

CHARACTERISATION OF *Edwardsiella tarda*  
ISOLATED FROM LOCAL *Clarias gariepinus*  
AND POTENTIAL REMEDIES FROM  
EDIBLE PLANTS

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DOCTOR OF PHILOSOPHY  
UNIVERSITI MALAYSIA TERENGGANU  
MALAYSIA

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Perpustakaan Sultanah Nur Zahirah  
Universiti Malaysia Terengganu (UMT)



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Calrias gariepinus and potential remedies from edible plants /  
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**HAK MILIK**  
**PERPUSTAKAAN SULTANAH NUR ZAHIRAH UMT**

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Abstract of thesis presented to the Senate of Universiti Malaya, Terengganu in fulfillment of the requirement for the Degree of Doctoral of Philosophy

CHARACTERISATION OF *Edwardsiella ictali* ISOLATED FROM LOCAL *Clarias gariepinus* AND POTENTIAL REMEDIES FROM EDIBLE PLANTS

LEE BEONG WEI

May 2009

Chairperson : Associate Professor Najiah Muzi, Ph.D.  
Member : Cheah Joo Sang, Ph.D.  
Professor Nur Azhar Mohd. Shariff, Ph.D.  
Faculty : Agronomy and Food Science

This study characterized 7 isolates of *Edwardsiella ictali* from African catfish, *Clarias fuscus* (Peters) and *Clarias macrochela* (Peters) of 29 catfish farms in Terengganu, Malaysia. The isolates were identified by polymerase chain reaction (PCR) using specific primers designed using the *E. ictali* genome sequence. Characterisation of whole cell protein profiles of the isolates were also carried out using sodium dodecyl sulfate polyacrylamide gel electrophoresis (SDS-PAGE). In the present study, minimum inhibitory concentration (MIC) values in 20 edible plant extracts against *E. ictali* were determined through a two fold microdilution technique. *In vivo* test was carried out to investigate the efficacy of antibiotics (kanamycin and trimethoprim) and edible plant extracts (*Citrus microcarpa* and *Allium sativum*) in terms of palatability of medicated feed, growth rate of catfish and survival rate of catfish infected with *E. ictali*. Bio-active compound from *C. microcarpa* extract that possess antimicrobial property against the tested bacteria was also isolated through thin layer chromatography (TLC) and identified using proton nuclear magnetic resonance (<sup>1</sup>H-NMR), correlation spectroscopy (COSY), carbon nuclear magnetic

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**CHARACTERISATION OF *Edwardsiella tarda* ISOLATED FROM LOCAL *Clarias gariepinus* AND POTENTIAL REMEDIES FROM EDIBLE PLANTS**

**LEE SEONG WEI**

**May 2009**

**Chairperson :** Associate Professor Najiah Musa, Ph.D.  
**Member :** Chuah Tse Seng, Ph.D.  
Professor Noor Azhar Mohd. Shazili, Ph.D.  
**Faculty :** Agrotechnology and Food Science

This study characterised 7 isolates of *Edwardsiella tarda* from African catfish, *Clarias gariepinus*. The isolated *E. tarda* were identified using a combination of 29 conventional tests and commercial kit. Random amplification of polymorphic DNA – polymerase chain reaction (RAPD PCR) analysis was done on these bacterial isolates using three universal primers, namely WTP, (GTG)<sub>5</sub> and M13 universal. Characterisation of whole cell protein profiles of the isolates were also carried out using sodium dodecyl sulfate polyacrylamide gel electrophoresis (SDS-PAGE). In the present study, minimum inhibitory concentration (MIC) values of 20 edible plant extracts against *E. tarda* were determined through a two fold microdilution technique. *In vivo* test was carried out to investigate the efficacy of antibiotics (kanamycin and furazolidone) and edible plant extracts (*Citrus microcarpa* and *Allium sativum*) in terms of palatability of medicated feed, growth rate of catfish and survival rate of catfish infected with *E. tarda*. Bioactive compound from *C. microcarpa* extract that possess antimicrobial property against the tested bacteria was also isolated through thin layer chromatography (TLC) and identified using proton nuclear magnetic resonance (<sup>1</sup>HNMR), correlation spectrometry (COSY), carbon nuclear magnetic

