



UNIVERSITI PUTRA MALAYSIA

**EFFECTS OF UNFERMENTED AND FERMENTED TEA
OF STROBILANTHES CRISPUS ON THE PROLIFERATION OF
DIFFERENT CANCER CELL LINES**

ARNIDA HANI BINTI TEH

FPSK(M) 2006 6

**EFFECTS OF UNFERMENTED AND FERMENTED TEA OF
STROBILANTHES CRISPUS ON THE PROLIFERATION
OF DIFFERENT CANCER CELL LINES**

By

ARNIDA HANI BINTI TEH

**Thesis Submitted to the School of Graduate Studies, Universiti Putra Malaysia, in
Fulfilment of the Requirement for the Degree of Master of Science**

January 2006



Abstract of thesis presented to the Senate of Universiti Putra Malaysia
in fulfilment of the requirement for the degree of Master of Science

**EFFECTS OF UNFERMENTED AND FERMENTED TEA OF
STROBILANTHES CRISPUS ON THE PROLIFERATION
OF DIFFERENT CANCER CELL LINES**

By

ARNIDA HANI BINTI TEH

January 2006

Chairperson : Associate Professor Asmah Rahmat, PhD

Faculty : Medicine and Health Sciences

Strobilanthes crispus ZII 109 (L) Bremek or *Saricocalix crispus* ZII 109 (L) Bremek (Acanthaceae) plant is originated from Indonesia. Nowadays, more variation of teas, other than *Camelia sinensis* tea, are produced and marketed. Since interest has now moved to other 'teas', several experimental tests were carried out in order to fulfill these objectives: to develop fermented and unfermented teas of *Strobilanthes crispus* leaves, to evaluate the sensory qualities, to evaluate the macro and micro nutrient composition, to determine the total phenolics content, and to determine the antiproliferative effects of the prepared samples on several human cancer cell lines, i.e. liver cancer (HepG-2), hormone-dependent breast cancer (MCF-7), non-hormone-dependent breast cancer (MDA-MB-231), ovarian carcinoma (CAOV3) and human

cervical carcinoma cell lines (HeLa). Generally, four different products were developed in this study; fermented *Strobilanthes crispus* tea (young leaves), fermented *Strobilanthes crispus* tea (old leaves), unfermented *Strobilanthes crispus* tea (young leaves), and unfermented *Strobilanthes crispus* tea (old leaves). Overall, the moisture content of all samples do not exceed 10%. Protein and fibre content of the samples are reported lower than the content in the fresh leaves. However these teas provide more carbohydrate and are high in ash levels. Calcium, sodium, potassium, magnesium, cuprum, ferum and iron are trace element present in all samples in various concentrations. Besides, the teas are also good sources of antioxidant vitamins (vitamin A, C and E), which correlate with the possible antioxidant activity. From all samples, fermented *Strobilanthes crispus* tea (old leaves) showed the highest level of vitamin A (β -carotene) value ($2341.30 \pm 38.09 \mu\text{g/g}$ sample), while unfermented *Strobilanthes crispus* tea (old leaves) is rich in vitamin C (ascorbic acid equivalent = $5177.88 \pm 113.96 \mu\text{g/g}$ sample) and vitamin E (α -tocopherol equivalent = $555.91 \pm 77.32 \mu\text{g/g}$ sample). While elemental analysis showed that carbon, oxygen, magnesium, aluminum, silicon, phosphorus, sulfur, chlorine, potassium, and calcium elements are present in all samples studied in various levels. The results might be different from the nutritional composition values because of the different mechanisms and methods of determination. The total phenolics content (ferullic acid equivalent) was found highest

