

Optimization of Extraction Conditions of Natural Dye (*Eucalyptus Bark*) and It's Dyeing Standardization

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ABSTRACT

This study shade more lights on which extraction of natural dye from Eucalyptus bark was carried out. The raw eucalyptus bark was obtained at federal university Dutse, Jigawa state. The extraction carried out at different conditions. The temperature and the stirring time were optimised during the dye extraction. The effect of stirring was sporadic during the extraction process and in the case of temperature, the maximum colour strenght obtained from the dye extract was at at boiling after soaking overnight. Dyeing of five cotton sample at 20^oc, 40^oc, 60^oc, 80^oc, and 100^oc was carried out at separate dye bath to optimized the dyeing condition. The optimized dyeing temperature was found to be 100^oc, having maximum colour strength. The optimum sodium sulphate concentration required for best degree of exhaustion was obtained, by dyeing of six more samples carried out in different dye bath at the optimised temperature (100^oC), for a duration of 60 minutes each with sodium sulphate concentration at 0 g/L, 20 g/L, 40 g/L, 60 g/L, 80 g/L, 100 g/L respectively. Dyeing at 100g/L salt concentration yields the maximum colour strenght, and was found to be the optimized salt concentration for the dyeing process. To obtained the optimum dyeing time, four more samples were dyed at the optimised dyeing temperature and electrolyte concentration for 20 minutes, 40 minutes, 60 minutes, 80 minutes, and 100 minutes, respectively. The dye extract from the optimized conditions was used to dye cotton fabric, by direct dyeing method, in an endeavour to attain desirable fastness properties by comparing the fastness properties of dyeing with different dyeing techniques.

Keywords: eucalyptus bark, natural dye, quercetin, colour strength, cotton fiber, dyeing.

INTRODUCTION

Colourant obtained from vegetable or animal without undergoing any chemical processing are referred to as natural dyes. The international increased in the demand of natural dyes in textile industries, made it an important aspect of research in various institutions of learning. Increasing awareness of the environmental and health risks accompanying the synthesis, processing, and application of synthetic dyes make natural dye perfect candidate to substitute it in terms of demand by pharmaceutical, food industry, he textile colouration, as well as cosmetic, and this displayed the importance of natural dyes during the last decade in our modern world (Adeel et al., 2017).

Since the advent of widely available and cheaper synthetic dyes in 1856 having moderate to excellent colour fastness properties, the use of natural dyes having poor to moderate wash and light fastness has declined to a great extent. However, recently there has been revival of the growing interest on the application of natural dyes on natural fibers due to worldwide environmental consciousness (Bectold *et al.*, 2003).

The major disadvantage in synthetic dyes processing industries is environmental pollution, and it can be reduced by using natural dyes in the place of synthetic dyes. During textile processing, the environment is polluted with heavy chemicals waste generated by the waste water. Therefore to reduce the environmental pollution, the use of dyes and chemicals that are environmental friendly, non-toxic and ecofriendly engage in order to avoid some hazardous synthetic dyes (Bectold *et al.*, 2006).

Natural dyes are generally biodegradable, eco-friendly, less toxic, and less allergenic as compared to synthetic dyes. However, certain natural dyes may have noticeable mutagenic effects, such as safflower yellow and elder berry colour. others, like carmine, can cause asthma by direct inhalation, which was all shown in some research works. But it can be concluded that natural dyes are safe and some even have healing effects e.g., curcumin in turmeric has antibacterial properties (Hwang *et al.*, 2008).

Recently, a number of commercial dyers and small textile export houses have started looking at the possibilities of using natural dyes for regular basis dyeing and printing of textiles to overcome environmental pollution caused by the synthetic dyes (Bectold & Mussak, 2009)

Despite how advantageous natural dyes over the synthetics, the use of the natural dye is still very restricted as result of non-availability of standard shade chart and standard method of application. Most of the natural dyes have poor substantivity for the textile fibre and are applied to the material in combination with mordants. A mordant, usually a metallic salt, is considered as a chemical, which served as a bridge between the fibre and the dyestuff. A bond is made between the fibre and the dye, which permits certain dyes with no or little affinity for the fibre to be fixed (Gulrajani *et al.*, 1992).