resonance ( $^{13}\text{C}$ NMR), and heteronuclear multiple bond correlation (HMBC) tests. Results showed that the percentage of similarity of phenotype among bacterial isolates ranging from 80.8% to 100% whereas in terms of similarity of RAPD-PCR profile and genetic distance among *E. tarda* isolates ranging from 27.9 % to 89.4 % and 0.106 to 0.721, respectively. The whole cell protein profiling of bacterial isolates showed percentage similarity ranging from 46.2 % to 100 %. In addition, whole cell protein profiling could discriminate the bacterial isolates based on their origins either wild or aquaculture sites. Therefore this molecular tool could be used in tracking origins of *E. tarda* infection in fish during disease outbreak. *In vitro* study on antimicrobial property of 20 edible plants indicated that *C. microcarpa*, *C. aurantifolia* and *A. sativum* extracts exhibited a great potential as natural antimicrobial agents for aquaculture use. These plant extracts could inhibit all *E. tarda* isolates. The MIC values of *C. microcarpa* and *C. aurantifolia* against *E. tarda* isolates were as low as 7.8 mg/ml, respectively, whereas the MIC value for *A. sativum* extract was 15.6 mg/ml. *In vivo* study on efficacy of antimicrobial agents showed that the total dosage of *C. microcarpa* needed to increase 0.4 g growth rate per day of African catfish was 3782.84 mg/kg of fish. On the other hand, the concentration of kanamycin (435.90 mg/kg of fish), furazolidone (204.20 mg/kg of fish) and *A. sativum* extract (95090.00 mg/kg of fish) were out of realistic range due to intolerable taste of medicated feed to fish and its toxicity effects to liver and kidney. Kanamycin showed the best result in controlling Edwardsiellosis in African catfish with the total dosage of 56.28 mg/kg of fish in order to increase 70 % of survival rate in African catfish infected with Edwardsiellosis. This was followed by *C. microcarpa* (8755.00 mg/kg of fish) and *A. sativum* extract (16278.67 mg/kg of fish). The concentration for furazolidone (38445.88 mg/kg of fish) was out of



realistic range due to intolerable taste of medicated feed to fish and its toxicity effect to liver and kidney of fish. In the present study, *2-hydroxypropane-1,2,3-tricarboxylic acid* monohydrate was successfully isolated and identified as a major compound in *C. microcarpa* extract that possessed inhibitory activity to *E. tarda* isolates and other bacteria. Therefore, this study has revealed a great potential of *C. microcarpa* extract and *2-hydroxypropane-1,2,3-tricarboxylic acid* as antimicrobial agents for aquaculture use.

Abstrak

Chuan Tee Seng, Ph.D.

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Fakulti

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Kajian ini bertujuan untuk mengenalpasti komponen aktif dalam ekstrak tumbuhan *C. microcarpa* yang mempunyai aktiviti antibakteria terhadap *E. tarda* dan bakteria lain. Analisis kualitatif rawak DNA rekombinan - tindak balas rantai polimerase (RAPD - PCR) telah dijalankan ke atas bakteria dengan menggunakan 7 primer universal yaitu WTA, GTO, dan M13 universal. Pencirian seluruh sel protein bakteria juga telah dijalankan melalui *sodium dodecyl sulfate polyacrylamide gel electrophoresis* (SDS-PAGE). Nilai minimum kepekatan perencaman 20 jenis ekstrak tumbuhan makanan terhadap *E. tarda* ditentukan dengan ujian gandaan dua malar. Potensi *in vitro* keberkesanan antibiotik (amoksisilin dan furazolidone) dan ekstrak tumbuhan makanan (*C. microcarpa* dan *Albizia sarawak*) dan segi tahap keberkesanan terhadap makanan ikan berubah-ubah terhadap dan kadar hidup ikan keli Afrika yang sudah dijangkiti *E. tarda* telah dijalankan. Komponen biokimiawi yang terdapat dalam ekstrak *C. microcarpa* yang mempunyai sifat antimikrobial juga dipecahkan dengan menggunakan kaedah kromatografi lapisan nipis dan dikenalpasti melalui ujian resonans magnet nukleus

Abstrak tesis yang dikemukakan kepada Senat Universiti Malaysia Terengganu sebagai memenuhi keperluan untuk Ijazah Doktor Falsafah

**PENCIRIAN *Edwardsiella tarda* YANG DIPENCIL DARI *Clarias gariepinus* TEMPATAN DAN POTENSI RAWATAN DARI TUMBUHAN MAKANAN**