in unfermented *Strobilanthes crispus* tea (old leaves) (40.93583 ± 0.70 mg/g of dried weight in methanol extract and 16.68333 ± 0.53 mg/g of dried weight in water extract). Results from the antiproliferative studies showed that the fermented *Strobilanthes crispus* tea (old leaves) methanol extract, fermented *Strobilanthes crispus* tea (old leaves) water extract, unfermented *Strobilanthes crispus* tea (old leaves) methanol extract and unfermented *Strobilanthes crispus* tea (old leaves) water extract inhibited 50 % of the MCF-7 cell growth with IC₅₀ values = 23.0, 72.5, 63.0 and 80.5 µg/ml respectively, the unfermented *Strobilanthes crispus* tea (old leaves) methanol extract, unfermented *Strobilanthes crispus* tea (old leaves) water extract, fermented *Strobilanthes crispus* tea (young leaves) water extract, and fermented *Strobilanthes crispus* tea (old leaves) methanol extract, inhibited 50 % of the CAOV3 cell growth with IC₅₀ values = 54.12, 57.22, 13.91 and 67.39 µg/ml respectively, while unfermented *Strobilanthes crispus* tea (old leaves) methanol extract and unfermented *Strobilanthes crispus* tea (old leaves) water extract inhibited 50% of the HeLa cell growth with IC₅₀ values = 99.38 and 23.33 µg/ml respectively. On the other hand, sensory evaluation showed that the overall acceptability score was found highest for unfermented *Strobilanthes crispus* tea (old leaves), and this positively related with its ability to inhibit 50% of the proliferation of hormone-dependent breast cancer (MCF-7), ovarian carcinoma cell lines (CAOV3) and human cervical carcinoma cell lines (HeLa) with IC₅₀ values less

than 100 µg/ml. Generally, all the tea infusions were satisfactorily acceptable. Nonetheless, some of the values obtained for the different parameters for *Strobilanthes crispus* teas appear to fall within the range reported for other tea leaves and, in some cases, they are higher. Coupled with favorable amounts of minerals, fiber, vitamins, the various phenolic compounds, and the satisfactorily acceptable taste, colour, flavour and aroma, these teas may present a potential use as an herbal tea worth promoting for commercialization.



Abstrak tesis yang dikemukakan kepada Senat Universiti Putra Malaysia sebagai memenuhi keperluan untuk ijazah Master Sains

KESAN TEH STROBILANTHES CRISPUS KE ATAS PERTUMBUHAN SEL-SEL KANSER BERBEZA

Oleh

ARNIDA HANI BINTI TEH

Januari 2006

Pengerusi : Profesor Madya Asmah Rahmat, PhD

Fakulti : Perubatan dan Sains Kesihatan

Strobilanthes crispus ZII 109 (L) Bremek atau *Saricocalix crispus* ZII 109 (L) Bremek (Acanthaceae) berasal dari Indonesia. Kini, semakin banyak variasi teh selain daripada teh *Camelia sinensis* dihasil dan dipasarkan. Memandangkan tumpuan kini beralih kepada teh-teh jenis lain, beberapa siri ujian telah dijalankan di dalam kajian ini untuk memenuhi objektif-objektif ini; untuk menghasilkan teh hitam dan teh hijau dari daun *Strobilanthes crispus*, untuk menilai kualiti sensori, untuk menilai komposisi mikro dan makro nutrien, untuk menentukan jumlah kandungan fenolik, dan juga untuk menentukan kesan antiproliferasi sampel-sampel ini ke atas pertumbuhan beberapa sel kanser manusia, iaitu sel kanser hati (HepG-2), sel kanser payudara-bergantung-hormon (MCF-7), sel kanser payudara-tidak-bergantung-hormon (MDA-MB-231), sel kanser ovarи (CAOV3) dan sel kanser

serviks (HeLa). Secara umumnya, empat produk yang berbeza telah dihasilkan; teh hitam *Strobilanthes crispus* (daun muda), teh hitam *Strobilanthes crispus* (daun tua), teh hijau *Strobilanthes crispus* (daun muda) dan teh hijau *Strobilanthes crispus* (daun tua). Berdasarkan ujian-ujian yang telah dijalankan, didapati kandungan lembapan di dalam kesemua sampel adalah tidak melebihi 10%. Kandungan protein dan serat pula direkodkan lebih rendah dadipada kandungan di dalam daun segar. Walaubagaimanapun, teh-teh ini mengandungi lebih banyak karbohidrat dan mempunyai kandungan abu yang lebih tinggi berbanding daun segar. Kalsium, sodium, kalium, magnesium, kuprum, ferum dan zat besi adalah elemen-elemen surih yang terdapat di dalam kesemua sampel dengan kepekatan yang berbeza. Selain itu, teh-teh ini juga merupakan sumber vitamin antioksidan (vitamin A, C dan E) yang baik. Daripada kesemua sampel, teh hitam *Strobilanthes crispus* (daun tua) menunjukkan nilai vitamin A (β -karoten) yang tertinggi ($2341.30 \pm 38.09 \mu\text{g/g}$ sampel), manakala teh hijau *Strobilanthes crispus* (daun tua) pula kaya dengan vitamin C (dengan kandungan asid askorbik = $5177.88 \pm 113.96 \mu\text{g/g}$ sampel) dan vitamin E (α -tokoferol = $555.91 \pm 77.32 \mu\text{g/g}$ sampel). Sementara analisis elemen menunjukkan bahawa elemen-elemen karbon, oksigen, magnesium, aluminium, silikon, fosforus, sulfur, klorin, kalium dan kalsium wujud di dalam sampel-sampel yang dikaji dengan nilai-nilai yang berbeza. Jumlah kandungan fenolik (asid ferrulik) adalah paling

