

الاستهلال

بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ

وَقُلِ اعْمَلُوا فَسَيَرَى اللَّهُ عَمَلَكُمْ وَرَسُولُهُ وَالْمُؤْمِنُونَ وَسَتُرَدُّونَ إِلَىٰ عِلْمِ

الْغَيْبِ وَالشَّهَادَةِ فِيمَا كُنْتُمْ تَعْمَلُونَ ﴿١٠٥﴾

(التوبة- 105)

صدق الله العظيم



Dedication

To

my parents

wife

brothers and sisters

Acknowledgment

First of all, I would like to thank Almighty Allah for giving me the ability and strength to accomplish this work.

I would like to express my gratitude and respect to my supervisor Prof. Mohamed Abdel Karim for his interest, close supervision and continuous advice.

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Abstract

In this study, the oil from five potential medicinal plants have been extracted by maceration with n-hexane. The constituents of the oil have been characterized by the hyphenated technique: GC-MS. Furthermore, the antimicrobial activity of the oils has been evaluated using the agar diffusion bioassay. GC-MS analysis of *Cassia sieberiana*, *Kigelia africana* seed oil both of them dominated by 9,12-octadecadienoic acid(Z,Z)-, methyl ester and 9-octadecenoic acid (Z)-, methyl ester respectively, but 9,12,15-octadecatrienoic acid methyl ester only dominated in *kigelia Africana*. Also 9,12-octadecadienoic acid(Z,Z)-, methyl ester and 9-octadecenoic acid (Z)-, methyl ester appeared as a major component in *Acacia seyal*, *Ziziphus spina Christi*, and *Vitex doniana* in different percentage. The target oils were evaluated for their antimicrobial potential using the agar diffusion bioassay. The oils gave different antimicrobial responses.

المستخلص

في هذا البحث تمت دراسة خمسة نباتات طبية تنمو في السودان. تم استخلاص الزيوت من هذه النباتات عن طريق النقع باستخدام مذيب الهكسان العادي. تم تحديد مكونات هذه الزيوت بتقنية الكروماتوغرافيا الغازية. طيف الكتلة أيضا اخضعت هذه الزيوت لاختبار مضاد الميكروبات. اوضح تحليل زيت نبات ام كشو ونبات الدمبلويا وجود احماض 9-اوكتادينويك و9,12 اوكتادينويك كمكونات اساسية اما حمض 9,12,15-اوكتاديكاترايونويك فقد ظهر فقط كمكون اساسي في زيت نبات الدمبلويا. كما ظهرت احماض 9-اوكتادينويك و9,12 اوكتادينويك كمكونات اساسية في زيت نباتات الطلح والسدر وام دقلقل بنسب متفاوتة. اجري اختبار مضاد الميكروبات للزيوت قيد الدراسة فاعطت اقطار منع متفاوتة.

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CHAPTER ONE

INTRODUCTION

Introduction

1.1 Essential oils

The use of plants as natural products for remedial, religious and esthetic purposes has a history refer to the appearance of humanity. Natural products researches became a modern idea to produce new chemical bioactive compounds which play main factor in preventing diseases¹. It is known that plants produce these phytochemicals to protect themselves from pathogen and damages and contribute to the plants color, aroma and flavor². Essential oils can be seen an important group of plants secondary metabolites which are utilized as food flavoring, cosmetics, perfumes and cure of illness^{3,4}. A more specific definition is proposed by international organization for standardization (ISO) which states " extract procured from raw material of natural origin i.e. by steam distillation, by processes that involve mechanical extraction from the epicarp of citrus, fruits or by physical extraction such as dry distillation following elution of the aqueous phase post extraction physical analysis provided no changes in its composition takes place^{5,6}. The term essential oils is also defined as a concentrated hydrophobic oily volatile liquids characterized by strong odor and produced by different plants parts such as flowers, peels, rhizomes, buds, seeds, leaves, twigs, barks, woods, fruits, roots and throughout the body of the plants^{7,8}. The essential oils are named due to mother plants from where they are isolated and the odor also resembles the organ from they are extracted⁵. The name essential oils refer to their contents of the essence of the plants material, some of them obtained by animals and micro organisms⁹. During the ripening of plants the composition of essential oils alters, in young plants they contain mainly terpenic hydrocarbons and simpler molecules, while the reproductive organ contain etheric oils richer in oxygenated compounds. Although there are a large amounts of essential oils that physically and chemically characterized, about 150 of which on industrial scale^{10,11} .

Essential oils are rarely colored and soluble in non polar or weakly polar organic solvents and of lower density than water, with very few exceptions¹². They may be oxidizable by light, heat, or air which change to the dark color, they need to be stored in a cool dry place in amber glass container^{13,14}.

The quality and quantity of essential oils relies on the climate, the soil type, the age and vegetable cycle stage, the biosynthesis method, chemotypes, as well as the plant organ¹⁵. An estimated 3000 essential oils, from about 2000 plants, are of great value and are utilized in a very large diversity of fields^{15,16}. All plants possess principally the ability to produce volatile compounds as secondary metabolites, they are collected in non distinct cells or on the other hand in secretory organs for example glandular hairs, secretory ducts or in cavities. In minor cases, essential oils are not produced in the plants itself; however it is created through hydrolysis of a few compounds produced in the plant similar to the case in garlic or valeriana^{17,18,19}. The biological function of essential oils create intensive scientific research and also lead to diverse industries due to their importance as active pharmaceutical compounds or natural preservatives²⁰. Though the value of essential oils utilization is recurs to the source, quality, extraction technique. Essential oils show a modern application in the preparation of fragrance, beautifying agents, soaps, shampoos or cleaning gels. Another benefits of these oils is their usage as medicines or as carriers for drug delivery. The major utilization of essential oils is in the agro food business, both for refreshments and properties of food items. The usage of essential oils in the beauty care products, detergents, soaps and scent industry is of great concern from a financial point of view. The application of essential oils as perfumes and scents has extended on international level, because of the sufficient determination of the plants material and a suitable scientific methods employed for the extraction, these are the main reason for enhancing the nature of the volatile oils. In the case of

pharmaceutic and therapeutics, essential oils are used as pharmaceuticals for their ability as therapeutic agents^{21,22}. The bioactive properties demonstrate generally as antibacterial agents and antimicrobial activities against gram positive microbes²³. Essential oils are also utilized to improve sensory properties of drugs where the prime application in pharmaceuticals is aromatherapy. Moreover they can be used as balms, compresses and creams, although oral utilization of essential oils of customized technique has been shown as a successful strategy for getting the assistive effects of these essences²⁴. Essential oils are used as food products for pattern, confectionary sodas, and alcoholic drinks and also a part of agriculture and food industry for their antimicrobial, antiviral, antifungal, insecticidal, nematocidal and anticancer attributes^{25,26}. Thereby they are used as preservatives in food and as well as antibacterial and antioxidant activities^{27,28,29}. Essential oils application as additives in food demand a detailed information of their properties including the inhibition of the microorganisms on target, due to the particular antibacterial impact with food components³⁰. Food additives conserve the food storage life, while guarantee its quality and safety, in this way the definition of preservative can be stated by as a compound that maintains or elongates the storage life of food products. As mentioned above the property of oils as food preservatives due to their versatile biological activities^{31,32}. Plants mainly produce volatile oils and fixed oils, and there are some major differences between the two kinds of oils^{33,34}....

Table (1.1) a comparison between volatile oil and fixed oil

Volatil oil	Fixed oil
Also called an essential oil	Also called as natural non volatile oil
Volatile oil can evaporate when placed under room temperature	Fixed oil do not evaporate at room temperature
They can be extracted by the distillation process	They require some specific techniques for extraction
There is no spot(no permanent stain) after evaporation	Some type of spot (permanent stain) left after evaporation
They are unable to undergo saponification	Fixed oil can be easily saponified
Mixtures of cleoptenes and stearoptenes are termed as volatile oils	Esters of higher fatty acids and glycerin are called as fixed oils
Posses high refractive index	Posses low refractive index
These are optically active	These are optically inactive
Their primary source is leaves, roots, in petals and bark	Their major source is seeds of the plant

1.2-Sources of natural essential oils

Essential oils are generally derived from one or more plant parts, such as flowers (e.g. rose, jasmine, carnation, clove, mimosa, rosemary, lavender), leaves (e.g. mint, ocimum spp., lemongrass, jamrosa), leaves and stems (e.g. geranium, patchouli, petitgrain, verbena, cinnamon), bark (e.g. cinnamon, cassia, canella), wood (e.g. cedar, sandal, pine), roots (e.g. angelica, sassafras, vetiver, saussurea, valerian), seeds (e.g. fennel, coriander, caraway, dill, nutmeg), fruits (bergamot, orange, lemon, juniper), rhizomes (e.g. ginger, calamus, curcuma, orris) and gums or oleoresin exudations(e.g.balsam of peru, balsam of tolu, storax, myrrh, benzoin).³⁵

1.3-Chemical composition of essential oils

Essential oils are a mixture of volatile constituents produced by the secondary metabolism of aromatic and other variety of plants. Components found in essential oils generally contain volatile terpenes and hydrocarbons^{36,37}. Every oil normally has a number of components depending on the oil under investigation. However, the most important active compounds are included in two chemical groups: terpenoids (monoterpenoids, and sesquiterpenoids and phenylpropanoids. These two groups originate from different precursors of the primary metabolism and are synthesized through separate metabolic pathways. Like all organic compounds, essential oils are made up of hydrocarbon molecules and can further be classified as terpenes, monoterpene, sesquiterpene and diterpene^{38,39}. Other components of essential oils which include oxygenated compounds, phenols, alcohols, aldehyde, ketones, esters, lactone, coumarins lactones, ethers and oxides⁴⁰.

1.3.1-Terpenoids

Terpene and terpenoids are the primary constituents of essential oils of many species of plants and flowers⁴¹. Within terpenoids the most important components of essential oils of the majority of plants are presented in the monoterpene and sesquiterpenoids family⁴².

Terpenes are important class of natural product secondary metabolites, comprise of five carbon isoprene units linked together in a head to tail configuration, but can be constructed in other different types of structure with a degree of unsaturation, oxidation, reduction functional groups And ring closure, these hydrocarbons are termed as terpenoids

, which are occur biosynthetically in higher plants. They can also be found in insects and marine organisms. The name terpene refer to the word *turpentine*, a product of coniferous oleoresins.

The terpenes or terpenoids are classified or grouped according to the number of isoprene units found in parent nucleus. Chemically isoprene named as *2-methylbuta-1,3-diene* and in industry used for the manufacture of Rubber. Thereby the simple class of terpenoids is hemiterpenes consisting of single isoprene unit, their occurrence is rare and is not biologically significant. Monoterpenes consist of two isoprene units that can be built in a cyclic, monocyclic, and bicyclic forms and in different oxidation case. Sesquiterpenes are a class formed of three isoprene units, occurring in simple a cyclic to macro monocyclic rings as well as simple and complex bicyclic and tricyclic configuration, though the structural variety of these class is due to the number of carbon skeleton. Diterpenes contain four isoprene units. Their structural diversity ranges from simple a cyclic to complex polycyclic rings. Triterpenes are consist of six isoprene units, and they numbering more than 4000 distributed in more than 40 different carbon skeletons, arising from the cyclization of an oxidized form of squalene the linear parent triterpene and carotene.

The C₅ isoprene unit which can be linked "head to tail" to form linear chain or cyclized to form rings is regarded the building blocks of terpenes. Chemical and biological studies have revealed that the terpenoids possess a variety chemical, physical and biological activities. Biologically, the terpenoids are most useful as anticancer, antimicrobial, c

ytotoxic and anti-inflammatory and analgesic activities⁴³. Terpenes are synthesized in the cytoplasm of plants cells through the mevalonic acid pathway. Terpenoid are then oxidized derivatives of hydrocarbon terpenes such as aldehydes, ketones, alcohols, acids, ethers, and esters⁴⁴.

Terpenoids can be classified to four groups of compounds that include true terpenes, steroids, saponins, and cardiac glycosides. These types of natural products can be present in every class of living things, mainly in plants as components of essential oils⁴⁵. Generally, only hemiterpenoids, the monoterpenoids, and sesquiterpenoids are volatile to be components of essential oils. The composition of oils is mainly represented by mono-, se-squi-, and even diterpene hydrocarbons and their respective oxygenated derivatives^{46,47,48}.

i) -Monoterpenes

Monoterpenes are compounds consist of the combination of two isoprene units linked by the head to tail binding. They are the main molecules that present in about 90% of some essential oils, thereby, they represent the unique odor of plants^{14,49}. Monoterpenes in nature are mostly involved in plant- animal and plant- plant interaction such as pollination, seed and fruit spreading, and allelopathic agents, Monoterpenes found in more than 30 known skeletons and can be divided into 3 groups: acyclic, monocyclic, and bicyclic⁵⁰. Some examples of these compounds include geraniol, terpineol (found in lilacs), limonene (present in citrus fruits), myrcene (found in hops), linalool (present in lavender) and pinene (present in pinetrees)⁵¹. They react easily to air a

nd heat sources, thereby citrus oils don't last long, since they are high in monoterpene hydrocarbons and have a quick reaction to air and are readily oxidized⁵².

ii)- Sesquiterpenes

Sesquiterpenes are a class of terpenes that consist of three isoprene units and have the molecular formula $C_{15}H_{24}$. These compounds formed as acyclic or rings with specific combination. Biochemical modification such as oxidation or rearrangement produce the related sesquiterpenoids which are naturally found in plants and insects, as defense agents or pheromones⁵².

Sesquiterpenes lactones are secondary metabolites that belong to the group of C_{15} terpenoids. They consist of three isoprene units. One of their methanol group, a part of the isoprene group was oxidized to group, was oxidized to lactones⁵³. It forms an important group secondary metabolites which act as active products in plants defense, as antimicrobial and insecticides. This group of secondary metabolites demonstrates allelopathic prospective.

Recently, there is an increasing demand of sesquiterpene lactone, because of their high therapeutic potential as cytotoxic and anticancer agent. thus Lactones were isolated from the members of asteraceae family, while members of magnoliaceae, lauraceae, and apiaceae family were the more primitive representatives of sesquiterpene lactones. Lipophilic solvents or supercritical fluid technology are used for the extraction of sesquiterpene lactones from plants material. The purification and structure elucidation was detected using chromatographic techni

ques and (NMR) and mass spectroscopy⁵⁴. Some sesquiterpene shows an allelopathic potential and also represents antibacterial, antimicrobial, antiviral, antiprotozoal, cytotoxic, and anticancer activity.

Farnesyl pyrophosphate, is an intermediate factor in the biosynthesis of sesquiterpenes as farnesene. Oxidation process provide sesquiterpenoids as farnesol and juvenile hormone. The wide variety of cyclic sesquiterpene for example, abscisic acid, fumagillin, germacrene, dendrolasin, and trans monocyclo farnesol⁵⁴. In addition to six membered ring such as in zingiberene, a component of the oil from ginger, cyclization of the chain ends can lead to macrocyclic rings such as humulene⁵⁴.

Other type of sesquiterpene is a nine membered ring and cyclo butane ring model a classic bicyclic sesquiterpene caryophyllene. Additional unsaturation provides aromatic bicyclic sesquiterpenoids such as vetivazulene and guaiazulene. Examples are caryophyllene, muurolene, petasin, carotol, a vocettin, alkaloids of nuphor, and mycophenolic acid⁵⁴.

A third ring (tricyclic) sesquiterpene is also possible and varied – examples are longifolene, copaene, patchoulol, illudins, hirsutic acid, corlolin and santonen. Moreover there are four membered ring (tetracyclic), example, is gossypol and marasmic acid and pentacyclic compounds for example siccanochromenes⁵³.

iii)- Diterpenes

Diterpenes are a complex compounds of plants resins but are sometimes encountered as by products in the isolation of essential oils. These

e types of essential oils components are volatile due to their high molecular weight and less numerous than the mono – and sesquiterpenes. Thereby, they are difficult to extract by steam distillation and then yields in low amounts in distilled oil. However traditional extraction used distillation allows separation and identification of diterpenes present in essential oils⁵⁰. Generally, molecules with molecular mass higher than (300.a.m.u) can be considered as sign of unsuitable extraction condition or adulteration. Example of diterpenes are camphorene, cafestol, kahweol, cambrene, and taxideme⁵⁵.

1.3.2-Phenylpropanoids

Phenylpropanoids are mainly produced by plants for protection against infections, ultraviolet irradiation, wounding and herbivores. They are synthesized from the amino acid phenylalanine, that is converted to cinnamic acid. Reduction of the carboxylic acid group present in the cinnamic acid yields an aldehyde (e.g.cinnamaldehyde) and further reduction produces monolignols such as phenylpropenes (eugenol and safrole). Natural and synthetic phenylpropanoids are under current medicinal uses for their pharmacological properties^{56,57} Many bioactivity of these compounds including, anticonvulsant, anti-inflammatory and analgesic effects^{58,59}.