However, both foreign and domestic institutes have been engaged in natural dye extraction, even though there various problems encountered such as, lack of desirable fastness properties and poor reproducibility, (Vankar *et al.*, 2006). This research is about the extraction of dye from Eucalyptus and its application on cotton fibre in an endeavour to investigate optimal extraction and application conditions to attain desirable fastness properties.

Eucalyptus grows on valleys, swampland, and mountains. Its trees are characterised by their leathery, whitish leaves with a peculiar aroma. Eucalyptus bark is one of the most important sources of yellowish brown colourant. The natural tannins and polyphenols varying from 10% to 12% abundant in colouring matter of Eucalyptus (Conde *et al.*, 1997).

The important compounds found in the eucalyptus bark are Eriodictyol, Naringenin, Quercetin, Rhamnazin, Rhamnetin and Toxifolin, apart from tannins of which some are colourants. The major colouring component of Eucalyptus bark is quercetin, which is also an antioxidant. The structures of two important colouring components of Eucalyptus is show bellow in figure 1. (Vankar, 2007).

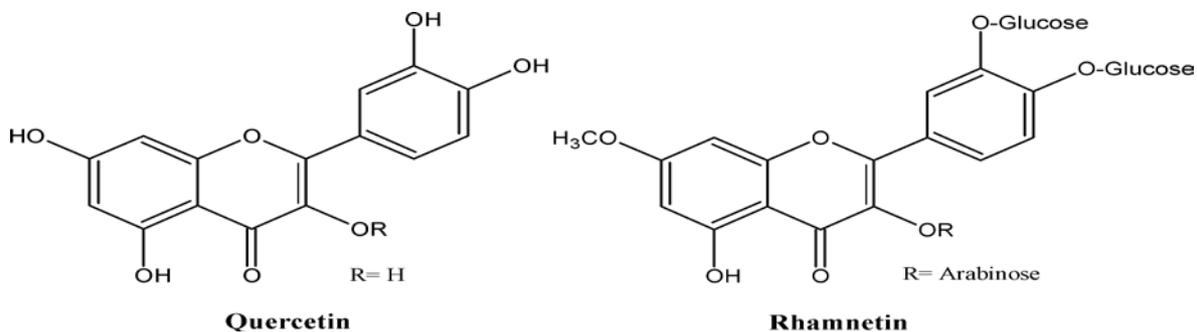


Figure 1 Chemical structures of Quercetin and Rhamnetin.

MATERIALS AND METHODS

Materials and Reagents

Eucalyptus bark

Beakers

Bulb

Conical flask

Cotton material

Filter paper

Mesh

Magnetic stirrer

Crockmeter, for testing rubbing fastness

Spectrophotometer for colour measurement

Sodium sulphate, to promote dye exhaustion

Methods

The procedures reported was adopted by Ali et al., (2007) with some modifications.

Optimisation of extraction conditions

Dead Eucalyptus bark was collected from the federal University Dutse, jigawa state without harming the trees. It was washed thoroughly dried, then crushed into powder form and sieved to reduced the particle size. In order to find out the optimum extraction conditions, a total number of 25 experiments were carried out at different temperatures with various stirring times as given bellow:

- A set of 5 samples of crushed powder of Eucalyptus bark weighing 20 g, dissolved in 200 mL distilled water in a beaker and subjected to stirring at room temperature for 20, 40, 60, 80 and 100 min, respectively.
- A similar set of 5 samples subjected to stirring at 60°C for 20, 40, 60, 80 and 100 min, respectively.
- Another set of 5 samples subjected to stirring at 100°C for 20, 40, 60, 80 and 100 min, respectively.
- A set of 5 samples of crushed powder of Eucalyptus bark weighing 20 g, soaked for overnight in 200 mL distilled water in a beaker and then subjected to stirring at room temperature for 20, 40, 60, 80 and 100 min, respectively.
- Another set of 5 samples soaked for overnight in 200 mL distilled water in a beaker and then subjected to stirring at boil for 20, 40, 60, 80 and 100 min, respectively.

