

Full Length Research Paper

In vitro* anthelmintic activities of stem and root barks extracts of *Parkia biglobosa* on infective larvae and adult of *Haemonchus contortus

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The treatment of gastrointestinal nematode infections in the 21st century is largely through the use of modern synthetic anthelmintics. However, there is over growing drug resistance to anthelmintics in treatment of gastrointestinal nematode infections in goats and sheep. This present study was carried out to determine the *in vitro* anthelmintic activities of *Parkia biglobosa* using Larval motility inhibition assay (LMIA) and Adult motility inhibition assay (AMIA). The stem and root barks of *P. biglobosa* were extracted which yielded four different extracts as Crude Aqueous Stem Bark Extract (CASBE), Crude Methanol Stem Bark Extract (CMSBE), Crude Aqueous Root Bark Extract (CARBE) and Crude Methanol Root Bark Extract (CMRBE). The infective larvae and adults of *Haemonchus contortus* were exposed to different concentrations each (2, 4, 8, 16 and 32 mg/ml) of plant extracts of both stem and root barks of *P. biglobosa* in comparable to controls (Albendazole (ABZ)-positive control and Phosphate Buffered Saline (PBS)- negative control). The result of LMIA showed that at 12 hours exposure of larvae to 32 mg/ml for four extracts, 55-75% mortality were recorded while the result for AMIA revealed that at 12 hours post exposure of all the plant extracts ranged from 2-32 mg/ml concentrations, 100% mortality of the adult worms were recorded. There was no mortality recorded in negative control (PBS) even up to 12 hours post exposure. From this result, it could be concluded that plant extracts have anthelmintic activities in comparison to ABZ with CMSBE ranked highest among the extracts. However, the potency of plant extracts was dependent on the time of exposure and concentration of the extracts as well as the solvent used.

Key words: Adulticidal, Anthelmintic, Drug resistance, Extracts, *in vitro*, Larvicidal, *Parkia biglobosa*

INTRODUCTION

Among the helminth parasites that infect small ruminants, *Haemonchus contortus* is said to be considered the most devastating and prevalent species (Dey et al., 2015). This has led to a major constraint in the production and

profitability of small ruminant in Nigeria and African at large (Chiejina, 2001). The devastating and debilitating nature of *H. contortus* is as a result of disease called haemonchosis, it is considered to be the major culprit

responsible for hypoproteinemia and anaemia in ruminant animals with heavier worm burdens. However, clinical signs such as weight loss, diarrhoea, anaemia, or sub-mandibular oedema (bottle jaw) may develop (Sissay, 2007).

It has been estimated that a single worm of *H. contortus* sucks about 0.05 ml of blood per day by seepage or ingestion from the lesions (Urquhart et al., 2000). Studies conducted in many countries around the world indicated that among the domesticated animals, goats and sheep suffer mostly from haemonchosis (Nwosu et al., 2007; Tariq et al., 2008). It is important to note that, the infection caused by *H. contortus* ranks highest in global index and capable of causing acute disease and high mortality in all classes of livestock. Death rate due to acute haemonchosis is very high and may go up to 50% in small ruminants (Itty et al., 1997; Perry et al., 2002; Tariq et al., 2010).

Therefore, to minimize the infection caused by *H. contortus* to small ruminants in order to increase their production for protein and economic gain, there is need to develop sustainable control strategies that will reduce or cure the helminthic infections. The management control of nematodes in livestock is basically through systemic synthetic anthelmintics. However, treatments with conventional drugs have their own disadvantages which range from the development of drugs resistance by these parasites, unaffordability of these drugs to low-income farmers as well as accumulation of drug residue in food chain and the environment (Zajac and Gipson, 2000; Vaele, 2002; Schoenian, 2005; Athanasiadou et al., 2008; Sawleha et al., 2010). Thus, alternative methods for controlling helminth infection need to be developed. One of such alternatives is through the knowledge of ethno veterinary medicines which are available for the treatment of internal parasites but are often neglected in favour of the conventional drugs (Hammond et al., 1997).

The knowledge of medicinal plants and their collective roles in promoting health is increasing. One of these medicinal plants is *Parkia biglobosa* which have revealed several phytochemical constituents that have the potential of treating several diseases (Soetan and Aiyelaagbe, 2009). However, to ascertain this claim, further investigation needs to be conducted before proceeding to *in vivo* test (Asase et al., 2005).

The screening of anthelmintic activity is mainly through *in vitro* tests including larval and adult paralysis/death, egg hatch assays and biochemical tests (Bachaya et al., 2009). *In vitro* tests using the infective larvae of *H. contortus* is considered to be one of the best means of screening drugs for anthelmintic activity before

proceeding to *in vivo* test (Asase et al., 2005). Therefore, the present study was carried out to investigate the comparative effect of crude methanolic extracts of stem and root bark of *P. biglobosa* on infective larvae and adult stages of *H. contortus*.