1.3.3-Hydrocarbons

Hydrocarbons are the main category of compounds and are composed entirely of carbon and hydrogen atoms, which vary greatly in size and complexity. They are very soluble in lipids (lipophilic), but are po

only soluble in water. Simple hydrocarbons, such as alkanes, alkenes, and benzenoids, are called nonterpenoid hydrocarbons due to the fact that their biosynthesis not related to mevalonate or nonmevalonate pathways⁶⁰. Those with open chain and do not have a closed or aromatic ring are classified as aliphatic, and include alkanes, alkenes, and alkynes. Aliphatic molecules are often found only in trace amount in essential oils, but oxygenated compounds have a considerable odors^{46, 61}.

Another class of hydrocarbons is known as the aromatic class. These compounds usually contain a benzene ring (C₆H₆) and include phenyl, benzyl, phenylethyl- and phenylpropyl compounds, as well as polycyclic structures, such as naphthalene and benzo[α]pyrene. The name “aromatic” derives from the first benzene derivatives isolated from plants, which were found to be pleasant smelling. Subsequently, however, less pleasant derivatives were discovered⁶⁰.

1.3.4- Alcohols

Alcohols are the varied group of terpene derivatives found in essential oils⁶⁰. Monoterpene alcohols are not large in number, but occur in a large number of essential oils. They are many sesquiterpene alcohols, but most of them are found in few essential oils. Alcohols are relatively non toxic, nonmutagenic, and possess low irritancy and allergenicity. Monoterpenic alcohols (monoterpenols) are good antiseptics, with antifungal properties. Menthol one examples of an alcohol, and is one of the monoterpenic alcohols⁶¹.

1.3.5- Esters

Esters are produced from the reaction of an alcohol with an acid in a process called esterification. They are common components found in many various essential oils and are calming and relaxing and tend to be fruity with therapeutic effects, which include being sedative and anti-spasmodic. Moreover acetate, a well known ester which is found in bergamot, clary sage, lavender as well as petit is one of the useful compounds in essential oils⁶². Some ester also have anti-fungal and anti microbial activity like the antifungal properties in geranium oil²⁸.

1.3.6- Aldehydes

These compounds contain the formyl functional group, with an oxygen atom double bonded to a carbon atom at the end of a carbon chain. The fourth bond is usually a hydrogen atom⁴⁶. Aldehydes, which may be considered as partially oxidized primary alcohol, are widely distributed as natural essential oil constituents. Aldehydes have a slightly fruity odor when smelled on their own. The name of aldehydes end in "al" or "aldehyde". Geranial and cumin aldehyde are examples of important aldehydes⁶⁰.

1.3.7-Ketones

Ketones are structurally similar to aldehydes and also possess a carbonyl group. Ketones can be produced by the oxidation of secondary alcohols. They are relatively stable compounds and are not easily oxidized further. The names of ketones generally end in "one" with one exception: Camphor. Carvone is one of the most well known ketones⁶⁰.

Ketones are often mucolytic and neuro-toxic when isolated from other constituents. They catalyze cell renewing, enhance the formation of tissue, and liquefy mucous. They are helpful with conditions such as dry asthma, colds, flu and dry cough and are largely found in oils used for the upper respiratory system. Essential oils that contain ketones include Clary, Sage Hyssop, Idaho, Tansy, Rosemary and western red cedar⁶³.

1.4-Methods of extraction of essential oils

Essential oils are used in a wide variety of consumer goods such as detergents, soaps, toilet products, cosmetics, pharmaceuticals, perfumes, confectionery food products, soft drinks, distilled alcoholic beverages (hard drinks) and insecticides. The world production and consumption of essential oils and perfumes are increasing very fast. Production technology is an essential element to improve the overall yield and quality of essential oil. Essential oils are obtained from plant material by several extraction methods^{64,65}.

There are many techniques applied for the extraction of essential oils including: Hydrodistillation, steam distillation, solvent extraction, enfleurage, cohobation, and maceration⁶⁵.

1.4.1 Hydrodistillation

A traditional method of essential oil extraction is hydrodistillation which is widely used method for extraction of essential oil. Water or hydrodistillation is one of the oldest and easiest methods⁶⁶ being used for the extraction of essential oils⁶⁵.

Hydrodistillation is usually used for the extraction of essential oils from the aromatic and medicinal plant. The conventional method for the extraction of essential oils is hydrodistillation (HD), in which the essential oils are evaporated by heating a mixture of water or other solvent and plant materials followed by the liquefaction of the vapors in a condenser. The setup comprises also a condenser and a decanter to collect the condensate and to separate essential oils from water, respectively⁶⁵. The principle of extraction is based on the isotropic distillation. In fact, at atmospheric pressure and during extraction process (heating), water or other solvent and oils molecules. Hydrodistillation (HD) is a variant of steam distillation, which is described by the French Pharmacopoeia for the extraction of essential oils from dried plant. There are three types of hydrodistillation: with water immersion, with direct vapor injection and with water immersion and vapor injection. It is a multilateral process that can be utilized for large or small industries. The distillation time depends on the plant material being processed. Prolonged distillation produces only a small amount of essential oil, but does add unwanted high boiling point compounds and oxidation products⁶⁵.

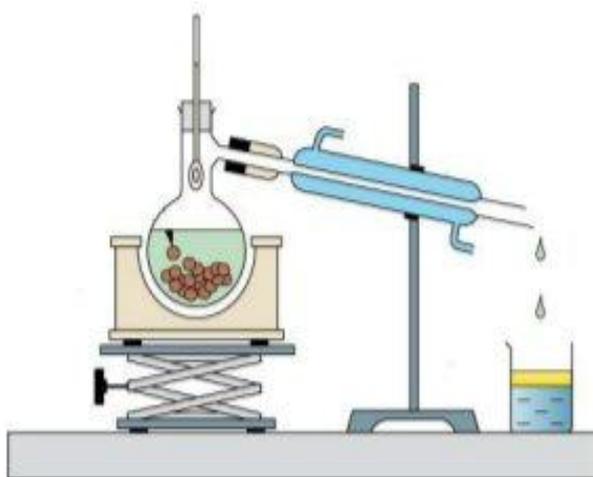


Fig.1.1: Schematic of apparatus for hydrodistillation

1.4.2-Steam distillation

Steam distillation is a separation or extraction process used mainly for a temperature-sensitive plant such as natural aromatic compounds. It once was a popular laboratory method for purification of organic compounds but has become obsolete by vacuum distillation. Steam distillation is still important in certain industrial sectors,^{66,67}. Steam distillation is one of ancient and officially approved methods for isolation of essential oils from plant materials. The plant materials charged in the alembic are subjected to the steam without maceration in water. The injected steam passes through the plants from the base of the alembic to the top. Steam distillation is a method where steam flows through the material. This steam functions as agents that break up the pores of the raw material and release the essential oil from it. The system yields a mixture of a vapor and desired essential oil. This vapor is then condensed further and the essential oil is collected⁶⁸. The principle of this technique is that the combined vapor pressure equals the ambient pressure at about 100 °C so that the volatile components with the boiling

points ranging from 150 to 300 °C can be evaporated at a temperature close to that of water. Furthermore, this technique can be also carried out under pressure depending on the essential oils extraction difficulty⁶⁸.

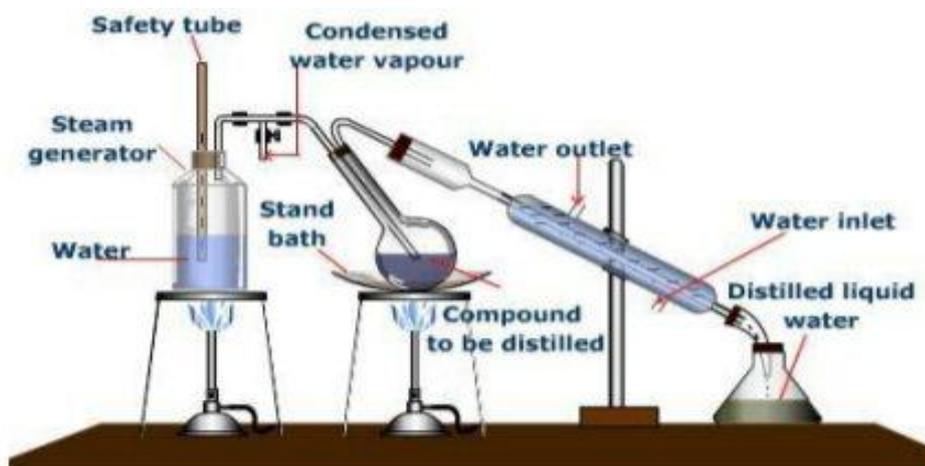


Fig.1.2 : Schematic of apparatus for Steam distillation

1.4.3-Solvent extraction

Solvent extraction, also known as liquid–liquid extraction or partitioning, is a method to separate a compound based on the solubility of its parts. This is done using two liquids that don't mix, for example, water and an organic solvent. In the solvent-extraction method of essential oils recovery, an extracting unit is loaded with perforated trays of essential oil plant material and repeatedly washed with the solvent. Solvent extraction is used in the processing of perfumes, vegetable oil, or biodiesel. Solvent extraction is used on delicate plants to produce higher amounts of essential oils at a lower cost⁶⁹. The most frequently applied sample preparation procedure in plant material analysis. The quality and quantity of extracted mixture are determined by the type of extra heat applied because of the method is limited by the compound

solubility in the specific solvent used. Although the method is relatively simple and quite efficient, it suffers from such disadvantages as long extraction time, relatively high solvent consumption and often unsatisfactory reproducibility⁷⁰.

1.4.4 Soxhlet Extraction

A Soxhlet extractor is an apparatus introduced by Franz von Soxhlet^{71, 72}. It was originally designed for the extraction of a lipid from a solid material. Typically, a Soxhlet extraction is used when the desired compound has a limited solubility in a solvent, and the impurity is insoluble in that solvent. It allows for unmonitored and unmanaged operation while efficiently recycling a small amount of solvent to dissolve a larger amount of material. Soxhlet extraction involves solid-liquid contact for the removal of one or several compounds from a solid by dissolution into a refluxing liquid phase. In a conventional Soxhlet device, the solid matrix is placed in a cavity that is gradually filled with the extracting liquid phase by condensation of vapors from a distillation flask. When the liquid reaches a preset level, a siphon pulls the contents of the cavity back into the distillation flask, thus carrying the extracted analytes into the bulk liquid⁷³. This procedure is repeated until virtually complete extraction is achieved. There are several advantages of Soxhlet extraction. The most important are that the sample is repeatedly brought into contact with fresh portions of the solvent. This procedure prevents the possibility of the solvent becoming saturated with extractable material and enhances the removal of the analyte from the matrix. Moreover, the temperature of the system is close to the boiling point

t of the solvent. This excess energy in the form of heat helps to increase the extraction kinetics of the system. Soxhlet extraction has several disadvantages, including it requires several hours or days to perform; the sample is diluted in large volumes of solvent, and due to the heating of the distillation flask losses due to thermal degradation and volatilization have been observed⁴⁴.

1.4.5- Maceration

In this process, the whole powdered crude drug is placed in a stoppered container with the solvent and allowed to stand at room temperature for a period of at least 3 days with frequent stirring until the soluble matter has dissolved. The mixture then is strained, the marc (the damp solid material) is pressed, and the combined liquids are clarified by filtration or decantation after standing³⁵.

1.4.6-Cold Pressing method

The term cold pressed theoretically means that the oil is expeller-pressed at low temperatures and pressure. Cold pressed method is one of the best methods to extract essential oils. This process is used for most carrier oils and many essential oils. This process ensures that the resulting oil is 100% pure and retains all the properties of the plant. It is a method of mechanical extraction where heat is reduced and minimized throughout the batching of the raw material. The cold pressed method is also known as scarification method. Cold pressed method is mainly used for extracting essential oils from plants, flower, seeds, lemon, tangerine oils. Essential oils are then separated from the material by centrifugation^{74,75}.

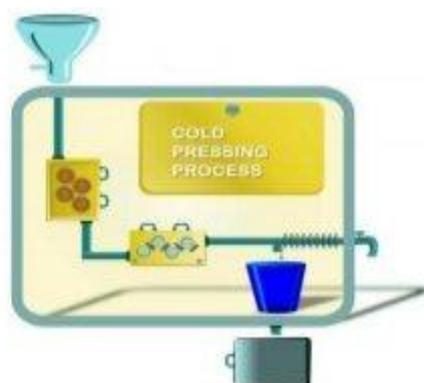


Fig. 1.3 : Cold pressing apparatus

Traditional methods of extraction are the most widely utilized on commercial scale. However, new techniques have been developed which may not necessarily be widely used for commercial production of essential oils but are considered valuable in certain situations, such as alteration of their thermosensitive components or the extraction of essential oils for micro-analysis³⁵.

1.4.7 Supercritical fluid extraction (SFE).

Supercritical fluid extraction (SFE) is the process of separating one component (the extractant) from another (the matrix) using supercritical fluids as the extracting solvent. Extraction is usually from a solid matrix, but can also be from liquids. Supercritical fluids have been used as solvents for a wide variety of applications such as essential oil extraction and metal cation extraction. In practice, more than 90% of all analytical supercritical fluid extraction (SFE) is performed with carbon dioxide (CO₂) for several practice reasons. Apart from having relatively low critical pressure (74 bars) and temperature (32°C), CO₂ is relatively non-toxic, nonflammable, noncorrosive, safe, available in high

purity at relatively low cost and is easily removed from the extract⁷⁶. The main drawback of CO₂ is its lack of polarity for the extraction of polar analytes⁷⁷. Extracts prepared by SFE yielded a higher antioxidant activity than extract prepared by other methods⁷⁸. This extraction method produces higher yield, higher diffusion coefficient, and lower viscosity. Many essential oils that cannot be extracted by steam distillation can be obtained with carbon dioxide extraction. Nevertheless, this technique is very expensive because of the price of this equipment for this process is very expensive and it is not easily handled. Supercritical extracts proved to be of superior quality with better functional and biological activities⁷⁹. Furthermore, some studies showed better antibacterial and antifungal properties for the supercritical product.

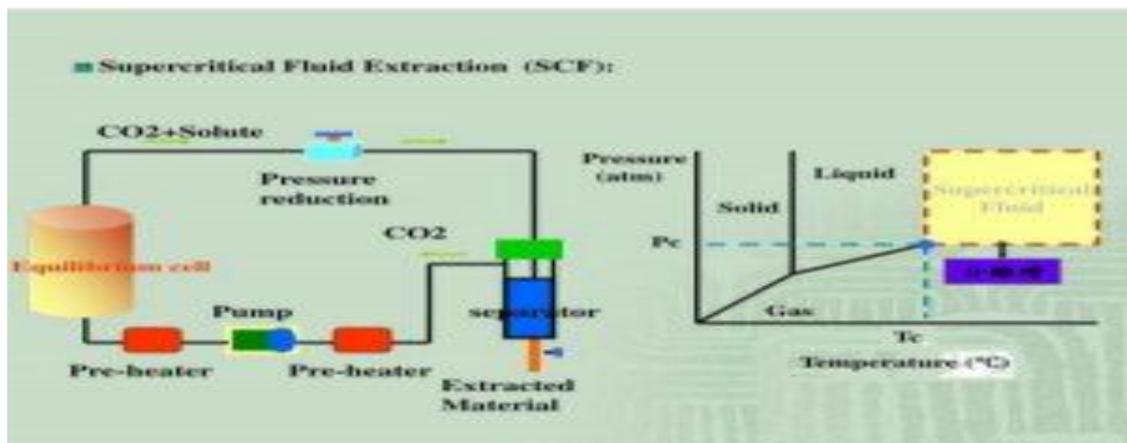


Fig. 1.4 : Scheme of supercritical fluid extraction (SFE)

1.4.8 Microwave-assisted hydrodistillation

Microwave-assisted hydrodistillation is regarded as an advanced hydrodistillation technique utilizing microwave oven in the extraction pro

cess⁸⁰. Some researchers have successfully utilized a microwave oven for the extraction of active components from plants⁸⁰. The efficiency of Microwave-assisted hydrodistillation is strongly dependent on the dielectric constant of water and the sample⁸¹. Conventional techniques for the extraction of active constituents are time and solvent consuming, thermally unsafe and the analysis of numerous constituents in plant material is limited by the extraction step⁸². High and fast extraction performance ability with less solvent consumption and protection offered to thermolabile constituents are some of the attractive features of this new promising microwave-assisted hydrodistillation technique. Application of microwave-assisted hydrodistillation in separation and extraction processes has shown to reduce both extraction time and volume of solvent required, minimizing environmental impact by emitting less CO₂ in atmosphere^{83,84} and consuming only a fraction of the energy used in conventional extraction methods⁸⁵. The use of microwave-assisted hydrodistillation in industrial materials processing can provide a versatile tool to process variety of materials under a wide range of conditions⁸⁴.