25 samples of cotton fabric weighing 6g each were used to dye in separate baths containing dye extracts, obtained from the above stated experiments. Dyeing were carried out at 60°C, with 20:1 liquor-to-goods ratio for 60 minutes, using 5g of sodium sulphate in each dye bath to improve exhaustion. The dye extract that gave the maximum exhaustion was then selected for further experimentation in order to find out the optimum dyeing conditions.

Optimization of dyeing conditions

Five samples of cotton fabric, weighing 4g each, were dyed in 5 separate baths for 60 minutes taking 80mL of the dye extract (with the maximum exhaustion) in each bath at 20°C, 40°C, 60°C, 80°C and 100°C, respectively, to determine the optimum dyeing temperature. All of these dyeings were carried out in the presence of 3.5 g sodium sulphate to promote exhaustion.

The optimum sodium sulphate concentration required for best degree of exhaustion was obtained, 6 more dyeings were carried out at the optimised temperature(100°C) for 60 minutes each with 0 g/L, 20 g/L, 40 g/L, 60 g/L, 80 g/L, 100 g/L sodium sulphate, respectively.

To obtain the optimum dyeing time, 5 more samples were dyed at the optimised dyeing temperature and electrolyte concentration for 20 minutes, 40 minutes, 60 minutes, 80 minutes, and 100 minutes, respectively.

FASTNESS TESTING

Fastness to Light

The samples of the coloured textile obtained under under the optimised conditions is stitched to a piece of undyed cloth of the same fiber, to determine the light fastness. The test was carried out by exposing the specimen to a light bulb for about 120 hours. The test required eight standard blue-dyed wool cloths, numbered 1-8. Number 1 represent the very low light fastness and number 8 represent very high light fastness. At the end of the test, the change in colour of the sample is compared with changes which have occurred in the standards. the fastness rating of the specimen is the number of the standard which viewed a similar change in colour.

Fastness to Washing

Assessment of washing fastness is made by series of five washing test varying in severity from number 1 to number five. The degree of staining is assessed by matching the appropriate undyed piece of fabric to the specimen, it is assessed by the used of grey scale.

Fastness to Rubbing

A machine known as crockmeter is used to test the fastness to rubbing or crocking. A relatively simple test is to rub the dyed fabric with a piece of undyed fabric wrapped round the finger, the first with white dry and then with wet white fabric, which will stain the white fabric and the fastness to rubbing property is determined.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Effect of Extraction Conditions

Figure 2 show the relative colour strength of the dye extracts obtained under different extraction conditions, the minimum colour strenght obtained during the extraction process was at room temperature, slightly getting better at 60°C and at boiling temperature. For extractions process, the effect of stirring was sporadic.

However, the maximum colour strength of the dye extract,was obtained at boiling after soaking overnight, the colour strength of dye extracts increased by increasing the stirring time up to 80 minutes. Stirring for more than 80 minutes decreased colour strength. This happened because after such a long stirring time, some impurities were also extracted along with the colouring components, thus decreasing the overall colour strength of the dye extract.

Ali *et al.*, 2007 carried out similar research and it was found that, stirring time and temperature is proportional to the colour strength obtained during extraction. The maximum colour strength was obtained at boiling after soaking overnight with stirring duration of 80 minutes