MATERIALS AND METHODS

Source of plant materials and authentication

The fresh stem and root barks of *P. biglobosa* were collected in the month of March 2016 in Tsaragi district of Edu Local Government Area of Kwara State, Nigeria (Figure1). The plant samples were identified and authenticated by a plant taxonomist Mr Namadi Sanusi of the Department of Botany, Ahmadu Bello University Zaria, Kaduna State, Nigeria. The plant samples were collectively given a voucher number ABU/7064 which was deposited in the herbarium for reference purposes.

Preparation of plant extracts

The fresh stem and root barks of *P. biglobosa* were separately washed with water and air dried in the shade at room temperature for one month and thereafter crushed with a mortar and pestle or blender into powder form. These were stored in air tight container for later use as described by Soetan et al. (2011) and Meraiyebu et al. (2013).

Methods of aqueous and methanol extraction

The method of Soetan et al. (2011) was used for aqueous extraction. 200 g of the milled stem bark of *P. biglobosa* was weighed using a sensitive weighing balance ranging from 0.01 to 500 g with Model No. SHP1100313194 2011-07 and poured inside a bowl with cover. Then 2 L of distilled water was added and stirred immediately. Stirring was done every 30 min and after 24 h, the supernatant was first filtered with muslin cloth and later through Whatman filter paper No 1. The filtrate was evaporated using the water bath at 65°C for 6 h. The weight by weight (w/w) yield of the aqueous extract was stored in a capped bottle and preserved inside the refrigerator at 4°C. The same procedures were done for the root bark of *P. biglobosa*.

For the methanol extraction, the stem and root barks of *P. biglobosa* were extracted separately using Soxhlet's apparatus. 100 g of each extract was extracted with 600 ml of methanol for 4 h until all the required grams of extracts were exhausted as described by Asuzu and Onu (1994) and Builders et al. (2012). All the filtrate was evaporated using water bath at 65°C and the w/w yield of the extract was stored in an airtight container at 4°C until use.

Yield of percentage determination of aqueous and methanol extracts

The determination of each of percentage yield of aqueous and methanol extract was calculated using the formula of Anokwuru et

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Figure 1. Sample of *Parkia biglobosa* tree for sourcing of stem bark and root bark.

Source: Author

al. (2011) and Ezekwe et al. (2013) as follows:

$$\% \text{ Yield} = \frac{\text{Weight of each extract}}{\text{Weight of pulverized of each part of } Parkia \text{ biglobosa}} \times 100$$

Qualitative phytochemical screening of aqueous and methanol extracts

The phytochemical screening of the extracts was carried out to identify the constituents using standard phytochemical methods. The screening was carried out on each of crude aqueous and methanol extracts of stem and root bark extracts of *P. biglobosa* to determine the possible presence of alkaloids, flavonoids, saponins, tannins, terpenoids, anthraquinones, glycosides, cardiac glycoside/cardenolides, phlobatannins, sterols and steroids, carbohydrates, starch, proteins, and oils (Sofowora, 1993; Evans, 2002).

Sourcing of infective larvae and adult stage of *H. contortus* for *in vitro* studies

Adult worms of *H. contortus* were obtained from the abomasums of slaughtered goats purchased in Zaria abattoir Kaduna State, Nigeria. These abomasums were transported on ice block container to Parasitology laboratory in the Department of Parasitology and Entomology, Ahmadu Bello University (ABU) Zaria, Kaduna State, Nigeria. The worms were recovered using the method of Hansen and Perry (1994). These worms were later washed in distilled water and then suspended in phosphate buffered saline (PBS) made by dissolving 0.85 g of sodium chloride (NaCl) and 1 g glucose in 1 L distilled water and allowed for 2 h to acclimatize (Kareru et al., 2012). The adult worms processed were divided into two portions for adult motility inhibition assay (AMIA) and larval motility inhibition assay (LMIA). For the latter portion, the female worms were separated from male worms and the female worms were crushed in

a mortar and pestle to liberate the eggs. The eggs were recovered from suspension by the method described by Coles et al. (1992). These eggs were cultured at room temperature in damp heat-sterilized bovine faeces for 7 days to provide development using the method of Makun et al. (2008) and Dey et al. (2015). After 7 days, the culture was baermannized to harvest the L₃ stages and stored in distilled water at 4°C in the laboratory.

Larval motility inhibition assay (LMIA)

For larval motility inhibition assay, a total of 20 ml of L₃ larvae (infective larvae) suspension in water were gotten and 0.1 ml was taken on microscope slide and counted. Approximately 20 L₃ were counted in 0.1 ml. Then, 0.1 ml suspension containing approximately 20 L₃ were pipetted into 96- flat-bottomed microtitre plate and mixed with the same volume of different concentrations in triplicate as follows:

- (1) For plant extracts: 2, 4, 8, 16 and 32 mg/ml
- (2) For albendazole (the positive control wells): 2, 4, 8, 16 and 32 mg/ml.
- (3) Negative control plates received only PBS.

The motility was recorded after 0, 1, 3, 6, 9 and 12 h intervals under microscope. The nonmotile (dead) L₃ was identified and the percentage calculated (Dey et al., 2015).

