 48 hours for

showed significant differences with each other,

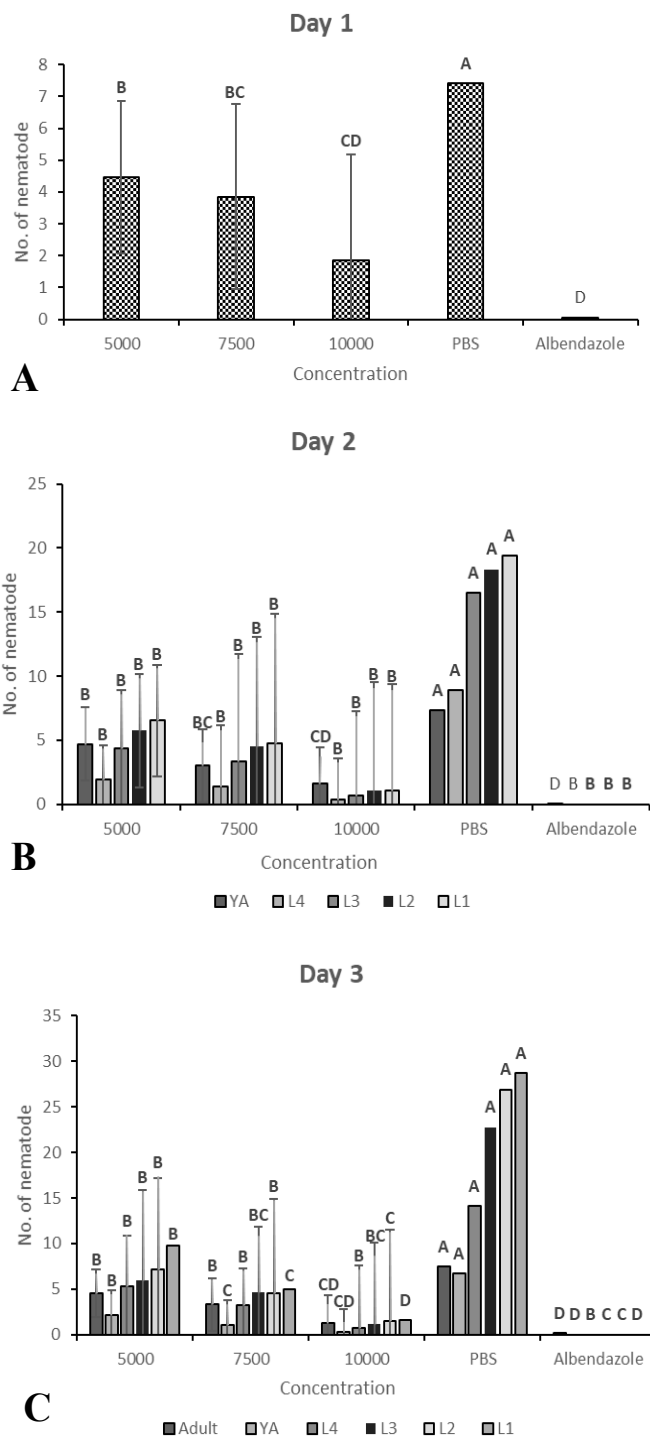


Figure 6: Number of surviving nematodes showing delay in development treated with *Artocarpus camansi* extract. A, shows the development of L4 nematodes after exposure to the extract within 24 hours (day 1). B shows the resumption of the development of L4 nematodes progressing to young adult (48 hours/day 2) and C, to fully developed adult (72 hours/day 3) together with other nematodes of different larval stages also developing to higher stages. Each bar denotes the mean number of the developmental stages in each concentration with standard error mean. Different letters above the bars denote statistically significant differences between concentrations and contrary for the bars with the same letters.

the L4 to develop into a young adult, and reproduction of larvae (L1-L4) has started. At concentrations 10000 ppm, 7500 ppm and 5000 ppm only 2, 3 and 5 L4 larvae have developed further to young adults, respectively. It can be observed that L1 larvae ($P=0.0003$) have a greater number of individuals among the larval stages, with the means of 6.5278 in 5000 ppm; 4.7500 in 7500 ppm; and 1.0833 in 10000 ppm, followed by L2 ($P=0.0001$) then L3 ($P=0.0001$). The lowest concentration (5000 ppm) was able to produce more L1-L4 stages than the highest concentration (10000 ppm) with the least number of L1-L4 larvae, which indicates that it is concentration-dependent. The (-) control treatment still showed a higher development rate with now fully developed adults.

