



## Role of New Nanosized Feed Additives as Inhibitors of Certain Gram-Positive and Gram-Negative Bacteria and as Anti-Mycotoxigenic Agents

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## ABSTRACT

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Recently, because of the world's critical conditions, the development of new feed additives and the creation of non-traditional double-function feed additives are essential and for improving feeds quality by reducing the content of certain bio-contaminants. This study aimed to reduce environmental pollutants and create effective and economical inhibitors of bio-contaminants by evaluating the aptitude of these feed additives such as particles Miswak (*Salvadora persica*), black mulberry leaves, and seaweeds (*Sargassum linifolium* and *Posidonia oceanica*) algae with different concentrations (500 and 1000 µl) and (50 and 100 µl) before and after nanosizing process, respectively, to reduce the growth of certain gram-positive and gram-negative bacteria, such as *Enterobacter cloacae* and *Staphylococcus aureus*, as well as the production of the fungus *Aspergillus flavus* aflatoxin (B1). Our data illustrated that all the tested particles of Miswak, black mulberry leaves, and *Sargassum linifolium* and *Posidonia oceanica* algae possessed antibacterial activity against the tested bacteria, which increased after the nanosizing process, but *S. aureus* was more susceptible to the tested nanosized treatments than *E. cloacae*. Treatments with nanosized Miswak had the greatest inhibitory effect on both tested bacteria, with 96.84% regarding *S. aureus* and 95.185% in the case of *E. cloacae* at a concentration of 50 µl and dilution 10<sup>-6</sup>. The aflatoxin detoxification capabilities of these treatments were tested. *Posidonia oceanica* (P.O.) particles were the best detoxifier agent before and after the nanosizing process, followed by blue mulberry leaves and *S. linifolium* particles. Nanosized treatments, especially *Posidonia oceanica*, an antibacterial and aflatoxin detoxifier agent, are recommended.

**Keywords:** Antimicrobial activities; plant parts and algae nanoparticles; *Enterobacter cloacae* *staphylococcus aureus* *Aspergillus flavus*; AflatoxinB<sub>1</sub>.

## Introduction

*Enterobacter cloacae* is a gram-negative, optionally anaerobic, rod-shaped bacterium that belongs to the ubiquitous Enterobacteriaceae family. Additionally, *E. cloacae* causes many human diseases, such as many nosocomial infections with high resistance to fluoroquinolone<sup>1</sup> Urinary tract infections (U.T.I.s), respiratory infections, soft tissue infections, osteomyelitis, and endocarditis. *Enterobacter* species can be present in water, potatoes, certain foods, soil, human skin surfaces, and sewage,<sup>2</sup> and they have become increasingly important as phytopathogens. For example, *E. cloacae* has been associated with the internal decomposition of onion.<sup>3</sup>

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In addition, other species of this complex of *E. cloacae* have been reported to cause mulberry, alfalfa seeds, and cassava.<sup>4,5,6</sup> as well as,

potato soft rot in Egypt.<sup>7</sup> *Staphylococcus aureus* is a major commensally opportunistic mammalian pathogen and one of the most dangerous human pathogenic staphylococcal species.<sup>8</sup> It invades animal and human skin and mucosal membranes and causes fatal infectious diseases in a plethora of animal hosts. This is harmful to animals' health and can serve as a reservoir for the human *staphylococcus* bacteria.<sup>9</sup>

Fungal secondary metabolites called aflatoxins, one of certain *Aspergilli* that commonly occur in food and feed and pose a health risk to consumers.<sup>10, 11</sup> Food and feed processing and suitable storage conditions can further reduce mycotoxin levels by physical removal and decontamination by chemical or enzymatic transformation of mycotoxins into less toxic products.<sup>12</sup> Plants are natural sources of antibacterial and antifungal agents, and the carbohydrate composition, total phenolic content and in vitro antioxidant activities of fruits and leaves of many mulberry species have been studied.<sup>13</sup> The total phenolic content was reported to be the highest in black and red mulberry leaves. It may exhibit good nutritive and antioxidant activity in all varieties.<sup>14</sup> Miswak (*Salvadora persica*) is frequently taken from the Arak tree's roots also, and some sticks collected from El-Minia governorate, Egypt, are made extracts from its twigs and stem.<sup>15</sup> The beneficial effects of Miswak on oral hygiene and dental health are partially due to its mechanical action and mainly due to its pharmacologic action and chemical constituents.<sup>16</sup> The biological effects (antibacterial and antifungal) of *Salvadora persica* are due to

its high total phenolic and flavonoid contents and its effective antioxidant activity.<sup>17,15</sup>

Conversely, marine algae contain a large range of secondary bioactive metabolites, such as alkaloids, polyketides, cyclic peptides, polysaccharides, phloro-tannins, diterpenoids, sterols, quinones, and glycerol-lipids, as antimicrobial agents; moreover, marine algae are considered a new source of bioactive compounds for drug production.<sup>18,19</sup> Many bioactive components in algae inhibit the growth of some gram-positive and gram-negative pathogenic bacteria.<sup>20</sup> The brown algae *Sargassum linifolium* is a marine macroalgae (Phaeophyta) considered the second most common group of seaweed.<sup>21</sup> This alga produces diverse polysaccharides with

valuable biological activities.<sup>22</sup> The extract of *Sargassum* spp. was reported to minimize spectrum toxicity in rats.<sup>23</sup> *Posidonia Oceanica* is a green algae ball that pollutes Egyptian beaches and is of great interest for polluting the Mediterranean Sea.<sup>24</sup> *Posidonia oceanica* (Po) extract has a high total phenolic content. *P. Oceanica* has antifungal and antibacterial activities.<sup>25</sup> Copper (Cu) is a trace element necessary for biological utility and essential to the functional immune system while supplemental copper added to pig diets can enhance daily growth and feed conversion ratio in addition to reducing microcytic hypochromic anaemia.<sup>26</sup> Table (1) summarizes the importance of copper as a feed supplement in several animal species.

**Table 1:** Total copper requirements per ppm dry matter of complete feed for ruminants, broiler chickens and rabbits according to E.U. Feed Industry recommendations.

Species	Categories	Total Cu requirements in	References
Ruminants:	Calve	15	N.R.C. (National Research Council), (2007a)
Bovine	Dairy Cows	35	
	Cows for reproduction	35	
	Cattle	30-35	
Caprine	Dairy goats	10-25	
	Goats for reproduction	10-25	
Ovine	Dairy sheep	15	Ojo <i>et al.</i> , (2009)
Broiler chickens	Chickens from 1 to14 days age	126	Tumová <i>et al.</i> , (2002)
	Chickens from 15 to 41day	35	
	Rabbits	30	Li <i>et al.</i> , (2021)

