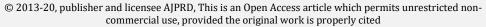


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Review Article

A Review: Analysis of Betacyanin Levels in Various Natural Products

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ABSTRACT

Objectives: Betacyanin is a pigment that can be used as a natural pigment for food and as an alternative to synthetic dyes because it has an attractive color. Other than that, it also dissolves easily in water, and has high antioxidant activity so it is safer for the body when consumed. The purpose of this article is to discuss the levels of betacyanin in various natural products that can be analyzed using methods UV-Vis Spectrotometer, HPLC.

Data Sources Study Selection: The review method used is by studying the literature relevant to the research. Data sources of this article were selectively taken from Google Schoolar, Pubmed, Science Direct, Researchgate and Mandeley.

Summary of contents of the article: Betacyanin is one of the most widely used natural dyes in food. Betacyanin is a pigment that functions to provide a red color and has the potential to be a natural dye for food that is safer for health than synthetic dyes. Betacyanin is found in plants such as in red dragon fruit (*Hylocereus polyrhiyus*), beets (*Beta vulgaris L.*), cactus fruit (*Opuntia elatior Mill.*), and in Inflorescence *Celosia*. The level analysis was carried out in various types of plants that were known to contain betacyanin, the most common method used in analyzing the levels of betacyanin was using a UV-Vis spectrofotometer and HPLC with the results of the study showing that the observed betacyanin had a maximum wavelength of 538 nm.

Conclusion: Betacyanin is of betalain pigments which can be used as a natural dye alternative to synthetic dyes. The analysis of betacyanin levels was tested in various plants. Betacyanin has a sligtly different levels in various natural products that has been widely analyzing using the UV-Vis spectrofotometer and HPLC methods.

Keywords: Keywords: Betacyanin, *Hylocereus polyrhiyus*, *Beta vulgaris L.*, *Opuntia elatior Mill.*, *inflorescence Celosia*, Level analysis.

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INTRODUCTION

Betalain pigment group. Betalain pigments can only be found in plants of several family members of the Caryophyllales order, including Amaranthaceae, which are mutually exclusive with anthocyanin pigments¹. Betacyanin pigment is classified into the betalain group². Soluble in water and organic solvents that are not free of water while Betacyanin is not soluble in pure organic solvents³.

Betacyanin is a pigment that can be used as a natural pigment for food and as an alternative to synthetic dyes because it has an attractive color. Other than that, it also dissolves easily in water, and has high antioxidant activity so it is safer for the body when consumed⁴. Betacyanin gives a red color and has the potential to be a natural pigment for food which is safer for health compared to synthetic dyes⁵.

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Figure: 1 Structure of betacyanin¹⁷.

All betacyanins are glycosylated. It originates from the main basic structural units, namely the aglycon betanidine and isobetanidine(C-15epimers). Betacyanin has 4 sub-classes, namely amaranthin, betanin, gompgrenim and 2- descarboxy betanin⁶.

Betacyanin type betanine which is a major or minor component in some betacyanin-producing plants has a hydrosil group that allows the formation of glycosides, especially as 5-O-glycosides, which are often found in amaranthin type betacyanins. Betacyanin has four subclasses, namely amaranthin, betanine, gomphrenin and 2-descarboxy betanin³⁵. Several members of the Amaranthaceae family are known to have non-acylated Betacyanin, namely amaranthine, isoamaranthine, betanine and isobetanin or acylated Betacyanin, including celosyanin I, isocelocyanin I, celosianin II and isocelocyanin II⁸.

Betacyanin pigments are hydrophilic so that in the extraction process organic solvents such as ethanol are used ^{12,13}. The use of water solvent in the heat concentration process can cause damage because the boiling point of water is quite high (100°C), while the stability of betacyanin decreases at heating temperatures of 70°C and 80°C^{7,8}. The synthesis of betacyanin is influenced by temperature, place of growth, and light⁸. Betacyanin has a high level of stability at pH5⁷. The breakdown of betacyanin increases sharply below pH 4 and at neutral pH values it causes the breakdown of betacyanin and turns

brown⁸. Betacyanin identification is mostly done by comparison of spectrosmetry, chromatography, electrophoretic properties with authentic standards or secondary data and using traditional and modern analytical techniques, such as paper chromatography, thin layer chromatography, High Performance Liquid Chromatography (HPLC), Liquid Chromatography - Mass Spectrometry (LC-MS)^{9,10,11}. Based on comparison with the results of previous studies on the same UV-vis spectra conditions from DAD HPLC, it was shown that the observed betacyanin has a maximum wavelength of 538 nm³⁵.

METHODS

Data Sources Study Selection:

The review method used is by studying the literature relevant to the research. Data collection in this review article was done by collecting journals, articles and a portion of the internet resources that were taken from the previous 10 years (2010-2020).

The journals used in making this review article are from international and national journals. Data sources of this article were selectively taken from Google Schoolar, Pubmed, Science Direct Researchgate and Mandeley. Articles review were carried out in ournals related to the analysis of betacyanins in various natural products.

