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**Mary C. Setzer**  
Department of Chemistry,  
University of Alabama in Huntsville  
Huntsville, AL 35899, USA

**Jennifer Schmidt Newby**  
Department of Chemistry,  
University of Alabama in Huntsville  
Huntsville, AL 35899, USA

**Debra M. Moriarity**  
Department of Biological Sciences,  
University of Alabama in Huntsville  
Huntsville, AL 35899, USA

**William N. Setzer**  
Department of Chemistry,  
University of Alabama in Huntsville  
Huntsville, AL 35899, USA

**Correspondence:**  
**William N. Setzer**  
Department of Chemistry,  
University of Alabama in Huntsville  
Huntsville, AL 35899, USA  
Email: [wsetzer@chemistry.uah.edu](mailto:wsetzer@chemistry.uah.edu)

## A phytopharmaceutical survey of Abaco Island, Bahamas

**Mary C. Setzer, Jennifer Schmidt Newby, Debra M. Moriarity, William N. Setzer**

### Abstract

A total of 43 species of higher plants have been collected from Abaco Island, Bahamas. The plants have been extracted and the extracts screened for cytotoxic activity and for antimicrobial activity. Of the 31 extracts tested for cytotoxic activity, 12 were active ( $\geq 90\%$  kill at 100  $\mu\text{g/mL}$ , while 17 of 50 extracts showed antibacterial (MIC  $\leq 39$   $\mu\text{g/mL}$ ) activity. None of the extracts tested showed antifungal activity. Thus, of the 43 species collected, 18 were active in one or more of the assays, representing a "hit rate" of 42%.

**Keywords:** Plant extracts, traditional medicine, cytotoxicity, antibacterial, antifungal

### 1. Introduction

Higher plants have been used as medicinal agents by humans since prehistoric times, and phytochemicals continue to serve as medicinal agents themselves, as templates for synthetic modification, and as structural models for design of new medicines <sup>[1-3]</sup>. Cancers and infectious diseases continue to be a menace and the specter of drug resistance makes it more imperative that we find new alternative chemotherapeutics for treatment of diseases. In this work, we present a collection and screening of higher plants found on Abaco Island, Bahamas.

### 2. Materials and Methods

#### 2.1 Collection and extraction of plant materials

Two plant-collecting expeditions were carried out on Abaco Island, Bahamas, in December, 2000, and again in June, 2002. Plants were identified in the field by W. N. Setzer using appropriate field guides <sup>[4, 5]</sup>, and confirmed by comparison with herbarium samples from the Missouri Botanical Garden Herbarium (MBG), New York Botanical Garden Herbarium (NYBG), Fairchild Tropical Garden Herbarium (FTG), Herbarium of the National Trust for the Cayman Islands (CAYM), or the Willard Sherman Turrell Herbarium (MU). Voucher specimens have been deposited in the University of Alabama in Huntsville Herbarium. Fresh plant materials were cleaned of debris, finely chopped, and allowed to air dry for several days in the shade. The dried plant materials were extracted with solvent at room temperature for 48 h, filtered, and the solvent evaporated to give crude extracts (Table 1). In general, small samples were extracted with acetone for general screening; large samples were extracted with dichloromethane and then with acetone for future preparative work.

#### 2.2 Cytotoxicity screening

*In-vitro* cytotoxicity screening against SK-Mel-28 (human melanoma), Hep-G2 (human hepatocellular carcinoma), MDA-MB-231 (human mammary adenocarcinoma), Hs 578T (human mammary carcinoma), or 5637 (human bladder carcinoma) cells was carried out as described previously <sup>[6-9]</sup>.

#### 2.3 Antimicrobial screening

*In-vitro* antibacterial screening against *Bacillus cereus*, *Staphylococcus aureus*, *Pseudomonas aeruginosa*, and *Escherichia coli*, and for antifungal activity against *Candida albicans* was carried out as previously described <sup>[6-9]</sup>.

### 3. Results and Discussion

A total of 43 species of higher plants have been collected from Abaco Island, Bahamas. The plants were extracted and the extracts screened for cytotoxic activity and for antimicrobial activity (Table 2). Of the 31 extracts tested for cytotoxic activity, 12 were active ( $\geq 90\%$  kill at 100  $\mu\text{g/mL}$ ), while 17 of 50 extracts showed antibacterial (MIC  $\leq 78 \mu\text{g/mL}$ ). None of the extracts tested showed antifungal activity. Thus, of the 43 species collected, 18 were active in one or more of the assays, representing a “hit rate” of 42%. This hit rate is somewhat lower than those observed for collections from tropical rainforest plants from north Queensland, Australia [6], or Monteverde, Costa Rica [7]. It is likely that the depauperate island ecology [10] leads to lower ecological pressures (herbivory, interspecific competition, infections) with concomitant reduction in the necessity to concentrate toxic protective phytochemicals. Nevertheless, the flora of islands is generally different from continental flora and there is often a high degree of endemism, and so examination of these plants is important.