Over the past two decades, nanoscience has advanced dramatically and found utility in various industries, including biomedical and agricultural.<sup>27</sup> Inorganic nanoparticles have shown great structural flexibility and functionality and have been applied in pharmaceutical applications for the treatment of diseases and for targeted delivery.<sup>28,29</sup> Among most inorganic nanoparticles, copper nanoparticle (CuNP) antiseptics show a wide spectrum of activity, and their microbial resistance is much less than antibiotics.<sup>30</sup> Chemical precipitation processes usually produce these sustainable (CuNPs) nanoparticles.<sup>31</sup> The antibacterial properties of silver have been known for more than 100 years, and it is used in treatments.<sup>32</sup> Copper nanoparticles (CuNPs) can interact with the organelles of microorganisms and with thiol groups in enzymes and proteins,<sup>29,33</sup> which leads to the accumulation of copper in vacuoles and cell walls as granules and inhibits microorganism growth.<sup>34</sup> CuNPs have greater bactericidal activity due to their larger surface area, which results in synergistic effects that exert antibacterial activity.<sup>35,36</sup> These nanoparticles disrupt bacterial membranes, increase cell permeability, and prevent cell division, resulting in cell death. Moreover, it interacts with bacterial membrane proteins, phospholipids, lipoproteins and lipoteichoic acids. It reduces their colonization and surface adhesion.<sup>34</sup> Cu ions and Cu nanoparticles are considered high antibacterial agents against a wide range of bacteria, including *Escherichia coli*, *Salmonella enterica*, *Staphylococcus aureus* and *Listeria monocytogenes*, and it is considered an essential nontoxic metal for human health.<sup>37</sup> The goal of this study was to determine the antibacterial activity of certain plant parts and alga extracts in reducing the growth of *E. cloacae* and *S. aureus*, and to study the effects of these extracts as antifungal and anti-mycotoxigenic agents on reducing the growth and the amount of aflatoxin produced by *Aspergillus flavus*. This research also sought to ascertain the function of the nanosizing of certain plant parts and algae using copper sulphate, which is usually added to rumen feed,<sup>38</sup> to inhibit these tested bacteria and fungi and to compare the efficacies of these processes. On the other hand, our study focused on determining the phytochemical properties and proximate analysis of these plant parts and minimizing seacoast waste during mining by recycling and reusing this *P. oceanica* biomass waste as a feed additive.

## Materials and Methods

### Bacterial strains used

The *Enterobacter cloacae* strain *Enk1* (accession: LT592256) and *Staphylococcus aureus* strain ATCC 29213 were obtained from Department of Microbiology, Faculty of Agriculture, Alexandria University, Egypt. The *Aspergillus flavus* strain NRRL3357 obtained from the National Research Centre, Dokki, Cairo (CAICC), Egypt.

### Testing the ability of the isolate to produce aflatoxin (confirmatory test)

To ensure the accuracy of our findings, we meticulously confirmed the ability of the *A. flavus* isolate to produce mycotoxins. The fungal strain was carefully grown on 'Yes' medium and tested using the precise agar plug method. Subsequently, an HPLC apparatus was used, following the established protocols of<sup>39,40</sup>. As we have observed, this rigorous process ensures that aflatoxins can be produced in isolation.

### Preparation of plant parts and other materials

Miswak (*Salvadora persica*) stems samples were collected from fences located 35 kilometers from the city of Sharm El Sheikh, which represents a natural fence around an area to stabilize sand dunes, on May 2021 Figure (1, A). Seagrass balls of *Posidonia Oceanica* were collected from agglomerated balls on the polluted western coast of Rocky Bay of Abu Qir, Alexandria, Egypt (longitudes 30°05'- 30°22' E and latitudes 31°16'- 31°21' N), during spring 2021 Figure (1, B). Alexandria black mulberry fresh leaves were collected from Antoniadis Station, Alexandria, Egypt (Latitude: 31° 11' 1.20" N Longitude: 29° 56' 33.59" E). Liophylized brown algae (*Sargassum linifolium*) were purchased from the National Institute of Oceanography and Fisheries, NIOF, Egypt, Faculty of Sciences, Alexandria University Figure (1, C). All plant parts were gently washed with sterilized water, surface sprayed with 20 g each of 70% alcohol, and oven-dried for 72 hrs. at 40 °C to prevent degradation of all their active ingredients.<sup>41,42,43</sup> The sterilized pieces were finely ground after sterilization and kept at 4 °C for further analysis. 20 mL of ethanol was added for each 6 g plant leaves and kept in the dark for 16 h, then blended in a sterilized blender. Afterward, the mixture was filtered and, kept in sterilized bottles at -4°C until their use for further analysis.

### Preparation of plant parts and other materials

Leaf samples, *P. oceanica* balls (P.O.) and Miswak sticks (M) were surface sterilized using 70% alcohol spray, cut into small pieces and oven-dried at 40 °C to avoid any degradation of active components.<sup>44</sup> After drying, the samples were ground into fine powder using a sterilized electric grinder.

### Proximate analysis

The proximate nutritional composition of the plant samples used, including moisture, crude protein content, ash, crude fat, and crude fibre contents, was determined using NIRS according to.<sup>45,46</sup> The proximate composition of the tested samples was determined at Protein Lab RCFE (Abees Branch) using a Foss NIRs TW DA1650 instrument (Serial No 91758059 Denmark). The total carbohydrate content was estimated using NIRS according to.<sup>47</sup>

### Determination of the total phenolic content, total flavonoids, and antioxidant activity of the tested plant parts

The plant samples' total phenolic and flavonoid contents were spectrophotometrically assayed at the EL-Shatby Agriculture Faculty Central Lab according to.<sup>48,49</sup> The spectrophotometric method is less expensive and faster than other analytical chromatographic techniques, as measured spectrophotometrically by the Folin–Ciocalteu colorimetric method, using gallic acid as an equivalent (G.A.E.) per gram of sample. The absorbance of phenolic compounds was also tested and analyzed as whole spectra because it is more accurate than estimation based on absorption at single wavelengths, samples were analyzed in three replications.<sup>50</sup> The total phenolic content was determined with the help of a standard curve prepared from a pure phenolic standard (gallic acid).

### Determination of total flavonoid content (TFC)

The determination of flavonoids in the tested plant extracts was carried out after complexation with aluminium chloride according to.<sup>51,52</sup> Briefly, 0.5 ml of each plant extract and standard solution (0.01–1.0 mg/ml) were mixed with 2 ml of distilled water, followed by the addition of 0.15 ml of sodium nitrite (5% NaNO<sub>2</sub> w/v) solution. After 6 minutes, 0.15 ml of 10% AlCl<sub>3</sub>(w/v) solution was added. The reaction time and AlCl<sub>3</sub> concentration were 2.5–7.5%. Six minutes later, 2 ml of sodium hydroxide (4% NaOH, w/v) were added. The final volume was adjusted to 5 ml with the immediate addition of distilled water, and the samples were homogenized thoroughly via direct dilution. The absorbance of each mixture was determined as mg equivalent per gram of sample at 510 nm. All analyses of all samples were performed in triplicate.

### Determination of the antioxidant activity

The antioxidant activity was estimated according to.<sup>53,54</sup> using DPPH radical scavenging ability. The 2,2-diphenyl-1-picrylhydrazyl (DPPH) radical is a stable purple free radical that reacts with a hydrogen donor obtained from Sigma–Aldrich (Egyptian Bureau). DPPH was used to test the antioxidant activity, and the capacities of the extracts to scavenge free radicals were determined as described by.<sup>55,56</sup>

The calculation equation was:  $(DPPH) \% = [(Ab - Abs) / Ab] \times 100$

where *Ab* is the blank absorbance value, and *Abs* is the sample absorbance value.

Gas Chromatography–Mass spectrometry analysis using a G.C. (Agilent Technology 7890A) coupled with a mass selective detector (M.S.D., Agilent 7000TripleQuad) equipped with an Agilent HP-5ms capillary column T.G.–SMS (30 m × 0.25 mm × 0.25 μm film thickness) was performed as previously described by.<sup>54,57</sup>

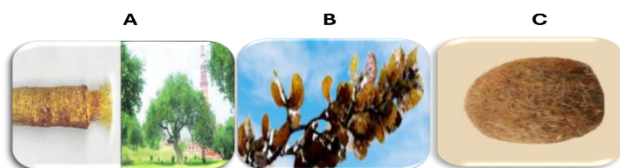


Figure 1. (A) Miswak (*Salvadora persica*) (B) Sea grass ball of *Posidonia Oceanica* (C) Brown algae (*Sargassum linifolium*)

### Green Biosynthesis of CuNPs

#### Preparation of chemicals and reagents

Copper sulphate pentahydrate (CuSO<sub>4</sub> 5H<sub>2</sub>O) was purchased from Sigma–Aldrich, Egypt Bureau. Double deionized and distilled water were obtained from the Central Laboratory of Agriculture Faculty, El Shatby, Alexandria University.

