

RESEARCH PAPER

EFFECT OF SIDA CORYMBOSA LEAF EXTRACT ON THE ELECTROLYTE AND BLOOD GLUCOSE LEVEL OF ALLOXAN-INDUCED DIABETIC ALBINO WISTAR RATS.

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ABSTRACT

This study was designed to investigate the effect of *Sida corymbosa* (SC) leaf extract on plasma potassium (K⁺), Sodium (Na⁺), Chloride (Cl⁻), Bicarbonate (HCO₃⁻) and blood sugar in alloxan induced diabetic albino wistar rats. A total of 30 albino wistar rats each weighing 100g were assembled and divided into 3 groups (A-C; n =10 each). Group A received SC treatment; B was without SC treatment; while C served as control. Aqueous extract of SC leaf (0.05mg/kg) was administered orally to the rats in group A but not in group B while group C received only water for 7 days. Blood samples were collected into fluoride oxalate and lithium heparin containers for estimation of glucose and other biochemical parameters respectively. Plasma glucose, Na⁺, K⁺, Cl⁻, and HCO₃⁻ were analyzed using standard methods. There was a significant decrease in the mean plasma glucose (100.60±0.84Vs193.70±0.84; p=0.000) and Na⁺(139.10±2.23 Vs 140.20±1.23; p=0.003) levels in post SC treatment when compared to pre-treatment levels, but asignificant increase in the mean plasma K⁺ (7.70±1.64 Vs 7.48±1.98; P=0.000) levels. Again, there was a significant decrease in mean weight of subject after SC administration (100.00±0.52 vs 119.40 ± 1.17; p=0.000).No significant difference was recorded between the pre and post-SC levels of Cl⁻ and HCO₃⁻ suggesting overall that SC has hypoglycaemic, antihypertensive andanti-obesitypotentials.

Keywords: *Sida corymbosa*, glucose, sodium, potassium, Chloride, Bicarbonate.

INTRODUCTION

The use of plants as source of remedies for the treatment of diseases can be traced back to the prehistoric times (Lawrence and Bennett, 1995; Evans, 2009; Ankita *et al.*, 2012) and medicinal herbs are being increasingly studied by pharmacological researchers (Sinclair, 1998). Indian Ayurveda medicine used herbs as early as 1900BC describing about 700 medicinal plants (Aggarwal *et al.*, 2007; Caceres *et al.*, 2007). According to the World Health Organization more than 80% of the world's populations rely on traditional medicine for their primary health care majority of which use plants or their active ingredients Gupta *et al.*, 2005; Chopra *et al.*, 2013).



Medicinal plants play a key role in human health care and the use of plant resources for herbal medicine and other purposes in Nigerian pre-dates medical history. The medicinal value of these plants depend essentially on its phyto-chemical composition. These phyto-chemicals are the biochemical elements responsible for the definite physiological effects rendered on the human body. *Sida* is one of ethnomedicinally important genus of plants which belongs to the family called malvaceae (Ajithabai *et al.*, 2012). *Sida* plants have over 200 species which are used in treatment of diseases (Narasinha *et al.*, 2013). It is found growing in most parts of Nigeria as common weeds. In the South Eastern part of Nigeria, it is called “Udontike”, “Udonwatakaiké”, “Udoike” and “Acharaiké” (Lucy *et al.*, 2014).

MATERIALS AND METHODS

Study Location: The study was carried out at The Human Biochemistry Laboratory, Nnamdi Azikiwe University. It is located in the suburb of Nnewi - a popular town in Anambra State Nigeria.

Collection and identification of plant: The *Sida corymbosa* plant was collected from Okofia College of Health Sciences and Technology, Nnamdi Azikiwe University Nnewi campus, Anambra state Nigeria in the month of January, 2016 and identified by Mrs. Aziagba B.O., Department of Botany, Nnamdi Azikiwe University, Akwa.

Animals: Wistar albino rats (100g) of both male and female were obtained from the Institute Animal House and maintained at 25±2 °C temperature and relative humidity 45-55% under 12:12 h light:dark cycle. Rats were fed with standard rat chow and water ad-libitum.