Microwave-assisted hydrodistillation is a current technology to extract biological materials and has been regarded as an important alternative in extraction techniques because of its advantages which mainly are a reduction of extraction time, solvents, selectivity, volumetric heating and controllable heating process⁸⁵. The principle of heating using microwave-assisted hydrodistillation is based upon its direct impact with polar materials/solvents and is governed by two phenomenon's: ionic

conduction and dipole rotation, which in most cases occurs simultaneously⁸⁶.

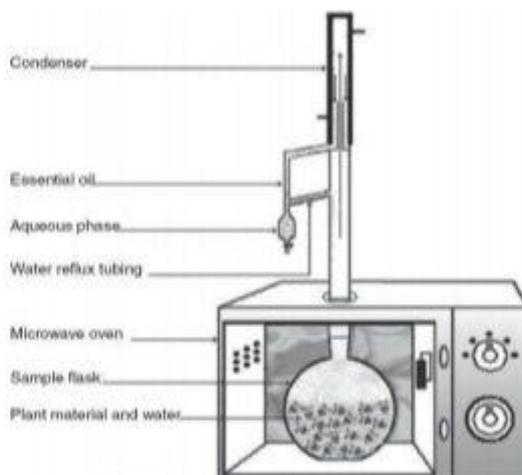


Fig.1.5: Apparatus of microwave-assisted hydrodistillation

1.4.9 Ultrasound-assisted extraction (UAE)

Ultrasound-assisted extraction (UAE) is a good process to achieve high valuable compounds and could involve the increase in the estimate of some food by-products when used as sources of natural compounds or plant material⁸⁷. The major importance will be a more effective extraction, so saving energy, and also the use of mean temperatures, which is beneficial for heat-sensitive components. This technique was developed in 1950 at laboratory apparatus⁸⁸. Ultrasound allows selective and intensification of essential oils extraction by release from plant material when used in combination with other techniques for example solvent extraction and hydrodistillation⁸⁷.

Ultrasound technology has been featured as a valuable method in food engineering processes and plants⁸⁷. In these applications the power ultrasound increases the surface wetness evaporation average and cau

ses oscillating velocities at the interfaces, which may affect the diffusion boundary layer and generate rapid series of alternative expansions of the material affecting cluster transfer⁸⁹ The plants raw material is immersed in water or another solvent(methanol or ethanol or anyone other solvent) and at the same time, it is subjected to the work of ultrasound⁹⁰.This technique has been used for the extraction of many essential oils especially from the flower, leaves or seeds⁹¹.

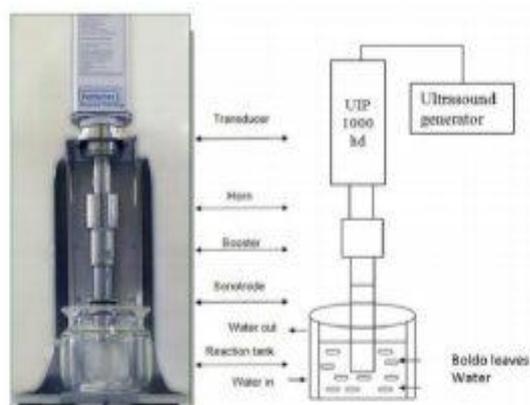


Fig.1.6 : Apparatus for ultrasound-assisted extraction

1.4.10 Solvent – free microwave extraction (SFME)

Solvent – free microwave extraction is suggested as a method for "green" extraction of edible essential oils from fresh plant material, at atmospheric pressure without addition of water or organic solvent⁹².

This method is an original combination of microwave heating and hydrodistillation at atmospheric pressure. This techniques includes placing the plant material in a microwave reactor, without adding any solvent or water. The internal heating of the water within the fresh plant material inflates the plant cells and lead to break the glands and oleiferous receptacles. A cooling system outside the microwave oven condens

ed the distillate continually. The excess of water is refluxed to the extraction vessel that to retrieve *in situ* water to the plant material. At the end, essential oil is removed from the aqueous extract by decantation process⁹².

The technique of (SFME) is neither a modified microwave- assisted extraction which uses organic solvent nor a modified hydrodistillation process with water coming from the fresh plant material^{83,93}. The advantage, of (SFME) extraction include : increase the obtained essential oil, optimizing the essential oil composition, remove the waste of water treatment, and also contributes to limited time, and lower an energy consumption⁸³.

1.4.11 Microwave hydrodiffusion and gravity (MHG):

Is a new green technique for the extraction of essential oils. This green extraction technique is an original microwave blend microwave heating and earth attraction at atmospheric pressure. MHG was conceived for experimenter and processing scale applications for the extraction of essential oils from different kind of material plants⁹⁴. Microwave hydro diffusion and gravity (MHG) become clear not only as economic and efficient but also as environment-friendly, not require solvent or water and as it does require less energy⁹⁵. The performances and advantages of this technique are a reduction of extraction time (in the case of hydrodistillation it takes 90min or more but in this technique only 20min) and reducing environmental impact and power saving^{94,95}.

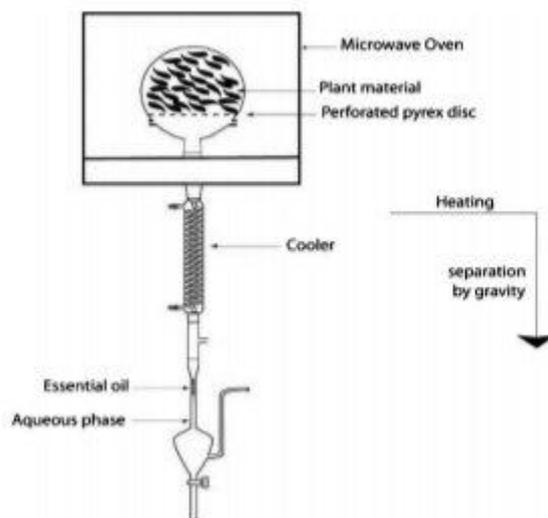


Fig.1.7: Apparatus for microwave hydro diffusion and gravity

1.5- Bioactivity of essential oils

previous studies on essential oils evaluate their pharmacological properties and toxicity in order to exploit possible alternative medicines⁹⁶.

1.5.1-Antioxidant activity

Essential oils are known to represent a large range of biological activity, one of the most important studied properties of essential oils is antioxidant activity. This could be explained by the damages of various free radicals which causes many metabolic diseases such as cancer, diabetes, arthritis, inflammation and Alzheimer^{97,98}. Essential oils are rich natural sources of potential antioxidants that can be tested to prevent damage of cells⁹⁹. Antioxidants are substances that, in low concentration inhibit the oxidation of the substrate¹⁰⁰. Volatile compounds in essential oils, beside their protective antioxidant activity, can also act as prooxidant, affecting the cellular redox¹⁴.

Although phenolic compounds are admitted as being responsible for the antioxidant ability, recent studies demonstrated that volatile compo

nents could also individually or in mixture contribute to the whole antioxidant ability. Essential oils of lemon and balm (*Melissa officinalis* L) was found to offer the highest antioxidant activity¹⁰¹.

1.5.2- Antimicrobial activity

Essential oils are recognized as antimicrobial agents, and are well represented in recent researches. Their antimicrobial activity depends on the presence of active compounds and the interaction between various components which can have synergistic or antagonistic action. It also depends on the content, concentration, and susceptibility of microorganism^{36,102}. The inactive components impact resorption, the rate of the reaction, as well as biological activities of active compounds. The combination of both major and minor components can thus modify the activity to exert significant synergistic or antagonistic effect^{103,104}.

The effect of essential oils against pathogens is as a result of the ability of the hydrophobic compounds that disrupt the microorganism cell membrane, which modify the cell morphology, alteration of membrane permeability and leakage of electrolytes¹⁰⁵. The antimicrobial standard of various essential oils tested against food borne pathogens as well as spoilage microorganisms indicates a broad potential of their use in the food industry under strict evaluations to enhance their efficacies^{106,107}. Essential oils show strong antimicrobial activity towards food borne pathogens, which can lead to use them as preservative or to incorporate in the food packaging as natural antimicrobial agents^{108,109}.

Essential oils have been subject to pharmacologic studies as well as various tests of their antimicrobial activities. The most common meth

ods are agar diffusion tests, serial broth or agar dilution tests, and vapour tests. These oils are thought to play a role in plant defence mechanism acting³⁷. Phytopathogenic microorganism^{110,111}. The bacteria that cause the most major clinical problems are *klebsiella and Enterobacter* species, *Staphylococcus aureus*, *Enterococcus faecium*, *Clostridium difficile*, *Acinetobacter baumannii*, *Pseudomonas aeruginosa* and *Escherichia Coli*¹¹².

Generally essential oils are more active on gram-positive bacteria due to the presence of peptidoglycan layer which lies outside the outer membrane. In gram-negative bacteria, the outer membrane is composed of a double layer of phospholipids which is linked to the inner membrane by lipopolysacchride¹¹³. Several studies on the bioactivity of essential oils have revealed their antibacterial and antifungal potential on different pathogenic microorganism^{114,115}.

1.5.3 Antiviral activity

The effective agents that play a role against common pathogens are needed particularly for those resistant to traditional antiviral agents. The ability of viruses to persist in fresh products, could lead to serious food borne problems¹¹⁶. Plants and plant-derived natural products provide a chance for new antiviral drugs. Many essential oils have been tested for their antiviral activity. As conclusion in recent years, free viruses are very sensitive to essential oils¹¹⁷.

1.6 The target plants species

1.6.1 *Cassia sieberiana*.

Cassia sieberiana (Fabaceae) is a tropical deciduous small tree. It is characterized by bright yellow flowers that form into groups. It grows best in well drained, humid soils. *Cassia sieberiana* grows in groups of other plants, thus, they usually never grow alone¹¹⁸.

This shrub native to Africa. Its distribution spans across Africa including the southern part of the Sahel¹¹⁹. It also grows in wooded grassland and savannah, secondary bush, on lateritic soils, road sides, gravel and thickets, secondary forest, coastal scrub and sandstone plateau¹²⁰.

bark color is grey- black. The leaves are arranged in leaflets that contain 7-10 pair of opposite leaves. The upper side of the leaf is moderately shiny while the bottom has very fine nerves with stipules that are deciduous. *Cassia sieberiana* has both flowers and fruit. The flowers are very bright yellow during the dry season, The flowers are also arranged either uprightly or in pendulous racemes¹¹⁹.

The leaves, roots and pods are widely used in traditional system of medicine. Twigs are used against sleeping sickness. root is used for tiredness and also for body massage, A decoction of the bark, leaves or root is used for the treatment of dysentery, diarrhoea and vomiting the twigs are also used for the treatment of trypanosomiasis. Root bark is a natural remedy for the treatment of dysmenorrhoea and gastric ulcer¹²⁰.

Seeds have been found to contain : protein (23.72%), crude fibre (10.75%), potassium (252.33 mg/L) and magnesium (52.68 mg/L). Seed also contain Tannin, alkaloids, phenolic, oxalates, cardiac glycosides and flavonoids¹²¹. pulp (fruit) contain saponins, tannins, alkaloids, ster

oids, flavonoids, phlobatannins, cardiac glycosides, cyanogenic glycosides and reducing sugars¹²². anthraquinones, sterols, steroidal glycosides, tannins, triterpenes have also been reported in the root¹²³. Root bark and leaves contain : tannins saponosides, anthocyanosides, reducing compound, carbohydrates, flavonoids, and triterpenic steroids¹²⁵. Root bark extract showed the presence of saponins, flavnoids, anthraquinones and tannins¹²⁶.



Figure 1. Cassia sieberiana tree with fruits Figure 2. Cassia sieberiana seeds

Fig. 1.8 : *Cassia sieberiana*

1.6.2 *Mimosa épineux*

Mimosa épineux is a thorny tree 6 to 17 m high in the family Mimosa ceae¹²⁷. Twigs are greenish and the leaves are alternating and bipinnate, from 3 to 10 cm long with 3-7 pairs of pinnules. *Mimosa épineux* is a species that is Sahelo-Saharan and sudanoSahelian¹²⁷. Fruits are represented by narrow pods and contain 6 to 10 seeds that are brown when they are ripened. Flowers and fruiting usually take place in the second half of the dry season, before foliage. *Mimosa épineux* is found in low slopes and low ground and generally near rivers. This species has s

pread from Senegal to Cameroon and from Egypt to Sudan and Somalia¹²⁸.

Ethanollic extracts of leaves, root bark and trunk showed activity against *Klebsiella pneumoniae*^{129,134}. Methanolic extract of *Mimosa épineux* leaves reduced the incidence of green mold (*Penicillium digitatum*) by 56.1% on fruits inoculated per injury. The methanolic extract contained gallic acid, salicylic acid, p-coumaric acid, caffeic acid, 3,4-dihydroxy benzoic acid, ferulic acid¹³⁵. Ethanollic extracts (leaves, bark) and dichloromethane extract from the bark of *Mimosa épineux* showed an activity higher than 85% with respect to the enzyme acetylcholinesterase. Alkaloids are known to have many pharmacological properties, including inhibition of acetylcholinesterase enzyme activity and the author associates the activity with alkaloids¹²⁹. A recent study showed that methanolic extract from the bark of *Mimosa épineux* showed 100% mortality against *Biomphalaria Pfeifferi* at different doses used¹³⁶. Root extract has demonstrated antimicrobial activity against fungal and bacterial pathogens¹³⁷. The cytotoxic study of the hydroethanollic extract of the stem bark of *Mimosa épineux* reduced the protein content of Bcl-xL and Bcl-2 which in turn promotes the intrinsic induction of apoptosis. In addition, the phytochemical analysis of this extract shows that it is rich in pro-apoptotic components such as flavonoids¹³⁸. The structure of the gum of *Mimosa épineux* has recently been revised by methylation analysis and nuclear magnetic resonance (NMR) spectroscopy. It h

as been found that this gum is more strongly branched than *A. senegal* and is composed of galactopyranosyl bound to 1,3. Galacturonic¹³⁹.



Fig. 1.9 :*Acacia seyal* Del

1.6.3 *Vitex doniana*

Vitex doniana (Verbenaceae) is one of the most important and widespread tree in savannah region¹⁴⁰. Species of vitex are tropic and subtropic but other native in temperate Eurasia¹⁴¹. The name vitex refer to the latin word 'vicio' which mean to weave or to tie up¹⁴². Its also commonly known as black plum or african olive¹⁴³. The genus *vitex* comprises around 150 species with several health benefits which have been well documented^{144,145}.

vitex species are deciduous and its leaves are opposite and renewed annually at the dry season, harvesting must be done after bush burning¹⁴⁵. The fruits contain vitamin A and B and can applied as ajam. The blackish pulp is rich in carbohydrate and minerals. The plant is treated for food, medicinal uses and a source of wood, fruits is sweet and the leaves are used as vegetable.

The fruits contain an essential oil, saponin, cineol and α . Pinen. The essential oil has an antibacterial activity¹⁴⁶, fruits also contain

flavonoid and iridoid glycoside¹⁴⁷. Many researches are now available on the the benefits of *vitex doniana* in africa traditional system of medicine^{148,149},

Different Phytochemicals detected in *vitex doniana* leaves such as alkaloids, flavonoids, terpenoids, saponin and tannins are bioactive compounds, they work with nutrients and dietary fibre to prevent occurrence of such deseases infection^{150,151}.

Several parts of *vitex doniana* are utilised by traditional medicine as aremedy of disorders such as rheumatism, hypertension, cancer and inflamatory conditions¹⁵². The leaf, the bark, dried and fresh fruit are used traditionally against conjunctivitis, headche, stiffness, measles, rash, fever, checkenpox, hemiplegia, respiratory diseases, rachitis, gasto-intestinal disorders, jaundice, kidney troubles, leprosy, liver disorders, bleeding after child birth and diarrhea^{143,153}.



Fig. 1.10 :*Vitex doniana*

1.6.4 *Ziziphus spina-christi*

Ziziphus spina-christi (L.) Desf. (Rhamnaceae) is a tropical evergreen tree of Sudanese origin with edible fresh or dried fruits^{154,155}. This plant grows in east Africa and West Asia including Egypt, Saudi Arabia, and south Iran¹⁵⁶. It is a spiny tree that tolerates extreme heat and drought. It develops a very deep taproot system and has an amazing regenerative power. *Z. spina-christi* is covered in whitish-brown or pale grey bark which is deeply fissured and cracked, with a twisted trunk which branches widely, drooping at the ends to form a rounded, usually umbrella-shaped crown. The simple, alternate leaves are oval, becoming more pointed at the tips with three conspicuous veins running along the length. The leaves are hairless on the upper surface, with a fine downy covering of small hairs on the underside. Christ's thorn produces small, greenish-yellow flowers, which cluster tightly in the axils of the leaves and red-brown coloured small fleshy fruits that enclose a hard stone in the center.