#### Preparation of plant parts and plant byproducts

Small pieces of plant samples were washed with distilled water, oven-dried at 40 °C, ground in a sterilized electric grinder and dropped into 100 ml of double deionized water in a 250 ml glass beaker at 80 °C for 10 min. An ultrasound sonicator was used to disturb and destroy plant cell walls according to,<sup>58</sup> which improved and augmented the ability of the water to penetrate the cells and obtained a high-quality compound extraction yield. Afterwards, the extract was filtered through Whatman No. 41 filter paper to obtain aqueous plant extracts, which were frozen.

#### Biosynthesis of CuNPs

Plant sample aqueous extracts (100 ml) were gently mixed with 4 g of CuSO<sub>4</sub> 5H<sub>2</sub>O using magnetic stirring at room temperature (25 °C) for 4 h.<sup>59</sup> The conversion of the blue color, which is characteristic of copper sulphate pentahydrate, changed to a brown color within 10–15 minutes, indicating the formation of CuNPs due to the reduction of copper ions from Cu (II) ions to Cu.<sup>35</sup> The clear supernatant of the samples was obtained by centrifugation at 3000 rpm for 10 min at room temperature. The obtained copper nanoparticles were dried in an oven at 80–90 °C for 4 h for further analysis.

#### Characterization of the CuNPs

Determination of the structure of the synthesized CuNPs and the distribution of these nanoparticles was confirmed by using ultrasonic liquid processing (U.L.P.) (BANDELIN, German, 20 kHz), which involved direct immersion in the reaction solution for 5 min at room temperature. The surface of the prepared CuNPs was studied via a Fourier transform spectrophotometer, and the morphology and size distribution of the CuNPs were investigated via transmission electron microscopy.<sup>60</sup>

#### Fourier transform infrared (FTIR) Spectroscopy

The chemical constituents responsible for the reduction of the synthesized CuNPs were studied by using FT-IR spectroscopy. FTIR analysis was performed using Bruker Tensor 37 (Germany). Fourier transform infrared (FT-IR) spectroscopy was performed in the range of 3500–500 cm<sup>-1</sup>, and all the measurements were recorded in transmittance (T%) mode at room temperature.<sup>61</sup>

#### Transmission electron microscopy (T.E.M.)

The surface morphology and size of the synthesized CuNPs were analyzed via transmission electron microscopy (JEM-1400Plus-Japan).<sup>62</sup> The test was carried out by dispersing the samples in an ethanol solution through sonication for 15 min and centrifuging for 10 min at 10000 rpm. Drops of the green synthesized CuNPs were poured onto carbon-coated gold grids and then left to dry naturally. A size distribution histogram was obtained by using Nano Measurer Software.<sup>27</sup>

#### Bacterial Culture Activation (Bacterial Experiment)

Each bacterial strain was activated in brain-heart broth for 24 h and incubated at 25 °C. After incubation, the bacterial cultures were harvested individually by centrifugation at 600 rpm for 10 min and then washed twice with phosphate buffer. The turbidity was adjusted (with a spectrophotometer) to an optical density (O.D.) of 0.85 at 600 nm. A total of 200 μl of the cell suspension of each bacterial strain was inoculated into nutrient agar and incubated at 25 °C for 48 h with *Staphylococcus aureus* according to.<sup>42</sup> and with the *Enterobacter cloacae* standard method using serial dilutions according to.<sup>63,64</sup> The plate counts were recorded as serial dilutions. A bacterial treatment experiment was performed before and after the nanosizing process with the following treatment concentrations: 500 and 1000 μl before the nanosizing process and 50 and 100 μl after the nanosizing process.

*Preparation of fungal broth (Aspergillus flavus experiment)*

Thirty-nine 250 ml conical flasks were each filled with 100 ml (yeast extract and sucrose) broth medium and then inoculated with 4 mm of *A. flavus* inoculum. Treatment concentrations were 500 and 1000 microlitres for non-nanosized plant extracts and 50 and 100 microlitres for nanosized plant extracts. Each treatment was repeated, and the plants in the control group were kept in an incubator at 30 °C for fifteen days. The fungal mass was gently removed, and the sample was oven-dried for 72 h at 70 °C and then weighed. Aflatoxin levels were estimated in all nontreated and in both treated non-nanosized and nanosized fungal treatments.

*Statistical analysis*

The statistical analyses were carried out using the CoStat program, version 6.303, according to<sup>65</sup> and the analysis of variance technique (CoHort software, Monterey, C.A., U.S.A.). The phytochemical property and proximate analysis data are presented as the mean  $\pm$  standard deviation (L.S.D<sub>0.05</sub>), and the values were considered statistically significant when  $p \leq 0.05$ .

**Results and Discussion***Phytochemical analysis of the tested treatments*

The total phenolic and flavonoid contents in the plant samples were spectrophotometrically measured at the El-Shatby Agriculture Faculty Central Lab according to.<sup>48,51</sup>

Table (2) shows that the brown algae *S. linifolium* was the richest plant material tested in this study, with a flavonoid content of 211g/ml and TPC of 329.82 mg GAEs/g DW and an antioxidant activity of 83.6%, followed by blueberry leaves and then Miswak, with a flavonoid content of 55.66 and 48.27 g/ml, TPC of 70.94 and 66.13 mg GAEs/g DW. and antioxidant activity of 47.87% and 39.2%, respectively. However, *P. oceanica* was the poorest plant material used in this study. Our findings concur with those,<sup>66</sup> who reported that *Saragassum sp.* is considered a rich source of carotenoids and many bioactive compounds, such as terpenoids, sterols, sulphated polysaccharides, polyphenols, sargaquinoic acids, sargachromenol, and pheophytin. Our results concerning the flavonoid content of Miswak were consistent with those of,<sup>67</sup> reported that Miswak root contains a small number of flavonoids.<sup>67</sup> Though, the phytochemical properties of our studied *P. oceanica* were poorer than those of,<sup>68</sup> which indicated that the origin and year of the collected alga additionally have significant roles in the phytochemical properties of algae and plants.<sup>69</sup> Our findings are closely in agreement with those of,<sup>46</sup> who found strong variability between different collections. Moreover, the flavonoids, total phenol content, and antioxidant activity of Miswak (*Salvadoa persica* root stick) and black mulberry (*Morus nigra*) leaves did not match those of,<sup>70,14</sup> nor did they match those of,<sup>12</sup>, which is simply because the phytochemical properties of plants differ according to the collection time in the same seasons, the cultivation season, and the origin of the cultivated plant. Our data are

relatively consistent with those of,<sup>25</sup> who reported that *Posidonia oceanica* (P.O.) extract has a high total phenolic content.

*Proximate analysis of the tested treatments*

The proximate analysis of the tested plant parts and algae was carried out according to using NIRS methods.<sup>17,45,71,46</sup>

Table (3) shows that Miswak has the highest ash content, *P. oceanica* has the highest fibre and carbohydrate contents, and black mulberry leaves have the highest protein, fat and moisture contents. The proximate analysis of miswak typically coincided with that of,<sup>67,72,70</sup> illustrated that Miswak root sticks contain 27.1% ash of considerable amounts of chlorides. However, the algae of concern coincided with those of,<sup>68</sup> reported that *P. oceanica* does not contain fats. The proximate analysis of black mulberry leaves was highly in agreement with the results of,<sup>14</sup>, who found that the fibre and protein ratios of *Morus nigra* L. were  $12.32 \pm 1.18$  and  $19.76 \pm 2.12$ , respectively.

