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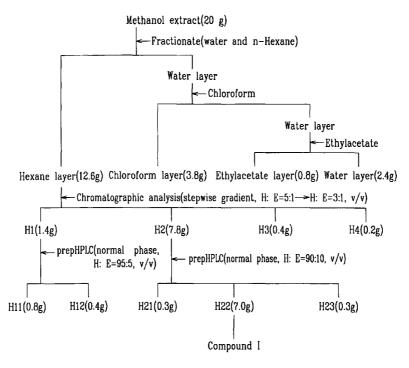
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[Continued on next page]

(54) Title: ANTIBACTERIAL COMPOSITION COMPRISING PLANT EXTRACT



(57) Abstract: The present invention relates to an antibacterial composition comprising plant extracts, and more particularly to an extract of one or more kinds of plants selected from a group consisting of Foeniculum vulgare, Illicium verum, Asarum heterotropoides, Cinnamomum plants, and cloves, and an antibacterial compound therefrom.



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ANTIBACTERIAL COMPOSITION COMPRISING PLANT EXTRACT

BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

(a) Field of the Invention

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The present invention relates to an antibacterial composition comprising plant extracts, more particularly to an antibacterial composition comprising an extract of one or more kinds of plants selected from a group consisting of *Foeniculum vulgare*, *Illicium verum*, *Asarum heterotropoides*, *Cinnamomum* plants, and cloves, or a compound derived therefrom, having antibacterial activity for *Candida* and *five species containing Trichophyton*.

(b) Description of the Related Art

Skin diseases caused by fungi are generically called dermatomycosis. Particularly, those caused by a dermatophyte that invades corneous tissues such as keratin, hair, fingernails, toenails, etc. and are parasitic thereon are called dermatophytosis, Tinea, or superficial fungal infection (Ribbon, J. W. (1998) Medical Mycology. *In* The pathogenic fungi and the pathogenic actinomyces. 2nd Ed. W.B Saunders Company. Philadelphia, London, Toronto.).

Superficial fungal infections are referred to differently according to the invaded skin region, for example Tinea manus & Tinea pedis for hand and foot, Tinea faciale for face, Tinea crusis for the groin, Tinea capitis for the head, Tinea ungrium or Onychomy-cosis for fingernails and toenails, and Tinea corporis for the other regions (Rezabek, G.H. and Friedman, A. D. 1992. *Drugs* 43(5):674-682.; Kamalam, A. and Thambiah, A.S. 1976. *Sabouraudia*

14(2):129-148).

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Major causes for superficial fungal infection are *Microsporum*, epidermophyton, *Trichophyton*, candida species, and *Malassezia furfur*. *Microsporum* mainly invades skin and hair; epidermophyton invades skin and nails; and *Trichophyton* invades skin, hair, and nails (Weitzman, I. and Summerbell, R. C. 1995. The dermatophytes. *Clinical Microbiology* Review 8(2):240-259). *Candida* causes disease on skin and mucous membranes, and *Malassezia furfur* causes tinea versicolor, which causes spots.

Superficial fungal infection-causing bacteria are parasitic on keratin of the upper part of epithelial cells and cause superficial diseases, but sometimes they may cause inflammation below the upper part of the epithelial cells, or cause dermatophytid.

Pathogenic fungi have a worldwide distribution, and cause diseases in animals including humans. Pathogenic fungi do not always cause disease by contact, and whether or not infection occurs therewith depends on the kinds of infecting fungi, age of host, immune condition, existence and nonexistence of complications, health condition of skin, nutrition, or hormone conditions (Brash, J. and Gottkehaskamp, D. 1992. The effect of selected human steroid hormones upon the growth of dermatophytes with different adaptation to man. *Mycopathologia* 120(2): 87-92).

Most skin and subsidiary organ infections with *Dematophyte spp* fungi are called Dermatophytosis. These fungi groups locally inhabit the epidermis keratin layer, and some species invade and inhabit animal tissue. For

convenience, they are divided into Anthrophillic (parasitic on humans), Zoophilic (parasitic on animals) and Ziophilic (saprophyte parasitic in soil) according to the host (Gupta, A. K. Einarson, T. R. Summerbell, R. C. and Shear, N. H. 1998. A North American perspective of Drugs. 55(5): 645-674).

