

## PHYTOCHEMICAL INVESTIGATION OF *ACALYPHA FIMBRIATA* FOR ANTIPLASMODIAL AND ANTITRYPANOSOMAL AGENTS

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**Abstract:** For centuries, natural products from plants, fungi, and microorganisms have been used to treat a variety of medical conditions, especially infectious diseases. In this work, natural products extract from tropical plants were evaluated as potential growth inhibitors of *Plasmodium falciparum* and *Trypanosoma brucei*. *Plasmodium falciparum* and *Trypanosoma brucei* are causative agents of Malaria and Human African Trypanosomiasis (HAT), respectively. From that preliminary study, we discovered that the dichloromethane-methanol extract of *Acalypha fimbriata*, a farmland shrub endemic to tropical Africa, have antitrypanosomal and antiplasmodial activity. Ethnomedicinal records indicate that *Acalypha fimbriata* is used to treat motion sickness and nausea. The extract was fractionated and the fractions were evaluated against the blood-stage form of *P. falciparum* and trypomastigotes of *T. brucei*. Compounds isolated from the active fraction are being characterized and evaluated as new antiparasitic agents from *Acalypha fimbriata*.

**Keywords:** Malaria, HAT, *Acalypha fimbriata*, *Plasmodium falciparum*, *Trypanosoma brucei*, Natural Products

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