*Characterization of the CuNPs*

The properties, spectroscopic analysis, and T.E.M. micrographs of the tested nanosized plant samples are shown in Fig. 2. Our spectroscopic analysis and T.E.M. micrographs revealed that the diameter of the miswak nanosized particles ranged from 4.36 to 28.12 nm, the diameter of the black mulberry nanoparticles ranged from 4.48nm to 15.46nm, the diameter of the *S. linifolium* nanoparticles ranged from 15.26 to 35.14nm, and the diameter of the *P. oceanica* particles ranged from 3.93 to 11.22 nm. The average sizes agreed with those of,<sup>73</sup>, who reported that synthesized particles with average sizes  $\leq 100$  nm were found to have bacteriostatic and/or bactericidal effects and were size- and dose dependent.

*Impact of the examined plant extracts and their Nanosized particles on reducing bacterial growth*

The experiment was completed utilizing the serial dilution technique according to.<sup>44</sup> The experiment was repeated before and after the plant material nanosizing process. The data shown in Tables 4 and 5 are as follows:

*For Staphylococcus aureus*

The differences between the *S. aureus* inhibition ratios before and after nanosizing were highly significant at all dilutions. Treatment with 500  $\mu$ l of *S. linifolium* at the conc500  $\mu$ l resulted in the greatest inhibition of *S. aureus* growth, followed by treatment with 500  $\mu$ l of black mulberry and then Miswak at the conc500  $\mu$ l. Our findings agree with both of,<sup>74</sup>, who reported that black mulberry leaf extract had a potent antibacterial effect on *S. aureus*. Nanosized Miswak particles were the most effective growth inhibitor (10 CFU in 50  $\mu$ l), followed by *P. oceanica* (14 CFU in 50  $\mu$ l), and then Miswak and *P. oceanica* (21 CFU at 100  $\mu$ l). Our results are consistent with those of,<sup>75,76</sup> who reported that the antibacterial activity of ZnO and MgO increased with decreasing particle size.

**Table 2:** Phytochemical features of the tested plant materials

Materials	Flavonoids g/ml $\pm$ S.D.	Total Phenol Content (TPC) mgGAEs/g D.W. $\pm$ S.D.	Antioxidant activity% (A.A.) g/mL $\pm$ SD
Miswak root sticks	48.27 $\pm$ 1.137	66.13 $\pm$ 2.03	39.2 $\pm$ 1.02
Black mulberry	55.66 $\pm$ 2.07	70.94 $\pm$ 1.537	47.87 $\pm$ 1.075
<i>S. linifolium</i>	211 $\pm$ 1.53	329.82 $\pm$ 1.4029	83.6 $\pm$ 0.907
<i>P. Oceanica</i>	30.17 $\pm$ 2.07	36.94 $\pm$ 1.507	31.73 $\pm$ 0.940

**Table 3:** Proximate analysis of the tested materials

Materials	Ash content $\pm$ S.D.	Fibre content $\pm$ SD	Protein content $\pm$ SD	Fat content $\pm$ SD	Moisture% $\pm$ SD	Carbohydrates $\pm$ SD
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Miswak	25.096±1.116	28.835±1.085	9.845±0.609	4.77±0.957	8.89±0.774	9.05±0.995
Bl. mulberry	18.67±0.665	12.91±0.62	19.09±0.940	8.66±0.821	9.83±0.621	12.99±0.678
<i>S. linifolium</i>	38.46±0.593	32.32±0.768	5.20±1.110	1.94±0.05	6.87±0.577	11.21±0.931
<i>P. Oceanica</i>	19.66±0.900	42.69±0.695	7.38±0.848	0.07±0.01	5.5±0.319	17.8±0.699

#### For *Enterobacter cloacae*

In the case of *E. cloacae*, before the nanosizing process, the best inhibition ratio was observed for miswak, followed by *S. linifolium* at a conc. of 1000 µl. Moreover, after the nanosizing process, the efficacy of the tested materials in bacterial growth inhibition greatly increased. Moreover, 50 µl of the Miswak nanoparticles was still the best inhibitor treatment, followed by 100 µl of *P. oceanica* and 50 µl of both *S. linifolium* and *P. oceanica*. The bacterial inhibition process before and after nanosizing was highly significant. Our findings indicated that the nanosizing process not only increased the efficacy of bacterial inhibition but also that the antibacterial properties of the tested particles were completely altered. Recorded results closely agree with those of <sup>77</sup> who showed that plant particle size significantly impacts how pathogen cells interact with plant particles. Furthermore <sup>71</sup> clarified that aqueous extracts from the rhizomes of *Posidonia oceanica* have antimicrobial activity, and *S. linifolium* can be considered a good antibacterial agent due to its high content of phlorotannins, which are dominant in brown algae.<sup>71</sup>

#### Effect of antibacterial plant part extracts on bacterial growth before and after the nanosizing process

Results demonstrated in Tables (4 and 5) showed the determination of the efficacy of the tested antibacterial agents before and after the nanosizing process. Moreover, Figures (3 and 4) illustrated the efficacy ratios of the tested plant extracts before and after the nanosizing process on both tested bacteria at serial dilutions of 10<sup>-6</sup>. The efficacy ratios (E.R.s) of the treatments depended on the type of treatment and the Gram type of the tested bacteria. The (ER%) of the treatments against *S. aureus* and *E. cloacae* before nanosizing was dependent on their concentrations in the case of black mulberry leaves, *S. Libyalinifolium* and *P. oceanica* but not the efficacy ratio of Miswak was concentration dependent only in the case of *E. cloacae*. The lower concentration of 500 µl achieved the best results for *S. linifolium*, followed by black mulberry leaf extract, *P. oceanica*, and *S. aureus* (Table, 6). However, in the case of *E. cloacae*, the nanosized *P. oceanica* had the best inhibition ratio, except for treatment with *P. oceanica*, which had the best efficacy ratio at 500 µl. Our findings agree with,<sup>78</sup> who reported that the type of bacterial strain and the concentration of the AgNP particles influenced the inhibition zones of *S. aureus* and *E. coli*. The nanosizing process increased the ratio of the treatment's efficacies at the lowest concentrations for both tested bacteria. Treatment with nanosized Miswak had the greatest inhibitory effect on both tested bacteria, with 96.84% in the case of *S. aureus* and 95.185% in the case of *E. cloacae* at a concentration of 50 µl and dilution 10<sup>-6</sup>. Our results also revealed that 50 µl of the nanosized particles of (P.O.) algae was highly effective at inhibiting *S. aureus*. with an ER 95.58% greater than that of inhibiting *E. cloacae*, with an efficacy ratio of 94.07% at 100 µl, which was inhibited at 100 µl. with an ER% of 94.07%. Our findings are highly consistent with those of,<sup>25</sup> who reported that *Posidonia oceanica* (P.O.) extract acts as a bacteriostatic agent against gram-negative-negative bacteria and a bactericidal agent against gram-positive-positive bacteria. The nanosizing process changed the antibacterial properties of the studied particles from moderately effective to highly effective; for example, the efficacies of Miswak and *P. oceanica* completely changed from 35.02% to 96.84% and from 36.28% to 93.69%, respectively, in the case of Miswak against *S. aureus* growth and from 18.92 to 95.58% and from 10.72% to 93.37%, respectively, Table (6), in the case of *P. oceanica* against *S. aureus* growth. However, in the case of *E. cloacae*, the behaviour of these treatments was the same except for the nanosized miswak at a concentration of 100 µl, where its efficacy against *E. cloacae* growth decreased. Our findings corresponded with,<sup>79</sup> who reported that the antibacterial efficacy was affected by the