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Superficial fungal infection is treated using local and general antifungals in principal, and according to circumstances, a keratin-solvent is simultaneously applied. Even after symptoms and skin disease disappear, approximately 2 to 4 weeks of treatment is required. However, there is high possibility of Tinea pedis treatment failing or of recurrence due to carelessness or physical properties and immunodeficiency of the patient.

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Although various anti-fungals have been used to treat dermatomycosis, there is an effort to discover safer and superior anti-fungals from natural substances due to the high relapse rate and the increase in understanding of skin toxicity.

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SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

Accordingly, it is an object of the present invention to provide a plant extract having antibacterial activity for fungi.

It is another object of the present invention to provide a plant extract having antibacterial activity for *Trichophyton* and *Candida*.

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It is another object of the present invention to provide a plant-derived compound having antibacterial activity for *Trichophyton* and *Candida*.

It is another object of the present invention to provide an anti-fungal

composition that is safe to skin and has superior anti-fungal activity.

In order to achieve these objects, the present invention provides an antibacterial composition comprising an extract of one or more kinds of plants selected from a group consisting of *Foeniculum vulgare*, *Illicium verum*, *Asarum heterotropoides*, *Cinnamomum* plants, and cloves.

The present invention also provides an antibacterial composition comprising a compound selected from a group consisting of fenchone, eugenol, isoeugenol, methyleugenol, cinnamyl alcohol, cinnamic aldehyde, and a mixture thereof.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

Fig. 1 shows a process for separating eugenol from a methanol extract of cloves.

Fig. 2 shows a process for separating eugenol and isoeugenol from clove oil.

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DETAILED DESCRIPTION AND THE PREFERRED EMBODIMENTS

The present inventors discovered that *Foeniculum vulgare*, *Asarum heterotropoides*, *Cinnamomum sp.* plants, and cloves have anti-fungal activities, and completed the present invention.

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Foeniculum vulgare is known to have almost the same major ingredients as *Illicium verum* (Changmin Kim, Minkyo Shin, Dukkyun Ann, Kyungsun Lee, etc. 1998. Medicine Dictionary, vol. 9, Jungdam, 5813-5816; vol. 10, 6597-6603).

Cinnamomum sp. plants include Cinnamomum sieboldii, C. cassia, C. zeylanica, a cinnamon tree, and C. laureirii. In herbal medicine, pellicles (roots, trunks, branches) of Lauraceae plants are called C. sieboldii for those stripped thickly from branches and dried, C. cassia for those stripped from smaller bark and dried, and Cinnamomi Ramulus for those stripped from very slim branches and dried. Those stripped from the bark of Cinnamomum belonging to the Lauraceae family, and when dried are called C. cassia or Cinnamomum sieboldii.

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The scientifical name of cloves is *Eugenia caryophyllata* or *Syzygium aromaticum*, and the essential oil therefrom is commonly used as clove bud or leaf oil. In particular, clove bud oil is a plant oil obtained only from the buds of cloves.

The plant extract of the present invention is prepared by a common extraction method, preferably by mixing the pulverized plant with distilled water, alcohol, or organic solvent; fractioning the mixture; and removing the solvent. The alcohol is preferably C1-5; more preferably ethanol, methanol, propanol, or butanol; and most preferably methanol. The organic solvent is preferably hexane, chloroform, or ethyl acetate, and most preferably hexane. The extraction region is the flower, branch, trunk, bud, root, bark, fruit, seed, plant body, etc., and *Foeniculum vulgare* extract is preferably from its fruit, *Asarum heterotropoides* extract is preferably from its root, and *Cinnamomum sp.* plants and clove extracts are preferably from their root. However, the extraction region is not limited thereto.

In addition, the plants of the present invention can be made into essential oil. Plant essential oil is extracted by common essential oil extraction methods, or marketed essential oil can be used. Representative extraction methods include distillation and expression using water or vapor. Marketed essential oil includes fennel sweet oil (*Foeniculum vulgare* oil), Cinnamon oil (*C. cassia* oil), and clove bud oil (clove oil).

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The plant extracts and essential oils of the present invention were applied to *Candida* or *Trichophyton*, which cause athlete's foot. As a result, all of them showed excellent anti-fungal activity, and *Asarum heterotropoides* extract, clove extract, *C. cassia* extract, and clove oil showed the best antifungal activities.

In addition, the present invention provides a plant-derived anti-fungal compound. The anti-fungal compound includes clove-derived compounds eugenol and isoeugenol, a *Foeniculum vulgare*-derived compound (+)-fenchone, and *Cinnamomum sieboldii*-derived compounds cinnamyl alcohol, cinnamic aldehyde, and methyl eugenol. The anti-fungal compounds can be purchased as marketed compounds, or they can be separated and purified from the plants.