tinggi di dalam teh hijau *Strobilanthes crispus* (daun tua) (40.93583 ± 0.70 mg/g berat kering di dalam ekstrak methanol dan 16.68333 ± 0.53 mg/g berat kering di dalam ekstrak air). Kajian antiproliferasi pula menunjukkan; ekstrak metanol teh hitam *Strobilanthes crispus* (daun tua), ekstrak air teh hitam *Strobilanthes crispus* (daun tua), ekstrak metanol teh hijau *Strobilanthes crispus* (daun tua) dan ekstrak air teh hijau *Strobilanthes crispus* (daun tua) merencat 50% pertumbuhan sel MCF-7 dengan nilai $IC_{50} = 23.0, 72.5, 63.0$ dan $80.5 \mu\text{g/ml}$ secara berturutan, manakala ekstrak metanol teh hijau *Strobilanthes crispus* (daun tua), ekstrak air teh hijau *Strobilanthes crispus* (daun tua), ekstrak air teh hitam *Strobilanthes crispus* (daun muda), dan ekstrak metanol teh hitam *Strobilanthes crispus* (daun tua) mampu merencat 50% pertumbuhan sel CAOV3 dengan nilai $IC_{50} = 54.12, 57.22, 13.91$ dan $67.39 \mu\text{g/ml}$ secara berturutan, sementara ekstrak metanol teh hijau *Strobilanthes crispus* (daun tua) dan ekstrak air teh hijau *Strobilanthes crispus* (daun tua) merencat 50% pertumbuhan sel HeLa dengan nilai $IC_{50} = 99.38$ dan $23.33 \mu\text{g/ml}$ secara berturutan. Penilaian sensori pula menunjukkan skor penerimaan keseluruhan terhadap teh hijau *Strobilanthes crispus* (daun tua) adalah yang paling tinggi, dan ini sejajar dengan keupayaannya dalam merencat sel-sel kanser MCF-7, CAOV3 dan HeLa dengan nilai IC_{50} kurang daripada $100 \mu\text{g/ml}$. Secara keseluruhannya, penerimaan terhadap kesemua teh adalah memuaskan. Secara umumnya, nilai-nilai yang didapati bagi teh

Strobilanthes crispus untuk parameter-parameter yang berbeza adalah di dalam julat yang lebih kurang sama dengan teh *Camellia sinensis*, malahan lebih tinggi bagi sesetengah kes. Berdasarkan kandungan mineral, serat, vitamin, kandungan kompaun fenolik, dan juga peberimaan yang memuaskan terhadap rasa, warna dan aroma, teh-teh ini mempunyai potensi untuk dikomersialkan.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

All praise to the Almighty Allah for giving me the utmost spirit, courage, patience and good health throughout this research project and made this dissertation possible and successfully completed. A couple of years has gone conducting this research and writing the report. I am grateful to a number of people who have assisted me in this arduous but fruitful task.

My most sincere gratitude goes to my dear supervisor, Associate Prof. Dr. Asmah Rahmat, who always inspires, encourages and guides me throughout this research and is devoted in teaching me the way of developing a good piece of research. I would like to express my special thanks to my co-supervisors, Associate Prof. Dr. Fauziah Othman and Puan Normah Hashim for the guidance, ideas, advice, patience and the time spent for helping me in this project. It really was a great and unforgettable experience to run this research under their supervision.