Adult motility inhibition assay (AMIA)

Adult motility assay was conducted on mature live *H. contortus* following the methods of Iqbal et al. (2006), Muhammad et al. (2011) and Zaman et al. (2012). Ten worms were exposed in triplicate at each of the following treatment in separate Petri-dishes at room temperature (25 to 30°C):

- (1) Plant extracts: 2, 4, 8, 16, and 32 mg/ml
- (2) Albendazole: 2, 4, 8, 16, and 32 mg/ml
- (3) Control (PBS)

The inhibition of motility and/or mortality of the worms were subjected to the aforementioned treatments and were used as the criteria for anthelmintic activity. The motility was recorded after 0, 1, 3, 6, 9 and 12 h intervals. Finally, the treated worms were kept for 30 min in the lukewarm fresh PBS to observe the revival of motility. The numbers of live and dead worms were recorded in all the Petri-dishes.

Data analysis

The data gotten were presented in tables and charts. The percentage yields of all the extracts were calculated as well as percentages of larva mortality and adult mortality of *H. contortus*. For larval motility inhibition and adult motility inhibition assays, probit transformation was performed to transform a typical sigmoid dose response curve to linear function (Hubert and Kerboeuf, 1992). The linear regression (for $y = 0$ on the probit scale) using Microsoft Excel Widow 2007 were used to calculate the extract concentration required to prevent 50%, that is, lethal concentration (LC₅₀) of adult and larval from motility.

RESULTS

The percentage yielded for four different extracts are

Table 1. Percentage yield of aqueous and methanol extracts from pulverized form of stem bark and root bark of *Parkia biglobosa*.

Extracts	Initial weight of pulverized (g)	Final weight of the extracts (g)	W/W yield (%)
CASBE	200	31.1	15.6
CMSBE	200	50.29	25.15
CARBE	200	32.47	16.26
CMRBE	200	27.98	13.9

CASBE: Crude aqueous stem bark extract, CMSBE: crude methanol stem bark extract, CARBE: crude aqueous root bark extract, CMRBE: crude methanol root bark extract.

Source: Authors

Table 2. Qualitative phytochemical screening of stem and root bark extracts of *P. biglobosa*.

Constituents	Test methods	CASBE	CMSBE	CARBE	CMRBE
Alkaloids	Mayer's test	+	+++	-	-
Anthraquinones	Bontrager's test	++	+++	++	+
Cardiac Glycosides	Keller-Kiliani test	+	+	+	+
Flavonoids	NaoH test	-	++	-	+
Glycosides	Benedict's test,	+	+++	-	-
Oil	Filter paper test	+	++	-	-
Protein	Millon reagent test	-	-	+	-
Phlobatannins	Hcl test	+++	++	-	+++
Reducing Sugar	Fehling test	+	++	-	+
Saponins	Frothing test	+	+++	++	++
Starch	Iodine test	+	-	-	-
Sterols and Steroids	Conc H ₂ SO ₄ test	-	++	-	+
Tannin (Condensed)	Ferric chloride test	+++	+++	+++	++
Tannin (Hydrolysable)	Ferric chloride test	++	++	+	+
Terpenoid	Salkowski test	-	++	-	+
Triterpenoids	Salkowski test	-	-	-	-

- Absent, + present, ++ very present, +++ much present.

Source: Authors

shown in Table 1. The Crude Methanol Stem Bark Extract (CMSBE) yielded the highest percentage while the least percentage was Crude Methanol Root Bark Extract (CMRBE). The qualitative phytochemical constituents of aqueous and methanol extracts of stem and root bark of *P. biglobosa* are shown in Table 2. All the extracts tested were positive with the presence of at least ten phytochemical constituents with various degrees. More phytochemical constituents were present in CMSBE. The anthelmintic activity present in the extracts might be due to the presence of these compounds.

The percentage mortality of larvae (L₃) of *H. contortus* when exposed to ABZ and different concentrations of CASBE, CMSBE, CARBE and CMRBE of *P. biglobosa* at different hours are shown in Table 3. There was no larvae (L₃) mortality after 1 to 3 h exposure to ABZ at different concentrations (2, 4, 8, 16 and 32 mg/ml) and CASBE, CMSBE, CARBE and CMRBE of *P. biglobosa*,

but at 6 h exposure, 50, 50, 43 and 25% mortality of larvae were recorded for ABZ, CASBE, CMSBE and CMRBE at 32 mg/ml. At 12 h exposure, 88% mortality was recorded when L₃ larvae were exposed to 32 mg/ml concentration of ABZ. Similarly, mortality of 55, 87, 63 and 75% were also recorded when L₃ larvae were exposed to 32 mg/ml of CASBE, CMSBE, CARBE and CMRBE, respectively at 12 h. No mortality of the larvae was recorded in PBS up to 12 h post exposure.