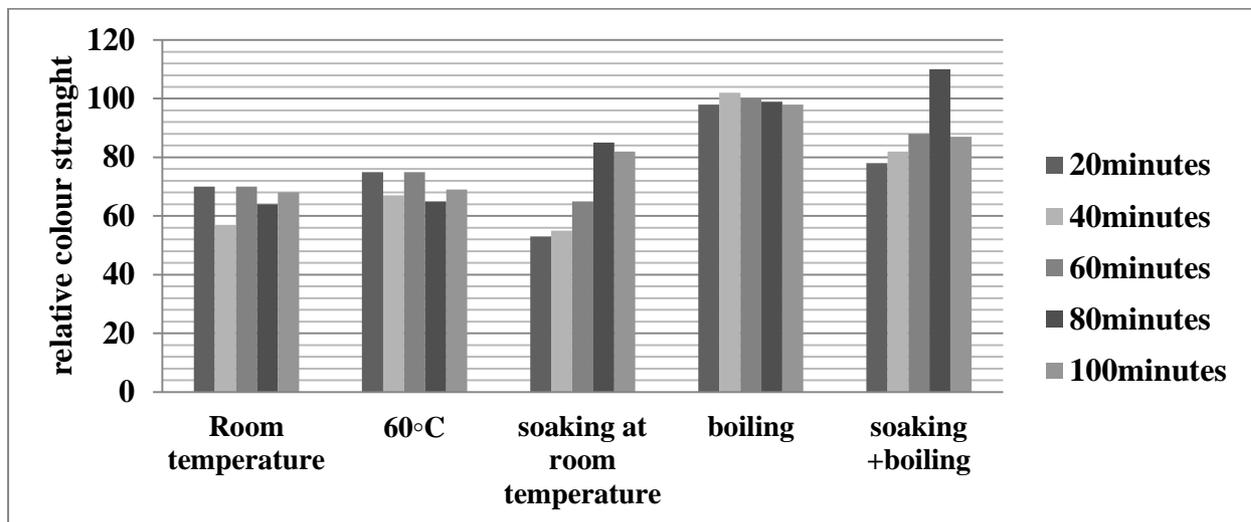


Figure 2: Effect of Extraction Conditions on Colour Strength

EFFECT OF DYEING CONDITIONS



Fabric Dyed At Optimum Salt Concentration



Bleached treated fabric



Fabric dyed at optimum dyeing temperature



Fabric Dyed At Optimum Dyeing Time

Effect of Dyeing Temperature on Colour Strength

The effect of dyeing temperature on colour strength is demonstrated in Figure 3. Maximum colour strength was obtained at 100°C, and also a similar work was done by ali *et al.*, 2007 and similar result was obtained. High temperature will lead to high value of entropy, increase the kinetic energy of dye molecule as well as increasing the pore size of the fiber, which permits dye molecules to rapidly penetrate into the fabric and distribute themselves very easily all over the available dye sites. The increase in kinetic energy of the molecule lead to the molecule moving faster from the solution in to the fiber, and this bring about reduction in the time of dyeing (Ali *et al.*, 2007).