**LEE SEONG WEI**

**Mei 2009**

**Pengerusi : Profesor Madya Najiah Musa, Ph.D.**

**Ahli : Chuah Tse Seng, Ph.D.  
Profesor Noor Azhar Mohd. Shazili, Ph.D.**

**Fakulti : Agroteknologi dan Sains Makanan**

Kajian ini mengenai pencirian 7 isolat *Edwardsiella tarda* daripada ikan keli Afrika, *Clarias gariepinus*. Pengecaman *E. tarda* telah dijalankan melalui 29 ujian konvensional dan kit komersial. Analisis amplifikasi rawak DNA polimorfik - tindak balas rantaian polimerase (RAPD - PCR) telah dijalankan ke atas bakteria dengan menggunakan 3 primer universal iaitu WTP, (GTG)<sub>5</sub> dan M13 universal. Pencirian seluruh sel protein bakteria juga telah dijalankan melalui *sodium dodecyl sulfate polyacrylamide gel electrophoresis* (SDS-PAGE). Nilai minimum kepekatan perencatan 20 jenis ekstrak tumbuhan makanan terhadap *E. tarda* ditentukan dengan ujian gandaan dua mikro pencairan. Ujian *in vivo* keberkesanan antibiotik (kanamycin dan furazolidone) dan ekstrak tumbuhan makanan (*Citrus microcarpa* dan *Allium sativum*) dari segi tahap keseleraan terhadap makanan ikan berubat, tumbesaran dan kadar hidup ikan keli Afrika yang sudah dijangkiti *E. tarda* telah dijalankan. Kompoun bioaktif yang terdapat dalam ekstrak *C. microcarpa* yang mempunyai sifat antimikrobial juga dipencilkan dengan menggunakan kaedah kromatografik lapisan nipis dan dikenalpasti melalui ujian resonans magnet nukleus



proton, spektrometri kolerasi, resonans magnet nukleus karbon dan *heteronuclear multiple bond correlation* (HMBC). Keputusan kajian ini menunjukkan peratusan kesamaan dari segi ciri-ciri fenotip di antara bakteria adalah dari 80.8 % hingga 100 % manakala peratusan kesamaan profail RAPD PCR dan jarak genetik di antara bakteria dalam kajian ini masing – masing mencatatkan julat dari 27.9 % hingga 89.4 % dan 0.106 hingga 0.721. Dari segi peratusan kesamaan profail seluruh sel protein bakteria mencatatkan julat dari 46.2 % hingga 100 %. Dalam kajian ini, profail seluruh sel protein dapat membezakan *E. tarda* mengikut sumber yang mana ia dipencilkan. Dengan itu, teknik molekular ini boleh digunakan sebagai alat untuk menentukan sumber *E. tarda* (sama ada berasal dari ikan ternakan atau ikan liar) sekira meletusnya penyakit. Kajian secara *in vitro* ke atas aktiviti antimikrobial di antara 20 jenis tumbuhan makanan menunjukkan ekstrak *C. microcarpa*, *C. aurantifolia* dan *A. sativum* mempunyai potensi sebagai agen antimikrobial semulajadi untuk kegunaan dalam bidang akuakultur. Kesemua ekstrak yang diperolehi dari tumbuhan makanan ini boleh merencatkan pertumbuhan semua isolat *E. tarda*. Nilai kepekatan perencatan minimum untuk *C. microcarpa* dan *C. aurantifolia* terhadap *E. tarda* adalah serendah 7.8 mg/ml manakala untuk ekstrak *A. sativum* ialah 15.6 mg/ml. Keputusan *in vivo* menunjukkan jumlah kepekatan ekstrak *C. microcarpa* yang diperlukan untuk meningkat pertumbuhan harian ikan keli Afrika (*C. gariepinus*) sebanyak 0.4 g ialah 3782.84 mg/kg ikan. Manakala kepekatan kanamycin (435.90 mg/kg ikan), furazolidone (204.20 mg/kg ikan) dan ekstrak *A. sativum* (95090.00 mg/kg ikan) yang diperlukan untuk meningkat pertumbuhan harian ikan keli Afrika (*C. gariepinus*) sebanyak 0.4 g adalah tidak realistik disebabkan ketidakseleraan ikan terhadap makanan ikan berubat dan ketoksikan agen antimikrobial terhadap hati dan ginjal ikan. Bagi meningkatkan

kadar hidup ikan keli Afrika yang dijangkiti Edwardsiellosis sebanyak 70 %, jumlah kanamycin diperlukan adalah sebanyak 56.28 mg/kg ikan yang merupakan kepekatan paling rendah berbanding dengan agen antimikrobial yang lain dalam kajian ini. Ini diikuti dengan ekstrak *C. microcarpa* dan *A. sativum* yang masing-masing mencatatkan 8755.00 dan 16278.67 mg/kg ikan. Manakala furazolidone mencatatkan nilai kepekatan sebanyak 38445.88 mg/kg ikan yang merupakan nilai yang tidak realistik disebabkan ketidakseleraan ikan terhadap makanan ikan berubat dan ketoksikan agen antimikrobial terhadap hati dan ginjal ikan. Dalam kajian ini juga mendedahkan *2-hydroxypropane-1,2,3-tricarboxylic acid monohydrate* sebagai komponen yang utama dalam ekstrak *C. microcarpa* yang boleh merencatkan pertumbuhan semua isolat *E. tarda* dan bakteria yang lain. Dengan itu, ekstrak *C. microcarpa* dan *2-hydroxypropane-1,2,3-tricarboxylic acid monohydrate* mempunyai potensi yang besar untuk dijadikan agen antimikrobial bagi kegunaan dalam akuakultur.

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