The seeds are protected by hard woody coats called endocarp, which delay germination. To overcome this problem the seed coat has to be scarified before planting^{155,156}. *Z. spina-christi* can be propagated by seeds, so it exhibits a broad genetic heterogeneity^{157,158}.

Z. spina-christi has many beneficial uses. The leaves are used as fodder for animals and the branches are used for fencing. The wood is used for construction and furniture. All parts of the plant (fruits, leaves, roots, bark) are used in traditional medicine^{159,160}. Sinai and Negev's Bedouins have used the tea of fruits to increase milk production for nur

sing women and to treat liver problems¹⁶¹. In Sudan the twigs are used externally to treat rheumatism and scorpion stings¹⁶². Moreover, in the United Arab Emirates, the boiled leaves are used to treat hair fall¹⁵⁵. The methanolic extract of the stem bark reduces diarrhea in rats¹⁶¹ whereas the methanolic extract of leaves protects against hepatic carcinogenicity in rats¹⁶². The butanolic extract of the leaves control the glucose level in rats safely¹⁶³. The aqueous extract of the root bark has an antinociceptive activity, and a central depressant effect in mice. The powder of the seeds showed high activity against *Escherichia coli* and *Bacillus subtilis*¹⁶⁴. Furthermore, it has been found that the hydro alcoholic extract of *Z. spina christi* fruit decreases the blood glucose level in dogs¹⁶⁵. Also the aqueous extract of *Z. spina-christi* fruit decreases the neurotransmitter content in the brain of male albino rats¹⁶⁶. The ethanolic extraction of fruits and the aqueous extract of the leaves showed antiviral properties against *Herpes simplex* virus type 1 (HSV-1)¹⁶⁷. Furthermore the hydro alcoholic extract of *Z. spina-christi* leaves induce contraction in the endothelium intact in the isolated rat aorta¹⁵⁶. All parts of *Z. spina-christi* contain important nutrients and phytochemical compounds. The fruit is rich in carbohydrates¹⁵⁵. The seeds contain 28.5% lipid and 18.6% protein¹⁶⁴. There are many studies that investigated the phytochemical constituents of *Z. spina christi*, which revealed betulic and ceanothic acid¹⁶⁸, three cyclopeptide alkaloids: franganine, mauritine-C and sativanine-A¹⁶⁹, four saponin glycosides: Christinin A, B, C and D¹⁷⁰, beside several flavonoids from the leaves of *Z. spina-christi*¹⁷¹. Also dodeca acetyl prodelphinidin B3 has been is

olated from the dried leaves of *Z. spina-christi*¹⁷². Furthermore, twelve flavonoids compounds were isolated from the methanolic extract of *Z. spina-christi* fruits¹⁷³. In addition of a new peptide alkaloid spinanine-A has been isolated from the stem bark of *Z. spina-christi*¹⁷⁴.



Fig. 1.11 :*Ziziphus spina Christi*

1.6.5 *Kigelia Africana*

Kigelia Africana (Lam) Benth. Is a plant in the family Bignoniaceae¹⁷⁵.

It is a tree growing up to 20 m tall or more. The bark is grey and smooth at first, peeling on older trees. It can be as thick as 6 mm on a 15 cm branch. The wood is pale brown-yellowish, being not prone to cracking¹⁷⁵. *K. Africana* is an evergreen tree where rainfall occurs throughout the year, but deciduous where there is a long dry season. The leaves are opposite or in whorls of three, 30-50 cm long, pinnate, with six to ten oval leaflets up to 20 cm long and 6 cm broad; the terminal leaflet can be either present or absent. The flowers (and later the fruit) hang down from branches on long flexible stems (2 - 6 m long). Flowers are produced in panicles; they are bell-shaped (similar to those of the African tulip tree but darker and more waxy), orange to reddish or purplish green and about 10 cm wide. Individual flowers do not hang down but are oriented horizontally¹⁷⁶. Some birds are attracted to these flowers

s and the strong stems of each flower make idea footholds. Their scent is most notable at night indicating their reliance on pollination by bats, which visit them for pollen and nectar¹⁷⁷. Flowers are bisexual, very large; pedicel up to 11-13.5 cm long up curved at tip; calyx shortly tubular to campanulate, 2 - 4.5 cm long, suddenly widening and incurving upwards, limp 2-lipped, with the superior lip 2-lobed, the lower one 3-lobed and recurved. The fruit is indehiscent, with woody wall and heavily marked with lenticels at the surface. It is grey-brown and many seeded when matured. Seeds are obovoid, ca.10 mm x 7 mm with leathery testa, embedded in a fibrous pulp¹⁷⁸. The fruit is a woody berry from 30 - 100 cm long and up to 18 cm broad; weighs between 5 - 10 kg hangs down on a long rope-like peduncles¹⁷⁶.

The tree is found on riverbanks, along streams and on floodplains, also in open woodland, from Kwazulu-Natal to Tanzania to Sudan. The plant is widely distributed in the south, central and West Africa. *K. africana* grows along water courses, in riverine fringes, alluvial and open woodland, high rainfall savanna, shrub land and in rain forest. It occurs on loamy red clay soils, sometimes rocky, damp or peaty, from sea level up to zoom altitude¹⁷⁸.

Various pharmacological examinations such as antibacterial, antiviral and antioxidant activities have been carried out¹⁷⁹.

The aqueous leaves extract of *K. africana* has been confirmed to possess antidiarrhoeal activity¹⁸⁰. The traditional use as antileprotic has also been reported¹⁸¹. The plant has been reported for its antimalaria activities¹⁸². Wood extract possesses antimalarial activity against drug resi

stant strains of *Plasmodium falciparum* superior to chloroquine and quinine¹⁸³.

The ethanolic extract of the stem bark was examined to show strong analgesic and anti-inflammatory activities. The extract components inhibited the synthesis of prostaglandins and other inflammatory mediators which probably accounted for the analgesic and anti-inflammatory properties¹⁸⁴. The dried fruit and bark extract is established to be a strong pain reliever when administered on painful joints, back and rheumatism¹⁸⁵.

The extract of the plant has been shown to possess antioxidative property which apparently makes it useful in the treatment of diseases especially the liver-borne disease¹⁸⁶. The ethnomedicinal plant bark is used for the treatment of rheumatism, dysentery and venereal diseases. It is also used as ringworm and tapeworm expellant, while other uses include treatment of haemorrhages, diabetes, pneumonia and toothache^{187,188}. Various chemical investigations have been carried out on *K. africana* and many chemical compounds mainly iridoids, naphthaquinones, monoterpenoid naphthaquinones, isocoumarins, lignans sterols and flavonoids have been identified. An initial laboratory studies indicated the presence of two major naphthaquinones in stem bark aqueous extract showing activity against *B.subtilis*, *E. coli*, *P. aeruginosa*, *S. aureus* and yeast *C.albicans*^{187,189}. Qualitative tests for the presence of plant secondary metabolites such as carbohydrates, alkaloids, tannins, flavonoids, saponins and glycosides were carried out on the bark powder¹⁸⁴. Chemical analysis of the polar extract of fruit indicated the pre

sence of vermonosides¹⁹⁰. Further investigation of the fruits yielded a new phenylpropanoid derivative identified as 6-p-coumaroyl-sucrose together with other known phenylpropanoid derivatives and flavonoid glycoside¹⁹¹.



Fig. 1.12 :*kigelia Africana*

Aim of this study

This study was carried out to:

- Exrtact the oils from five plants of medicinal potential, namely: *Cassia sieberiana*, *Acacia seyal*, *Vitex doniana*, *Kigelia Africana* and *Ziziphus spina Christi*.
- Characterize constituents of the oils by GC-MS technique.
- Evaluate the oils for antimicrobial activity.

2.1-Materials

2.1.1-Plant material

Seeds of *Cassia sieberiana*, *Acacia seyal*, *Vitex doniana*, *Kigelia Africana* and *Ziziphus spina Christi* were collected from around damazin-Sudan. The plants were authenticated by the department of phytochemistry and taxonomy, Medicinal and Aromatic Plants

Research Institute ,Khartoum-Sudan.

2.1.2- Instruments

GC-MS analysis was conducted on a Shimadzo GC-MS-QP2010 Ultra instrument with a RTX-5MS column (30m length;0.25mm diameter;0.25 um thickness).

2.1.3-Test organisms

The studied oils were screened for antibacterial and antifungal activity using the standard microorganisms shown in table below

Table 2.1: test organism

Ser. No	Micro organism	Type
1	<i>Bacillus subtilis</i>	G+v
2	<i>Staphylococcus aureus</i>	G+v
3	, <i>Pseudomonas aeroginosa</i>	G-v
4	<i>Escherichia coli</i>	G-v
5	<i>Candida albicans</i>	fungi

CHAPTER TWO
MATERIAL and METHODS

2.2-Methods

2.2.1-Extraaction of oils

Powdered seeds of studied plant (500g) was exhaustively extracted with n- hexane by maceration. The solvent was removed under reduced pressure and the oil was kept in the fridge at 4°C for further manipulation.

The oil (2ml) was placed in a test tube and 7 ml of alcoholic sodium hydroxide were added followed by 7 ml of alcoholic sulphuric acid. The tube was stoppered and shaken vigorously for five minutes and then left overnight. (2ml) of supersaturated sodium chloride were added, then (2ml) of n-hexane and the tube was vigorously shaken for five minutes. Hexane layer was then separated.(5µl) of the hexane extract were mixed with 5ml diethyl ether. The solution was filtered and the filtrate (1µl) was injected in the GC-MS.

2.2.2 GC-MS analysis

The studied oils were analyzed by gas chromatography-mass spectroscopy. A Shimadzo GC-MS-QP2010 Ultra instrument with a RTX-5MS column (30m, length; 0.25mm diameter; 0.25µm, thickness) was used. Helium (purity; 99.99%) was used as carrier gas. Oven temperature program is presented in table 2.2, and other chromatographic conditions are depicted in table 2.3:

Table 2.2: Oven temperature programe

Rate Time (min. ⁻¹)	Temperature(°C)	Hold time(min. ⁻¹)
-	150.0	1.00
4.00	300.0	0.00

Table 2.3 : Chromatographic conditions

Column oven temperature	150.0 °C
Injection temperature	300.0 °C
Injection mode	Split
Flow control mode	Linear velocity
Pressure	139.3KPa
Total flow	50.0ml/min
Column flow	1.54ml/sec.
Linear flow	47.2cm/sec.
Purge flow	3.0ml/min
2.Spilt ratio	-1.0

2.2.3 Antimicrobial activity

i) Bacterial suspensions

One ml aliquots of 24 hours broth culture of the test organisms were aseptically distributed onto nutrient agar slopes and incubated at 37°C for 24 hour. The bacterial growth was harvested and washed off with sterile normal saline, and finally suspended in 100 ml of normal saline to produce a suspension containing about 10⁸ - 10⁹ Colony forming units per ml. The suspension was stored in the refrigerator at 4°C until used. The average number of viable organism per ml of the stock suspension was determined by means of the surface viable counting technique. Serial dilutions of the stock suspension were made in sterile normal saline in tubes and one drop volumes (0.02 ml) of the appropriate dilutions were transferred by adjustable volume micropipette onto the surface of dried nutrient agar plates. The plates were allowed to stand for two hours at room temperature for the drop to dry, and then incubated at 37°C for 24 hours.

ii) Fungal suspensions

Fungal cultures were maintained on sabouraud dextrose agar incubated at 25⁰C for four days. The fungal growth was harvested and washed with sterile normal saline, and the suspension was stored in the refrigerator until used.

iii) – Testing for Antimicrobial activity

The cup-plate agar diffusion method was adopted with some minor modification, to assess the antimicrobial activity of the oil. (2ml) of the standardized bacterial stock suspension were mixed with 200 ml of sterile molten nutrient agar which was maintained at 45⁰C in a water bath. 920 ml) Aliquots of the incubated nutrient agar were distributed into sterile Petri dishes, the agar was left to settle and in each of these plates which were divided into two halves, two cups in each half (10 mm in diameter) were cut using sterile cork borer (No 4), each one of the halves was designed for one of the compounds. Separate Petri dishes were designed for standard antibacterial chemotherapeutic, (ampicillin and gentamycin).The agar discs were removed, alternate cup were filled with 0.1ml samples of each compound using adjustable volume micrometer pipette and allowed to diffuse at room temperature for two hours. The plate were then incubated in the upright position at 37⁰C for 24 hours.The above procedure was repeated for different concentrations of the test compounds and the standard antibacterial chemotherapeutics. After incubation, the diameters of the resultant growth inhibition zones were measured in triplicates and averaged

CHAPTER THREE

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Results and Discussion

3.1 *Cassia sieberiana*

3.1.1 The GC-MS analysis of *Cassia sieberiana*

GC-MS analysis of *Cassia sieberiana* seeds oil showed 21 components being identified by retention time and mass fragmentation pattern table 3.1.

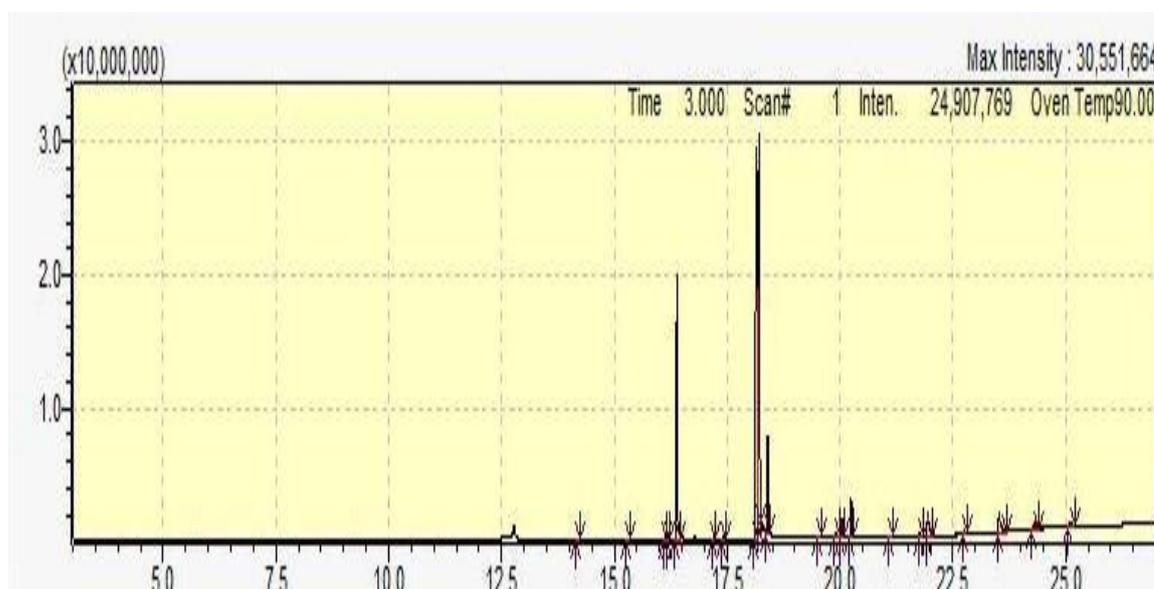


Fig.3.1: Total ions chromatograms

major constituents of the oil are:

- i) 9, 12-Octadecadienoic acid (Z, Z)-, methyl ester(37.12%)
- ii) 9-octadecenoic acid (Z)-, methyl ester (29.07%)
- iii) Hexadecanoic acid, methyl ester(16.54)%

The mass spectrum of 9, 12-octadecadienoic acid (Z, Z)-, methyl ester is shown in Fig.3.2 The peak at m/z 294 (RT,18.154) is due to the molecular ion M^+ $[C_{19}H_{34}O_2]^+$, while the signal at m/z 263 is due to loss of a methoxyl group.

