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Phytochemistry and health beneficial properties of Jamaican black raspberries: *Rubus racemosus*

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Richness of the fruit phytochemicals made them crucial part of the daily practice for healthy life style. The current research focuses on the various aspects of the Jamaican black raspberry, *Rubus racemosus*. Antioxidant capacity, total phenolic content, fatty acid profile from different fruit extracts by TEAC assay, Folin-Ciocalteu method and GC-MS, respectively have been examined and showed significantly important results. The chloroform extract displayed greater antioxidant activity and higher phenolic content than the hexane, ethyl acetate and methanol extracts. Some pure compounds were isolated by chromatographic methods and identified by nuclear magnetic resonance spectroscopy. Gained results showed the commercial importance of the fruit.

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Phytochemical screening and antifungal activities of five selected plant species in Mkpatt-Enin LGA, Akwa Ibom State, Nigeria

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Aspergillus niger and *Rhizopus oryzae* are two common pathogens of post harvest fruits diseases in Mkpatt Enin Local Government Area of Akwa Ibom State. Traditional control measures of these pathogens have emphasized use of chemicals with high environmental toxicity. The search for alternative control methods using local plant products which are environmentally friendly is therefore necessary. Thus, antifungal properties of *Mimosa pudica*, *Phyllanthus amarus*, *Emilia sonchifolia*, *Bryophyllum pinnatum* and *Amaranthus hybridus* leave extracts were investigated using disk diffusion method while screening for bioactive compounds was carried out using standard phytochemical procedures. Antifungal activities were tested against the two pathogens at 2%, 4%, 6%, 7% and 10% concentrations. All extracts indicated significant growth inhibition on the two pathogens with 10% recording the highest. Phytochemical screening showed the presence of tannin in all the plant extracts tested while saponin was found in all except *B. pinnatum* extract. Flavonoids were present in all but *B. pinnatum* extracts. Leave extracts of the tested plants can be explored as potential fruit disease control natural products which are less hazardous.

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