bacterial cells' physiological status and morphology and crystal growth habits. Their results indicated that flower-shaped nanoparticles were significantly more photocatalytically inactive than rod-shaped nanoparticles, followed by spherical nanoparticles, against *E. coli* and *S. aureus*. The antibacterial activity of the nanoparticles increased with decreasing crystallite size. Also,<sup>80</sup> founded that nanosized copper particles are considered nanoparticles with very stable chemical and physical properties that play a valuable antimicrobial role due to their extremely high surface areas with unusual crystals and that these nanoparticles can change the structure of cell membranes after penetrating bacterial cell walls, causing cell death. Their efficiency was due to their nanoscale size and large ratio of surface area to volume. Our results revealed that *S. aureus* was more vulnerable to the tested nanosized treatments than was *E. cloacae* and, closely with,<sup>81,82</sup> who reported that gram-positive bacteria lack an important layer, which makes gram-negative bacteria more resistant or less susceptible to antibacterial agents than gram-positive bacteria.

#### Fungal experiment

The fungal experiment was carried out using an aflatoxigenic strain of *Aspergillus flavus*, considered the most ubiquitous feed contaminant. Aflatoxin B1 is the most hazardous health mycotoxin for animals and humans. The fungicides and detoxifier agents tested before and after nanosizing were evaluated. Results, as shown in Table (7), illustrated the inhibition ratio before and after nanosizing process data as followed as Miswak achieved the best fungal growth inhibition ratio (66.49%) at concentration 500µl and (65.97%) at 1000 µl concentration. Then, *P. oceanica* was recorded (62.83%) at a conc. of 500µl. After the nanosizing process, there was no significant ameliorate fungal growth inhibition, although *P. oceanica* attained the highest ratio (56.02%) at a concentration of 50µl.

The study reported that *P. oceanica* extract acts as an antifungal agent against *Aspergillus niger* and *Penicillium chrysogenum*, which was in harmony with our results.<sup>25</sup> Tables (4, 5 and 7), showed the antibacterial activity of the nanoparticles was greater than their antifungal activity, which may be due to differences in the structure and cell wall of prokaryotic bacterial cells and eukaryotic fungal cells, where the cell wall of bacteria, even if present, is composed of peptidoglycan mines. In contrast, the cell wall of fungi is composed of chitin, cellulose, or hemicellulose.<sup>83</sup>

On the contrary, results shown in Table (8) revealed that the *P. oceanica* had the highest AfB1 inhibition ratio (97.64%) at a concentration of 1000 µl before nanosizing and after nanosizing (98.23%) at a conc. 100µl. Moreover, the nano-treatment decreased the concentration of aflatoxin B1 applied from 1000 µl to 100µl and simultaneously increased the efficiency of this treatment in inhibiting aflatoxin B<sub>1</sub> production. Furthermore, the Nano processing process increased the efficiencies of all the tested particles by approximately 2.783-fold in the case of Miswak, 1.174-fold in black mulberry, 1.103-fold in *S. linifolium* and 1.080-fold in *P. oceanica* at low concentrations of 50µl and 500 µl. On the other hand, the nano-Fenton process augmented the aflatoxin inhibition efficiencies of Miswak by 1.31-fold, black mulberry by 1.04879-fold, *S. linifolium* by 1.08-fold and *P. oceanica* by 1.01-fold at concs, 100 µl and 1000 µl, respectively, which indicated that the efficiency of the particles was greater at 50 µl than at 100 µl. Our findings did not coincide with those of,<sup>84</sup> who reported that the inhibition of *Pseudomonas aeruginosa* and *Botrytis cinerea* was enhanced with increasing concentrations of N.P.s, which may be due to differences among pathogens, plant particles and nanoparticle types. Another finding unequivocally showed that the AgNPs significantly prevented the growth and development of the plant pathogen *Botrytis fabae*, lowering the rhizosphere and the number of bacteria (cfu/ml). The

study advised the use of AgNPs as an antibacterial agent in the agricultural sector.<sup>32</sup>

As shown in Tables 7 and 8, our results revealed that the tested treatments were more effective at reducing or inhibiting aflatoxin production than reducing *A. flavus* growth. Our findings are consistent with those of,<sup>85</sup> who reported that the inhibitory effect on fungal growth was not directly related to mycotoxin inhibition. Our data on aflatoxin detoxification also agreed with those of,<sup>86</sup> who reported that macroalgae possess a high biosorption capacity.

#### Proximate analysis of the tested treatments

The proximate analysis of the tested plant parts and algae was carried out according to using NIRS methods.<sup>17,45,71,46</sup>

#### Proximate analysis of the tested treatments

The proximate analysis of the tested plant parts and algae was carried out according to using NIRS methods.<sup>17,45,71,46</sup>

**Table 4:** Effects of the tested treatments before and after the nanosizing process on *S. aphyllia aureus* growth

Treatments	Concentration in (µl)	Serial dilutions							
		10 <sup>-1</sup>	10 <sup>-2</sup>	10 <sup>-3</sup>	10 <sup>-4</sup>	10 <sup>-5</sup>	10 <sup>-6</sup>		
Before nanosizing process	<i>Staphyococcus aureus</i> Control(C)	446 <sup>a</sup>	430 <sup>a</sup>	391 <sup>a</sup>	381 <sup>a</sup>	332 <sup>a</sup>	317 <sup>a</sup>		
After nanosizing process	C+ Miswak	500	394 <sup>d</sup>	348 <sup>e</sup>	304 <sup>f</sup>	274 <sup>e</sup>	228 <sup>de</sup>	206 <sup>d</sup>	
		1000	363 <sup>h</sup>	346 <sup>f</sup>	317 <sup>e</sup>	258 <sup>f</sup>	224 <sup>e</sup>	202 <sup>de</sup>	
	C+ Bl. mulberry	500	338 <sup>i</sup>	244 <sup>h</sup>	239 <sup>g</sup>	222 <sup>h</sup>	208 <sup>f</sup>	177 <sup>e</sup>	
		1000	396 <sup>c</sup>	372 <sup>c</sup>	344 <sup>c</sup>	337 <sup>c</sup>	230 <sup>c</sup>	209 <sup>d</sup>	
	C+ <i>S. linifolium</i>	500	372 <sup>g</sup>	259 <sup>g</sup>	234 <sup>g</sup>	187 <sup>i</sup>	115 <sup>h</sup>	109 <sup>f</sup>	
		1000	390 <sup>e</sup>	372 <sup>c</sup>	337 <sup>d</sup>	251 <sup>g</sup>	196 <sup>g</sup>	180 <sup>e</sup>	
	C+P. <i>Oceanica</i>	500	381 <sup>f</sup>	354 <sup>d</sup>	321 <sup>e</sup>	312 <sup>d</sup>	270 <sup>c</sup>	257 <sup>c</sup>	
		1000	413 <sup>b</sup>	397 <sup>b</sup>	360 <sup>b</sup>	350 <sup>b</sup>	300 <sup>b</sup>	283 <sup>b</sup>	
	After nanosizing process	C+ Miswak	50	82 <sup>o</sup>	46 <sup>m</sup>	26 <sup>m</sup>	22 <sup>o</sup>	19 <sup>n</sup>	10 <sup>j</sup>
			100	59 <sup>p</sup>	55 <sup>i</sup>	42 <sup>k</sup>	40 <sup>m</sup>	36 <sup>l</sup>	21 <sup>i</sup>
		C+ Bl. mulberry	50	214 <sup>k</sup>	120 <sup>j</sup>	56 <sup>j</sup>	50 <sup>l</sup>	41 <sup>k</sup>	26 <sup>hi</sup>
			100	91 <sup>n</sup>	87 <sup>k</sup>	75 <sup>i</sup>	71 <sup>k</sup>	55 <sup>j</sup>	32 <sup>h</sup>
C+ <i>S. linifolium</i>		50	218 <sup>j</sup>	211 <sup>i</sup>	125 <sup>h</sup>	83 <sup>j</sup>	63 <sup>i</sup>	44 <sup>g</sup>	
		100	137 <sup>l</sup>	89 <sup>k</sup>	80 <sup>i</sup>	72 <sup>k</sup>	31 <sup>m</sup>	27 <sup>hi</sup>	
C+P. <i>Oceanica</i>		50	104 <sup>m</sup>	39 <sup>o</sup>	32 <sup>l</sup>	22 <sup>o</sup>	19 <sup>n</sup>	14 <sup>j</sup>	
		100	55 <sup>q</sup>	43 <sup>n</sup>	39 <sup>k</sup>	32 <sup>n</sup>	24 <sup>n</sup>	21 <sup>i</sup>	
L.S. D <sub>0.05</sub>		1.5622	1.7736	5.57412	4.179	4.78552	6.6978		