Preparation of the plant extract: The method used is based on the method described by kalita *et al.*; (2013), although with some modification. About 150 g of dried leaves of *Sida corymbosa* were taken in a 1000 mL of the round bottom flask and extracted for 72 h by a continuous hot percolation process using the solvent ethanol as solvent. The extracts were filtered through the Whatmann filter paper to remove impurities. The extracts were then concentrated by vacuum distillation, cooled and placed in desiccators to remove the excessive moisture.

Alloxan induced hyperglycemia: Animals were divided into three groups, each consisting of ten rats. Rats in the first group(A) received 0.05mg/kg *Sida corymbosa* dissolved in ethanol while the second group of rats (B) received ethanol. Rats in groups 3 were normal rats and served as the control groups (C). All the animals received their respective assigned treatment daily for a period of seven days. Rats were daily fasted over night before *Sida corymbosa* treatment. On day 8, the animals were anesthetized with ether, and blood was collected using cardiac puncture. Serum was then separated for the estimation of glucose and electrolytes (Na⁺, K⁺, Cl⁻, and HCO₃⁻) by using standard methods as described by Bergmeyer and Bernt (1974) while electrolytes were estimated using ion selective electrode (ISE).

Ethical Consideration: The protocol was approved by the Faculty of Health Sciences and Technology ethical committee, Nnamdi Azikiwe University, Nnewi campus, Anambra State, Nigeria.

Inclusion and Exclusion criteria: Apparently healthy Wistar rats weighing 100-120g were included for the study while Unhealthy Wistar rats with weight less or above 100g were excluded from the study in order to ensure accuracy and uniformity in result interpretation.

Statistics: Statistical package for social science (SPSS) version 20 was employed in the analysis of the result. The results for the parameters studied were expressed as Mean± SD and the data were analyzed using one-way ANOVA and compared between the groups using student paired t-test and Pearson correlation r. Level of significance was set at p<0.05.

RESULTS

In this study, the serum levels of Na⁺, K⁺ and FBS were significantly decreased in Alloxan induced diabetic rat with *Sida* treatment than those without *Sida* treatment and control group at P<0.05 respectively while serum levels of Cl⁻ and HCO₃⁻ were statistically insignificant when compared among the groups using ANOVA table (Table 1 and figure



2). Again, there was a significant decrease in mean weight of the subjects treated with *Sida corymbosa* when compared with those without *Sida* treatment (Figure 1).

Table 1: Serum Levels Of FBS and Electrolyte Profile in Alloxan Induced Diabetic Rat with *Sida* Treatment (A), Without *Sida* Treatment (B) And Control Group (C) (Mean ± SD; N=10; P<0.05).

Group	Na ⁺ (mmol/l)	K ⁺ (mmol/l)	Cl ⁻ (mmol/l)	HCO ₃ ⁻ (mmol/l)	FBS (Mg/dl)	Weight (g)
A (n=10)	139.10±2.23	7.70±1.64	99.50±1.65	15.50±1.65	100.60±0.84	100.00±0.52
B(n=10)	140.20 ± 1.23	7.48 ± 1.98	103.40 ± 1.07	16.20 ± 3.21	193.70 ± 0.84	119.40 ± 1.17
C(n=10)	135.30 ± 4.50	3.94 ± 0.33	99.70 ± 7.67	16.20 ± 0.92	100.10 ± 2.64	100.60 ± 0.84
F(P)-value	7.418 (0.003)	19.905 (0.000)	1.890 (0.171)	0.571 (0.572)	29.774 (0.000)	150.000 (0.000)

Keys -F (P)-value = mean ± SD of parameters compared among groups A, B and C using ANOVA