The present invention also provides an antibacterial composition comprising plant extracts or anti-fungal compounds. The antibacterial composition has growth-inhibition activity for pathogenic fungi, and it preferably has growth-inhibition activity for *Trichophyton* and *Candida*.

The anti-fungal composition of the present invention has antibacterial

effects for pathogenic fungi as shown in Table 1. Representative pathogenic fungi include *Trichophyton rubrum*, KCTC 6345; *Microsporum audouinii*, KCTC 6346; *Trichophyton ferrugineum*, KCTC 6351; *Epidermophyton floccosum*, KCTC 6586; *Trichophyton mentagrophytes*, KCTC 6077; and *Candida albicans*, KCTC 7728.

Table 1

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Fungi (spe	ecies name)	Ecology	Hair-Invasion	Attack region
Microsporum sp.	M. audouinii	Anthrophillic	External	Head
			parasitism	
	M. canis	Zoophilic	External	Head, hair, face, body
			parasitism	
	M. gypseum	Ziophilic	External	head
			parasitism	
	M. fulvum	Ziophilic	External	
			parasitism	
	M. cookei	Ziophilic		
	M. distortum	Zoophilic		
Epidermophyton	E. floccosum	Anthrophillic		Tinea, foot, nails
sp.				
Trichophyton sp.	T. rubrum	Anthrophillic		barba, face, body,
				tinea, foot, nails
	T. mentagrophytes	Zoophilic	External	Head, hair, face, body,
			parasitism	tinea, foot, nails
	T. ferrugineum	Anthrophillic	External	Head, body
			parasitism	
	T. violaceum	Anthrophillic	Internal	Head, nails
			parasitism	
	T. verrucosum	Zoophilic	External	Head, hair
			parasitism	
	T. tonsurans	Anthrophillic	Internal	Head
			parasitism	
	T. schoenleinii	Anthrophillic	Internal	Head, favus
			parasitism	
	T. simii	Zoophilic	Internal	Head
			parasitism	
	T. terrestre	Ziophilic		
	T. gallinase	Zoophilic		
	T. megninii	Anthrophillic		

The anti-fungal composition of the present invention can be used for inhibiting growth of pathogenic fungi, and preferably it is used as a cleaner, a

treating agent for dermatomycosis such as athlete's foot, a disinfectant, etc.

The preparations of the anti-fungal composition, although not limited thereto, are preferably plasters, granules, lotions, liniments, limonades, aromatic waters, powders, syrups, eye ointments, liquids, solutions, aerosols, extracts, elixirs, ointments, fluid extracts, emulsions, suspensions, infusions, decoctions, ophthalmic solutions, tablets, suppositories, injections, spirits, cataplasma, capsules, creams, troches, tinctures, pastes, or pills.

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The anti-fungal composition may further comprise pharmaceutically acceptable vehicles according to its preparation and use method, and the contents of plant extracts or essential oils in the composition are preferably 1 to 20 wt%. A dose of the composition is preferably 10 to 50 mg and the frequency is preferably one to three times per day, but it is preferably controlled according to the degree of disease and health condition of the patient.

The present invention will now be explained in more detail with reference to the following Examples. However, these are to illustrate the present invention and the present invention is not limited to them.

Example 1.

Preparation of antibacterial plant extract

Fruits of Foeniculum vulgare, roots of Asarum heterotropoides, buds of Cinnamomum sieboldii or Eugenia caryophyllata, and C. cassia were purchased, and methanol extracts were obtained from each. All of the methanol extracts were prepared by the same method, and methanol extraction method of Foeniculum vulgare fruit is hereinafter explained as an

example.

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300 g of *Foeniculum vulgare* fruit were finely pulverized with a mixer and introduced into a 500 ml Erlenmeyer flask, 200 ml of methanol were mixed therewith, and the mixture was left for 2 days. It was then filtered under reduced pressure, and the filtrate was concentrated with a rotary vacuum condenser (EYELA autojack NAJ-160, Japan). The pulverized substance was filtered through a filtering paper and mixed with methanol again to finally prepare a methanol extract.

Example 2.

Preparation of antibacterial plant essential oil

Foeniculum vulgare oil, Cinnamomum sieboldii oil, C. cassia oil, and clove oil were purchased from Jin-a Perfume Inc.