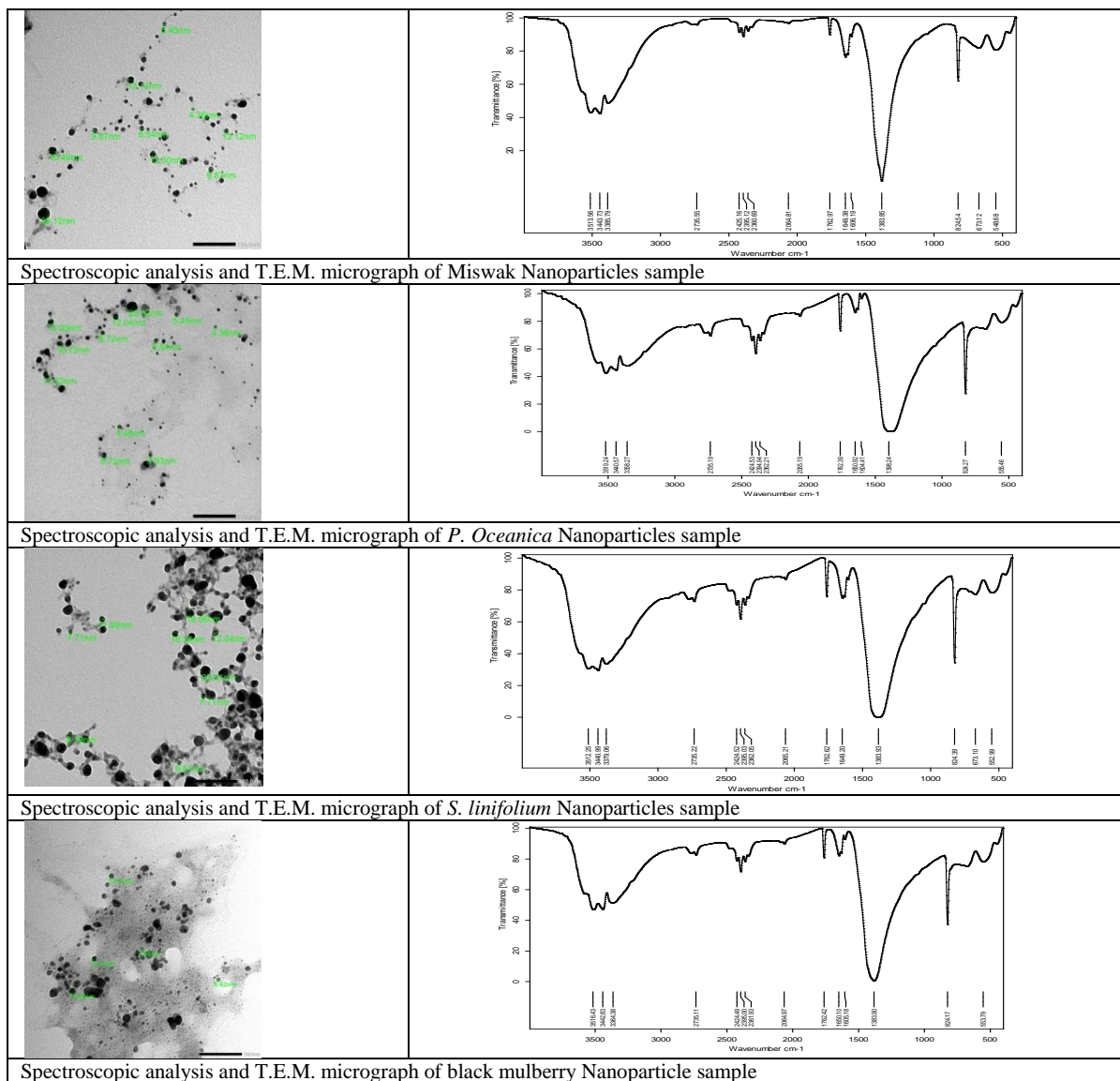
The data were statistically analyzed via a one-way randomized complete blocks design (RCBD) Values with the same letters are not significantly different at least significantly (L.S.D<sub>0.05</sub>).

**Table 5:** Effects of the tested treatments before and after the nanosizing process on *Enterobacter cloacae* growth

Treatments	Concentration in (µl)	Serial dilutions							
		10 <sup>-1</sup>	10 <sup>-2</sup>	10 <sup>-3</sup>	10 <sup>-4</sup>	10 <sup>-5</sup>	10 <sup>-6</sup>		
Before nanosizing process	<i>Enterobacter cloacae</i> Control	474 <sup>a</sup>	448 <sup>a</sup>	389 <sup>a</sup>	357 <sup>a</sup>	340 <sup>a</sup>	270 <sup>a</sup>		
After nanosizing process	C+ Miswak	500	362 <sup>c</sup>	339 <sup>b</sup>	294 <sup>b</sup>	268 <sup>b</sup>	254 <sup>b</sup>	200 <sup>b</sup>	
		1000	316 <sup>f</sup>	293 <sup>g</sup>	253 <sup>f</sup>	232 <sup>f</sup>	204 <sup>f</sup>	89 <sup>h</sup>	
	C+ Bl. mulberry	500	346 <sup>d</sup>	325 <sup>d</sup>	281 <sup>d</sup>	256 <sup>c</sup>	242 <sup>c</sup>	174 <sup>cd</sup>	
		1000	319 <sup>f</sup>	300 <sup>ef</sup>	227 <sup>g</sup>	207 <sup>g</sup>	196 <sup>g</sup>	153 <sup>f</sup>	
	C+ <i>S. linifolium</i>	500	349 <sup>d</sup>	329 <sup>c</sup>	285 <sup>c</sup>	247 <sup>d</sup>	235 <sup>d</sup>	172 <sup>d</sup>	
		1000	285 <sup>g</sup>	254 <sup>h</sup>	220 <sup>h</sup>	201 <sup>h</sup>	189 <sup>h</sup>	149 <sup>g</sup>	
	C+P. <i>Oceanica</i>	500	340 <sup>e</sup>	320 <sup>e</sup>	276 <sup>e</sup>	253 <sup>c</sup>	207 <sup>f</sup>	164 <sup>e</sup>	
		1000	373 <sup>b</sup>	339 <sup>b</sup>	293 <sup>b</sup>	240 <sup>e</sup>	222 <sup>e</sup>	176 <sup>c</sup>	
	After nanosizing process	C+ Miswak	50	124 <sup>i</sup>	105 <sup>i</sup>	91 <sup>m</sup>	79 <sup>i</sup>	43 <sup>i</sup>	13 <sup>n</sup>
			100	230 <sup>h</sup>	126 <sup>j</sup>	109 <sup>j</sup>	100 <sup>j</sup>	94 <sup>i</sup>	67 <sup>i</sup>
		C+ Bl. mulberry	50	162 <sup>i</sup>	134 <sup>i</sup>	115 <sup>i</sup>	105 <sup>i</sup>	72 <sup>j</sup>	32 <sup>k</sup>
			100	90 <sup>m</sup>	85 <sup>m</sup>	73 <sup>n</sup>	45 <sup>n</sup>	28 <sup>n</sup>	15 <sup>mn</sup>