*Amyris elemifera* is known locally as “white torch”. In Abaco bush medicine, leaves or leafy branch tips are boiled alone or together with other species. The decoction is used internally or externally as a febrifuge, wound wash, to treat influenza and diarrhea. In this work, *A. elemifera* acetone bark extract showed *in-vitro* cytotoxic activity against both 5637 and Hs 578T cells as well as antibacterial activity against *B. cereus*. Furanocoumarins have been isolated from *A. elemifera* [11, 12], and this class of compounds has shown cytotoxic activity [13, 14]. The leaf essential oil of *A. elemifera*, rich in limonene and linalool, was not notably cytotoxic [8].

*Borrhchia arborescens* (“bay marigold”) decoctions are used in the Bahamas to relieve colds coughs, and back pains [15]. The acetone leaf extract showed cytotoxic activity against 5637 and Hs 578T cells. As far as we know, there have been no phytochemical investigations of *B. arborescens*.

*Bursera simaruba* is known as “gum elemi” in the Bahamas. This tree is an important traditional medicine in the Bahamas [16]. The natural resin secreted from this tree can be used to stop blood flow from wounds, the sap can also be used as an antidote for poisonwood (*Metopium toxiferum*). A tea is used for rheumatism, and a bath for back pain. A poultice of crushed leaves is used to soothe bee and wasp stings. The dichloromethane bark extract of *B. simaruba* showed excellent cytotoxic activity against all cell lines tested, but was devoid of antimicrobial activity. *B. simaruba* bark extracts have also shown anti-inflammatory [17] and antifungal [18] activities. The phytochemistry of *B. simaruba* has been investigated and the bark extracts have yielded lignans [19, 20], pentacyclic triterpenoids [21, 22], and proanthocyanidins [23], as well as an essential oil rich in  $\alpha$ -thujene,  $\alpha$ -phellandrene, *o*-cymene, and  $\beta$ -caryophyllene [24]. The pentacyclic triterpenoids are likely contributors to the cytotoxicity observed in *B. simaruba* bark extract [25].

In Cuba, the dry powdered bark of *Caesalpinia bahamensis* is used to treat chronic ulcers [15]. A decoction of the wood is taken to treat liver and kidney problems. In Cuba, *C. bahamensis* is used as a diuretic, and diuretic effects in a rat model have been verified [26]. The dichloromethane bark extract showed cytotoxic activity against SK-Mel-28, MDA-MB-231, and 5637 cells. To our knowledge, there have been no phytochemical studies on the plant.

In the Bahamas, a bark decoction of *Canella winterana* (“white-wood bark”) is used as a tonic for “female tiredness”

[16]. In Cuba and in Jamaica, the bark is macerated in alcohol and used as a liniment to treat pains [15]. *C. winterana* bark extract did show antibacterial activity against *B. cereus*. The bark of *C. winterana* has been phytochemically examined and is a good source of drimane sesquiterpenoids [27, 29] and these compounds are likely responsible for the antibacterial activity of *C. winterana* bark extract [30].

As far as we know, there have been no ethnobotanical and no phytochemical reports on *Cassia lineata*. In this work, the acetone root extract showed promising antibacterial activity against *B. cereus*.

Apparently, *Cocos nucifera* is not used in Bahamian bush medicine. However, in Mexico the husk is boiled and the decoction used to treat diarrhea and thrush, whereas in Curaçao the husk decoction is taken as an emmenagogue [15]. In this work, the dichloromethane husk extract of *C. nucifera* exhibited cytotoxic activity against MDA-MB-231 breast tumor cells. Both aqueous and hexane extracts of *C. nucifera* have shown antiparasitic activity against *Plasmodium falciparum* [31], as well as weak antibacterial activity [32]. Aqueous husk extracts have shown diuretic [33], antibacterial (*S. aureus*), antiviral (HSV-1) [34], cytotoxic (K562 leukemia) [35, 36], antileishmanial (*Leishmania amazonensis*) [37], antinociceptive, and free-radical-scavenging [38] activities. The aqueous extracts are rich in flavonoids, but it is not known what constituents are present in the non-polar hexane or dichloromethane extracts.