The essential oils were prepared by steam distillation, as follows.. A small amount of distilled water was added to each of the *Foeniculum vulgare*, *Cinnamomum sieboldii*, and cloves, and they were finely pulverized with a mixer and introduced into 3L concentration flasks, respectively. The temperature of the flask was set to approximately 70 $^{\circ}$ C on a heating mantle, and flasks containing 40 ml each (1/1, v/v) of diethyl ether and hexane were set to 30 to 40 $^{\circ}$ C (approximately 38 $^{\circ}$ C), and they were all heated for 2 hours. The amount of sample required for one distillation was 250 g, and after extraction, a small amount of sodium hydroxide anhydride (Na₂SO₄) was added to the flasks and they were left in a desiccator to remove moisture from the extracts, and then the extracts were passed through a Toyo No. 2 filter to

concentrate them.

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Example 3.

Measurement of fungi growth-inhibition activity

The six species of *Trichophyton rubrum*, KCTC 6345; *Microsporum* audouinii, KCTC 6346; *Trichophyton ferrugineum*, KCTC 6351; *Epidermophyton floccosum*, KCTC 6586; *Trichophyton mentagrophytes*, KCTC 6077; and *Candida albicans*, KCTC 7728 were obtained from the Korean Collection for Type Cultures, KCTC. Growth-inhibition activities were examined by a paper disc diffusion method.

The strains were inoculated on a Sabouraud's agar medium, and each methanol extract (from Example 1) was dissolved in methanol and applied to a paper disc or each essential oil (from Example 2) was directly applied to a paper disc. The paper discs were mounted on each of the mediums inoculated with the various fungi, the fungi were aerobically cultured for 5 days at 28 °C, and antibacterial activities were confirmed by the size of a clear zone formed around the paper discs.

Table 2 shows growth-inhibition activities of the 5 species of bacteria causing *Trichophytia* and 1 species of *Candida* caused by the methanol extracts and essential oils, when each paper disc was applied with an appropriate concentration of methanol extract or essential oil.

Table 2.

Treating	Clear zone, mm						
concentration,	Microspor	Trichophyt	Candida	Trichophyto	Epidermo	Trichophyt	
mg/paper	um audo	on ferrug	albicans	n menta	phyton	on rubrum	
	uinii	ineum		grophytes	floccosum		

Foeniculu m vulgare	50	11	10	9	9	10	12
Foeniculu	100	14	17	14	14	15	14
m vulgare	50	13	11	11	10	10	10
oil	10	, 8 .	9	9	8	9	9
Asarum	20	16	15	20	17	18	16
heterotrop oides	10	16	15	16	16	15	15
Cinnamom um sieboldii	10	28	27	37	35	30	28
Cinnamom um sieboldii oil	50	25	24	26	26	25	23
Clove	10	30	28	30	30	22	24
Clove oil	10	25	26	24	22	25	20

When the diameter of the clear zone generated by the methanol extract or the essential oil was 10 mm or more, fungi growth-inhibition activity was judged to exist. As shown in Table 2, *Foeniculum vulgare* methanol extract showed antibacterial activity for *Microsporum audouinii* when 50 mg thereof were applied, *Foeniculum vulgare* oil showed antibacterial activity when 100 mg and 50 mg were applied, and *Asarum heterotropoides* showed activity when 10 mg or more were applied. In addition, *Cinnamomum sieboldii* methanol extract and oil formed very strong clear zones when 10 mg and 50 mg respectively were applied, and clove methanol extract and oil also formed a very broad clear zone when 10 mg were applied. They showed similar aspects of antibacterial activities in other fungi.

Example 4.

Separation of anti-fungal compound

(1) Separation of eugenol

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Clove methanol extract (20 g) was fractionated with hexane (800 ml), chloroform (800 ml), ethylacetate (800 ml), and a water layer to obtain 12.6 g of

hexane, 3.8 g of chloroform, 0.8 g of ethylacetate, and 2.4 g of the water layer. Antibacterial activity of each fraction was examined, and it was confirmed that the hexane fraction showed antibacterial activity.