<i>C+ S. linifolium</i>	50	135 <sup>jk</sup>	106 <sup>l</sup>	90 <sup>m</sup>	82 <sup>l</sup>	34 <sup>m</sup>	26 <sup>l</sup>
	100	137 <sup>j</sup>	113 <sup>k</sup>	98 <sup>i</sup>	89 <sup>k</sup>	62 <sup>k</sup>	48 <sup>j</sup>
<i>C+P. Oceanica</i>	50	130 <sup>k</sup>	127 <sup>j</sup>	105 <sup>k</sup>	92 <sup>k</sup>	75 <sup>j</sup>	26 <sup>i</sup>
	100	83 <sup>n</sup>	66 <sup>n</sup>	58 <sup>o</sup>	50 <sup>m</sup>	42 <sup>i</sup>	16 <sup>m</sup>
L.S. D <sub>0.05</sub>		5.321	3.095	1.607	4.685	4.383	2.055

The data were statistically analyzed via a one-way randomized complete blocks design (RCBD).



**Figure 2:** Spectroscopic analysis and T.E.M. micrograph of the tested nanosized plant samples.

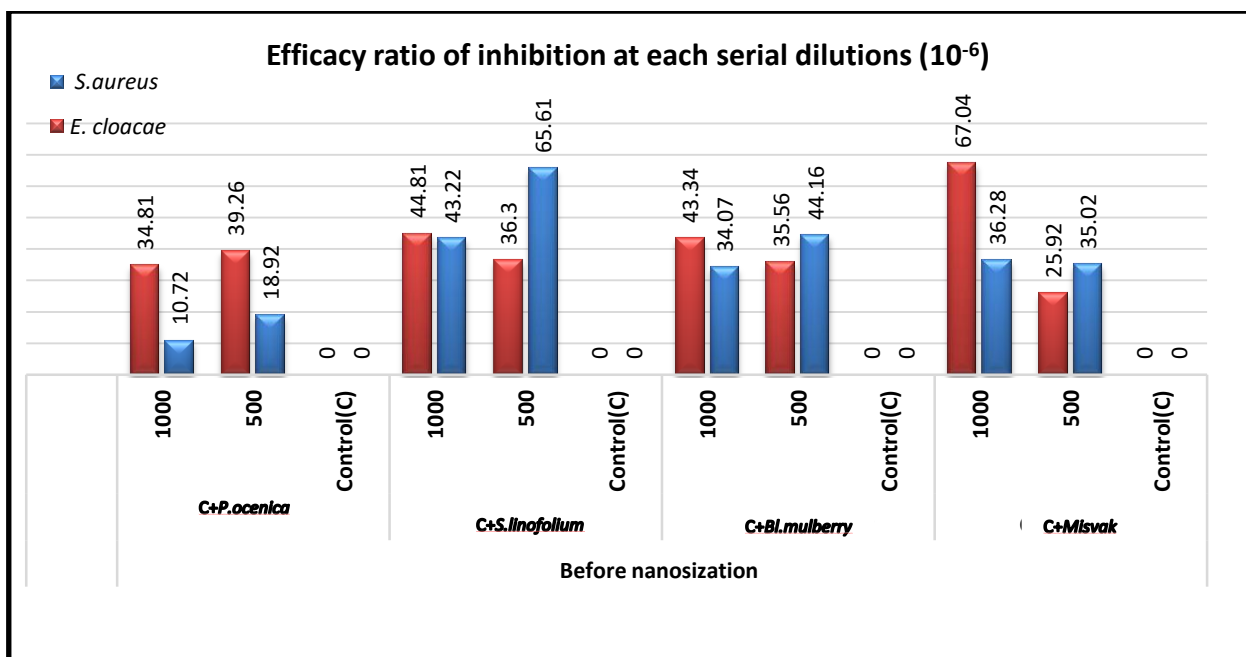


Figure 3. Differences between the tested treatment efficacies at a dilution of 10<sup>-6</sup> before the nanosizing process against the two studied bacteria

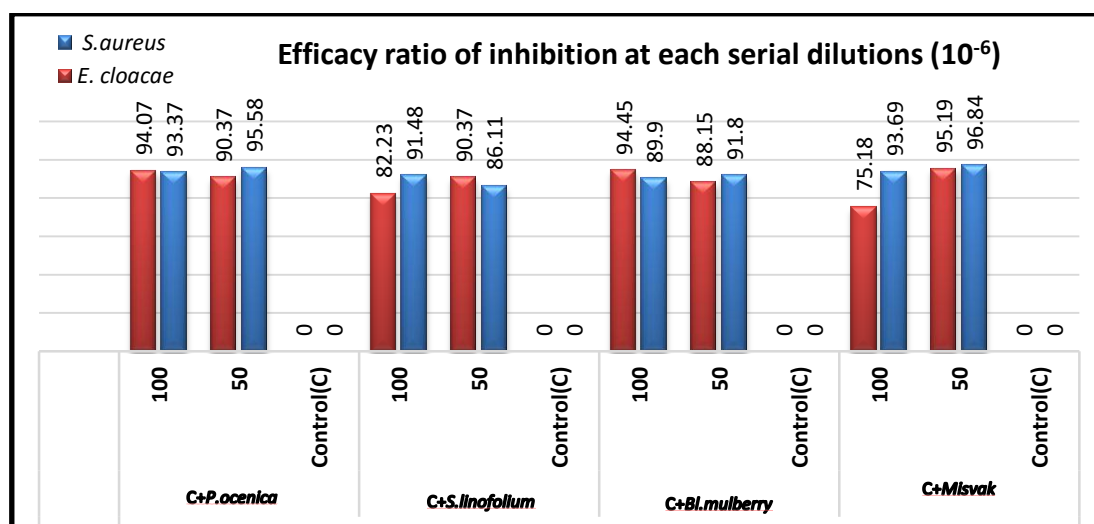


Figure 4. Differences between the tested treatment efficacies at dilutions of 10<sup>-6</sup> after the nanosizing process against the two studied bacteria

Table 6: Efficacy ratios of the tested plant extracts before and after the nanosizing process on both tested bacteria