To our knowledge, there have been no ethnobotanical reports on either *Eugenia confusa* or *E. foetida*. The leaf essential oil of *E. confusa* has been shown to be rich in 1,3,5-trimethoxybenzene and 2,4,6-trimethoxystyrene [39]. In this present work, the dichloromethane bark extract of *E. confusa* showed excellent cytotoxic activity against 5637 bladder tumor cells, while the acetone leaf extract of *E. foetida* showed promising antibacterial activity against Gram-positive *B. cereus* and *S. aureus*.

*Exothea paniculata* acetone bark extract showed selective cytotoxic activity against 5637 bladder tumor cells as well as antibacterial activity against *B. cereus*. Interestingly, *E. paniculata* bark extract from Costa Rica showed promising antileishmanial (*L. amazonensis*) activity, but the extract from Abaco Island was inactive [40]. Apparently, there are no ethnobotanical uses of *E. paniculata* in the Bahamas. This tree is used in Guatemala for tanning animal hides [41].

*Leucaena leucocephala*, locally known as “jumbey”, is used in the Bahamas to treat flatulence, quiet the nerves, and in treating heart trouble [16]. The acetone bark extract showed selective cytotoxic activity against 5637 bladder tumor cells. Leaf extracts have yielded steroids, triterpenoids, phytol, flavonoids, and cinnamic acids [42], but apparently, the bark of *L. leucocephala* has not been investigated for phytochemical constituents.

The acetone leaf extract of *Myrcianthes fragrans* showed promising antibacterial activity against both *B. cereus* and *S. aureus*. Decoctions of the leafy branch tips are used traditionally to treat aches and pains [15]. There have been several investigations of the leaf essential oils from *M. fragrans*, including Cuba (rich in  $\alpha$ -pinene and limonene) [43], Jamaica (dominated by limonene and  $\alpha$ -terpineol) [44], and Costa Rica (dominated by 1,3,5-trimethoxybenzene and  $\alpha$ -cadinol) [45]. The leaf oil from Costa Rica did show marginal cytotoxic activity, but no antibacterial activity [46].

*Nectandra coriacea* is apparently not used in Bahamian traditional medicine, but it is used as a diuretic in Cuba [47].

The acetone bark extract of *N. coriacea* did show antibacterial activity against *B. cereus*.

*Piscidia piscipula*, known locally as “dogwood” is a poisonous plant used externally as a wash for skin diseases [16]. The leaves, bark, and wood of *P. piscipula* have also been used as fish poisons and contain the toxic isoflavonoids ichthyone and rotenone [15]. The leaf extract has shown antiparasitic (*Giardia duodenalis*) and antibacterial (*Helicobacter pylori*) activities [48], and in this work *P. piscipula* acetone bark extract exhibited antibacterial activity against *B. cereus*.

To our knowledge, there are no ethnobotanical reports on the uses of *Psidium longipes* (“long-stalked stopper”). The acetone leaf extract of *P. longipes* was selectively cytotoxic to 5637 bladder tumor cells. The leaf essential oils of three individuals of *P. longipes* have been reported [49]. One sample was rich in sesquiterpenes ( $\alpha$ -humulene and  $\beta$ -caryophyllene), another was dominated by monoterpenoids (1,8-cineole and  $\alpha$ -terpineol), and another had a composition intermediate between the two. Although  $\alpha$ -humulene and  $\beta$ -caryophyllene have shown cytotoxic activity to several different human tumor cell lines [8, 50-55], these compounds have not been screened on 5637 bladder tumor cells. It is likely that  $\alpha$ -humulene and  $\beta$ -caryophyllene contribute to the cytotoxic activity of *P. longipes*.

*Solanum erianthum*, known in the Bahamas as “wild tobacco” or “salve bush”, is used traditionally as a tea to treat coughs and as a wash for skin sores [16]. The acetone leaf extract showed cytotoxic activity to all cell lines tested and antibacterial activity to *E. coli*. Consistent with these results,

leaf extracts of *S. erianthum* from India have also shown cytotoxic [56] and antibacterial [57, 60] activity. *S. erianthum* leaf essential oil from Nigeria, rich in  $\alpha$ -terpinolene,  $\alpha$ -phellandrene, *p*-cymene, and  $\beta$ -pinene, was found to be cytotoxic to Hs 578T and PC-3 cells [61].

In the Bahamas, the infusion of the bark of *Swietenia mahogoni* (“mahogany”) is used as a general tonic, while rum extracts of the bark are used as an aphrodisiac [15]. In this current work, the dichloromethane bark extract showed selective cytotoxic activity to MDA-MB-231 breast tumor cells.

*Tabebuia bahamensis* (“five fingers”) leaves are used in the Bahamas to prepare a tea to relieve “bodily strain” and backache [16]. In this work, the dichloromethane bark extract showed selective cytotoxic activity to 5637 bladder tumor cells.

