Reviewer's report

Title: Lack of efficacy of blueberry in nutritional prevention of azoxymethane-initiated cancers of rat small intestine and colon

Version: 1 Date: 15 May 2009

Reviewer: usanee Vinitketkumnuen

Reviewer's report:

General comments:
The manuscript reports the lack of preventive effects of blueberry fruits on AOM-induced colon preneoplastic lesion (ACF) formation in rats. However, data show that BB consumption may protect AOM-induced carcinogenesis in male rats and male rats are more susceptible to AOM-induced ACF formation than female rats. In addition, no data of food intake by each rat during experiment, the lack of amount of bioactive component (anthocyanin) intake, makes the result difficult to conclude.

- Major Compulsory Revisions
  1. The authors should report the dose of bioactive compounds in BB that each rat received. Why do female rats ' body weigh gain less than male rats? The author should explain reason why use 10% BB instead of 5% from previous report, because they found different and opposite results.

  2. The authors have to define criteria the detection of AP (adenomatous polyps) and AC (adenocarcinoma) in colon and small intestine.

  3. The authors discuss about apoptosis mechanism in proximal part but no experimental results.

- Minor Essential Revisions
  1. The author should discuss why C-peptide in female rats is about 30% lower than male rats.