Treatments		Concentration in (µl)	Serial dilutions		E.R% 10 <sup>-1</sup>	E.R% 10 <sup>-2</sup>	E.R% 10 <sup>-3</sup>	E.R% 10 <sup>-4</sup>	E.R% 10 <sup>-5</sup>	E.R% 10 <sup>-6</sup>
Before nanosizing process	<i>Staphylococcus aureus</i>	Control(C)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	C+ Miswak	500	11.66	19.07	22.25	28.08	31.32	35.02		
		1000	18.61	19.53	19.69	32.28	32.53	36.28		
	C+ Bl. mulberry	500	24.21	41.86	41.94	42.25	42.77	44.16		
		1000	11.21	13.49	12.02	13.06	30.72	34.07		
	C+ S. linifolium	500	16.59	39.77	40.15	50.92	65.36	65.61		
		1000	12.56	13.49	13.81	34.12	40.96	43.22		
	C+P. Oceanica	500	14.57	17.67	17.90	18.11	18.67	18.92		
		1000	7.40	7.64	7.93	8.14	9.64	10.72		



Treatments	Concentration in (µl)	Serial dilutions							
		E.R% 10 <sup>-1</sup>	E.R% 10 <sup>-2</sup>	E.R% 10 <sup>-3</sup>	E.R% 10 <sup>-4</sup>	E.R% 10 <sup>-5</sup>	E.R% 10 <sup>-6</sup>		
After nanosizing process	C+ Miswak	50	81.61	89.30	93.35	94.22	94.28	96.84	
		100	86.77	87.21	89.26	89.50	89.16	93.69	
	C+Bl. mulberry	50	52.02	71.86	85.68	86.88	87.65	91.80	
		100	79.60	79.77	80.82	81.36	83.43	89.90	
	C+ <i>S. linifolium</i>	50	51.12	51.16	68.03	78.21	81.02	86.11	
		100	69.28	79.30	79.54	81.10	90.66	91.48	
	C+ <i>P. Oceanica</i>	50	76.68	90.93	91.81	94.22	94.28	95.58	
		100	87.67	90	90.02	91.60	92.77	93.37	
	Before nanosizing process	<i>E. cloacae</i> Control(C)	0	0	0	0	0	0	
			500	23.63	24.33	24.42	24.93	25.29	25.92
		C+ Miswak	1000	33.34	34.60	34.96	35.01	40	67.04
			500	27	27.45	27.76	28.29	28.82	35.56
C+ Bl. mulberry		1000	32.70	33.03	41.64	42.02	42.35	43.34	
		500	26.37	26.56	26.73	30.81	30.88	36.30	
C+ <i>S. linifolium</i>		1000	39.87	43.30	43.44	43.70	44.41	44.81	
		500	28.27	28.57	29.04	29.13	39.12	39.26	
C+ <i>P. Oceanica</i>		1000	21.31	24.33	24.68	32.77	34.70	34.81	
		500	73.84	76.56	76.61	77.87	87.35	95.185	
After nanosizing process		C+ Miswak	100	51.48	72.87	71.98	72.0	72.35	75.18
			50	65.82	70.09	70.44	70.59	78.82	88.15
	C+ Bl. mulberry	100	81.01	81.03	81.23	87.39	91.76	94.45	
		50	71.52	76.34	76.86	77.03	90.0	90.37	
	C+ <i>S. linifolium</i>	100	71.01	74.78	74.81	75.07	81.76	82.23	
		50	72.57	72.77	73.01	74.23	77.94	90.37	
	C+ <i>P. Oceanica</i>	100	82.49	85.27	85.35	85.99	87.65	94.07	

Values with the same letters are not significantly different, at least significantly different (L.S.D<sub>0.05</sub>).

**Table 7:** Effects of the tested treatments before and after the nanosizing process on *Aspergillus flavus* growth

Treatments	Concentration in (µl)	Serial dilutions			
		Growth dry weight	ER% of growth inhibition		
Before nanosizing process	<i>flavus growth</i> Control(C)	1.91 <sup>a</sup>	-----		
		0.64 <sup>k</sup>	66.49		
	C+ Miswak	1000	0.65 <sup>k</sup>	65.97	
		500	0.78 <sup>i</sup>	59.16	
	C+ <i>Bl. mulberry</i>	1000	0.91 <sup>e</sup>	52.36	
		500	1.5 <sup>c</sup>	21.46	
	C+ <i>S. linifolium</i>	1000	0.79 <sup>hi</sup>	58.64	
		500	0.71 <sup>j</sup>	62.83	
	C+ <i>P. Oceanica</i>	1000	1.6 <sup>b</sup>	16.23	
		50	0.85 <sup>g</sup>	55.50	
	After nanosizing process	C+ Miswak	100	0.91 <sup>e</sup>	52.37
			50	0.91 <sup>e</sup>	52.37
C+ <i>Bl. mulberry</i>		100	0.87 <sup>f</sup>	54.45	
		50	0.84 <sup>g</sup>	56.02	
C+ <i>S. linifolium</i>		100	1.49 <sup>c</sup>	21.99	
		50	0.80 <sup>h</sup>	58.11	
C+ <i>P. Oceanica</i>		100	1.03 <sup>d</sup>	46.07	
		L.S. D <sub>0.05</sub>	0.016529		

The data were statistically analyzed as a complete randomized design. Values with the same letters are not significantly different at an L.S.D<sub>0.05</sub>

**Table 8:** Effects of the tested treatments before and after the nanosizing process on aflatoxin B1 inhibition

Treatments	Concentration in (µl)	Serial dilutions			
		AflB <sub>1</sub> production (ppb)	ER% of growth inhibition		
Before nanosizing process	<i>flavus growth</i>	Control(C)	13.54 a	-----	
After nanosizing process	C+ Miswak	500	9.74	28.06	
		1000	4.94 <sup>c</sup>	63.51	
	C+ Bl. mulberry	500	3.5 <sup>d</sup>	74.15	
		1000	1.44 <sup>l</sup>	89.36	
	C+ <i>S. linifolium</i>	500	2.32 <sup>g</sup>	82.86	
		1000	1.84 <sup>i</sup>	86.41	
	C+ <i>P. Oceanica</i>	500	2.52 <sup>f</sup>	81.39	
		1000	0.32 <sup>p</sup>	97.64	
	L.S. D <sub>0.05</sub>	C+ Miswak	50	2.89 <sup>e</sup>	78.65
			100	2.28 <sup>h</sup>	83.16
C+ Bl. mulberry		50	1.75 <sup>j</sup>	87.07	
		100	0.85 <sup>o</sup>	93.72	
C+ <i>S. linifolium</i>		50	1.16 <sup>m</sup>	91.43	
		100	0.87 <sup>n</sup>	93.57	
C+ <i>P. Oceanica</i>	50	1.64 <sup>k</sup>	87.89		
		100	0.24 <sup>q</sup>	98.23	
			0.01659		

The data were statistically analyzed as a complete randomized design. Values with the same letters are not significantly different at an L.S.D<sub>0.05</sub>.

## Conclusion

The antibacterial activities of the nanoparticles were greater than their antifungal activities, which may be partially due to the presence of copper ions, which act as sterilizers against bacteria, in addition to the differences between the structure and the cell wall of prokaryotic bacterial cells and *eukaryotic* fungal cells. The nanosized particles used in the tested treatments were less effective at reducing fungal growth than their natural structures without nanosizing, indicating that the nanosizing process was unnecessary for *A. flavus* growth inhibition. Miswak, blue mulberry leaves and *S. linifolium* nanoparticles exhibited high antibacterial activity and remarkable aflatoxin detoxification efficiency. *Posidonia oceanica* (P.O.) nanoparticles are considered the best antibacterial agent against the two tested bacteria and the best detoxifying agent for aflatoxin B1. These nano treatments, especially *Posidonia oceanica* (P.O.), are recommended as antibacterial and aflatoxin detoxifier agents.

## Conflict of Interest

The authors declare no conflict of interest.

## Authors' Declaration

The authors hereby declare that the work presented in this article is original and that any liability for claims relating to the content of this article will be borne by them.

## Acknowledgments

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