The mass spectrum of 9-octadecenoic acid methyl ester is presented in Fig.3.3 The signal at m/z 296 (RT.18.202) accounts for the

molecular ion $M^+[C_{19}H_{36}O_2]^+$.the mass spectrum of hexadecanoic acid, methyl ester is shown in Fig 3.4. The peak at m/z 270 (RT.16.385) is due the molecular ion $M^+[C_{17}H_{34}O_2]^+$

Table 3.1: Constituents of the oil

No	Name	R.Time	Area%	Formula
1	Methyl tetradecanoate	14.171	0.11	$C_{15}H_{30}O_2$
2	Pentadecanoic acid, methyl ester	15.301	0.08	$C_{16}H_{32}O_2$
3	7-Hexadecenoic acid, methyl ester(Z)-	16.142	0.11	$C_{17}H_{32}O_2$
4	9-Hexadecenoic acid, methyl ester(Z)-	16.181	0.16	$C_{17}H_{32}O_2$
5	Hexadecanoic acid, methyl ester	16.385	16.54	$C_{17}H_{34}O_2$
6	cis-10-Heptadecenoic acid, methyl ester	17.195	0.10	$C_{17}H_{34}O_2$
7	Heptadecanoic acid, methyl ester	17.409	0.17	$C_{18}H_{36}O_2$
8	9,12-Octadecadienoic acid (Z,Z)-, methyl ester	18.154	37.12	$C_{19}H_{34}O_2$
9	9-Octadecenoic acid (Z)-, methyl ester	18.202	29.07	$C_{19}H_{36}O_2$
10	Methyl stearate	18.398	5.73	$C_{19}H_{38}O_2$
11	Methyl 9.cis.,11.trans.t,13.trans.-octadecatrienoate	19.507	0.20	$C_{19}H_{32}O_2$
12	8,11,14-Eicosatrienoic acid, methyl ester	19.904	0.38	$C_{21}H_{36}O_2$
13	cis-11-Eicosenoic acid, methyl ester	20.043	1.40	$C_{21}H_{40}O_2$
14	Eicosanoic acid, methyl ester	20.244	2.52	$C_{21}H_{42}O_2$
15	Heneicosanoic acid, methyl ester	21.114	0.12	$C_{22}H_{44}O_2$
16	13-Docosenoic acid, methyl ester, (Z)-	21.772	0.22	$C_{23}H_{44}O_2$
17	Docosanoic acid, methyl ester	21.949	2.03	$C_{21}H_{42}O_2$
18	Tricosanoic acid, methyl ester	22.752	0.38	$C_{24}H_{48}O_2$
19	Tetracosanoic acid, methyl ester	23.525	2.28	$C_{25}H_{50}O_2$
20	Squalene	24.315	0.69	$C_{30}H_{50}$
21	Hexacosanoic acid, methyl ester	25.095	0.59	$C_{27}H_{54}O_2$

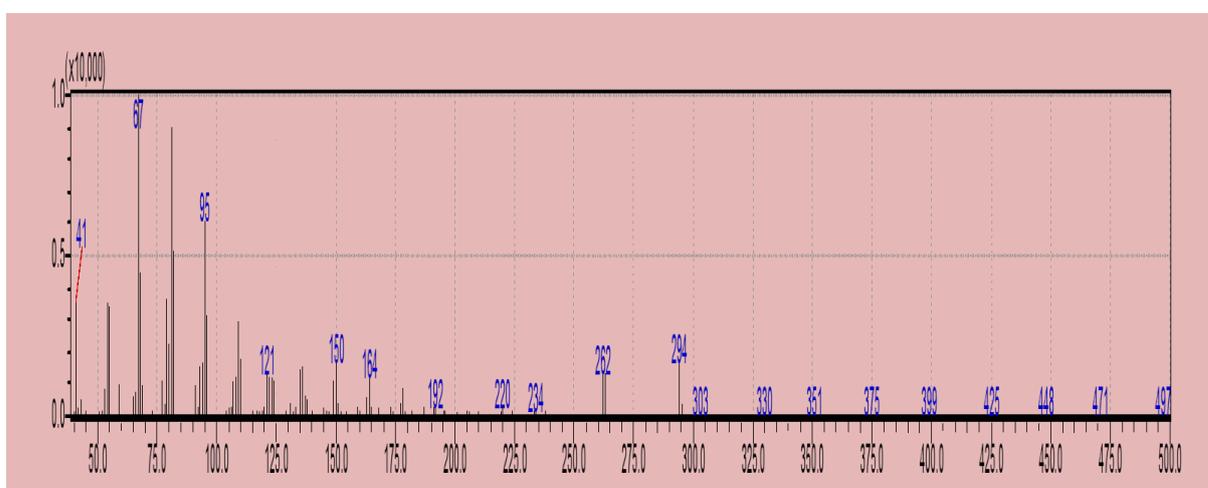


Fig.3.2: Mass spectrum of 9, 12-octadecadienoic acid methyl ester

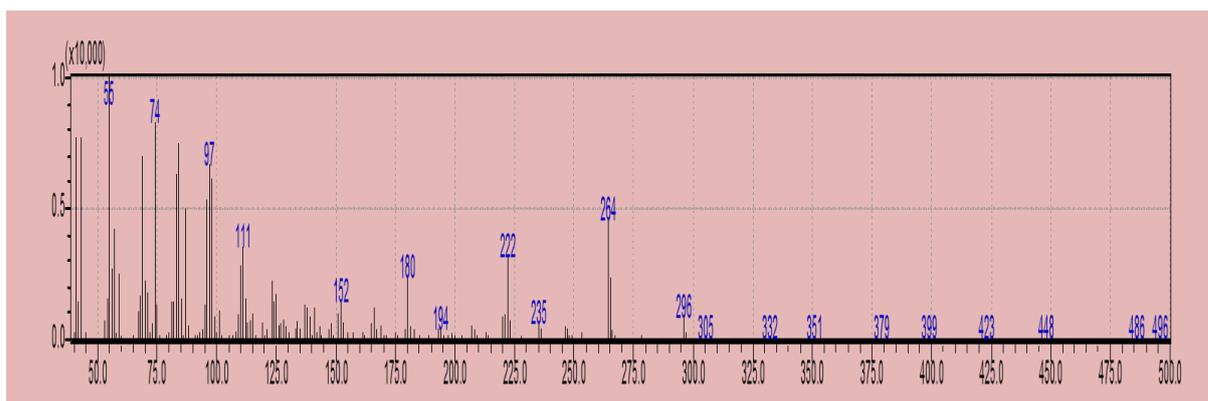


Fig.3.3.Mass spectrum of 9-octadecenoic acid methyl ester

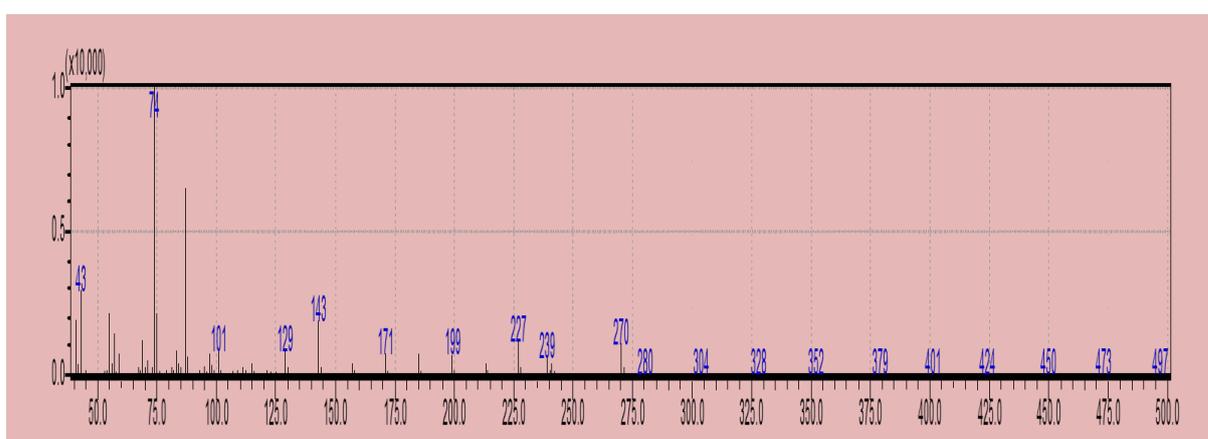


Fig. 3.4 :Mass spectrum of hexadecanoic acid, methyl ester

3.1.2 Antimicrobial activity

Cassia sieberiana seed oil was evaluated for antimicrobial activity against five standard human pathogens. The results are presented in table 3.2 the oil showed weak activity against *Escherichia coli* and *Bacillus subtilis*. Ampicillin, gentamicin and clotrimazole were used as positive control, while DMSO was a negative control.

Table 3.2 Inhibition zones (mm/mg sample) of oil

Sample	B.s	S.a	E.c	Ps.a	C.a
Oil 100mg/ml					
<i>Cassia sieberiana</i>	10	-	10	-	-
	10	-	12	-	-

E.c. Escherichia coli, *P.a. Pseudomonas aeruginosa*, *S.a. Staphylococcus*,

B.s. Basillus subtilis, *C.a. Candida albicans*.

(inhibition zone-mm) > 18 mm : very active; 13-18 mm : moderate; 9-12mm : weak

Table 3.3 Inhibition zones of standard antibacterial agents

drug	Conc mg/ml	B.s	S.a	E.c	P.a
Ampicilin	40	15	30	-	-
	20	14	25	-	-
	10	11	15	-	-
Gentamicin	40	25	19	22	21
	20	22	18	18	15
	10	17	14	15	12

Table 3.4 Inhibition zones of standard antifungal agents

Drug	Conc mg/ml	A.n	C.a
Clotrimazole	30	22	38
	15	17	31
	7.5	16	29

3.2 *Acacia seyal Del*

3.2.1 The GC-MS analysis of *Acacia seyal*

Acacia seyal Del seeds oil was analyzed by GC.MS technique. The analysis showed 23 compounds (Table 3.5).

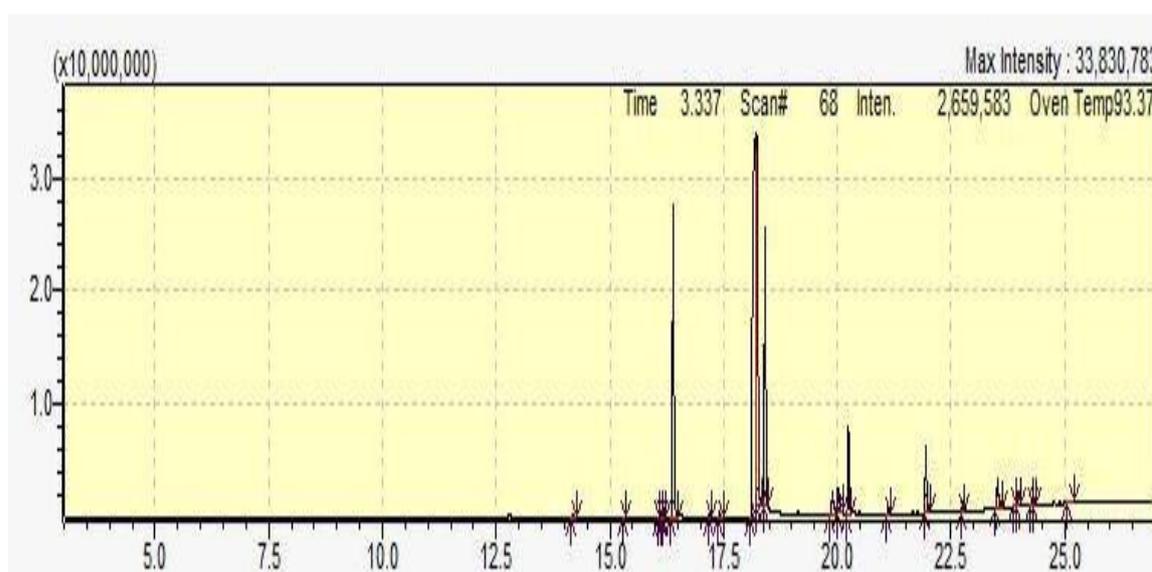


Fig. 3.5 : Total ions chromatograms

major constituents of the oil are:

- i) 9, 12-Octadecadienoic acid (Z, Z)-, methyl ester(38.25%)
- ii) 9-octadecenoic acid (Z)-, methyl ester (20.59%)
- iii) Hexadecanoic acid, methyl ester(15.19%)
- iv) Methyl stearate (12.58%)

The mass spectrum of 9, 12-octadecadienoic acid, methyl ester is shown in Fig.3.6 The peak at m/z 294 (RT,18.200) is due to the molecular ion $M^+ [C_{19} H_{34} O_2]^+$, while the signal at m/z 263 is due to loss of a methoxyl group.

The mass spectrum of 9-octadecenoic acid methyl ester is presented in Fig.3.7 The signal at m/z 296 (RT:18.234) accounts for the molecular ion $M^+[C_{19} H_{36} O_2]^+$.the mass spectrum of hexadecanoic acid, methyl ester is shown in Fig 3.8. The peak at m/z 270 (RT.16.396) is due the molecular ion $M^+[C_{17} H_{34} O_2]^+$.

The mass spectrum of methyl stearate. The peak at m/z 298 (RT.18.416) account for $M^+[C_{19} H_{38} O_2]^+$.The peak at m/z 267 is due loss of methxyl.