The LC₅₀ was determined graphically from the regression equation at different hours of exposure using the probit analysis. The values of LC₅₀, coefficient of determination (R²) and regression equation of the effect of CASBE, CMSBE, CARBE and CMRBE of *P. biglobosa* as well as standard drug (ABZ) on larvae (L₃) mortality are shown in Tables 4, 5 and 6. At 6 h exposure, the value of LC₅₀ for ABZ, CMSBE and CMRBE was 25.70, 144.54 and 58.88 mg/ml, respectively. The regression and coefficient of determination (correlation of regression

Table 3. Percentage mortality of larvae (L₃) of *H. contortus* exposed to stem and root bark extracts of *P. biglobosa* in comparison with albendazole.

Treatment (mg/ml)	% Mortality of L ₃ at different hours					
	0 h	1 h	3 h	6 h	9 h	12 h
Phosphate Buffer Saline (PBS)						
	0	0	0	0	0	0
Albendazole (ABZ)						
2	0	0	0	0	0	10
4	0	0	0	0	0	25
8	0	0	0	10	23	52
16	0	0	0	13	53	68
32	0	0	0	50	68	88
Crude Aqueous Stem Bark Extract (CASBE) of <i>P. biglobosa</i>						
2	0	0	0	0	0	3
4	0	0	0	0	0	12
8	0	0	0	10	8	40
16	0	0	0	13	38	50
32	0	0	0	50	50	55
Crude Methanol Stem Bark Extract (CMSBE) of <i>P. biglobosa</i>						
2	0	0	0	0	0	8
4	0	0	0	0	10	33
8	0	0	0	0	35	53
16	0	0	0	0	68	73
32	0	0	0	43	70	87
Crude Aqueous Root Bark Extract (CARBE) of <i>P. biglobosa</i>						
2	0	0	0	0	0	0
4	0	0	0	0	5	10
8	0	0	0	0	25	30
16	0	0	0	0	42	52
32	0	0	0	0	53	63
Crude Methanol Roots Bark Extract (CMRBE) of <i>P. biglobosa</i>						
2	0	0	0	0	0	5
4	0	0	0	0	5	10
8	0	0	0	0	17	23
16	0	0	0	5	55	60
32	0	0	0	25	70	75

Each treatment group had three replicates having 20 L₃ larvae each.

Source: Authors

"R²") were $Y = 4.716x - 1.658$, $R^2 = 0.871$; $Y = 3.213x - 1.934$, $R^2 = 0.506$; and $Y = 3.984x - 2.055$, $R^2 = 0.795$, respectively while the LC₅₀ and R² were not recorded for CASBE and CARBE (Table 4). At 9 h, the lowest concentration that resulted to 50% mortality of larvae of *H. contortus* was 14.79 mg/ml of CMSBE and the highest concentration was 23.99 mg/ml of CASBE (Table 6). The CMSBE resulted to 50% mortality of L₃ of with 14.79 mg/ml concentration while the standard drug (ABZ) resulted to 50% mortality at concentration of 19.50 mg/ml. At 12 h exposure to PBS, ABZ and different

extracts shown in Table 6. The lowest concentration of extracts that resulted to 50% mortality was CMSBE at 7.94 mg/ml which was even lower than the standard drug (ABZ) which was 8.51 mg/ml for 50% mortality. While the highest concentration was CARBE at 16.98 mg/ml for 50% mortality. The ranking of potency of CASBE, CMSBE, CARBE and CMRBE of *P. biglobosa* and standard drug (ABZ) based on their LC₅₀ and dose dependant effect (R²) at different hours of exposure are shown in Table 7. It was evident from the result that the effect of CMSBE was prominent and was ranked first

Table 4. LC₅₀, coefficient of determination (R²) and regression equation of the effect of stem and root bark extracts of *P. biglobosa* as well as standard drug (ABZ) on larvae (L₃) *H. contortus* motility and/or mortality at 6 h.

Treatments (mg/ml)	LC ₅₀ (mg/ml)	Coefficient of Determination (R ²)	Regression Equation
PBS (-Ve Control)	-	-	-
ABZ (+Ve Control)	25.70	0.871	Y= 4.716x - 1.658
CASBE	-	-	-
CMSBE	144.54	0.506	Y= 3.213x - 1.934
CARBE	-	-	-
CMRBE	58.88	0.795	Y= 3.984x - 2.055

PBS: Phosphate buffer saline; ABZ: albendazole; CASBE: crude aqueous stem bark extract; CMSBE: crude methanol stem bark extract; CARBE: crude aqueous root bark extract; CMRBE: Crude methanol root bark extract.
Source: Authors

Table 5. LC₅₀, coefficient of determination (R²) and regression equation of the effect of stem and root bark extracts of *P. biglobosa* as well as standard drug (ABZ) on larvae (L₃) *H. contortus* motility and/or mortality at 9 h.

Treatments (mg/ml)	LC ₅₀ (mg/mL)	Coefficient of Determination (R ²)	Regression Equation
PBS (-Ve Control)	-	-	-
ABZ (+Ve Control)	19.50	0.852	Y= 5.296x - 1.815
CASBE	23.99	0.874	Y= 4.857x - 1.725
CMSBE	14.79	0.781	Y=4.225x + 0.052
CARBE	19.50	0.781	Y = 3.832x + 0.057
CMRBE	16.98	0.849	Y= 4.234x - 0.207

Source: Authors

Table 6. LC₅₀, coefficient of determination (R²) and regression equation of the effect of stem and root bark extracts of *P. biglobosa* as well as standard drug (ABZ) on larvae (L₃) *H. contortus* motility and/or mortality at 12 h.

