



## Phytochemical Screening of *Agaricus bisporus* with Medicinal Plants Supplementation

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### Article Info

**ISSN (online):** 2582-7138

**Volume:** 06

**Issue:** 04

**July - August 2025**

**Received:** 09-06-2025

**Accepted:** 10-07-2025

**Published:** 05-08-2025

**Page No:** 1186-1189

### Abstract

This work has explicitly investigated the phytochemicals in *Agaricus bisporus* when cultivated with *Zingiber officinale* and *Curcuma longa* parts as botanical supplementations. Here, the phytochemical screening of with aqueous extracts of the mushrooms has revealed the presence of phyto-constituents like carbohydrates, proteins, alkaloids, flavonoids, terpenoids, phenols, tannins, glycosides, steroids and saponins.

**Keywords:** *Agaricus bisporus*, *Zingiber officinale*, *Curcuma longa*, Aqueous Extract, Phyto-Constituents

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### Introduction

The world has reached to a population of 7 billion and still growing leading to shortage of food resulting in health deterioration in humans <sup>[1]</sup>. There has been constant shortage of food and shelter. Speaking about food, people definitely need proper nourishment to live a healthy life and especially vegetarians who do not take animal protein and for making proper shelter, there has been constant deforestation leading to shortage of plants and in turn plant protein. Here, comes a voice from the wild speaking about source of stored protein named mushrooms. These edible fungi can fulfill the nutritional demands of human beings <sup>[2, 3]</sup>. *Agaricus bisporus* cultivation contributes to about 40% of all mushrooms grown <sup>[4]</sup>. The common name of this mushroom is white button mushroom and is widely used in the treatment of cerebral strokes and cancers reported <sup>[5]</sup>. *Agaricus bisporus* is most popular variety in India with high prices <sup>[6]</sup>. This mushroom has a credible sources of micro elements like sodium, potassium, phosphorus, antioxidants, conjugated linoleic acid etc <sup>[7]</sup>.

The extract of this mushroom can be probably utilized in Alzheimer's disease as it has butyryl-cholinesterase and acetylcholinesterase inhibition activity <sup>[8]</sup>. *Agaricus bisporus* extracts and its phytochemical plant compounds are used as anti-cancerous, anti-inflammatory, antioxidants against many diseases like diabetes mellitus, coronary heart diseases, immune system disorders, fungal and bacterial infections etc <sup>[9, 15]</sup>. Three essential polysaccharides are present in *Agaricus bisporus* that is alpha-glucan, beta glucan and galactomannan <sup>[16]</sup> and mainly fatty acids which are linoleic acid, palmitic acid, and stearic acid <sup>[17]</sup>. The main aim of this research is to screen out the phyto-constituents of *Agaricus bisporus* when cultivated with *Curcuma longa* and *Zingiber officinale*.

### Materials and Methods

#### Cultivation of Mushrooms

The cultivation process was conducted in Birsa Agriculture University, Kanke Ranchi, Jharkhand. Process includes the usual four steps- composting, spawning, casing and harvesting. Two botanicals were taken for supplementation that is, *Zingiber officinale* and *Curcuma longa*. Now, considering the economical benefits and production it was observed that all the 4% supplementation gave good results in comparison to 2% and in some cases both were almost equal on the average. So, the further phytochemical and other deep studies were restricted to 4% supplements.



Fig 1

### Classification

Kingdom	Fungi
Phylum	Basidiomycota
Class	Agaricomycetes
Order	Agaricales
Family	Agaricaceae
Genus	<i>Agaricus</i>
Species	<i>Agaricus bisporus</i>

### Medicinal Plants Supplementation

The rhizome of both the plants were taken for the supplementation purpose. They were washed. Cut into thin slices, dried and powered. They were incorporated in the casing material in certain percentages that is, 2% and 4% each. Untreated bags were kept as controls. All the bags were replicated thrice.

Then following the usual time and method, the fruiting was harvested from the bags and taken for preliminary phytochemical screening.

### Drying of Mushrooms

Freshly harvested mushrooms were thoroughly washed to remove impurities, cut into thin slices and dried in shade for 3-4 weeks. Then, they were crushed and powered in a mortar and pestle.

### Preparation of Aqueous Extract

Powder was dissolved in distilled water in the ratio of 1:10. After that it was boiled in a water bath at a controlled temperature. Then, the preliminary qualitative phytochemical screening was carried on-

The standard methods were used for the qualitative screening of white button mushrooms [18, 20].

#### 1) Test for Carbohydrates

##### a) Benedict's test

1 ml extract + 1 ml Benedict's reagent

This gave a bluish green color that indicated the presen of

carbohydrates.

#### 2) Test for Proteins

##### a) Million's test

1 ml extract + 5-6 drops of Million's reagent

A white precipitate was obtained that indicated the presence of proteins.