The keywords used are "betacyanins"," betacyanin levels analysis", "betasianin levels Hylocereus polyrhiyus", "betasianin levels Beta vulgaris L", "betasianin levels Opuntia elatior Mill.", "betasianin levels Celosia". This review article has been carried out in the research journal by looking at the levels of betacyanin ound in various natural products.

DISCUSSION

Red dragon fruit (Hylocereus polyrhiyus)

Dragon fruit is a cactus, namely the *Hylocereus* and *Selenicereus* genus from the *Cactaceae* family. The dragon fruit classification is as follows:³⁷

Division : Spermatohyta Subdivision : Angiosperms Class : Dicotyledonae Order : Cactales Family : Cactaceae Subfamily : Hylocereanea Genus : Hylocereus Species : Hylocereus polyrhizus





Figure: 2 Red dragon fruit (Hylocereus polyrhiyus)⁴⁹.

Dragon fruit has many benefits, consumption of dragon fruit - can be eaten directly in the form of fresh fruit - can help reduce cholesterol levels in the body as an alternative therapy for people with high cholesterol levels³⁹, dragon fruit contains various important substances such as niacin, fiber, antioxidants, and protein that are thought to reduce cholesterol levels in the body³⁸. So far, what is often used is the pulp of the fruit, even though the peel of the dragon fruit has many benefits. The ingredients found in dragon fruit peel are flavonoids, dietary fiber, phenolic, and the betacyanin pigment¹². The percentage of red dragon fruit peel is 22% of the total fruit weight¹³. So far, research on

dragon fruit peel extraction has been carried out several times, including extraction of betacyanin with a maximum yield at a temperature of 50-55° C for 25 minutes¹⁴, betacyanin extraction with the best results heating to 100° C for 5 minutes¹⁵, and extraction of dragon fruit peel with the best results at 60°C for 4 hours¹⁶. Analysis of betacyanin levels was carried out by taking 1 mL of sample, then diluting it with citrate buffer pH 5 and measuring the absorbance at 537 and 500. The absorbance value was calculated as A = 1.095 (537-500). Total betacyanin can be calculated using the following formula:²¹

<u> Absorbance x Dilution Factor x Molecular Weight</u>

 $\sum x 1$

(A: absorbance, FP: dilution factor, BM: 550g/mol,: 60000 L/mol cm, 1:1 cm thick cuvette).

Data measurement done using a UV-Vis spectrophotometer obtained an absorbance of 1.18 and 1.10, respectively; at that point the absorbance was 0.08. Then, after obtaining the absorbance, it can be calculated using the formula above, the betacyanin content was 36.67 mg /100g¹⁷. The stability of betacyanin extract of red dragon fruit peel was influenced by the type of solvent, pH, and temperature. The level of betacyanin obtained from dragon fruit peel

extracted using methanol at pH 5 was $515.20 \mu g / 100 g$. This value was higher than the level of betacyanin obtained using a water solvent at the same pH, namely $491.16 \mu g / 100 g^{18}$.

Beetroot (Beta vulgaris L.)

Beetroot (*Beta vulgaris L.*) is a root-shaped plant that looks like a tuber; it is classified to the Amaranthaceae family.



Figure: 3 Beetroot (Beta vulgaris L.)⁵⁰.

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Taxonomy: 40

Division : Magnoliophyta

Subdivision : Spermatophyta

Class : Magnoliopsida

Order : Caryopyllales

Family : Chenopodiaceae

Genus : Beta

Species : Beta vulgaris L.

Red beet is a plant that can be found in Europe and parts of Asia and America. The physical characteristics of the red beet are that the tubers are round like potatoes with a dark purple red color, only about 1-3 meters high, and when the fruit is cut it will show white lines with a pink color 19. Apart from antioxidants, beets also have a major component, namely the betacyanin pigment which gives a red-purple color²⁰. Strong purple color with high beta carotene content and antioxidant properties. Some active compounds such as carotenoids, glycine betaine, saponins, betacyanin, betanin, polyphenols and falvonoids. Beets are rich in carbohydrates which are easy to become energy and iron which helps the blood to carry oxygen to the brain⁴¹. Beets are red, this color is caused by the combination of the purple betacyanin pigment and the yellow betaxantin pigment. Betacyanin present in beetroot is known to have anti-radical effects and high antioxidant activity²¹. The extraction process using a solvent type chloroform results in low extract yields, because chloroform is non-polar. Therefore, beets extraction is mostly done using ethanol as a solvent. The process of extracting beetroot using ethanolsolvent aims to separate the active ingredient components from fresh ingredients using ethanol solvent²².

Analysis of the ethanol extract of red beet fruit by HPLC showed that the ethanol extract of red beet fruit contains betacyanin, this is indicated by the peak that appears at the retention time of 2.739 minutes with the largest percentage area of 16.45% and according to previous studies the standardized pigment of betacyanin appeared at the time retention of 2.857 minutes with a percentage area of 41.82%. Cai³⁴ noted that the maximum absorption value of betacyanin extract from beetroot (Beta vulgaris L.) had a maximum absorption value at a wavelength of 537 nm. The results of betacyanin identification in the red beet extract sample when compared to other studies were not much different or almost similar. So it can be concluded that the ethanol extract sample of red beet fruit contains betacyanin compounds that appear at a retention time of 2.739 minutes with a percent area of 16.45%²³.