Treatments (mg/ml)	LC ₅₀ (mg/ml)	Coefficient of Determination (R ²)	Regression Equation
PBS (-Ve Control)	-	-	-
ABZ (+Ve Control)	8.51	0.995	Y= 2.006x + 3.139
CASBE	18.62	0.903	Y= 1.718x + 2.813
CMSBE	7.94	0.981	Y= 2.062x + 3.144
CARBE	16.98	0.762	Y= 3.961x + 0.142
CMRBE	14.79	0.973	Y= 2.036x + 2.615

Source: Authors

Table 7. Ranking of stem and root bark extracts and standard drug (ABZ) based on LC₅₀ values and coefficient of determination on larvae (L₃) *H. contortus* motility and/or mortality.

Treatments	Ranking of potency based on LC ₅₀			Ranking of potency based on dose dependent effect (R ² - values)		
	6 h	9 h	12 h	6 h	9 h	12 h
Duration of exposure						
ABZ (Control)	01	03	02	01	02	01
CASBE	-	04	05	-	01	04
CMSBE	03	01	01	03	04	02
CARBE	-	03	04	-	04	05
CMRBE	02	02	03	02	03	03

Source: Authors

Table 8. Percentage mortality of adult *H. contortus* exposed to stem and root bark extracts of *P. biglobosa* in comparison with albendazole (ABZ).

Treatment (mg/ml)	% number of dead worms at different hours					
	0 h	1 h	3 h	6 h	9 h	12 h
Phosphate Buffer Saline (PBS)						
	0	0	0	0	0	0
Albendazole (ABZ)						
2	0	0	50	60	100	100
4	0	0	60	80	100	100
8	0	0	63	83	100	100
16	0	0	100	100	100	100
32	0	0	100	100	100	100
Crude Aqueous Stem Bark Extract (CASBE) of <i>P. biglobosa</i>						
2	0	0	0	0	3	100
4	0	0	57	67	73	100
8	0	0	80	90	90	100
16	0	0	100	100	100	100
32	0	0	100	100	100	100
Crude Methanol Stem Bark Extract (CMSBE) of <i>P. biglobosa</i>						
2	0	0	43	50	100	100
4	0	0	50	80	100	100
8	0	0	77	83	100	100
16	0	0	80	100	100	100
32	0	0	83	100	100	100
Crude Aqueous Root Bark Extract (CARBE) of <i>P. biglobosa</i>						
2	0	0	0	0	100	100
4	0	0	40	50	100	100
8	0	0	50	57	100	100
16	0	0	57	93	100	100
32	0	0	87	100	100	100
Crude Methanol Root Bark Extract (CMRBE) of <i>P. biglobosa</i>						
2	0	0	0	20	100	100
4	0	0	0	30	100	100
8	0	0	20	53	100	100
16	0	0	40	80	100	100
32	0	0	70	100	100	100

Source: Authors

based on the LC₅₀, followed by CMRBE and lastly ABZ. At 12 h, the top most effective extract/treatment based on LC₅₀ was CMSBE, followed by ABZ and CMRBE, CARBE, and CASBE, respectively in decreasing order while based on dose dependant effect were ABZ, CMSBE, CMRBE, CASBE and CARBE, respectively in decreasing order.

Table 8 shows the percentage mortality of adult *H. contortus* exposed to different concentrations of CASBE, CMSBE, CARBE and CMRBE of *P. biglobosa* in

comparison to the standard drug (ABZ) at different hours. There was no mortality when adult worms were exposed to different concentrations of the extracts for 2 h including the positive and negative controls. The onset killing of 50% of the worm at 3 h began with ABZ at 2 mg/ml followed by CMSBE which killed 43% of the adult worms at the same concentration with that of ABZ. But at 4 mg/ml concentration of CMSBE, 50% of adult of *H. contortus* were killed. At 12 h post exposure of all the plant extracts and ABZ ranged from 2 to 32 mg/ml

Table 9. LC₅₀, coefficient of determination (R²) and regression equation of the effect of stem and root bark extracts of *P. biglobosa* as well as standard drug (ABZ) on adult *H. contortus* motility and/or mortality at 3 h.

Treatment (mg/mL)	LC ₅₀ (mg/mL)	Coefficient of Determination (R ²)	Regression Equation
PBS (-Ve Control)	-	-	-
ABZ (+Ve Control)	2.69	0.818	Y=2.270x + 4.015
CASBE	10.47	0.629	Y= 4.224x + 0.697
CMSBE	2.24	0.900	Y= 0.942x + 4.670
CARBE	12.30	0.689	Y= 4.195x + 0.428
CMRBE	20.41	0.867	Y= 5.222x - 1.824

Source: Authors

Table 10. LC₅₀, coefficient of determination (R²) and regression equation of the effect of stem and root bark extracts of *P. biglobosa* as well as standard drug (ABZ) on adult *H. contortus* motility and/or mortality at 6 h.