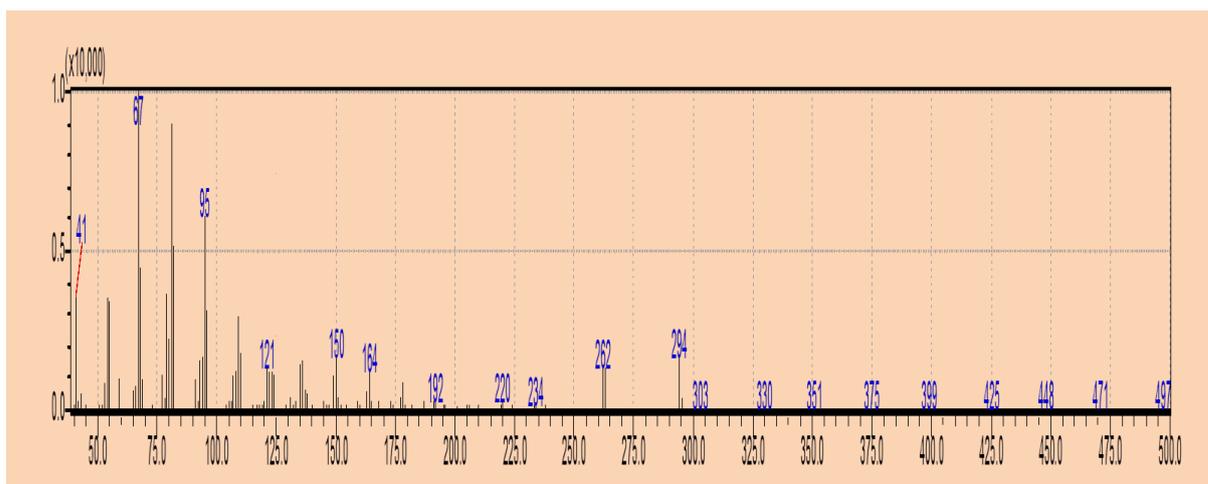


Fig.3.6: Mass spectrum of 9, 12-octadecadienoic acid methyl ester

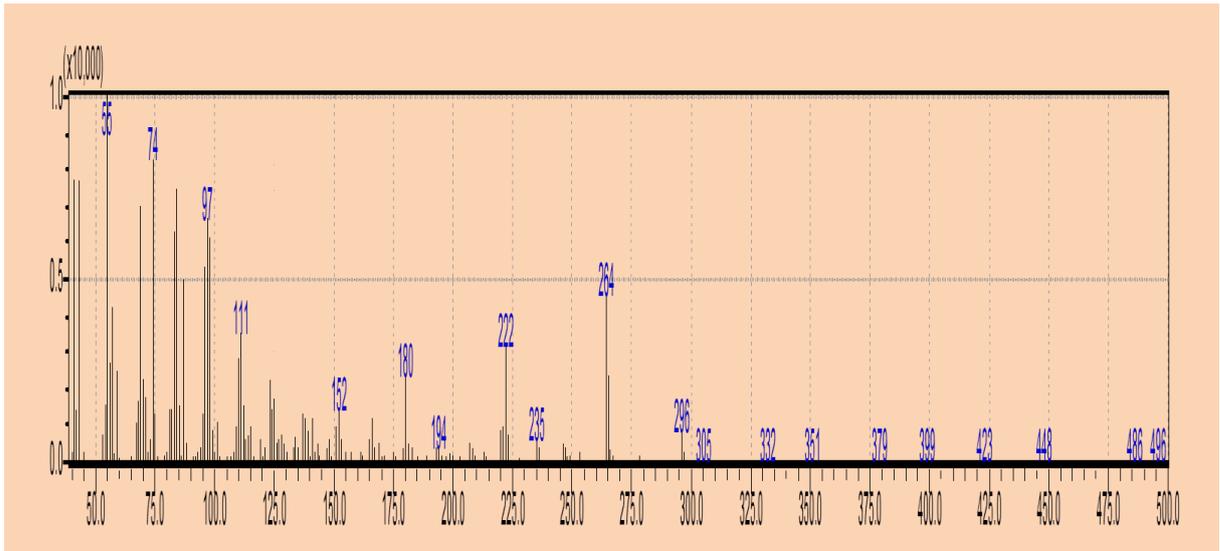


Fig.3.7. 9-octadecenoic acid methyl ester

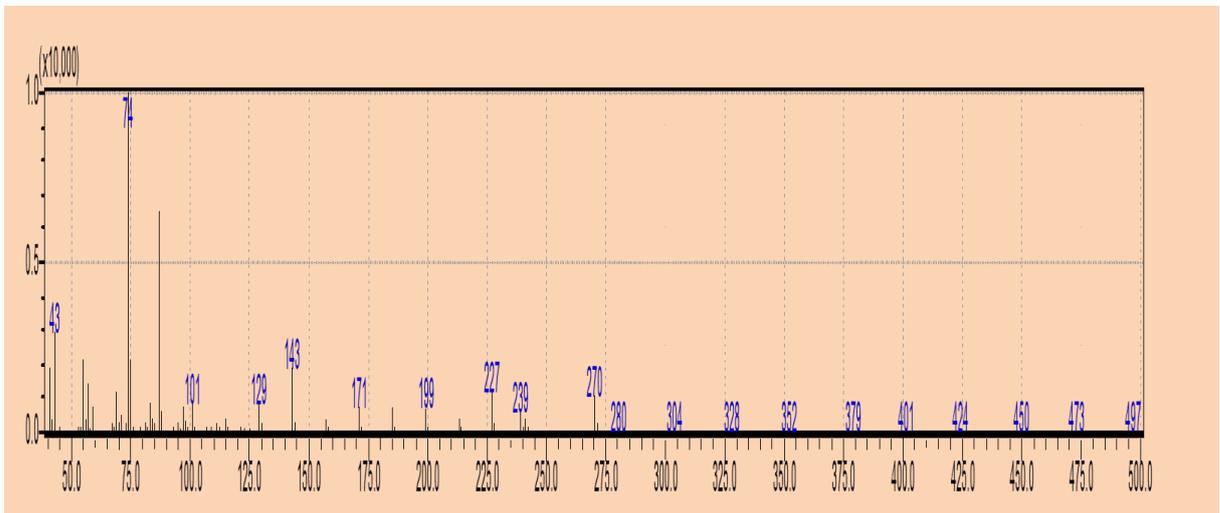


Fig. 3.8 :Mass spectrum of hexadecanoic acid, methyl ester

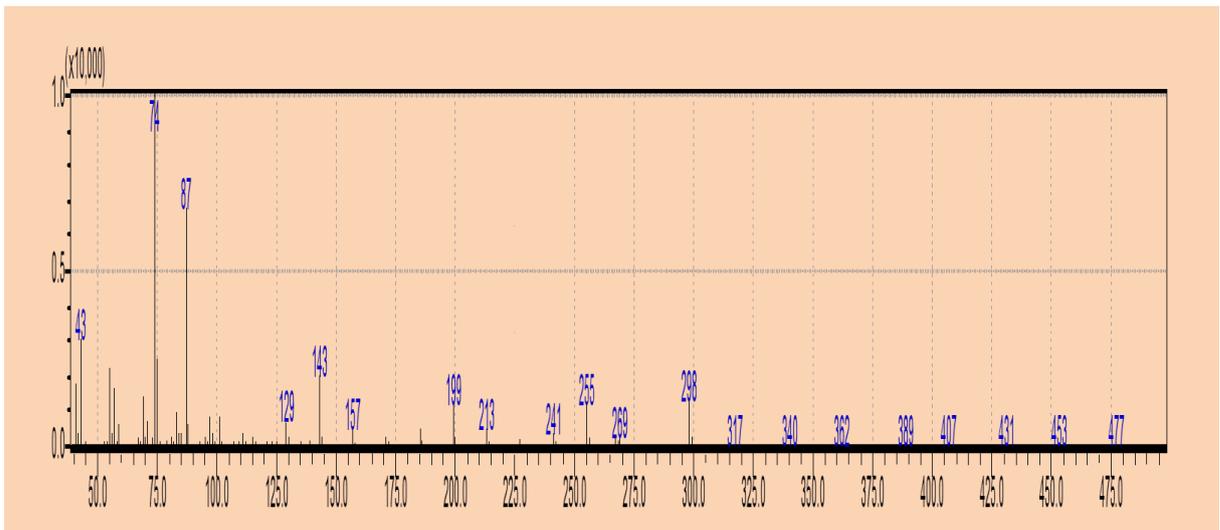


Fig 3.9: methyl stearate

Table 3.5: Constituents of the oil

No	Name	R.Time	Area%	Formula
1	Methyl tetradecanoate	14.180	0.20	C ₁₅ H ₃₀ O ₂
2	Pentadecanoic acid, methyl ester	15.306	0.05	C ₁₆ H ₃₂ O ₂
3	7,10-Hexadecadienoic acid, methyl ester	16.079	0.03	C ₁₇ H ₃₀ O ₂
4	7-Hexadecenoic acid, methyl ester, (Z)-	16.139	0.11	C ₁₇ H ₃₂ O ₂
5	9-Hexadecenoic acid, methyl ester, (Z)-	16.184	0.32	C ₁₇ H ₃₂ O ₂
6	Hexadecanoic acid, methyl ester	16.396	15.19	C ₁₇ H ₃₄ O ₂
7	cis-10-Heptadecenoic acid, methyl ester	17.199	0.16	C ₁₈ H ₃₄ O ₂
8	Heptadecanoic acid, methyl ester	17.412	0.23	C ₁₈ H ₃₆ O ₂
9	9,12-Octadecadienoic acid (Z,Z)-, methyl ester	18.200	38.23	C ₁₉ H ₃₄ O ₂
10	9-Octadecenoic acid (Z)-, methyl ester	18.234	20.59	C ₃₄ H ₆₆ O ₂
11	Methyl stearate	18.416	12.58	C ₁₉ H ₃₈ O ₂
12	Z,Z-3,13-Octadecadien-1-ol	19.892	1.31	C ₁₈ H ₃₄ O
13	cis-11-Eicosenoic acid, methyl ester	20.039	1.28	C ₂₁ H ₄₀ O ₂
14	Eicosanoic acid, methyl ester	20.244	3.43	C ₂₁ H ₄₂ O ₂
15	Heneicosanoic acid, methyl ester	21.112	0.21	C ₂₂ H ₄₄ O ₂
16	Docosanoic acid, methyl ester	21.946	3.19	C ₂₃ H ₄₆ O ₂
17	Tricosanoic acid, methyl ester	22.751	0.38	C ₂₄ H ₄₈ O ₂
18	Tetracosanoic acid, methyl ester	23.525	1.79	C ₂₅ H ₅₀ O ₂
19	.gamma.-Sitosterol	23.916	0.13	C ₂₉ H ₅₀ O
20	.beta.-Sitosterol	23.968	0.14	C ₂₉ H ₅₀ O
21	Pentacosanoic acid, methyl ester	24.279	0.08	C ₂₆ H ₅₂ O ₂
22	Squalene	24.315	0.10	C ₃₀ H ₅₀
23	Hexacosanoic acid, methyl ester	25.104	0.27	C ₂₇ H ₅₄ O ₂

3.2.2 Antimicrobial activity

The studied oil was assessed for antimicrobial activity against five standard microbial strain. The inhibition zones are shown in table (3.6) Ampicilin, gentamicin and clotrimazole were used as positive control. The oil exhibited weak activity against *Bacillus subtilis*.

Table 3.6 Inhibition zones (mm/mg sample) of oil

Sample	B.s	S.a	E.c	Ps.a	C.a
Oil 100mg/ml					
<i>Acacia seyal Del</i>	11 10	- -	- -	- -	- -

E.c. *Escherichia coli*, *P.a.* *Pseudomonas aeruginosa*, *S.a.* *Staphylococcus*, *B.s.* *Basillus subtilis*, *C.a.* *Candida albicans*.

(inhibition zone-mm) > 18 mm : very active; 13-18 mm : moderate; 9-12mm : weak

3.3 *Vitex doniana*

3.3.1 The GC-MS analysis of *Vitex doniana*

The qualitative and quantitative analysis of *Vitex doniana* oil was carried out by GC-MS. The GC-MS analysis revealed the presence of 13 components (3.7). Fatty acids constitute 99.72% of the bulk of the oil, while squalene (0.13%) and β -sitosterol (0.15%) appeared as minor constituents. The oil was dominated by 9-octadecenoic acid (Z), methyl ester (35.51%) 9,12Octadecadienoic acid (Z, Z)-, methyl ester (24.17%) Hexadecanoic acid, methyl ester (17.92%) Methyl stearate (12.21%).

The mass spectra of the major constituents of the oil presented in figures (11-14). The molecular ion of 9-octadecenoic acid (Z), methyl ester $[C_{19}H_{36}O_2]^+$; 9,12Octadecadienoic acid (Z, Z)-, methyl ester $[C_{19}H_{34}O_2]^+$; Methyl stearate $[C_{19}H_{38}O_2]^+$; and Hexadecanoic acid, methyl ester $[C_{17}H_{34}O_2]^+$; appeared as expected at m/z 296; m/z 294; m/z 298 and m/z 270 respectively. These components have retention times : 16.839, 16.769, 17.014 and 15.096 respectively.

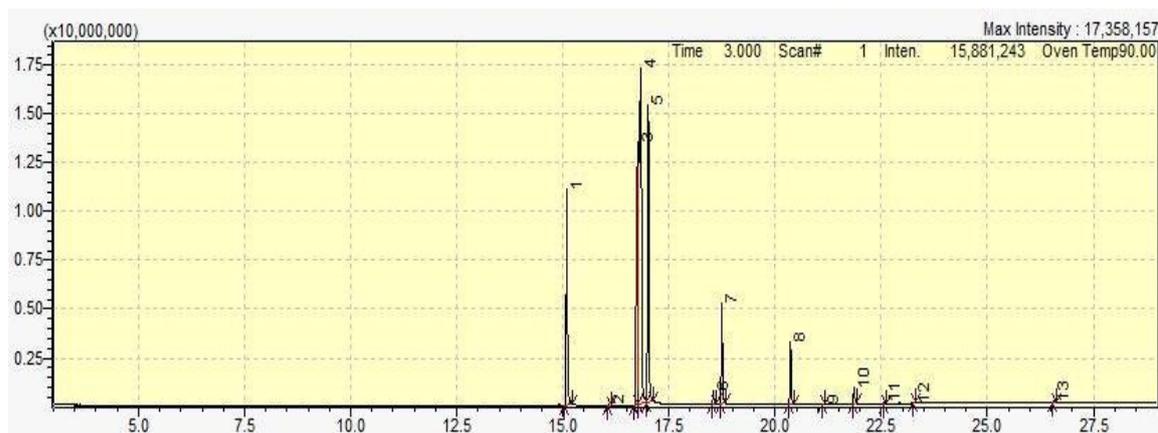


Fig. 3.10: Total ions chromatograms

Table 3.7: Constituents of the oil

No	Name	R. Time	Area%	Formula
1	Hexadecanoic acid, methyl ester	15.040	12.21	C ₁₇ H ₃₄ O ₂
2	Heptadecanoic acid, methyl ester	16.045	0.07	C ₁₈ H ₃₆ O ₂
3	9,12-Octadecadienoic acid (Z,Z)-, methyl ester	16.685	24.17	C ₁₉ H ₃₄ O ₂
4	9-Octadecenoic acid (Z)-, methyl ester	16.785	35.52	C ₁₉ H ₃₆ O ₂
5	Methyl stearate	16.960	17.92	C ₁₉ H ₃₈ O ₂
6	cis-11-Eicosenoic acid, methyl ester	18.505	0.69	C ₂₁ H ₄₀ O ₂
7	Eicosanoic acid, methyl ester	18.700	5.04	C ₂₁ H ₄₂ O ₂
8	Docosanoic acid, methyl ester	20.320	3.19	C ₂₃ H ₄₆ O ₂
9	Tricosanoic acid, methyl ester	21.110	0.02	C ₂₄ H ₄₈ O ₂
10	Tetracosanoic acid, methyl ester	21.820	0.85	C ₂₅ H ₅₀ O ₂
11	Squalene	22.545	0.12	C ₃₀ H ₅₀
12	Hexacosanoic acid, methyl ester	23.235	0.05	C ₂₇ H ₅₄ O ₂
13	.beta.-Sitosterol	26.540	0.15	C ₂₉ H ₅₀ O