On day 3 (Figure 6C), there were more offspring and all the life stages were present from L1 to fully developed adult. It can be observed that L1 ($P<0.0001$), has a greater number of individuals followed by L2 ($P<0.0001$), L3 ($P<0.0001$), and L4 ($P<0.0002$) having the least number of individuals present per concentration.

According to the study of Palikaras and Tavernakis (2013). The life cycle of *C. elegans* completes only for 3 days at 25°C. When the egg hatches into L1 larvae, it takes 12 hours before it proceeds to L2 stage, from L2 stage it takes 8 hours to develop in the L3 stage, and from the L3 stage comes another 8 hours to become L4 larvae, from L4 larvae it takes 10 hours to become a young adult and another 8 hours to become a fully developed adult. On day 1, the development of L4 to young adults has been delayed for 24 hours which is supposed to be 10 hours only, here the larvae are still dormant to its L4 stage. Resumption of the development of L4 to young adults happened on day 2, still, it was delayed, because it took almost 48 hours in all for the L4 to proceed to young adults. On day 3, the young adult continued to develop into a fully developed adult and all larval stages are now present. The development was delayed or inhibited from its normal life cycle due to a trade-off. This may be attributed to the energy spent or underlying mechanisms (gene expression levels) that are needed to protect itself from foreign substances (as a defense mechanism) rather than to grow and develop. This may be in line with the study of Azaizeh et al. (2013), that tannin-rich plants impair the exsheathment or molting of L3-L4 larvae thus, inhibiting its growth and restricting the nematode from feeding. Previous

research has also indicated that dietary restriction in *C. elegans* slows nematode development as well as increases its lifespan, although whether these two effects are linked is considered controversial (Bull *et al.*, 2007). Furthermore, it is shown that *A. heterophyllum* extract slows, but does not prevent nematode development and reproduction. The development of the L4 larvae stages is the same as in the results of *A. heterophyllum*, on days 1, 2, and 3, where it delayed the development of the L4 stage instead of their usual 10 hours' development time (Palikaras and Tavernakis, 2013). Thus, the observation shows that *A. camansi* extract also slows, but does not prevent nematode development and reproduction.

In comparison to the (+) control (Albendazole), in terms of mortality, *A. heterophyllum* and *A. camansi* would have the potential to be a source for antihelmintic medicine at high concentrations (10000 ppm) or more. But in terms of preventing the development and reproduction of the nematodes, it just slows its development and reproduction and does not completely inhibit unlike that of Albendazole which kills and also inhibits the nematode development and reproduction.

Conclusions and Recommendations

The study showed that *A. heterophyllum* and *A. camansi* have both phytochemical compounds such as alkaloids, flavonoids, saponins, steroids, and tannins but each plant had varying quantities. Both are tannin-rich plants *A. heterophyllum* (+++) and *A. camansi* (++) which could be responsible for most of the nematicidal activity. The LC₅₀ and LC₉₀ of both plants show that they are toxic and have positive anthelmintic activity in all concentrations for it killed 50% of the population even with the lowest concentration (5000 ppm). The remaining surviving nematodes continued to develop and reproduce but the extracts of different concentrations delayed the development of L4 larvae to young adults for about 48 hours. Despite the delay in the development and reproduction of the nematodes, *A. heterophyllum* and *A. camansi* can potentially become an anthelmintic medicine at higher concentrations.

The experimental setup presented here can give the foundation for further studies of the morphological effect on *C. elegans* treated with *A. heterophyllum* and *A. camansi*. Moreover, it could also serve as the basis for

the development of a bio-based antihelmintic drug as an alternative to synthetic antihelmintic drugs.

Acknowledgement

The authors thank Prof. Dr. Bart Braeckman of the Laboratory for Aging Physiology and Molecular Evolution at the Faculty of Sciences, Ghent University for the *C. elegans* provision.

Novelty Statement

This study was first to assess the in vitro antihelmintic potential of the two crude extracts of *A. heterophyllum* and *A. camansi* leaves using the model nematode, *C. elegans*.

Author's Contribution

Estrelle Anne Tacbas: Conceptualization, Methodology, Investigation, Data Curation, Resources, Formal Analysis, Writing-Original draft

Neil Pep Dave Sumaya: Conceptualization, Methodology, Data Curation, Formal Analysis, Resources, Supervision, Writing- Review and Editing

Nanette Hope Sumaya: Conceptualization, Methodology, Data Curation, Formal Analysis, Writing- Review and Editing

Conflict of interest

The authors have declared no conflict of interest.

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