Cactus fruit (Opuntia elatior Mill.)

Cactus (*Opuntia elatior Mill.*) is a flowering plant, it lives wild in upland and dry areas. The fruit as well as the stems can be used to prepare value-added products, such as body lotions, shampoos, creams, and jams. Cactus is a plant in the Cartaceae family that can be used as a natural dye because the fruit contains the natural betacyanin pigment²⁴.



Figure: 4 Cactus fruit (Opuntia elatior Mill.)⁵¹

Taxonomi: 42

Division : Magnoliophyta (Angiosperms) Class : Magnoliopsida (Dicotyledons) Subclass : Archichlamydeae Order : Caryophyllales (Cactales) Family : Cactaceae Subfamily : Cereoideae, Opuntioideae, Pereskioideae Genus : Opuntia : Opuntia elatior Mill. Species

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Opuntia elatior is traditionally used to treat abscesses, wounds, asthma, cough, inflammation, diabetes, gonorrhea, diphtheria, burning sensation in the stomach and body aches and bronchitis in children⁴⁷. Pharmacological activities were found to have hematinic activity⁴³, anti-ulcerogenic⁴⁴, anti-leukemic activity⁴⁵, anti-inflammatory activity and analgesic activity⁴⁶.

Cactus fruit (*Opuntia elatior Mill.*) was found to contain 47.10 mg / 100ml of Betacyanin. The analysis was carried out using a UV-Vis spectrophotometer and the maximum absorption value was obtained at a wavelength of 531nm³⁰. The total Betacyanin content of cactus fruit from Mantikulore District was 0.02217mg/100 g and the total Betacyanin content of cactus fruit from East Palu District was 0.02121mg/100g²⁶. According to the results of research conducted by Chauhan³³, betacyanin from the same plant

has a maximum absorption value at a wavelength of 538 nm, the levels of betacyanin obtained using ethanol solvent, a mixture of ethanol: water and water solvent were 4 respectively. 94 mg/100 g; 11.95 mg/100 g; and $15.42 \text{mg}/100 \text{g}^{36}$.

Inflorescence Celosia

Celosia is a member of the Amaranthaceae family which has 60 species. It originates from subtropical areas in Africa, South America and Southeast Asia. Celosia is widely cultivated for ornamental plants because Celosia plants have various colored flowers which are compound flowers, this plant is a member of the Amaranthaceae family which contains a lot of Betacyanin pigment in its flower. In Malang and its surrounding areas, you can find Celosia plants with various flower colors³⁵.

Taxonomi:48

Division : Tracheopyta Class : Angiosperms : Mesangiosperms Subclass Order : Caryophyllales (Cactales) Family : Amaranthaceae Subfamily : Amaranthoideae Genus : Celosia Species : Celosia argentea var.cristata



Figure: 5 Samples of Celosia argentea var.cristata⁵².

In Indonesia, Celosia is better known as Jengger Ayam (Chicken's Comb). In many areas in Indonesia, inflorescence Celosia has been widely used as a traditional medicine to cure bleeding such as nosebleeds (epistaxis), coughing up blood (hemoptysis), vomiting blood (hematemesis), bloody urine (hematuria), bleeding hemorrhoids, uterine bleeding, dysentery, diarrhea, blurred vision, red eyes, urinary tract infection 49. The HPLC profile of methanol extract from several Celosia species detected at a wavelength of 538 nm generally showed 4-5 distinct peaks. The individual content of Betacyanin in the inflorescence sample can be detected from the area of each peak on the HPLC profile. Some samples have amaranthin

content of more than 60% compared to the total peak area. And the other samples that were used had an average peak area of amaranthin<30% containing compounds which were thought to be classified in the celocyanin groups, namely 46.03%, 40.1%, 97.7% and 94.9%, respectively. Although the profile of the main betacyanin pigment in several observed inflorescences Celosia can be said to be the same, the color variations are thought to be due to variations in the content of each of these pigments ⁴⁹.

CONCLUTIONS

Betacyanin is a red or red-violet pigment from the group of betalain pigments which can be used as a natural dye alternative to synthetic dyes. The analysis of betacyanin levels was tested in various plants. UV-Vis and HPLC spectrotometers were the methods used in the analysis of Betacyanin levels. In the red dragon fruit (*Hylocereus polyrhiyus*) the betacyanin level was 36.67 mg / 100g, in beets (*Beta vulgaris L.*), it was found to have 16.45% betacyanin content, cactus fruit (*Opuntia elatior Mill.*) contains 47.10mg/100ml betacyanin and in *Celosia* inflorescences the content of amaranthin-type betacyanin was more than 60%. And the other samples used had an average peak area of amaranthin<30% containing compounds which were thought to be more of the celocyanin group, namely 46.03%, 40.1%, 97.7% and 94.9%, respectively.

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