Author's response to reviews

Title: Anti-inflammatory, antioxidant, and antimicrobial activities of Cocos nucifera var. typica

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Author's response to reviews: see over
Reviewer:

- This study documented anti-inflammatory, antioxidant, and antimicrobial activities of Cocos Nucifera var. typical. The writing of the manuscript is acceptable. The data are well prepared and easy to understand. However, concerns on anti-MRSA activity of Cocos nucifera var. typical need to be clarified. Considering the strictest criteria proposed by Cos et al (2006), extracts with a selective activity and MIC values below 50 µg/ml are considered noteworthy. Beside, the reference No. 29 mainly described on antifungal activity.

Answer: The criteria proposed by Cos et al. (2006) are not stringent. They are with concentrations required to produce only 50% growth inhibition (bellow 100 µg/ml for mixtures and below 25µM for pure compounds). However, in our study, we evaluated the concentration of the extract that was able to completely inhibit the bacterial growth (100% growth inhibition). So, our endpoint is expected to be higher. In addition, we found that this concentration was microbicidal (all of the bacteria have been killed). Thus, our results are significant.

Editorial comments:

- Please provide information in your manuscript on who identified the plant material used in your study. In addition could you confirm whether a voucher specimen of the plant has been deposited in a publicly available herbarium?

The voucher specimen of the plant has not been deposited in a publicly available herbarium. The plant material was identified and authenticated by the agronomist Humberto Rollemberg Fontes (Fitotecnia researcher from EmbrapaTabuleiros Costeiros, Brazil). The characterization and identification of this variety was done following morphological, phenological, and production aspects of the plant, in addition to other criteria, such as age of the plant described in the reference 12 (Aragão et al., 1999). It was done in the same way as in the references 3 and 11 (Alviano et al., 2004 and Alviano et al., 2008).