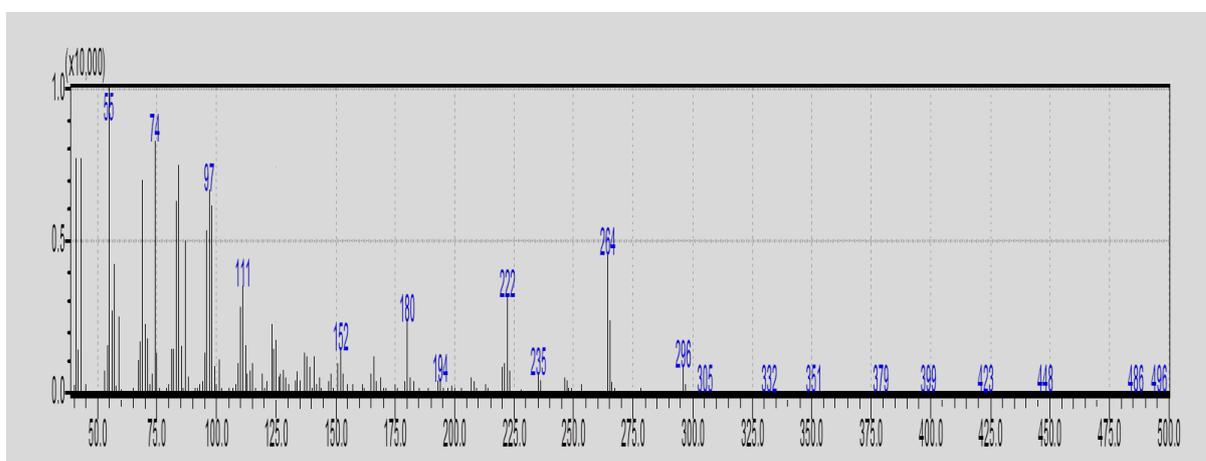


Fig.3.11: 9-octadecenoic acid (Z)-, methyl ester

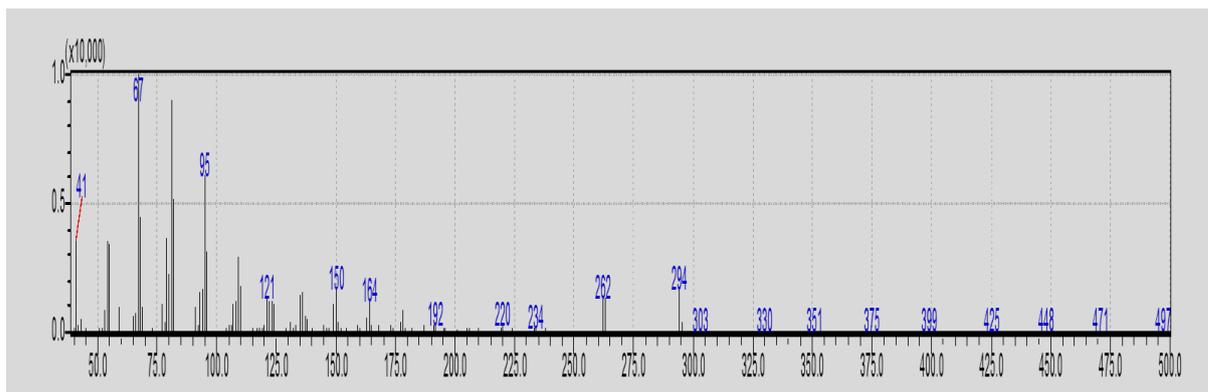


Fig.3.12 : Mass spectrum of 9, 12-octadecadienoic acid (Z, Z)-, methyl ester

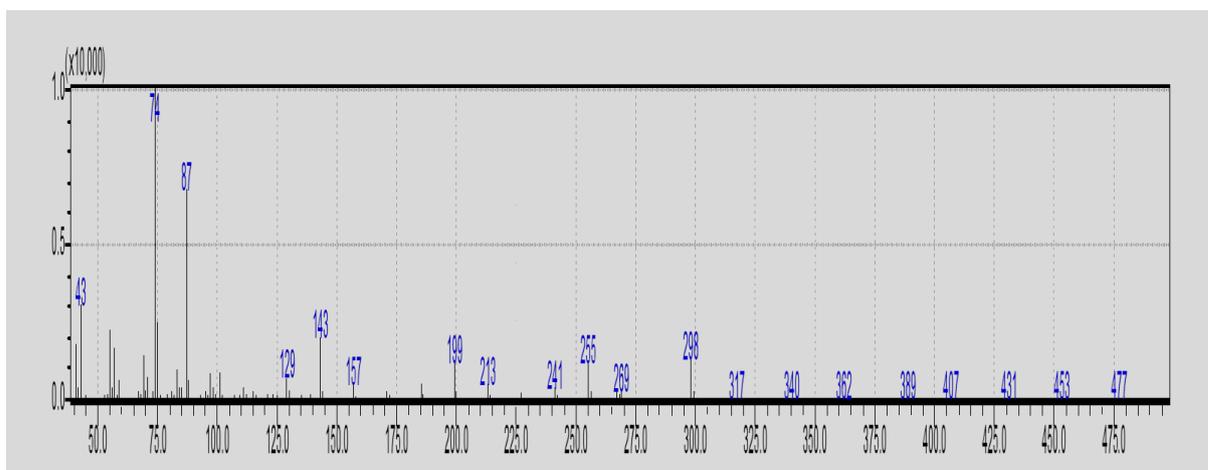


Fig.3.13: methyl stearate

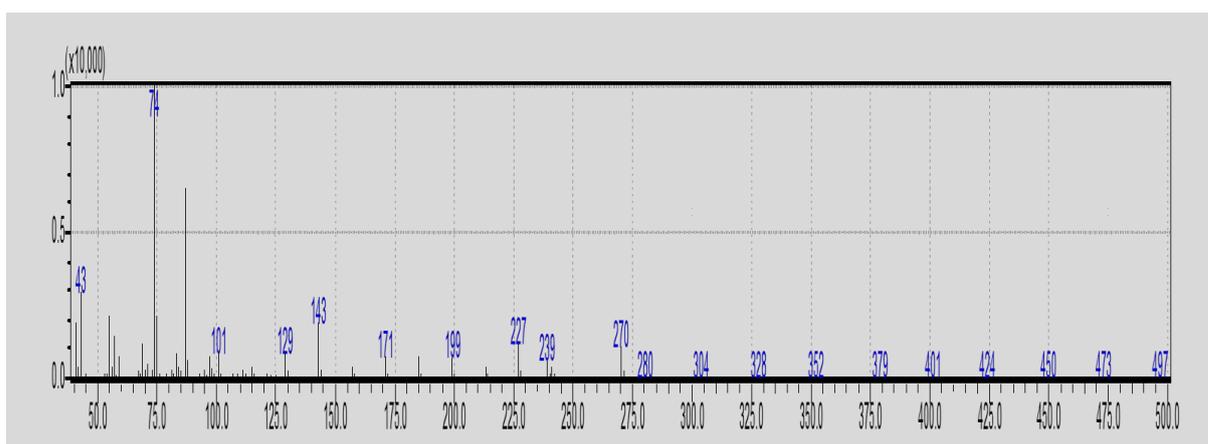


Fig. 3.14 :Mass spectrum of hexadecanoic acid, methyl ester

3.3.2 Antimicrobial activity

The antimicrobial activity of the oil was assayed and the average of the diameter of the inhibition zones were measured. Table (3.8). At a concentration of 100mg/ml, the oil was tested against *Escherichia coli*, *Pseudomonas aeruginosa*, *Staphylococcus*, *Basillus subtilis*, and *Candida albicans*. *Vitex doniana* oil showed significant activity against *Escherichia coli*. It also exhibited moderate activity against *Staphylococcus aureus*. *Basillus subtilis*, *Pseudomonas aeruginosa* and *candida albicans*. Ampicillin, gentamicin, and clotrimazole were used as positive control.

Table 3.8 Inhibition zones (mm/mg sample) of oil

Sample	B.s	S.a	E.c	Ps.a	C.a
Oil 100mg/ml					
<i>Vitex doniana</i>	13	12	15	12	12
	15	16	17	14	13

E.c. *Escherichia coli*, *P.a.* *Pseudomonas aeruginosa*, *S.a.* *Staphylococcus*, *B.s.* *Basillus subtilis*, *C.a.* *Candida albicans*.

(inhibition zone-mm) > 18 mm : very active; 13-18 mm : moderate; 9-12mm : weak

3.4 *Ziziphus spina Christi*

3.4.1 GC-MS analysis of *Ziziphus spina Christi*

Eighteen constituents have been detected in *Ziziphus spina christi* by GC-MS analysis (Table 3.9). The total ion chromatograms is presented in Fig.3.15

Table 3.9: Constituents of the oil

No	Name	R. Time	Area%	Formula
1	Methyl tetradecanoate	14.186	0.16	C ₁₅ H ₃₀ O ₂
2	7-Hexadecenoic acid, methyl ester, (Z)-	16.141	0.06	C ₁₇ H ₃₂ O ₂
3	9-Hexadecenoic acid, methyl ester, (Z)-	16.186	0.11	C ₁₇ H ₃₂ O ₂
4	Hexadecanoic acid, methyl ester	16.398	14.07	C ₁₇ H ₃₄ O ₂
5	cis-10-Heptadecenoic acid, methyl ester	17.204	0.07	C ₁₈ H ₃₄ O ₂
6	Heptadecanoic acid, methyl ester	17.416	0.16	C ₁₈ H ₃₆ O ₂
7	9,12-Octadecadienoic acid (Z,Z)-, methyl ester	18.190	22.60	C ₁₉ H ₃₄ O ₂
8	9-Octadecenoic acid (Z)-, methyl ester	18.256	34.71	C ₁₉ H ₃₆ O ₂
9	Methyl stearate	18.420	11.01	C ₁₉ H ₃₈ O ₂
10	cis-11-Eicosenoic acid, methyl ester	20.047	5.43	C ₂₁ H ₄₀ O ₂
11	Eicosanoic acid, methyl ester	20.249	5.16	C ₂₁ H ₄₂ H ₂
12	Heneicosanoic acid, methyl ester	21.116	0.09	C ₂₂ H ₄₄ O ₂
13	13-Docosenoic acid, methyl ester, (Z)-	21.775	0.12	C ₂₃ H ₄₄ O ₂
14	Docosanoic acid, methyl ester	21.954	3.99	C ₂₃ H ₄₆ O ₂
15	Tricosanoic acid, methyl ester	22.761	0.18	C ₂₄ H ₄₈ O ₂
16	Tetracosanoic acid, methyl ester	23.539	1.38	C ₂₅ H ₅₀ O ₂
17	Squalene	24.324	0.50	C ₃₀ H ₅₀
18	Hexacosanoic acid, methyl ester	25.116	0.20	C ₂₇ H ₅₄ O ₂

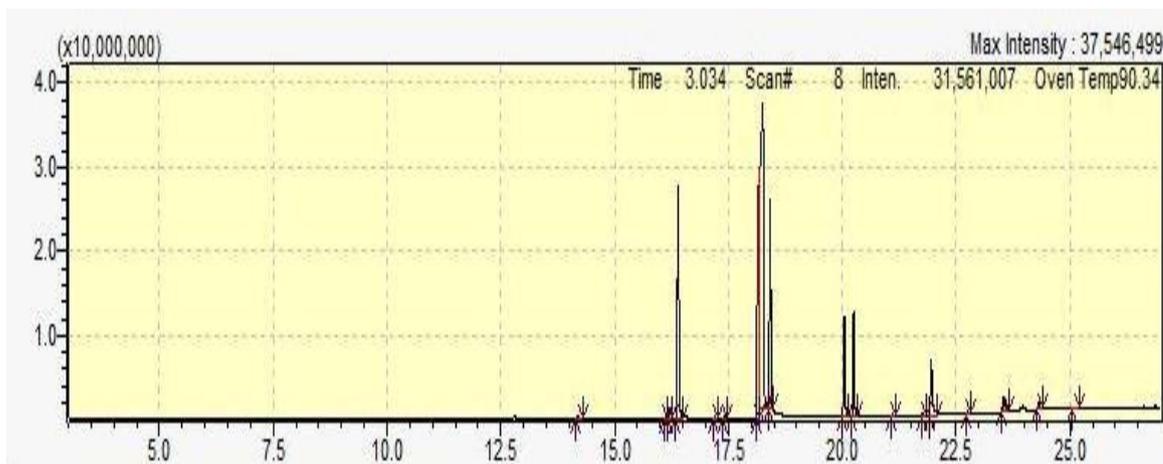


Fig 3.15: total ion chromatogram

The oil was dominated by:

- i) 9-Octadecenoic acid (Z)-, methyl ester (34.71%)

ii) 9, 12-Octadecadienoic acid (Z, Z)-, methyl ester(22.60%)

iii) Hexadecanoic acid, methyl ester(14.07%)

iv) Methyl stearate (11.01%)

In the mass spectra of 9-octadecenoic acid (Z)-, methyl ester (Fig 3.); 9, 12-Octadecadienoic acid (Z, Z)-, methyl ester (Fig.3.); Hexadecanoic acid, methyl ester (Fig.3.); Methyl stearate (Fig.3.3) the molecular ions appeared as expected at: m/z 296 (RT.18.256), m/z 294 (RT.18.190), m/z 270 (RT.16.398), m/z 298 (RT.18.420)respectively.

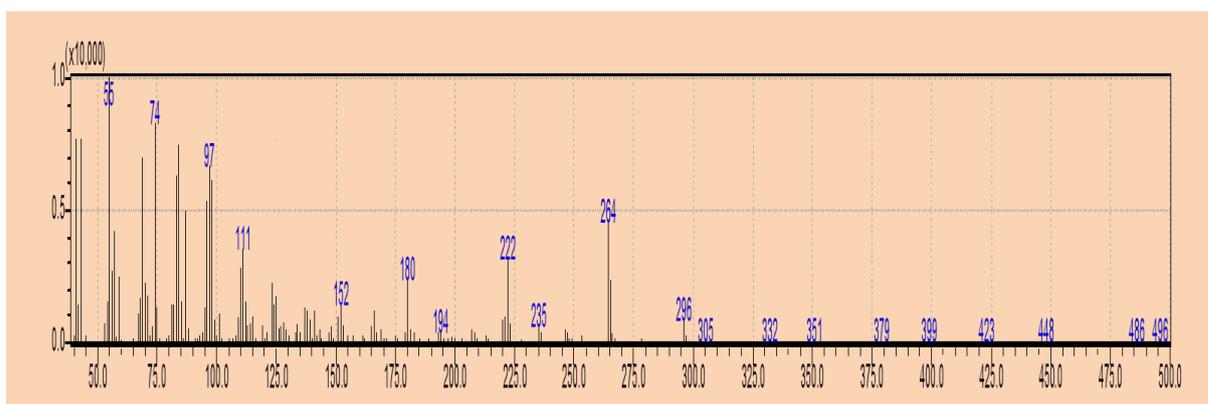


Fig.3.16. 9-Octadecenoic acid (Z)-, methyl ester

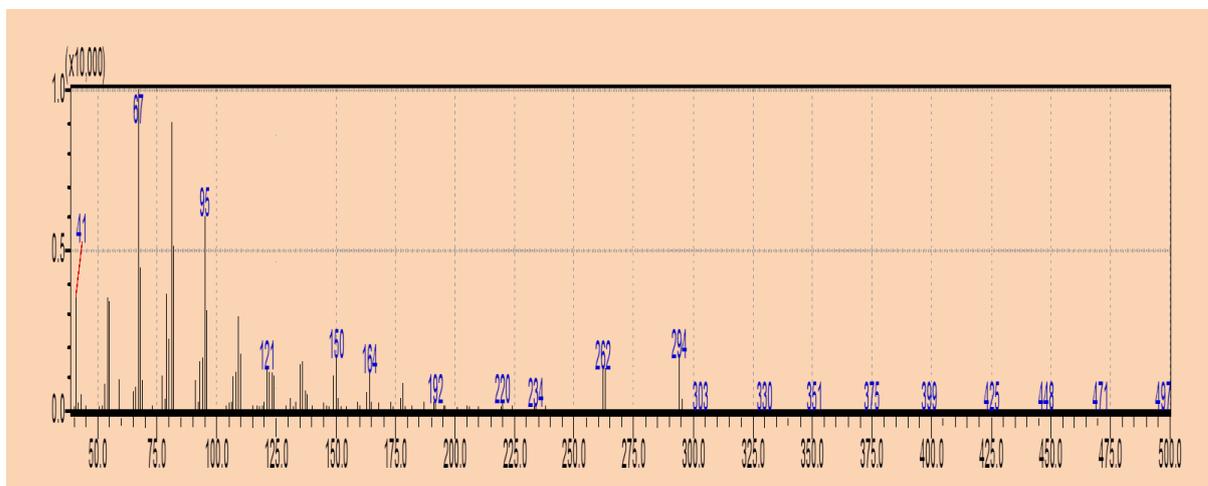


Fig.3.17: Mass spectrum of 9, 12-octadecadienoic acid (Z, Z)-, methyl ester

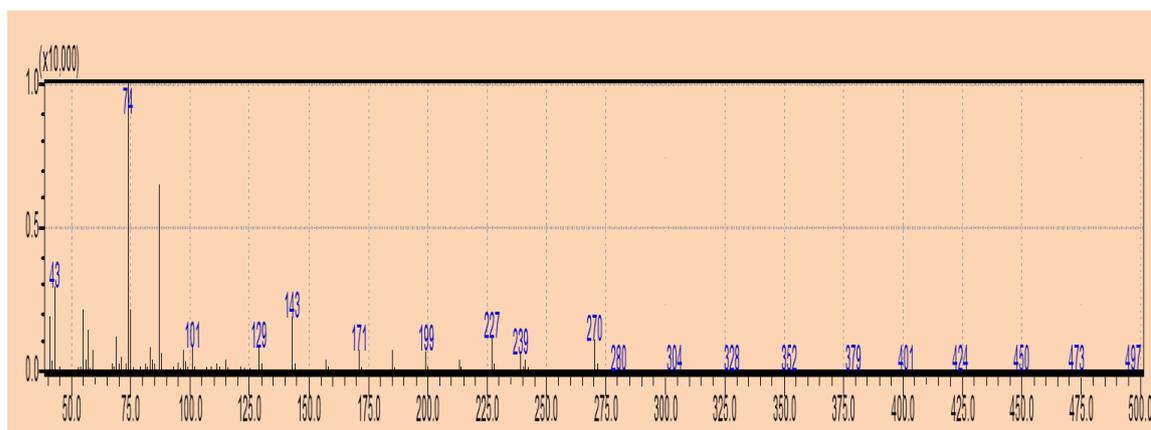


Fig. 3.18 :Mass spectrum of hexadecanoic acid, methyl ester

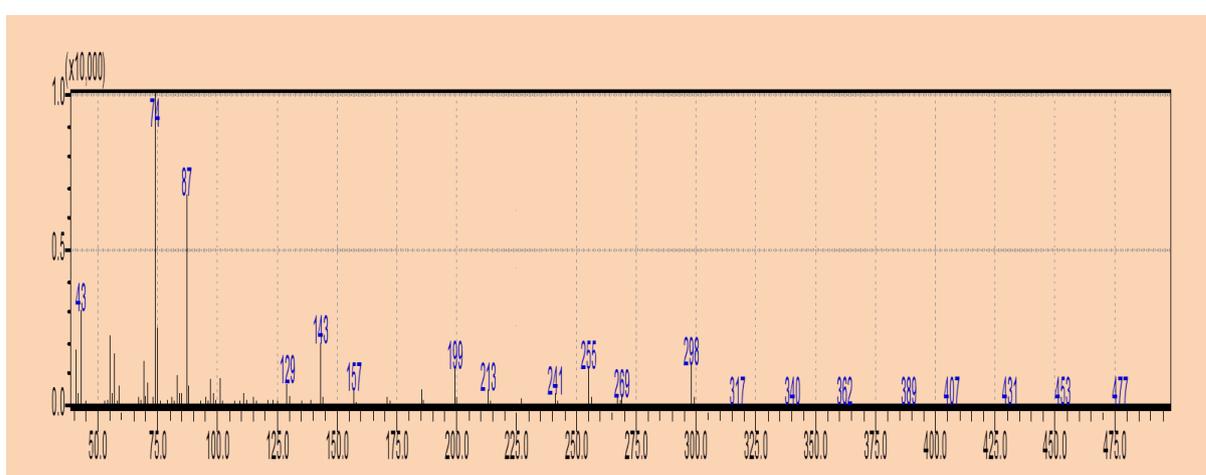


Fig 3.19: methyl stearate

3.4.2 Antimicrobial activity

Ziziphus spina christi seed oil was tested for antimicrobial activity against five standard microbial strain. The inhibition zones are shown in table 3.10. Ampicillin, gentamicin, and clotrimazole were used as positive control. The oil exhibited moderate activity against *Basillus subtilis*.

Table 3.10: Inhibition zones (mm/mg sample) of oil

Sample Oil 100mg/ml	B.s	S.a	E.c	Ps.a	C.a
<i>Ziziphus spina christi</i>	15	-	-	-	-
	15	-	-	-	-

E.c. Escherichia coli, *P.a. Pseudomonas aeruginosa*, *S.a. Staphylococcus*,
B.s. Basillus subtilis, *C.a. Candida albicans*.