My special appreciation goes to the staff of Faculty of Medicine and Health Sciences, University Putra Malaysia (Pn. Che Maznah, En. Simon and Pn. Siti Muskinah), and Electron Microscopy Unit, Institute of Bioscience (En. Sazali, En. Rafi, Pn. Faridah, Pn. Noorani and Cik Azilah) for their assistance and guidance in various ways in my

laboratory works. I would also like to appreciate my beloved parents and family for their love and support. Last but not least, I wish to thank all of my dear friends and colleagues.

Many other kind people have contributed to this study in various important ways. As the time passes by, they are just too numerous to identify individually. However I am grateful for their help and wish to thank them all.



TABLE OF CONTENTS

	Page
ABSTRACT	ii
ABSTRAK	vi
ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS	x
APPROVAL	xii
DECLARATION	xiv
LIST OF TABLES	xviii
LIST OF FIGURES	xx
LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS	xxii
 CHAPTER	
1 INTRODUCTION	1
2 LITERATURE REVIEW	8
2.1 <i>Strobilanthes crispus</i>	8
2.2 Herbal Tea	12
2.3 Other Herbal Teas	16
2.4 Carcinogenesis	17
2.5 Effects of Tea on Different Types of Cancers	20
2.5.1 Liver Cancer	22
2.5.2 Breast Cancer	25
2.5.3 Ovarian Cancer	30
2.5.4 Cervical cancer	32
2.6 Cancer and Diet	34
2.7 Phenolic Compounds	36
2.8 Vitamin A	38
2.9 Vitamin C	41
2.10 Vitamin E	44
3 MATERIALS AND METHODS	47
3.1 Plant Materials	47
3.2 Tea Processing	49
3.2.1 Preparation of Fermented <i>Strobilanthes crispus</i> Tea	49
3.2.2 Preparation of Unfermented	

	<i>Strobilanthes crispus</i> Tea	50
3.3	Macro and Micronutrient Composition of Fermented and Unfermented <i>Strobilanthes crispus</i> Teas	51
3.3.1	Proximate Analysis	51
3.3.1.1	Moisture Content Determination	51
3.3.1.2	Total Ash Content Determination	52
3.3.1.3	Carbohydrate Content Determination	52
3.3.1.3.1	Extraction	53
3.3.1.3.2	Procedure	53
3.3.1.4	Protein Content Determination	54
3.3.1.5	Fat Determination Using The Soxhlet Apparatus	54
3.3.1.6	Crude Fibre Determination	55
3.3.2	Minerals Determination	55
3.3.3	Elemental Analysis	56
3.3.4	Vitamins Determination	57
3.3.4.1	Vitamin A Determination	57
3.3.4.2	Vitamin C Determination	58
3.3.4.2.1	Materials	58
3.3.4.2.2	Method	58
3.3.4.3	Vitamin E Determination	59
3.3.4.3.1	Materials	59
3.3.4.3.2	Method	59
3.4	Determination of Total Phenolics Content of Fermented and Unfermented <i>Strobilanthes crispus</i> Teas Extraction Of The Leaves	60
3.4.1	Materials	60
3.4.2	Method	60
3.5	Antiproliferative Studies	61
3.5.1	Exrtraction	61
3.5.1.1	Methanol Extraction	61
3.5.1.2	Water Extraction	61
3.5.2	Cell Culturing	62
3.5.2.1	Liver Cancer (HepG-2) Cell Line	62
3.5.2.2	Hormone-Dependent Breast Cancer (MCF-7) Cell Line	62
3.5.2.3	Non-Hormone-Dependent Breast Cancer (MDA-MB-231)	63
3.5.2.4	Ovarian Carcinoma Cell Lines (CAOV3) Cell Line	63
3.5.2.5	Human Cervical Carcinoma (HeLa) Cell Lines	63
3.5.3	MTT Assay	64