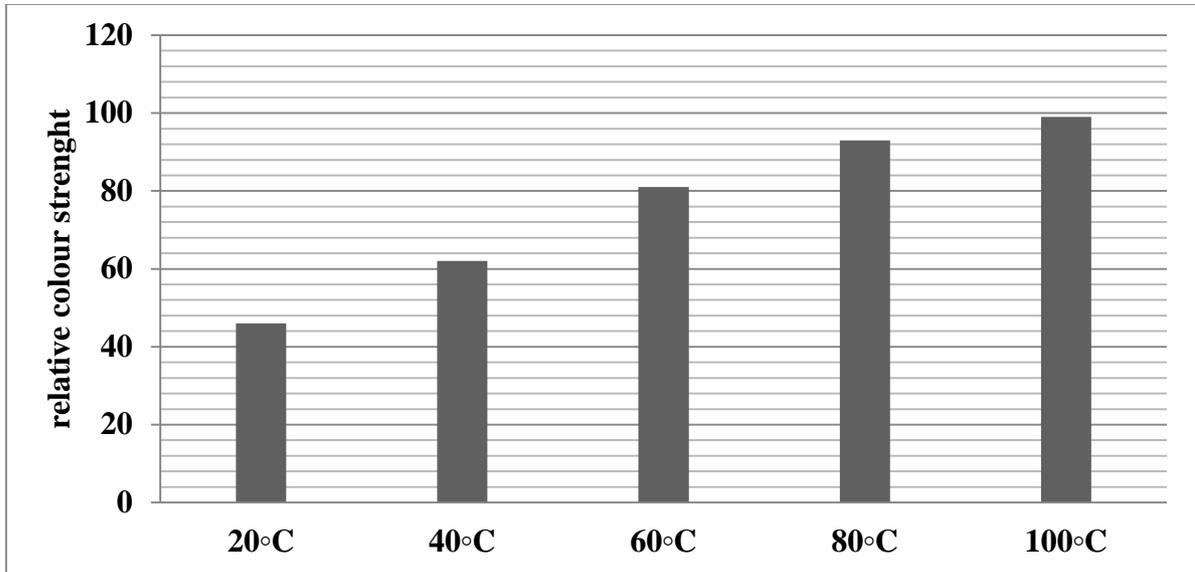


Figure 3: Effect of Dyeing Temperature on Colour Strength

Effect of Salt Concentration on Colour Strength

The effect of salt concentration on colour strength is shown in figure 4. The colour strength was increased steadily by increasing the concentration of sodium sulphate from 0g/L to 100g/L.

It was investigated by Ali *et al.*,2007 and similar result of close values were obtained, further increase in salt concentration had sporadic effect because of increase in dye aggregation at high salt concentrations.

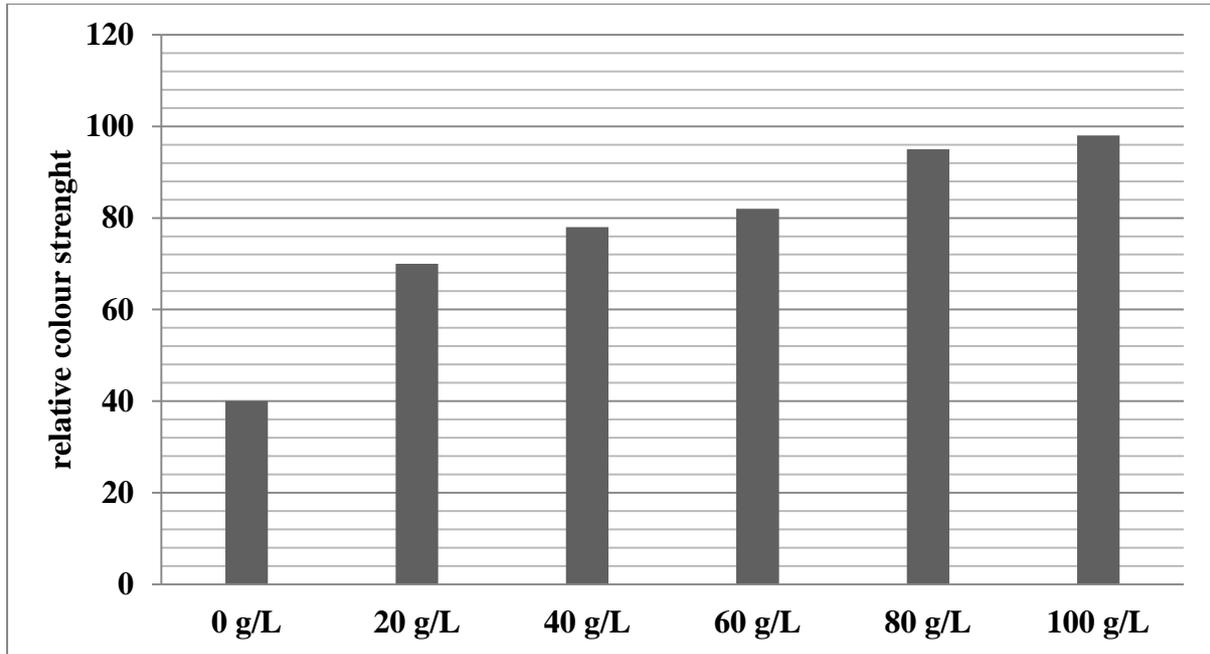


Figure 4: Effect of Salt Concentration on Colour Strenght

3.2.3 Effect of Dyeing Time on Colour Strength

Effect of dyeing time on colour strength is shown in Figure 5. The longer the dyeing time, the higher is the colour strength until dye exhaustion attains equilibrium and there is no significant increase in the colour strength after further increase in dyeing time.