#### 4. Conclusions

Of the 43 species of Abaco plants examined in this study, eleven show promise for further biological and phytochemical investigations. These include the cytotoxic plant extracts of *Borrchia arborescens*, *Caesalpinia bahamensis*, *Eugenia confusa*, *Exothea paniculata*, *Leucaena leucocephala*, *Swietenia mahogoni*, and *Tabebuia bahamensis*, and the antibacterial extracts of *Cassia lineata*, *Eugenia foetida*, *Myrcianthes fragrans*, and *Nectandra coriacea*. This phytochemical survey serves to underscore the potential of higher plants to provide new medicinal agents for human use and to emphasize the need to preserve precious habitats.

**Table 1:** Collection and extraction of plants from Abaco Island, Bahamas.

Plant species (Family)	Collection site (date), voucher number	Extract (mass plant material, solvent, yield)
<i>Acacia choriophylla</i> Benth. (Fabaceae, Mimosoideae)	26° 34.55' N, 77° 8.35' W, 1.5 m asl (6-7-2002), WNS2002ACCH	290.5 g bark, acetone, 8.2 g extract
<i>Amyris elemifera</i> L. (Rutaceae)	26° 34.52' N, 77° 7.41' W, 1.0 m asl (6-10-2002), WNS2002AMEL	32.4 g bark, acetone, 1.6 g extract
<i>Ateramnus lucidus</i> (Sw.) Rothm. (Euphorbiaceae)	26° 34.52' N, 77° 7.41' W, 1.0 m asl (6-15-2002), WNS 2002 ATLU	595 g bark, acetone, 5.0 g extract
<i>Borrchia arborescens</i> (L.) DC. (Asteraceae)	26° 34.55' N, 77° 8.35' W, 1.5 m asl (6-7-2002), WNS 2002 BOAR	17.1 g leaves, acetone, 0.9 g extract
<i>Bourreria ovata</i> Miers (Boraginaceae)	26° 34.52' N, 77° 7.41' W, 1.0 m asl (6-10-2002), WNS2002BOOV	43.1 g bark, acetone, 0.9 g extract
<i>Bourreria ovata</i> Miers (Boraginaceae)	26° 34.52' N, 77° 7.41' W, 1.0 m asl (6-10-2002), WNS2002BOOV	23.5 g leaves, acetone, 0.8 g extract
<i>Bumelia salicifolia</i> (L.) Sw. (Sapotaceae)	26° 32.21' N, 77° 3.21' W, 7.9 m asl (6-18-2002), WNS2002BUSA	121.4 g bark, acetone, 1.3 g extract
<i>Bumelia salicifolia</i> (L.) Sw. (Sapotaceae)	26° 32.21' N, 77° 3.21' W, 7.9 m asl (6-18-2002), WNS2002BUSA	80.6 g leaves, acetone, 9.1 g extract
<i>Bursera simaruba</i> (L.) Sarg. (Burseraceae)	26° 32.21' N, 77° 3.21' W, 7.9 m asl (12-26-2000), WNS2000BUSI	285 g bark, CH <sub>2</sub> Cl <sub>2</sub> , 15.3 g extract
<i>Buxus bahemensis</i> Baker (Buxaceae)	26° 31.09' N, 77° 4.26' W, 13.4 m asl (6-14-2002), WNS2002BUBA	116.1 g leaves, acetone, 11.8 g extract
<i>Caesalpinia bahamensis</i> Lam. (Fabaceae, Mimosoideae)	26° 32.21' N, 77° 3.21' W, 7.9 m asl (12-26-2000), WNS2000CABA	346 g bark, CH <sub>2</sub> Cl <sub>2</sub> , 11.0 g extract
<i>Calyptranthes pallens</i> Griseb. (Myrtaceae)	26° 27.18' N, 77° 3.12' W, 3.3 m asl (12-20-2000), WNS2000CAPA	100 g bark, acetone, 3.1 g extract
<i>Canella winterana</i> (L.) Gaertn. (Canellaceae)	26° 34.55' N, 77° 8.35' W, 1.5 m asl (6-7-2002), WNS2002CAWI	260 g bark, acetone, 4.5 g extract
<i>Cassia lineata</i> Sw. (Fabaceae, Caesalpinioideae)	26° 34.52' N, 77° 7.41' W, 1.0 m asl (6-10-2002), WNS2002CALI	20.9 g roots, acetone, 5.2 g extract
<i>Chiococca parvifolia</i> Wullschl. ex Griseb. (Rubiaceae)	26° 31.09' N, 77° 4.26' W, 13.4 m asl (12-19-2000), WNS2000CHPA	86.0 g leaves, acetone, 7.0 g extract
<i>Chiococca parvifolia</i> Wullschl. ex Griseb. (Rubiaceae)	26° 31.09' N, 77° 4.26' W, 13.4 m asl (12-19-2000), WNS2000CHPA	54.0 g roots, acetone, 1.5 g extract
<i>Cocos nucifera</i> L. (Arecaceae)	26° 32.78' N, 77° 3.14' W, 4.6 m asl (12-26-2000), no voucher	34.0 g husk, CH <sub>2</sub> Cl <sub>2</sub> , 54.4 mg extract
<i>Croton linearis</i> Jacq.	26° 27.18' N, 77° 3.12' W, 3.3 m asl	33.5 g aerial parts, acetone, 0.5 g extract