3.6	Sensory Evaluation	65
	3.6.1 Basic Taste Recognition	65
	3.6.2 Sensory Evaluation	65
3.7	Data Analysis	66
4	RESULTS AND DISCUSSION	67
4.1	Product	67
	4.1.1 Fermented <i>Strobilanthes crispus</i> Tea	67
	4.1.2 Unfermented <i>Strobilanthes crispus</i> Tea	69
4.2	Macro and Micronutrient Composition of Fermented and Unfermented <i>Strobilanthes</i> <i>crispus</i> Teas	70
	4.2.1 Nutritional Composition	70
	4.2.2 Elemental Analysis	77
4.3	Determination of Total Phenolics Content of Fermented and Unfermented <i>Strobilanthes</i> <i>crispus</i> Teas	79
4.4	Antiproliferative Studies	84
	4.4.1 Liver Cancer (HepG-2) Cell Line	84
	4.4.2 Hormone-Dependent Breast Cancer (MCF-7) Cell Line	89
	4.4.3 Non-Hormone-Dependent Breast Cancer (MDA-MB-231)	94
	4.4.4 Ovarian Carcinoma Cell Lines (CAOV3) Cell Line	98
	4.4.5 Human Cervical Carcinoma (HeLa) Cell Lines	103
4.5	Sensory Evaluation	109
5	CONCLUSION AND SUGGESTION	112
BIBLIOGRAPHY		116
APPENDICES		A1
BIODATA OF THE AUTHOR		B1
PUBLICATION		P1

LIST OF TABLES

Table		Page
1	A comparison of the nutritional composition (proximate analysis) of <i>Strobilanthes crispus</i> leaves, fermented <i>Strobilanthes crispus</i> tea (young and old leaves), unfermented <i>Strobilanthes crispus</i> tea (young and old leaves), green and black teas	74
2	A comparison of the minerals content of <i>Strobilanthes crispus</i> leaves, fermented <i>Strobilanthes crispus</i> tea (young and old leaves), unfermented <i>Strobilanthes crispus</i> tea (young and old leaves), green and black teas	75
3	A comparison of the vitamins (A, C and E) content of <i>Strobilanthes crispus</i> leaves, fermented <i>Strobilanthes crispus</i> tea (young and old leaves), unfermented <i>Strobilanthes crispus</i> tea (young and old leaves), green and black teas	76
4	Elemental analysis of <i>Strobilanthes crispus</i> leaves, fermented <i>Strobilanthes crispus</i> tea (young and old leaves), and unfermented <i>Strobilanthes crispus</i> tea (young and old leaves)	78
5	A comparison of the antioxidant activity and ferulic acid equivalent of methanolic extracts of <i>Strobilanthes crispus</i> leaves, fermented <i>Strobilanthes crispus</i> tea (young and old leaves), unfermented <i>Strobilanthes crispus</i> tea (young and old leaves), green and black teas	82
6	A comparison of the antioxidant activity and ferulic acid equivalent of water extracts of <i>Strobilanthes crispus</i> leaves, fermented <i>Strobilanthes crispus</i> tea (young and old leaves), unfermented <i>Strobilanthes crispus</i> tea (young and old leaves), green and black teas	83
7	The IC ₅₀ value <i>Strobilanthes crispus</i> teas extract on liver cancer (HepG-2) cell line	88

8	The IC ₅₀ value <i>Strobilanthes crispus</i> teas extract on hormone-dependent breast cancer (MCF-7) cell line	93
9	The IC ₅₀ value <i>Strobilanthes crispus</i> teas extract on non-hormone-dependent breast cancer (MDA-MB-231) cell line	97
10	The IC ₅₀ value <i>Strobilanthes crispus</i> teas extract on ovarian carcinoma cell lines (CAOV3)	102
11	The IC ₅₀ value <i>Strobilanthes crispus</i> teas extract on human cervical carcinoma (HeLa) cell line	107
12	Sensory attributes of fermented <i>Strobilanthes crispus</i> tea (young and old leaves) and unfermented <i>Strobilanthes crispus</i> tea (young and old leaves)	111