Treatment (mg/mL)	LC ₅₀ (mg/mL)	Coefficient of Determination (R ²)	Regression Equation
PBS (-Ve Control)	-	-	-
ABZ (+Ve Control)	1.45	0.888	Y= 1.856x + 4.697
CASBE	7.41	0.749	Y= 5.506x + 0.236
CMSBE	1.86	0.909	Y=2.074x 4.435
CARBE	8.71	0.803	Y= 5.363x - 0.031
CMRBE	5.62	0.926	Y= 2.580x +3.058

Source: Authors

Table 11. LC₅₀, coefficient of determination (R²) and regression equation of the effect of stem and root bark extracts of *P. biglobosa* as well as standard drug (ABZ) on adult *H. contortus* motility and/or mortality at 9 h.

Treatments (mg/mL)	LC ₅₀ (mg/mL)	Coefficient of Determination (R ²)	Regression Equation
PBS(-Ve Control)	-	-	-
ABZ (+Ve Control)	-	1E-1	Y=7.37
CASBE	4.17	0.854	Y=3.390x + 2.892
CMSBE	-	1E-1	Y= 7.37
CARBE	"	"	"
CMRBE	"	"	"

Source: Authors

concentration, 100% mortality of the adult worms were recorded while no mortality was recorded in negative control (PBS) even up to 12 h post exposure.

The LC₅₀ and correlation of regression (R²) at 3 h of adult *H. contortus* exposure to CASBE, CMSBE, CARSE and CMRBE as well as positive and negative control are shown in Table 9. All the four extracts including ABZ at varying concentrations resulted to 50% mortality. At 6 h, 50% mortality of the adult worm was recorded for all the plant extracts and the standard drug at various concentrations with the exception of negative control (Table 10). Furthermore, at 9 h post exposure of standard drug and all the extracts, only CASBE at 4.17 mg/ml concentration resulted to 50% mortality of adult *H. contortus*, the remaining extracts and ABZ resulted to 100% mortality of all adult *H. contortus* shown in Table

11. Also, in Table 12, at 12 h post exposure of all the extracts and ABZ to adult *H. contortus*, 100% mortality was recorded. The LC₅₀ could not be determined.

The ranking of potency of CASBE, CMSBE, CARBE and CMRBE of *P. biglobosa* and ABZ based on LC₅₀ and dose dependant effect (R² values) are shown in Table 13. At 3 h of exposure, CMSBE was ranked the highest for LC₅₀ and R², followed by ABZ. But at 6 h exposure, LC₅₀ was ranked first for ABZ, followed by CMSBE while for R², CMRBE was ranked first, followed by CMSBE and ABZ, respectively. It is interesting to know that at 12 h exposure, LC₅₀ and R² were all ranked first for all plant extracts and ABZ. It was also evident from the data that all the extracts from different parts of the plant have dose dependant anthelmintic activity despite the varied changes.

Table 12. LC₅₀, coefficient of determination (R²) and regression equation of the effect of stem and root bark extracts of *P. biglobosa* as well as standard drug (ABZ) on adult *H. contortus* motility and/or mortality at 12 h.

Treatment (mg/mL)	LC ₅₀ (mg/mL)	Coefficient of Determination (R ²)	Regression Equation
PBS (-Ve Control)	-	-	-
ABZ (+Ve Control)	-	1E-1	Y= 7.37
CASBE	-	1E-1	Y= 7.37
CMEBE	-	1E-1	Y= 7.37
CARBE	"	"	"
CMRBE	"	"	"

Source: Authors

Table 13. Ranking of stem bark extracts, root bark extracts and Standard Drug (Albendazole) based on LC₅₀ values and coefficient of determination on adult *H. contortus* motility and/or mortality.

Treatment (mg/mL)	Ranking of potency based on LC ₅₀				Ranking of potency based on dose dependent effect (R ² - values)				
	Duration	3 h	6 h	9 h	12 h	3 h	6 h	9 h	12 h
ABZ (Control)		02	01	01	01	02	03	01	01
CASBE		03	04	02	01	05	05	02	01
CMSBE		01	02	01	01	01	02	01	01
CARBE		04	05	01	01	04	04	01	01
CMRBE		05	03	01	01	03	01	01	01

Source: Authors

DISCUSSION

Different methods exist for the extraction and separation of plant materials for pharmacological and medicinal uses. In this study, exhaustive extraction of the dried powdered material of stem and root barks of *P. biglobosa* were extracted with water and methanol separately. Among the extraction of aqueous and methanol extracts of *P. biglobosa*, CMSBE gave the highest yield (25.15%) while the CMRBE gave the lowest yield (13.9%). The highest yield reported could possibly be as a result of stem bark of *P. biglobosa* having more phytochemical constituents whose polarity corresponded to that of methanol (Kimani et al., 2013). The percentage yield in this result is higher than that of Salit et al. (2014) who reported 14.5 and 4.0% of yield extracts of seed-husk and stem bark of *P. biglobosa* plant, respectively.