(Euphorbiaceae)	(12-20-2000), WNS2000CRLI	
<i>Cuscuta americana</i> L. (Convolvulaceae)	26° 31.09' N, 77° 4.26' W, 13.4 m asl (12-18-2000), WNS2000CUAM	243 g aerial parts, CH <sub>2</sub> Cl <sub>2</sub> , 3.0 g extract
<i>Desmodium incanum</i> (Sw.) DC. (Fabaceae, Papilionoideae)	26° 34.52' N, 77° 7.41' W, 1.0 m asl (6-10-2002), WNS2002DEIN	74.2 g aerial parts, acetone, 2.2 g extract
<i>Echites</i> sect. <i>Umbellatae</i> Woodson (Apocynaceae)	26° 34.55' N, 77° 8.35' W, 1.5 m asl (6-9-2002), WNS2002ECUM	33.4 g leaves, acetone, 2.4 g extract
<i>Erithalis fruticosa</i> L. (Rubiaceae)	26° 34.52' N, 77° 7.41' W, 1.0 m asl (6-18-2002), WNS2002ERFR	142.2 g leaves, CH <sub>2</sub> Cl <sub>2</sub> , 6.2 g extract
<i>Ernodea littoralis</i> Sw. (Rubiaceae)	26° 31.09' N, 77° 4.26' W, 13.4 m asl (12-18-2000), WNS2000ERLI	143 g leaves, acetone, 13.2 g extract
<i>Eugenia confusa</i> DC. (Myrtaceae)	26° 34.55' N, 77° 8.35' W, 1.5 m asl (6-7-2002), WNS2002EUCO	1343 g bark, CH <sub>2</sub> Cl <sub>2</sub> , 26.2 g extract
<i>Eugenia foetida</i> Pers. (Myrtaceae)	26° 19.40' N, 77° 0.24' W, 38.7 m asl (6-20-2002), WNS2002EUFO	20.4 g bark, acetone, 0.5 g extract
<i>Eugenia foetida</i> Pers. (Myrtaceae)	26° 19.40' N, 77° 0.24' W, 38.7 m asl (6-20-2002), WNS2002EUFO	53.3 g leaves, acetone, 3.9 g extract
<i>Exothea paniculata</i> (Juss.) Radlk. (Sapindaceae)	26° 32.21' N, 77° 3.21' W, 7.9 m asl (12-26-2000), WNS2000EXPA	135.5 g bark, acetone, 4.1 g extract
<i>Ficus citrifolia</i> Mill. (Moraceae)	26° 32.21' N, 77° 3.21' W, 7.9 m asl (12-26-2000), WNS2000FICI	78.0 g bark, acetone, 1.5 g extract
<i>Guapira discolor</i> (Spreng.) Little (Nyctaginaceae)	26° 19.40' N, 77° 0.24' W, 38.7 m asl (6-20-2002), WNS2002GUDI	24.8 g bark, acetone, 1.1 g extract
<i>Jacquina keyensis</i> Mez (Primulaceae)	26° 34.52' N, 77° 7.41' W, 1.0 m asl (6-10-2002), WNS2002JAKE	599 g leaves, acetone, 0.8 g extract
<i>Leucaena leucocephala</i> (Lam.) de Wit (Fabaceae, Mimosoideae)	26° 31.09' N, 77° 4.26' W, 13.4 m asl (12-19-2000), WNS2000LELE	267 g bark, acetone, 7.6 g extract
<i>Metopium toxiferum</i> (L.) Krug & Urb. (Anacardiaceae)	26° 31.09' N, 77° 4.26' W, 13.4 m asl (6-14-2002), WNS2002METO	59.0 g leaves, CH <sub>2</sub> Cl <sub>2</sub> , 2.4 g extract
<i>Myrcianthes fragrans</i> (Sw.) McVaugh (Myrtaceae)	26° 34.52' N, 77° 7.41' W, 1.0 m asl (6-10-2002), WNS2002MYFR	27.3 g leaves, acetone, 3.2 g extract
<i>Nectandra coriacea</i> (Sw.) Griseb. (Lauraceae)	26° 19.40' N, 77° 0.24' W, 38.7 m asl (6-20-2002), WNS2002NECO	30.9 g bark, acetone, 1.8 g extract