#### 3) Test for Alkaloids

##### a) Dragendroff's test

1 ml extract + 1 ml HCl + 1 ml Dragendroff's reagent

A red to turbid orange color indicated the presence of alkaloids.

#### 4) Test for Flavonoids

##### a) Lead acetate test

1 ml extract + 2 ml distilled water + 3 ml of 10% lead acetate

A bulky white precipitate indicated the presence of flavonoid.

#### 5) Test for Anthocyanine

##### a) Hydrochloric test

1 ml extract + 5 ml dilute HCl

Pink color appearance indicated the presence of anthocyanine.

#### 6) Test for Phlobotannins

1 ml extract + few drops of Dilute HCl

Appearance of red precipitate indicates the presence of phlobotannin.

#### 7) Test for Glycosides

##### a) Keller-Killiani Test

5 ml extract + 2 ml glacial  $\text{CH}_3\text{COOH}$  + 1 drop of ferric chloride + 1 ml Conc.  $\text{H}_2\text{SO}_4$

Formation of a brown ring indicates the presence of glycosides.

#### 8) Test for Phenols and Tannins

##### a) Ferric chloride test

1 ml extract + 1 ml of 5%  $\text{FeCl}_3$

Blue green color appears.

#### 9) Test for Terpenoids

a) 2 ml extract + 2 ml chloroform + 3 ml Conc.  $\text{H}_2\text{SO}_4$

Appearance of reddish brown color indicates the presence of terpenoids.

#### 10) Test for Steroids

a) 2 ml extract + 5 ml chloroform + 3 ml Conc.  $\text{H}_2\text{SO}_4$ .

Upper red layer, lower yellow with green fluorescence were observed.

#### 11) Test for Saponins

##### a) Foam test

2 ml extract shaken vigorously

There was a development of foam that indicated the presence of saponins.

**Table 1:** Phytochemical analysis of *Agaricus bisporus* with supplementations.

Serial no.	Test	M+Z	M+C	NS	Color indication
1	Carbohydrate				
a	Benedict's Test	+	+	+	Dark Green
2	Proteins				
a	Million's Test	++	++	++	White ppt.
3	Alkaloids				
a	Dragendroff's Test	+	++	+	Red to turbid orange color
4	Flavonoids				
a	Lead acetate Test	++	++	+	Bulky white ppt.
5	Anthocyanine				
a	Hydrochloric Test	-	-	-	Pale pink coloration
6	Glycosides				
a	Keller-Killiani Test	++	+	-	A Brown ring formation
7	Phlobotannins				
a	Phlobotannin test	-	-	-	Red ppt.
8	Phenols and Tannins				
a	Ferric Chloride Test	+++	++	++	Blue green to blue black coloration
9	Terpenoids				
a	Salkowski Test	++	+++	+	Reddish Brown color at interface
10	Steroids				
a	Steroidal test	+	++	+	Upper layer red and lower layer yellow
11	Saponins				
a	Foam Test	+	+	+	Development of foam

(+) = present, (++) = moderately present, (+++) = highly present, (-) = absent

M+Z=Mushroom extract with *Zingiber* supplementation.

M+C=Mushroom extract with *Curcuma* supplementation.

NS = Non-supplemented mushroom extract.

## Results and Discussion

The present study was just a preliminary phytochemical screening that reflected the presence of many important phyto-constituents. *Agaricus bisporus* is in itself a source of a variety of bioactive compounds that imparts them antimicrobial properties and a study also showed comparatively high concentration of proteins and tannins than other phyto-constituents [21]. Many supplementations have been done in mushroom composts. Here, in this work medicinal plant supplemented mushrooms have been taken into account for detection of phytochemicals. The preliminary observations were based on visual intensity comparison where it was found that flavonoids, steroids, terpenoids, glycosides, tannins and phenols were comparatively slightly higher in intensity in mushroom extract with supplementations than non-supplemented case and in no supplement case glycosides were very light or not traced. Carbohydrates, proteins and saponins are also present. While, anthocyanins were absent and also phlobotannins were also not visible clearly. Phytochemical components in oyster mushroom supplemented with medicinal plants were more than in control [22].

## Conclusion

Mushrooms are full package of important bio compounds with all important properties. Various modifications in the form of supplementations are done to enhance their different nutritional and phytochemical aspects. They are packed with different phytochemicals like alkaloids, flavonoids, steroids, terpenoids, glycosides, phenols, tannins, proteins, carbohydrates and saponins with an increased intensity of presence of steroids, alkaloids, terpenoids, tannins and phenols in supplemented extracts than non-supplemented ones.

## Acknowledgement

The first author is grateful to the University Department of

Botany, Ranchi University, Ranchi for providing all the facilities. The author is also grateful to our guide and Associate Professor Dr. Arun Kumar (Retd.).

## Conflict of Interest

The authors report no conflict of interest.

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