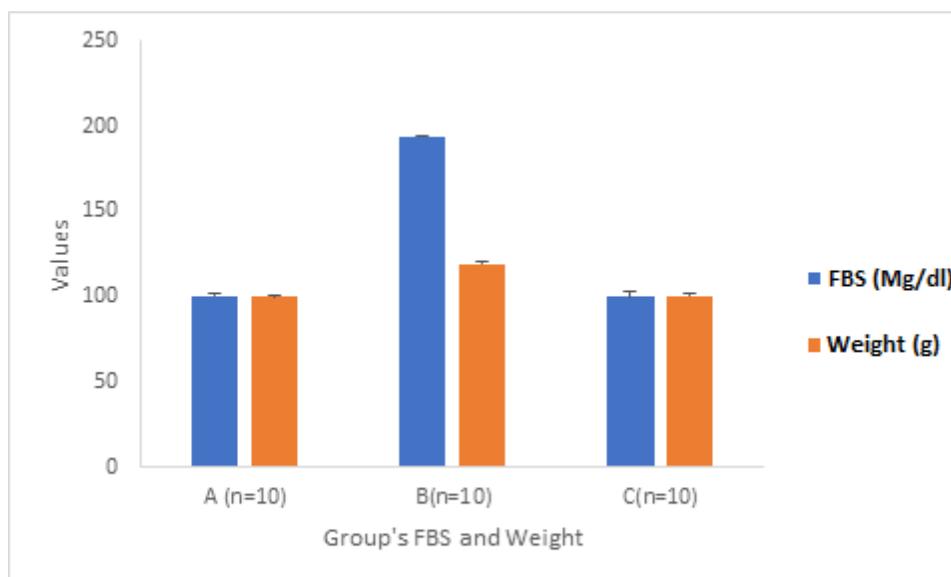


Fig. 1: A bar chart of showing the Fasting Blood Sugar and mean Weights of the experimental groups studied

The serum levels of Na⁺ and K⁺ were statistically significant when the Alloxan induced diabetic rat with *Sida* treatment and control group were compared using paired t-test but the serum levels of Cl⁻, HCO₃⁻ and FBS were statistically insignificant when compared using paired t- test (figure 1).

When the Alloxan induced diabetic rats without treatment were compared with the control group, the serum levels of Na⁺, Cl⁻ and HCO₃⁻ showed a significantly different at P<0.05 but K⁺, and FBS were statistically insignificant at P>0.05(figure 1)



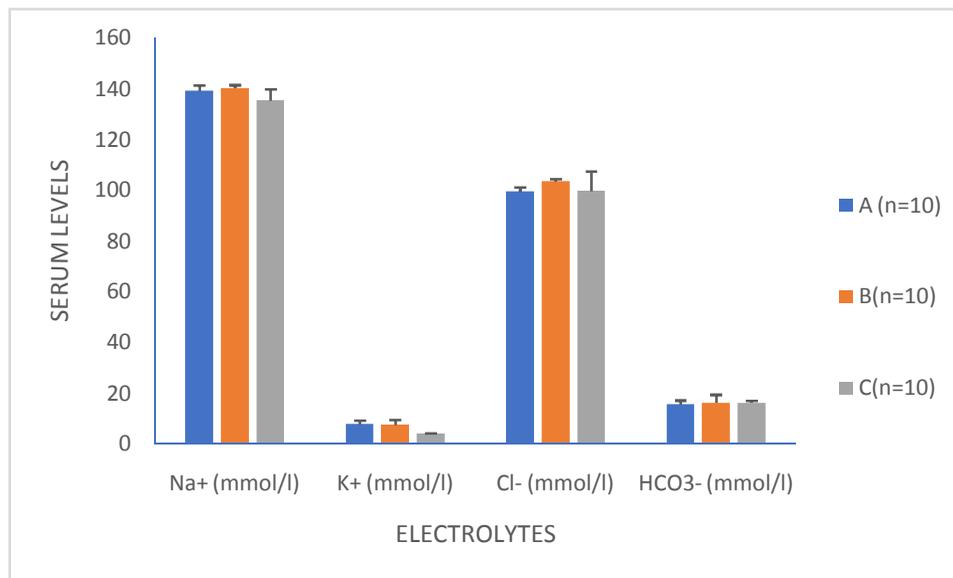


Fig. 2 A bar chart showing the Serum electrolytes of the experimental groups studied

There was a positive correlation between serum levels of K and HCO₃⁻ when Alloxan Induced Diabetic Rats without Treatment was correlated with the control group (Table 2).

Table 2: *Sida corymbosa* correlation control Level of association between Electrolyte profile and FBS studies in Alloxan Induced Diabetic Rats without Treatment.