<i>Nectandra coriacea</i> (Sw.) Griseb. (Lauraceae)	26° 19.40' N, 77° 0.24' W, 38.7 m asl (6-20-2002), WNS2002NECO	56.3 g leaves, acetone, 4.8 g extract
<i>Piscidia piscipula</i> (L.) Sarg. (Fabaceae, Papilionoideae)	26° 19.40' N, 77° 0.24' W, 38.7 m asl (6-20-2002), WNS2002PIPI	133.2 g bark, acetone, 1.1 g extract
<i>Piscidia piscipula</i> (L.) Sarg. (Fabaceae, Papilionoideae)	26° 19.40' N, 77° 0.24' W, 38.7 m asl (6-20-2002), WNS2002PIPI	65.2 g leaves, acetone, 8.1 g extract
<i>Pithecellobium mucronatum</i> Britton ex Coker (Fabaceae, Mimosoideae)	26° 27.18' N, 77° 3.12' W, 3.3 m asl (12-20-2000), WNS2002PIMU	258 g bark, acetone, 21.7 g extract
<i>Pithecellobium mucronatum</i> Britton ex Coker (Fabaceae, Mimosoideae)	26° 34.52' N, 77° 7.41' W, 1.0 m asl (6-15-2002), WNS2002PIMU	35.2 g leaves, CH <sub>2</sub> Cl <sub>2</sub> , 1.8 g extract
<i>Pluchea symphytifolia</i> (Mill.) Gillis (Asteraceae)	26° 34.55' N, 77° 8.35' W, 1.5 m asl (6-9-2002), WNS2002PLSY	29.0 g leaves, acetone, 1.2 g extract
<i>Psidium longipes</i> (O. Berg) McVaugh (Myrtaceae)	26° 31.09' N, 77° 4.26' W, 13.4 m asl (12-19-2000), WNS2000PSLO	130 g leaves, acetone, 20.9 g extract
<i>Salmea petroboides</i> Griseb. (Asteraceae)	26° 31.09' N, 77° 4.26' W, 13.4 m asl (12-18-2000), WNS2000SAPE	152 g leaves, acetone, 12.5 g extract
<i>Solanum erianthum</i> D. Don (Solanaceae)	26° 31.09' N, 77° 4.26' W, 13.4 m asl (12-19-2000), WNS2000SOER	111 g leaves, acetone, 3.5 g extract
<i>Stachytarpheta jamaicensis</i> (L.) Vahl (Verbenaceae)	26° 27.18' N, 77° 3.12' W, 3.3 m asl (12-20-2000), WNS2000VAJA	137 g leaves, acetone, 6.2 g extract
<i>Suriana maritima</i> L. (Surianaceae)	26° 34.52' N, 77° 7.41' W, 1.0 m asl (6-10-2002), WNS2002SUMA	39.9 g leaves, acetone, 0.7 g extract
<i>Swietenia mahogoni</i> (L.) Jacq. (Meliaceae)	26° 34.55' N, 77° 8.35' W, 1.5 m asl (6-7-2002), WNS2000SWMA	1211 g bark, CH <sub>2</sub> Cl <sub>2</sub> , 20.7 g extract
<i>Tabebuia bahamensis</i> (North.) Britton (Bignoniaceae)	26° 31.09' N, 77° 4.26' W, 13.4 m asl (12-16-2000), WNS2000TABA	581 g bark, acetone, 25.0 g extract
<i>Tabebuia bahamensis</i> (North.) Britton (Bignoniaceae)	26° 31.09' N, 77° 4.26' W, 13.4 m asl (12-16-2000), WNS2000TABA	594 g leaves, CH <sub>2</sub> Cl <sub>2</sub> , 50.1 g extract
<i>Tetrazygia bicolor</i> (Mill.) Cogn. (Melastomataceae)	26° 31.09' N, 77° 4.26' W, 13.4 m asl (12-18-2000), WNS2000TEBI	191 g leaves, acetone, 10.6 g extract
<i>Trema lamarkiana</i> (Roem. & Schult.) Blume (Cannabaceae)	26° 34.55' N, 77° 8.35' W, 1.5 m asl (6-9-2002), WNS2002TRLA	126.3 g leaves, acetone, 2.6 g extract