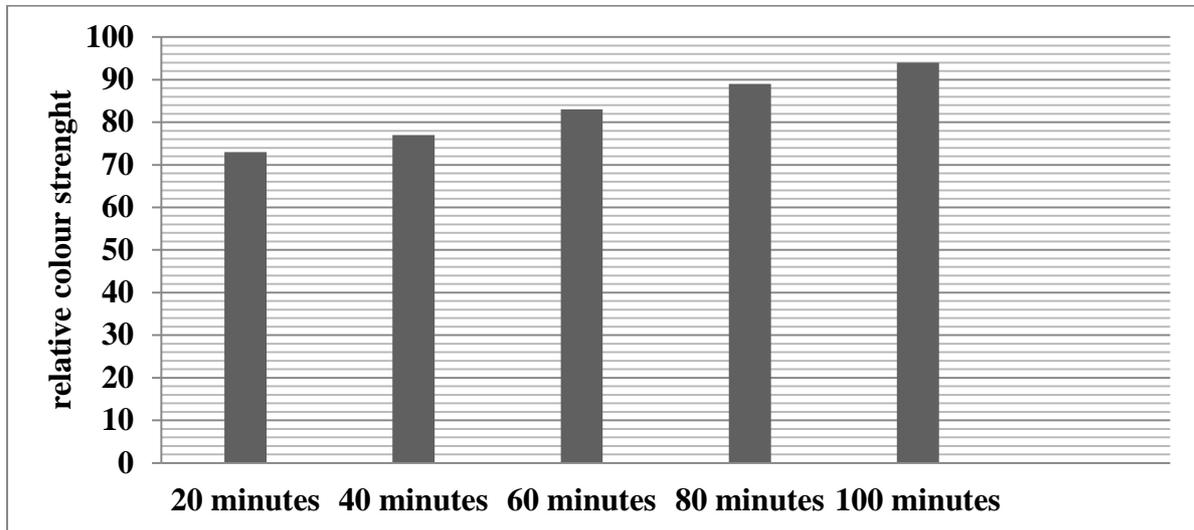


Figure 5 : Effect of Dyeing Time on Colour Strength.

Fastness Properties

Table 1 shows the fastness properties of the dyed cotton fibre under optimised conditions. The dyed cotton has fairly good fastness properties when compared with the grey scale standards. Washing and light fastness properties are better than many of the commonly used dyes. Ali *et al.*,2007 carried out similar research work and found out that, the fastness properties of the dyed material was fairly good. However, which is not be acceptable for high quality material requiring very good to excellent fastness properties. Dry rubbing fastness is very good, while wet rubbing fastness is poor.

Table1 Fastness of the Dyed Fabric

Light fastness		washing fastness		Dry rubbing		Wet rubbing	
Alteration	Staining	Alteration	Staining	Alteration	Staining	Alteration	Staining
4	8	3	5	4	5	3	5

CONCLUSION

Extraction and dyeing conditions of a natural dye from eucalyptus was optimised, It has been observed that temperature, concentration of salt, and dyeing time plays a vital role in obtaining dye extract with maximum colour strength. The dye obtained displays fairly good saturation on cotton with medium to good fastness properties.

The colour strength increases with increased in temperature, high salt concentration and increased dyeing time. The colour strength of the dye extract obtained at boiling after soaking overnight was found to be the best extraction condition, because a maximum yield was obtained (Ali *et al.*,2007).

Moreover maximum colour strength was obtained during dyeing at 100°C, This means that increase in dyeing temperature will result in increase in colour strength. Also, the colour strength was increased by increasing the salt concentration, which result to an increased in dye aggregation. The duration of dyeing has an effect on the colour strength. The longer the dyeing time, the higher the colour strength until dye exhaustion attains equilibrium and no significant increase at that time. The dye cotton fabric exhibit fairly good fastness properties.

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