Parameters	Pearson r correlation	P- value
K v HCO ₃	.846	.002

*Statistically significant at P<0.05

There was a positive correlation between serum levels of K and Cl⁻ as well as HCO₃⁻ and FBS when Alloxan Induced Diabetic Rats with Treatment and control group (Table 3).

Table 3: *Sida corymbosa* correlation control Level of association between Electrolyte profile and FBS studies in Alloxan Induced Diabetic Rats with Treatment.

Parameters	Reason correlation	P-value
K v Cl ⁻	.961	.000
HCO ₃ ⁻ v FBS	.782	.007

*Statistically significant at P<0.05

DISCUSSION:

The *corymbosa* plant family has been found to be a potential and promising plant for medicinal purposes such as diabetes, hyperlipidemia and hypertension in Ayurvedic medicine (Pole and Sebastian, 2006; Radhika *et al.*, 2013).



In this study, *S. corymbosa* administration significantly reduced the plasma glucose concentration in the Alloxan induced diabetic rat with *sida* treatment. This result confirms the report of Radhika *et al.*, (2013) who investigated the antihyperglycemic potential of *Premna corymbosa* in rats and found that the plant was effective in reducing the glucose level and controlling the loss of body weight in diabetic rats. Other similar studies in rats also did show the reducing effect of *S. corymbosa* on blood glucose level (Bennet and Joslin, 1998; Dash *et al.*, 2005; Pole and Sebastian, 2006).

The decreased level of fasting blood sugar in the alloxan induced diabetic rats with *Sida* treatment maybe as a result of its stimulation of insulin release from the pancreatic-beta-cells or its release from the bound form (Davis *et al.*, 2002; Nolte *et al.*, 2004; Banshidhar and Deepmala, 2013). Furthermore, there may have been stimulation of peripheral glucose utilization or enhancing glycolytic and glycogenic processes with concomitant decrease in glycogenolysis and gluconeogenesis (Andrade-cetto and Wiedenfeld, 2004). In addition, the antihyperglycemic activity of *S. corymbosa* may also be due to the presence of hypoglycemic saponins, alkaloid and steroids (Pole and Sebastian, 2006; Okwu and Josiah, 2006; Sparg, 2004; Sahu *et al.*, 2008).

The present study shows a significant reduction in the mean serum level of sodium following the treatment of the alloxan induced diabetic rats in contrast to the mean plasma level of potassium. The mean plasma potassium level was significantly increased after the alloxan induced diabetic rats were subjected to treatment. This decrease in serum level of sodium may be as a result of the body's homeostatic mechanism to maintain a stable equilibrium or balance between the extracellular sodium and intracellular potassium (Clapp *et al.*, 2009). The potassium helps regulate the amount of sodium in the blood, thus helping to keep the sodium level low and thereby lowering the risk of developing high blood pressure and other cardiovascular complications (Clapp *et al.*, 2009). The mean plasma level of bicarbonate and chloride remained the same at the end of the treatment of the alloxan induced diabetic rats. There was a positive correlation between serum levels of K and HCO₃⁻ when Alloxan Induced Diabetic Rats without Treatment was correlated with the control group.

There was a positive correlation between serum levels of K and Cl⁻ as well as HCO₃⁻ and FBS when Alloxan Induced Diabetic Rats with Treatment and control group.

Conclusion

From the current study, we conclude that *S. corymbosa* has significant antihyperglycemic and antihypertensive effects. Therefore, *S. corymbosa* can be useful, at least as an adjunct, in the therapy of diabetes, a condition in which hyperglycemia and hyperlipidemia coexist quite often as well as in the management of hypertension.

However, further study is necessary for the screening of chemical compounds and the structure elucidation of the respective antidiabetic and antihypertensive property as well as their extraction mechanism.

Recommendation

Based on our findings, we recommend that *S. corymbosa* can be used in the management of Diabetes Mellitus as well as hypertension. However, further studies should be carried out to fully understand the full benefit of *S. corymbosa*.

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AUTHORS' CONTRIBUTIONS

All authors (Ezeugwunne IP, Ebezue CU, Ogbodo EC, Analike RA, Ezego WA, Onah CE, Madukwe DUP, Okwara JE, Amah UK, Oguaka VN, Oha PC, Asebioyo SJ.) contributed to the completion of this research work and were actively involved in the presentation of this manuscript.