**Table 2:** Cytotoxicity and antimicrobial screening of Abaco plant extracts.

Plant Extract	Cytotoxicity assays (% kill at 100 µg/mL)	Antimicrobial assays (MIC, µg/mL)				
		<i>B. cereus</i>	<i>S. aureus</i>	<i>P. aeruginosa</i>	<i>E. coli</i>	<i>C. albicans</i>
<i>Acacia choriophylla</i> acetone bark extract	5637 (0%), Hs 578T (0%)	156	1250	625	312	nt <sup>a</sup>
<i>Amyris elemifera</i> acetone bark extract	5637 (90.3±9.7%), Hs 578T (97.2±2.4%)	39	625	625	1250	nt
<i>Ateramnus lucidus</i> acetone bark extract	5637 (0%), Hs 578T (0%)	78	1250	312	1250	nt
<i>Borrhichia arborescens</i> acetone leaf extract	5637 (100%), Hs 578T (100%)	78	1250	625	312	nt
<i>Bourreria ovata</i> acetone bark extract	5637 (21.4±8.9%), Hs 578T (0%)	312	1250	625	625	nt
<i>Bourreria ovata</i> acetone leaf extract	5637 (0%), Hs 578T (0%)	625	1250	625	156	nt
<i>Bumelia salicifolia</i> acetone bark extract	5637 (0%), Hs 578T (36.8±8.8%)	78	1250	625	156	nt
<i>Bumelia salicifolia</i> acetone leaf extract	5637 (34.6±25.9%), Hs 578T (2.3±1.6%)	156	2500	625	312	nt
<i>Bursera simaruba</i> CH <sub>2</sub> Cl <sub>2</sub> bark extract	SK-Mel-38 (88.4±4.9%), Hep-G2 (100%), MDA-MB-231 (100%), 5637 (100%)	1250	2500	1250	1250	1250
<i>Buxus bahemensis</i> acetone leaf extract	5637 (44.3±8.2%), Hs 578T (18.5±13.9%)	156	1250	1250	156	nt
<i>Caesalpinia bahamensis</i> CH <sub>2</sub> Cl <sub>2</sub> bark extract	SK-Mel-38 (89.9±1.1%), Hep-G2 (23.3±13.7%), MDA-MB-231 (100%), 5637 (93.5±6.1%)	156	1250	625	625	1250
<i>Calyptanthes pallens</i> acetone bark extract	SK-Mel-38 (87.3±2.4%), Hep-G2 (43.9±6.1%), MDA- MB-231 (49.4±25.6%), 5637 (65.9±7.8%)	312	2500	1250	1250	1250
<i>Canella winterana</i> acetone bark extract	not tested	39	1250	312	312	nt
<i>Cassia lineata</i> acetone root extract	not tested	19.5	1250	625	156	nt
<i>Chiococca parvifolia</i> acetone leaf extract	SK-Mel-38 (0%), Hep-G2 (27.9±4.4%), MDA-MB-231 (0%), 5637 (0%)	312	2500	1250	1250	1250
<i>Chiococca parvifolia</i> acetone root extract	SK-Mel-38 (0%), Hep-G2 (10.6±8.3%), MDA-MB-231 (0%), 5637 (39.7±9.1%)	312	2500	1250	1250	1250
<i>Cocos nucifera</i> CH <sub>2</sub> Cl <sub>2</sub> husk extract	SK-Mel-38 (80.1±7.6%), Hep-G2 (0%), MDA-MB-231 (100%), 5637 (72.0±3.8%)	1250	2500	1250	1250	1250
<i>Croton linearis</i> acetone plant extract	SK-Mel-38 (0%), Hep-G2 (0%), MDA-MB-231 (0%), 5637 (74.3±0.9%)	1250	2500	1250	1250	1250
<i>Cuscuta americana</i> CH <sub>2</sub> Cl <sub>2</sub> plant extract	SK-Mel-38 (15.9±9.2%), Hep-G2 (30.0±19.7%), MDA-MB-231 (31.1±11.8%), 5637 (74.4±1.9%)	1250	2500	1250	1250	1250
<i>Desmodium incanum</i> acetone plant extract	not tested	78	1250	625	625	nt
<i>Echites</i> sect. <i>Umbellatae</i> acetone leaf extract	not tested	312	1250	625	312	nt
<i>Erithalis fruticosa</i> CH <sub>2</sub> Cl <sub>2</sub> leaf extract	not tested	156	1250	625	156	nt
<i>Ernodea littoralis</i> acetone leaf extract	SK-Mel-38 (11.2±6.3%), Hep-G2 (7.5±3.2%), MDA-MB-231 (0%), 5637 (81.4±9.8%)	625	1250	312	625	1250
<i>Eugenia confusa</i> CH <sub>2</sub> Cl <sub>2</sub> bark extract	5637 (100%), Hs 578T (42.9±6.1%)	312	1250	625	625	nt
<i>Eugenia foetida</i> acetone bark extract	not tested	78	1250	625	625	nt
<i>Eugenia foetida</i> acetone leaf extract	not tested	39	39	312	1250	nt
<i>Exothea paniculata</i> acetone bark extract	SK-Mel-38 (12.4±3.7%), Hep-G2 (56.1±8.8%), MDA- MB-231 (0%), 5637 (100%)	39	1250	625	156	1250
<i>Ficus citrifolia</i> acetone bark extract	SK-Mel-38 (4.3±2.0%), Hep-G2 (7.5±7.2%), MDA-MB-231 (0%), 5637 (14.8±7.7%)	625	2500	1250	1250	1250
<i>Guapira discolor</i> acetone bark extract	not tested	312	1250	625	625	nt
<i>Jacquina keyensis</i> acetone leaf extract	not tested	312	1250	625	1250	nt
<i>Leucaena leucocephala</i> acetone bark extract	SK-Mel-38 (0%), Hep-G2 (0%), MDA-MB-231 (0%), 5637 (95.1±3.1%)	625	2500	1250	1250	1250
<i>Metopium toxiferum</i> CH <sub>2</sub> Cl <sub>2</sub> leaf extract	not tested	156	1250	1250	625	nt
<i>Myrcianthes fragrans</i>	not tested	<19.5	<19.5	625	625	nt