(inhibition zone-mm) > 18 mm: very active; 13-18 mm: moderate; 9-12mm: weak

3.5 *Kigelia africana*

3.5.1 The GC-MS analysis of *Kigelia africana*

Kigelia africana seeds oil was analyzed by GC.MS technique. The analysis revealed the presence of 16 components (Table 3.11)

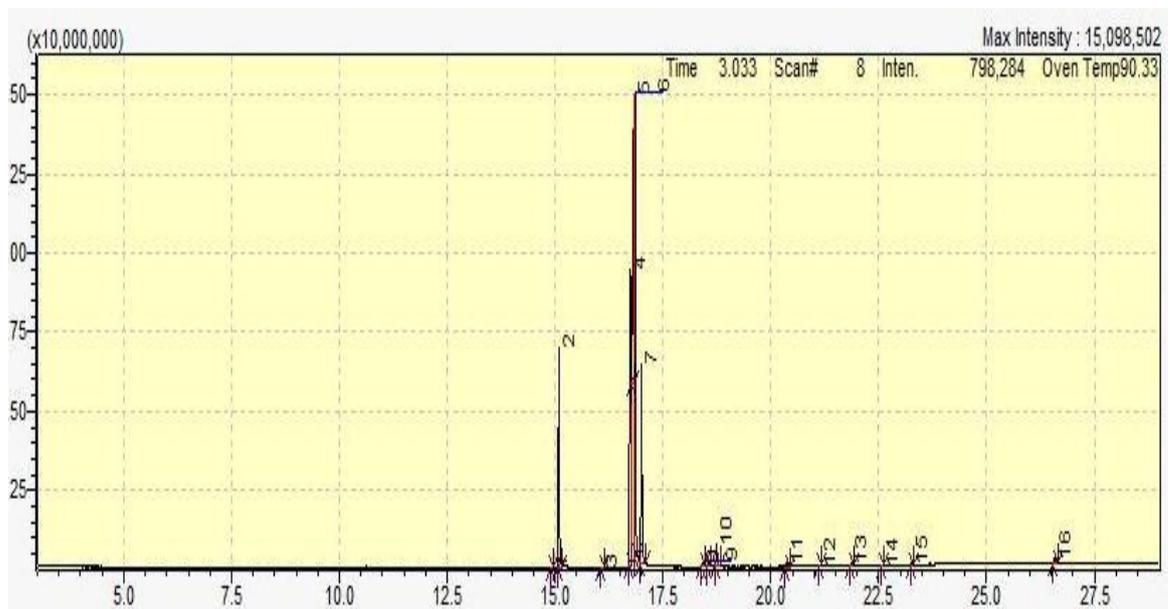


Fig:3.20: total ion chromatograms

Table 3.11: Constituents of the oil

No	Name	R. Time	Area%	Formula
1	9-Hexadecenoic acid, methyl ester, (Z)-	14.885	0.04	C ₁₇ H ₃₂ O ₂
2	Hexadecanoic acid, methyl ester	15.045	12.94	C ₁₇ H ₃₄ O ₂
3	Heptadecanoic acid, methyl ester	16.040	0.06	C ₁₈ H ₃₆ O ₂
4	9,12-Octadecadienoic acid (Z,Z)-, methyl ester	16.700	26.42	C ₁₉ H ₃₄ O ₂
5	9-Octadecenoic acid (Z)-, methyl ester	16.775	22.93	C ₁₉ H ₃₆ O ₂
6	9,12,15-Octadecatrienoic acid, methyl ester, (Z,Z,Z)-	16.840	22.74	C ₁₉ H ₃₂ O ₂
7	Methyl stearate	16.965	11.51	C ₁₉ H ₃₈ O ₂
8	11,14,17-Eicosatrienoic acid, methyl ester	18.385	0.42	C ₂₁ H ₃₆ O ₂
9	cis-11-Eicosenoic acid, methyl ester	18.515	0.31	C ₂₁ H ₄₀ O ₂
10	Eicosanoic acid, methyl ester	18.715	1.41	C ₂₁ H ₄₂ O ₂
11	Docosanoic acid, methyl ester	20.320	0.35	C ₂₃ H ₄₆ O ₂
12	Tricosanoic acid, methyl ester	21.105	0.03	C ₂₄ H ₄₈ O ₂
13	Tetracosanoic acid, methyl ester	21.830	0.24	C ₂₅ H ₅₀ O ₂
14	Hexacosanoic acid, methyl ester	22.555	0.04	C ₂₇ H ₅₄ O ₂
15	Heptacosanoic acid, methyl ester	23.235	0.07	C ₂₈ H ₅₆ O ₂
16	.beta.-Sitosterol	26.530	0.49	C ₂₉ H ₅₀ O

major constituents of the oil are

- i) 9, 12-Octadecadienoic acid (Z, Z)-, methyl ester(26.43%)
- ii) 9-Octadecenoic acid (Z)-, methyl ester (22.93%)
- iii) 9,12,15- Octadecatrienoic acid, methyl ester (22.74%)
- iv) Hexadecanoic acid, methyl ester(12.94)%
- v) Methyl stearate (11.51%)

The mass spectrum of 9, 12-octadecadienoic acid (Z, Z)-, methyl ester is shown in Fig.3.21. The peak at m/z 294 with retention time 16.750 corresponds to the molecular ion $M^+[C_{19}H_{34}O_2]^+$ while the signal at m/z 263 is due to loss of a methoxyl group. The mass spectrum of 9-octadecenoic acid (Z)-, methyl ester is shown in Fig.3.22. The peak at m/z 296 with retention time 16.836 accounts for the molecular ion $M^+[C_{19}H_{36}O_2]^+$. The mass spectrum of

this compound (Fig:3.23) illustrated at the signal m/z 292 with retention time 16.853.this due to molecular weight 292.The peak at m/z 261 represent the loss of methoxyl. Fig. 3.24 presents the mass spectrum of hexadecanoic acid, methylester. The peak at m/z 270 with retention time 15.089 is due the molecular ion $M^+[C_{17}H_{34}O_2]^+$ Fig.3.25 shows the mass spectrum of methyl stearate. The signal at m/z 298 (retention time:17.003) is due to the molecular ion $M^+[C_{19}H_{38}O_2]^+$.The peak at m/z 267 is due to loss of a methoxyl.

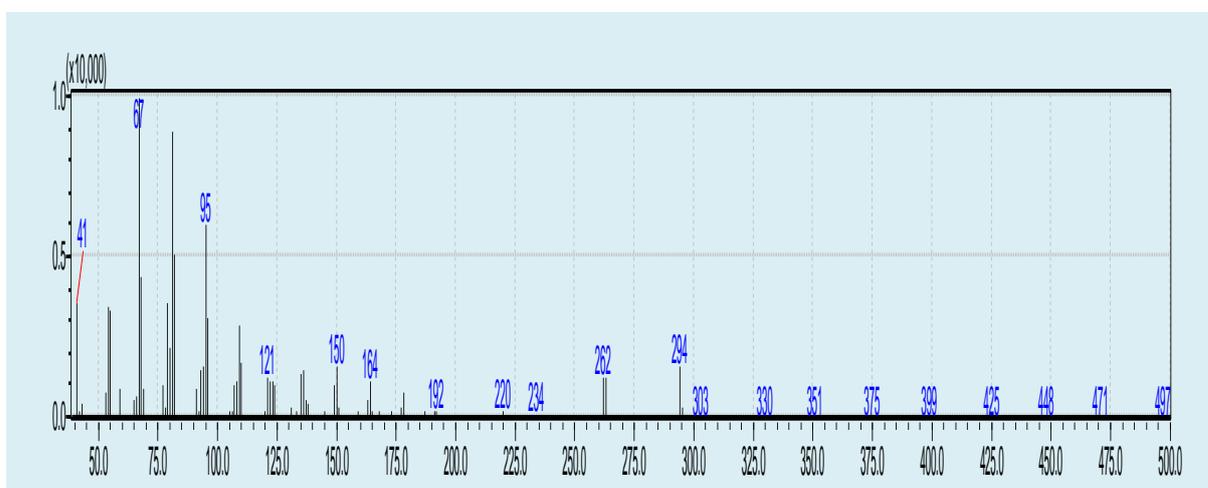


Fig.3.21: Mass spectrum of 9, 12-octadecadienoic acid (Z, Z)-, methyl ester

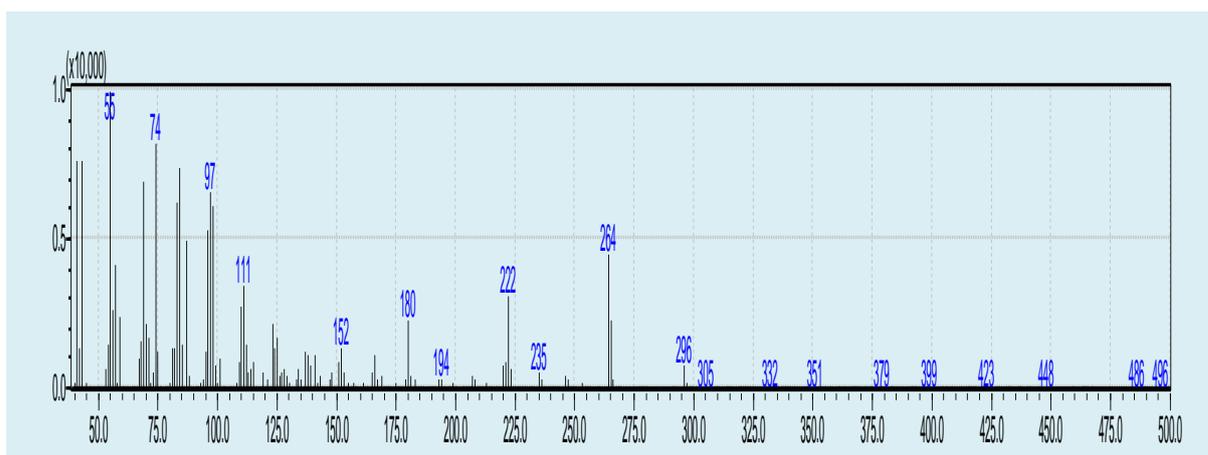


Fig.3.22: 9-octadecenoic acid (Z)-, methyl ester

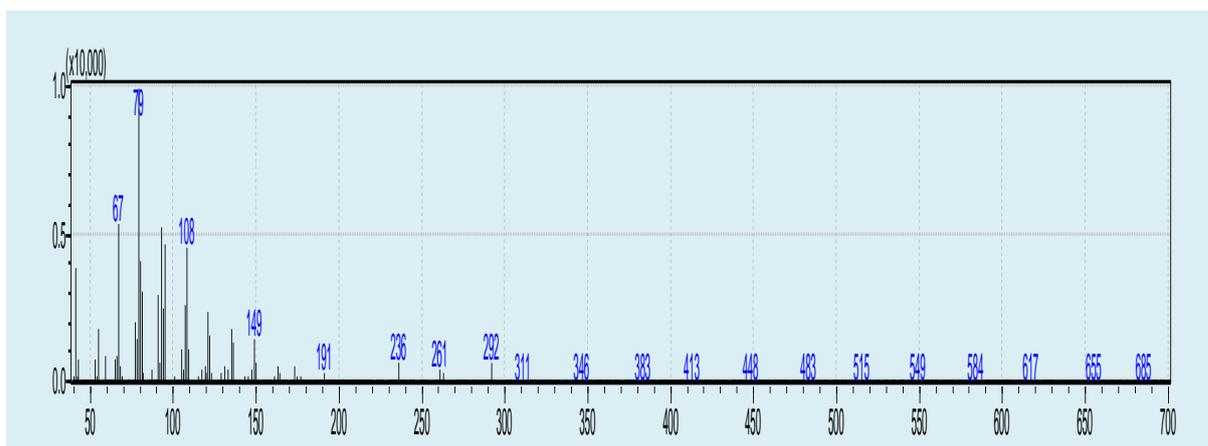


Fig.3.23: 9,12,15- Octadecatrienoic acid, methyl ester

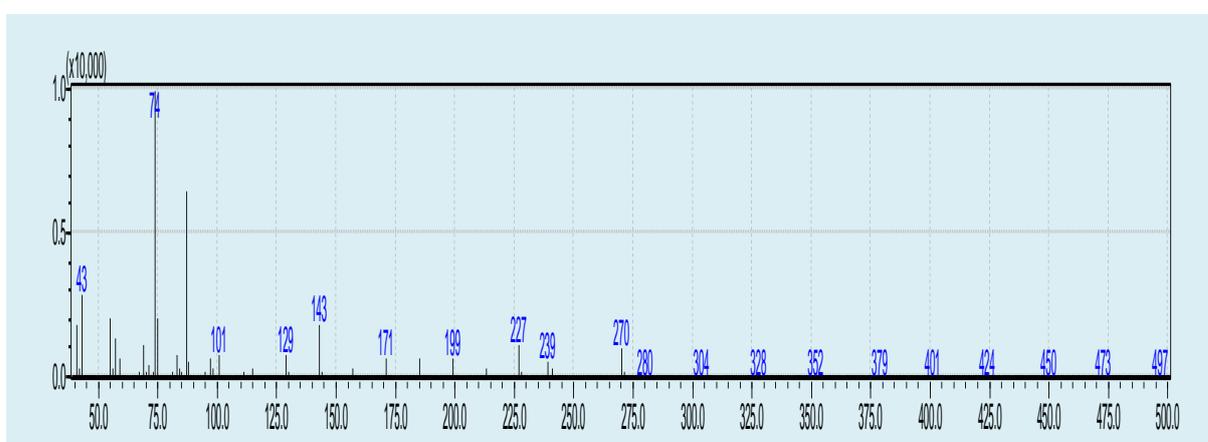


Fig.3.24: Mass spectrum of hexadecanoic acid, methyl ester

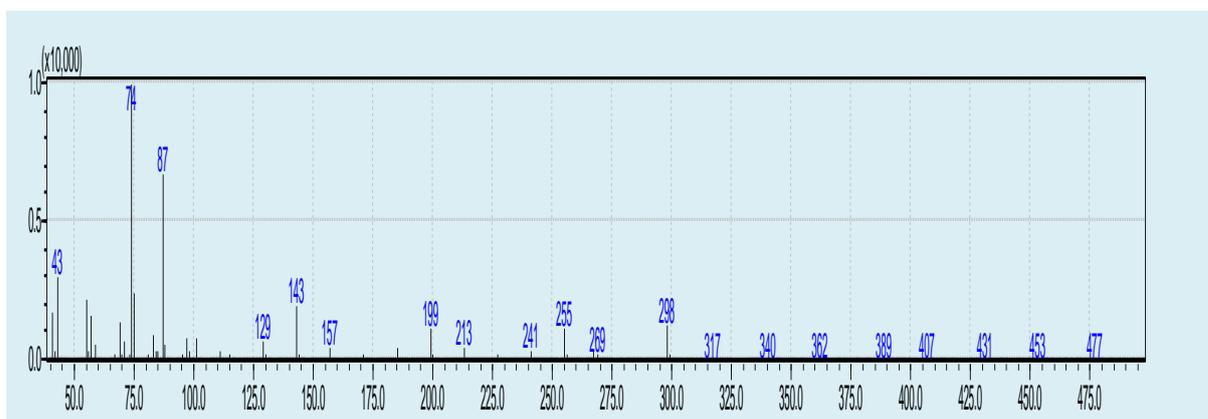


Fig.3.25. methyl stearate

3.5.2 Antimicrobial activity

Kigelia Africana seed oil was evaluated for antimicrobial activity against five standard human pathogens. The results are presented in table 3.12. The oil showed moderate activity against *Staphylococcus*

aureus and *Basillus subtilis*. Ampicilin, gentamicin and clotrimazole were used as positive control, while DMSO was a negative control.

Table 3.12: Inhibition zones (mm/mg sample) of oil

Sample	B.s	S.a	E.c	Ps.a	C.a
Oil 100mg/ml					
<i>Kigelia africana</i>	15	14	12	9	10
	16	15	18	13	13

E.c. *Escherichia coli*, *P.a.* *Pseudomonas aerugenosa*, *S.a.* *Staphylococcus*, *B.s.* *Basillus subtilis*, *C.a.* *Candida albicans*.

(inhibition zone-mm) > 18 mm : very active; 13-18 mm : moderate; 9-12mm : weak

Conclusion

This study was designed to contribute to knowledge in the field of evidence-based complementary medicine. The oils from the seeds of *Cassia sieberiana*, *Acacia seyal*, *Vitex doniana*, *Kigelia Africana* and *Ziziphus spina Christi* have been studied to establish evidence-based uses in folklore medicine. The oils were extracted by maceration with n-hexane and the constituents of the oils have been characterized by the hyphenated technique: GC-MS. Furthermore, the antimicrobial activity of the oils has been evaluated against five standard microbial strain: *Escherichia coli*, *Pseudomonas aeruginosa*, *Staphylococcus*, *Basillus subtilis*, and *Candida albicans*. The studied oils exhibited different antimicrobial responses.

Recommendations

The following future studies are recommended:

- The oils of the studied plants may be evaluated for some pharmacological effects including: antimalarial, antiviral, antidiabetic and antihypertensive activities.
- The bioactive molecules of target species, like steroids, alkaloids and terpenoids may be isolated and their structures elucidated by spectral tools.

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