Right from the time immemorial, plants formed part of therapy against parasitic infections of both humans and animals (Priya et al., 2015). Therefore, the basic phytochemicals investigations of extracts of different components of *P. biglobosa* for their major phyto-constituents are important in order to know the secondary metabolites present in this plant.

In this study, the phytochemical constituents present in water and methanol stem bark extracts of *P. biglobosa* were alkaloid, anthraquinones, cardiac glycosides, glycosides, flavonoids, oils, phlobatannins, reducing

sugar, saponins, starch, sterols/steroids, tannin (condensed and hydrolysable), and terpenoids. The presence and/or absence of these phytochemical constituents vary in each extract. The results in this study were similar with the results of Ezekwe et al. (2013) in methanol extracts of stem bark of *P. biglobosa*. Millogo Kone et al. (2006) also reported the presence of saponins, glycosides, tannins and other phenolics with trace quantity of alkaloids while Banwo et al. (2004) confirmed the same.

However, the report of Builders et al. (2012) differed slightly from the result of this study due to absence of alkaloids from the methanol stem bark extracts. Thus, the absence may not be a minus for the medicinal efficacies of stem bark of *P. biglobosa* but could be the methods of processing and geographical location of this plant that might have led to differences in phytochemical constituents in the two works.

Similarly, in aqueous and methanol extracts of root bark of *P. biglobosa*, the phytochemical constituents present were anthraquinones, cardiac glycosides, flavonoids, phlobatannins, protein, reducing sugar, saponins, sterols/steroids, tannin (condensed and hydrolysable), and terpenoids. These results coincided with the report of Udobi and Onaolapo (2009), who used aqueous and petroleum ether solvents for extraction *P. biglobosa*, although, anthraquinone was absent in their result. It is therefore, important to note that from the four

different extracts extracted from different plant parts of *P. biglobosa*, CMSBE contained more secondary metabolites when compared with CASBE, CARBE and CMRBE. *In vitro* tests using the infective larvae of *H. contortus* is considered to be one of the best means of screening drugs for anthelmintic activity (Asase et al., 2005). Several researchers (Ademola et al., 2005; Bizimenyera et al., 2006; Soetan et al., 2011) have reported the activities of *in vitro* anthelmintic study of plant extracts for the treatment of gastro-intestinal helminths of animals. Therefore, perturbation induced by anthelmintic plants on infective larvae and adult worm survival or their prolificacy that constitute the pathogenic stage could be an important element in parasites struggle (Josiah et al., 2018).

The *in vitro* screening of CASBE, CMSBE, CARBE and CMRBE of *P. biglobosa* showed a significant anthelmintic activity against larvae (L₃) of *H. contortus*. In this study, there was no mortality or inhibition of motility of larvae when exposed to PBS, ABZ and all the aqueous and methanol extracts of *P. biglobosa* at 3 h post exposure. These results contradicted the findings of Dey et al. (2015) who worked on *in vitro* anthelmintic effect of some medicinal plants but not *P. biglobosa* against *H. contortus* and reported varied degree of mortality with different concentration of plant extracts in less than 3 h post exposure.

In this study, the highest efficacy was observed in positive control (ABZ) at 32 mg/ml with 88% mortality in 12 h post exposure. This was followed by CMSBE, CMRBE, CARBE and CASBE with 87, 75, 63 and 55% mortality, respectively at 32 mg/ml in 12 h post exposure. There was no mortality in negative control for up to 12 h post-exposure. It is therefore evident that, the positive control (ABZ) and all the extracts are dose and time dependent.

The LC₅₀ determination of larva motility suggested that 50% of L₃ larvae were inhibited at concentration of 25.70, 58.88 and 144.54 mg/ml for ABZ, CMRBE and CMSBE, respectively at 6 h post-exposure. As ascertained, this is the first scientific evidence of the anthelmintic activity of CASBE, CMSBE, CARBE and CMRBE of *P. biglobosa* against larvae (L₃) of *H. contortus* when exposed below or above 3 h. At 12 h post exposure, 50% mortality was recorded for ABZ, CASBE, CMSBE, CARBE and CMRBE of *P. biglobosa* at 8.51, 18.62, 7.94, 16.98 and 14.79, respectively. This suggested a wide difference in the anthelmintic effect among the different extracts as far as the time and dose dependent effects are concerned. Therefore, CMSBE has high anthelmintic efficacy when compared with other extracts and even ABZ.

Larvae (L₃) represent an important stage of the parasitic cycle of *H. contortus*. They are the infective stage and could be a source of losses of production in the host (Paolini et al., 2003; Brunet et al., 2007). The decrease in larval migration induced by plant extracts could be due either to larval mortality or to larval paralysis

caused by bioactive compounds present in the *P. biglobosa* especially in CMSBE and CMRBE.