acetone leaf extract						
<i>Nectandra coriacea</i> acetone bark extract	not tested	19.5	1250	1250	625	nt
<i>Nectandra coriacea</i> acetone leaf extract	not tested	156	1250	1250	625	nt
<i>Piscidia piscipula</i> acetone bark extract	not tested	19.5	1250	1250	625	nt
<i>Piscidia piscipula</i> acetone leaf extract	not tested	78	1250	625	625	nt
<i>Pithecellobium mucronatum</i> acetone bark extract	SK-Mel-38 (0%), Hep-G2 (0%), MDA-MB-231 (0%), 5637 (0%), Hs 578T (0%)	625	2500	1250	1250	1250
<i>Pithecellobium mucronatum</i> CH <sub>2</sub> Cl <sub>2</sub> leaf extract	not tested	156	1250	1250	625	nt
<i>Pluchea symphytifolia</i> acetone leaf extract	not tested	156	1250	625	625	nt
<i>Psidium longipes</i> acetone leaf extract	SK-Mel-38 (0%), Hep-G2 (13.2±6.2%), MDA-MB-231 (0%), 5637 (95.1±3.1%)	312	2500	1250	1250	1250
<i>Salmea petroboides</i> acetone leaf extract	SK-Mel-38 (5.1±1.5%), Hep-G2 (0%), MDA-MB-231 (0%), 5637 (0%)	312	2500	1250	1250	1250
<i>Solanum erianthum</i> acetone leaf extract	SK-Mel-38 (81.9±2.7%), Hep-G2 (80.0±1.2%), MDA- MB-231 (8.2±7.6%), 5637 (95.0±1.9%)	156	1250	625	78	1250
<i>Stachytarpheta jamaicensis</i> acetone leaf extract	SK-Mel-38 (0%), Hep-G2 (12.9±9.3%), MDA-MB- 231 (13.0±6.0%), 5637 (15.2±8.4%)	625	1250	1250	1250	1250
<i>Suriana maritima</i> acetone leaf extract	not tested	156	1250	625	625	nt
<i>Swietenia mahogoni</i> CH <sub>2</sub> Cl <sub>2</sub> bark extract	SK-Mel-38 (9.4±3.1%), Hep-G2 (33.3±17.7%), MDA- MB-231 (94.5±2.6%), 5637 (0%), Hs 578T (0%)	78	1250	625	625	1250
<i>Tabebuia bahamensis</i> acetone bark extract	SK-Mel-38 (0%), Hep-G2 (45.8±5.4%), MDA-MB-231 (0%), 5637 (0%)	625	2500	1250	1250	1250
<i>Tabebuia bahamensis</i> CH <sub>2</sub> Cl <sub>2</sub> bark extract	SK-Mel-38 (9.4±4.7%), Hep-G2 (38.4±22.1%), MDA- MB-231 (58.8±7.3%), 5637 (93.0±6.9%)	1250	2500	1250	1250	1250
<i>Tetrazygia bicolor</i> acetone leaf extract	SK-Mel-38 (29.6±11.7%), Hep-G2 (0%), MDA-MB-231 (0%), 5637 (0%)	625	2500	1250	1250	1250
<i>Trema lamarckianum</i> acetone leaf extract	not tested	312	1250	625	78	nt

<sup>a</sup> nt = not tested.

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