Author’s response to reviews

Title: Antimicrobial potential of the Ethiopian Thymus schimperi essential oil against Dermatophyte spp. and other Micro organisms

Authors:

Mohammmed N Nassir (mohamicro2008@yahoo.com)
Ketema T Tafess (ttafess@gmail.com)
Dawit Abate A Abate (dr.dawitabate@yahoo.com)

Version: 3 Date: 23 May 2015

Author’s response to reviews:

Reviewer’s report

Title: Antimicrobial potential of the Ethiopian Thymus schimperi essential oil against Dermatophyte spp. and other Micro organisms.

The manuscript aims to evaluate the in vitro activities of some Ethiopian medicinal plants against bacterial and fungal species.

Specific suggestions are as follows:

1) The keywords should be revised.
Response: revised

2) Use Thymus schimperi for the first time, thereafter use T. schimperi. Please follow this instruction for the other species.
Response: Written as recommended and applied to all scientific names

3) Please provide the origin of griseofulvin and chloramphenicol.
Response: We get the standard antibiotic from Addis Ababa University, Mycology Laboratory and provided in antimicrobial assay section.

4) Please include the positive control for Candida, Aspergillus and Rhodotorula.
Response: we did not use positive control for the three species and we took it as a limitation of this paper

5) The statistical analysis in Tables 1-2 should be revised.
Response: in both table analysis is revised

6) Please ensure that your tables are correctly formatted in accordance with the
formatting guidelines of the Journal. Specifically, tables should be included at the end of your manuscript file. Additionally, tables should also have a title (above the table) that summarizes the whole table; it should be no longer than 15 words.

Response: Tables are included at the end of the manuscript and have titles above the table.

7) Results have not been scientifically reported. The tables need to be explained in the text, for the different organisms and how these compare with other plant species as presented in available literature should be highlighted. The authors need to scientifically present and discuss this section.

Response: in the discussion part it included.

8) Please, reframe the conclusion to make it more professional.

Response: conclusion is reframed.

9) There are some typographical errors throughout the manuscript.

Response: corrected.

Best wishes,
Jean-De-Dieu TAMOKOU, Ph.D

What next?: Unable to decide on acceptance or rejection until the authors have responded to the major compulsory revisions.

Reviewer's report

Title: Antimicrobial potential of the Ethiopian Thymus schimperi essential oil against Dermatophyte spp. and other Microorganisms

Version: 2 Date: 29 March 2015

Reviewer: Lígia Salgueiro

Reviewer's report:

Major Compulsory Revisions

The authors did not correlate the chemical composition of the oils with the antimicrobial activity. They should evaluate the chemical composition and discuss the results.

Response: the comment by itself is not clear, the purpose of the study was not to correlate the chemical composition of the of the oil with antimicrobial activity of the oils.

There are a lot of spelling mistakes along the manuscript and all the English must be revised.
Response: we have tried to address the comment is the revised version

The authors should use well identified strains. In Material and Methods-Microorganisms they should include this information about all the microorganisms tested.
Response: we have indicated this as a limitation of the study

The manuscript title is ambiguous because it refers only Thymus schimperi but along the manuscript there are results about other species.
Response: The primary objective of the paper was investigating the efficacy of Thymus schimperi with other oils that were why the focus was given to it.

Level of interest: An article whose findings are important to those with closely related research interests

Quality of written English: Not suitable for publication unless extensively edited
Statistical review: No, the manuscript does not need to be seen by a statistician.
Declaration of competing interests:
I declare that I have no competing interests'