Many researchers such as Molan et al. (2000, 2003), Brunet et al. (2007) and Olounlade et al. (2011), have shown different extracts from plant rich in tannins and terpenoids are responsible for the inhibition of larval migration of *H. contortus* as well as affected the kinetics of unsheathing of strongyle L₃ and consequently reduced the migration ability of ovine nematode larvae.

Additionally, this plant extracts (especially stem bark of *P. biglobosa*) contained others major metabolites affecting the migration of L₃ larvae of *H. contortus*. The larval migration was also inhibited either by saponins (Lukhoba et al., 2006) and triterpens, or by flavonoids and glycosides (Ademola et al., 2005; Barrau et al., 2005; Azando et al., 2011). Furthermore, Ayers et al. (2008) reported the contribution of phenols and flavonoids with anthelmintic activity of *Struthiola argentea*. Thus, the higher flavonoids and saponins present in the extracts of *P. biglobosa* especially in methanol stem bark could be actively associated to anthelmintic activity observed.

The mortality induced by CASBE, CMSBE, CARBE and CMRBE of *P. biglobosa* on adult *H. contortus* on this study could be an important element in parasites struggle. The concentration range of 2 to 32 mg/ml of CASBE, CMSBE, CARBE and CMRBE of *P. biglobosa* was used in comparison with positive control - ABZ (2, 4, 8, 16 and 32 mg/ml) and negative control (PBS) on mature live *H. contortus* of goats. The results of this study indicated that exposure of adult worms to at least 2 mg/ml concentration of ABZ, CASBE CMSBE, CARBE and CMRBE of *P. biglobosa* for 12 h post exposure, lead to 100% mortality or inhibition of adult worms. These results were quite similar with that of Dedehou et al. (2014) who reported that the extracts of pods fruit of *P. biglobosa* and leaves of *P. erinaceus* inhibited 100% adult worm motility after 36 h of incubation. However, the result contradicted that of Bogning et al. (2016) who reported 16.67% of inhibition of the parasite motility when exposed to highest concentration of the aqueous extract (2400 µg/ml) of *Crassocephalum crepidioides* for 12 h and 100% inhibition after exposure to 30 h of incubation.

It is important to note that all the extracts resulted in paralysis and mortality of the tested worms at 12 h post exposure. All the worms exposed to ABZ (a standard anthelmintic drug) were found death at 9 h, whereas none of the worms was dead or paralysed in PBS up to 12 h post exposure. The higher concentrations resulted in early onset of activity and higher number of dead worms compared with lower concentrations. This suggested that the extracts response were time and concentration dependent. In this study, CMSBE resulted to onset killing of adult worm when compared with ABZ. This is evidence from the 3 h post exposure where CMSBE was ranked first on potency based on LC₅₀. The tannins contained in plants have been reported to possess anthelmintic (Paolini et al., 2003, 2005; Ademola et al., 2004, 2005)

activities. It is postulated that condensed tannin may impair vital processes such as feeding and reproduction of the parasite or may bind and disrupt the integrity of the parasites' cuticle (Niezen et al., 1995). In general, it is important to note that the literature is scarce on the *in vitro* study of stem and root barks extracts of *P. biglobosa* on infective larvae and adult of *H. contortus*.

In vitro evaluation for anthelmintic activity of CASBE, CMSBE, CARBE and CMRBE of *P. biglobosa* showed that all extracts exhibited anthelmintic activity against *H. contortus* as evident from larva motility inhibition assay and adult motility assay of the worms. A wide difference, however, was recorded in the anthelmintic effects among different extracts as far as the intensity, time and dose dependent effects were concerned. The larvicidal and adulticidal properties of these extracts may be due to active compounds present in the extracts that penetrate across the cuticle of the parasites on one hand or the absorption of the active compounds by the parasites through the mouth on the other hand. Active compounds could penetrate through the cuticle of nematodes and prevent the absorption of glucose or block the post-synaptic receptors, thus, paralyzing the parasites as mentioned by Enriquez et al. (1993).

Conclusion

The overall findings of the study showed that CASBE, CMSBE, CMRBE and CARBE exhibited *in vitro* anthelmintic of 55, 87, 63 and 75% mortality, respectively against infective larvae of *H. contortus* when exposed to 32 mg/ml concentration for 12 h while 100% mortality was recorded against adult *H. contortus* when exposed to 32 mg/ml concentration of CASBE, CMSBE, CMRBE and CARBE for 6 h with CMSBE ranked the highest in LC₅₀ and R². The *in vitro* anthelmintic activity against infective larvae of *H. contortus* was less efficacious in both the aqueous and methanol extracts when compared with adult *H. contortus*. However, the potency of plant extracts was dependent on the time of exposure and concentration of the extracts as well as the solvent used to extract the active ingredients. It is therefore, concluded that, 32 mg/ml of aqueous and methanol extracts of stem and root barks of *P. biglobosa* have higher adulticidal activity at 6 h post exposure but lower larvicidal activity against *H. contortus* and this justifies their traditional ethno-veterinary use. However, further studies are needed to carry out the *in vivo* study to assess the toxicological effect on animal model.

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CONFLICT OF INTERESTS

The authors have not declared any conflict of interests.

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