LIST OF FIGURES

Figure		Page
1	<i>Strobilanthes crispus</i> leaves	8
2	Micrograph of the low and high density of human liver cancer cell line (HepG-2) population	25
3	Micrograph of the low and high density of hormone-dependent breast cancer cell line (MCF-7) population	28
4	Micrograph of the low and high density of non-hormone-dependent breast cancer cell line (MDA-MB-231) population	29
5	Micrograph of the low and high density of ovarian carcinoma	31
6	Micrograph of the low and high density of human cervical carcinoma cell line (HeLa) population	34
7	Chemical structures of common dietary carotenoids	40
8	<i>Strobilanthes crispus</i> young leaves	48
9	<i>Strobilanthes crispus</i> young leaves	48
10	Nine point scale	66
11	Fermented <i>Strobilanthes crispus</i> Tea (young leaves)	68
12	Fermented <i>Strobilanthes crispus</i> Tea (old leaves)	68
13	Unfermented <i>Strobilanthes crispus</i> Tea (young leaves)	69
14	Unfermented <i>Strobilanthes crispus</i> Tea (old leaves)	69
15	The effects of methanol extract of <i>Strobilanthes crispus</i> teas on liver cancer (HepG-2) cell line	86

16	The effects of water extract of <i>Strobilanthes crispus</i> teas on liver cancer (HepG-2) cell line	87
17	The effects of methanol extract of <i>Strobilanthes crispus</i> teas on hormone-dependent breast cancer (MCF-7) cell line	91
18	The effects of water extract of <i>Strobilanthes crispus</i> teas on hormone-dependent breast cancer (MCF-7) cell line	92
19	The effects of methanol extract of <i>Strobilanthes crispus</i> teas on non-hormone-dependent breast cancer (MDA-MB-231) cell line	95
20	The effects of water extract of <i>Strobilanthes crispus</i> teas on non-hormone-dependent breast cancer (MDA-MB-231) cell line	96
21	The effects of methanol extract of <i>Strobilanthes crispus</i> teas on ovarian carcinoma cell lines (CAOV3)	100
22	The effects of water extract of <i>Strobilanthes crispus</i> teas on ovarian carcinoma cell lines (CAOV3)	101
23	The effects of methanol extract of <i>Strobilanthes crispus</i> teas on human cervical carcinoma (HeLa) cell line	105
24	The effects of water extract of <i>Strobilanthes crispus</i> teas on human cervical carcinoma (HeLa) cell line	106
25	Human cervical carcinoma (HeLa) cell line treated with unfermented <i>Strobilanthes crispus</i> tea (old leaves) methanol extract and unfermented <i>Strobilanthes crispus</i> tea (old leaves) water extract	108

LIST OF ABBREVIATION

%	percent
°C	degree Celcius
µg	microgram
µl	microlitre
µm	micrometer
AIDS	acquired immune deficiency syndrome
AOAC	Association of Official Analytical Chemists International
ATCC	American Type Culture Collection
BC	before Christ
CAOV3	ovarian carcinoma
DNA	deoxyribonucleic acid
DEN	diethylnitrosamine
DMSO	dimethylsulfoxide
EC	epicatechin
ECG	epigallocatechin
EGC	epicatechin gallate
EGCG	epigallocatechin gallate
g	gram
g	gravity
HCC	hepatocellular carcinoma
HCL	hydrochloric acid

HeLa	human cervical carcinoma
HEC-18	ectocervical cell
HEN-18	immortalized endocervical cell
HEN-18S	serum-adapted HEN-18
HEN-18T	transformed ectocervical cell
HepG-2	liver cancer
HPLC	high performance liquid chromatography
HPV 18	human papillomavirus type 18
i.p.	intraperitoneal
KOH	sodium hydroxide
kV	kilovolt
L	litre
LHRH	leutinizing hormone
MCF-7	hormone-dependent breast cancer
MDA-MB-231	non-hormone-dependent breast cancer
ME180	cervical cancer cell line
mg	miligram
min	minute
ml	mililitre
mm	milimeter
MOH	Ministry of Health
MTT	3-(4,5-dimethylthiazol-2-yl)-2,5-diphenyl tetrazolium bromid

Na ₂ SO ₄	natrium sulfate
nm	nanometer
no	number
OD	optical density
SiHa	cervical cancer cell line
TF-1	theaflavin
TF-2a	theaflavin-3-gallate
TF-2b	theaflavin-3'-gallate
TF-3	theaflavin-3,3'-digallate
TLC	using thin layer chromatography
TMCC-1	cervical cancer cell line
UK	United Kingdom
USA	United State of America
UV	ultra violet