A chromatographic analysis with a silica gel column (Merck 230 mesh, 600g, diameter 5.5 x 70 g) and a stepwise gradient with hexane-ethyl acetate (hexane: ethylacetate = 5:1 ->3:1, v/v) were performed on 12.6 g of the hexane fraction to obtain effluents. TLC (Thin Layer Chromatography) was performed on the effluents, and if migration of spot is same, they were gathered and concentrated to separate them into H1 (1.4 g), H2 (27 g), H3 (0.4 g), and H4 (0.2 g) fractions. Antibacterial activity of each fraction was examined, and results showed antibacterial activities in the H1 and H2 fractions. Since H2 showed a larger yield than H1, the antibacterial substance was isolated in H2.

High-speed liquid chromatography (Spectra System P2000) was performed on H2. Hexane: ethyl acetate (9:1.v/v) solvent was dripped into a column (µ Porasil, inner diameter 19mm X length 300 mm) at a rate of 3 ml per minute, and effluent was detected at 242 nm to obtain a compound I. The compound I was identified as eugenol of Chemical Formula 1 as a result of an analysis on the basis of a spectroscopic analysis such as EI-MS, ¹H and ¹³C-NMR, etc.

(Chemical Formula 1)

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(2) Separation of isoeugenol and eugenol from clove oil

Isoeugenol and eugenol were separated from 1 mg of clove oil (Fig. 2).

Analytical HPLC (μ Porasil: diameter 10 μ m, inner diameter 3.9 mm X length 300 m) was performed on clove oil at a rate of 2 ml per minute, absorbance of 242 nm, solvent condition of hexane : ethylacetate 9:1 (v/v) to separate isoeugenol and eugenol. Under the same conditions, compounds H1, H2, and H3 were purified using a fractioning column (μ Porasil, resin diameter 10 μ m, inner diameter 19 mm X length 300 mm). These three kinds of compounds (H1, H2, H3) were examined for their antibacterial activities, and H2 and H3 were confirmed to have antibacterial activities.

Isoeugenol and eugenol were purchased from Sigma, and EI-MS of H2 and H3 were compared with those of the standard isoeugenol and eugenol products. As a result, H2 was identified as eugenol, and H3 as isoeugenol. Isoeugenol is represented by the Chemical Formula 2.

(Chemical Formula 2)

Example 5.

Examination of Antifungal activities of compounds

Antifungal activities of eugenol and isoeugenol were examined, and those of *Foeniculum vulgare* oil-derived Fenchone, *Cinnamomum sieboldii*-derived cinnamyl alcohol, and cinnamic aldehyde were examined by the same method.

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Table 3.

Treatin	Treating		Clear zone, mm							
concentration,		Microspor Trichophy Candid		Candida	Trichophy	Epidermo	Trichophy			
mg/pap		um audo	ton ferrug	albicans	ton menta	phyton	ton			
		uinii	ineum		grophytes	floccosum	rubrum			
Fenchone	50	16	12	13	15	14	13			
	10	9	11	10	9	9	10			
Eugenol	10	31	31	30	28	25	26			
Isoeugenol	10	25	25	24	23	24	22			
Cinnamyl alcohol	10	28	28	28	27	25	29			
Cinnamic aldehyde	10	48	38	44	40	35	40			
Methyleuge	5	32	25	25	23	30	31			
nol	2.5	30	26	23	25	28	27			
	1.25	15	15	13	14	14	16			
Clotrimazol	5	35	33	25	36	27	28			
е	2.5	23	30	22	18	24	23			
	1.25	21	23	22	19	18	18			

In Table 3, clotrimazole is a positive control. For *Microsporum* audouinii, fenchone showed very strong inhibition activity when 50 mg per paper disc were applied, eugenol and isoeugenol showed very strong activities when 10 mg were applied, and cinnamyl alcohol showed strong activity when 25 mg or more were applied. Cinnamic aldehyde and methyleugenol showed the strongest antifungal activities. The diameter of the clear zone from each compound differed slightly according to application concentration and strains,

but overall growth-inhibition activities thereof showed similar results.

Example 6.

Clinical Test

(1) Clinical test for Foeniculum vulgare oil

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Foeniculum vulgare oil was dissolved in ethanol to prepare a 5% Foeniculum vulgare oil composition, and a clinical test was performed with 5 adult men whose feet were infected with *Trichophyton*.

The *Foeniculum vulgare* oil composition was sprayed on the subjects' feet once every day for 3 seconds (0.15 g of *Foeniculum vulgare* oil applied) to examine the progress of *Trichophyton* over time.

Subjects having serious athlete's foot showed the following effects according to use time.

- 1 day of treatment: Sore oozing from splitted or pressed skin such as eczema disappeared.
- (2) 2 days: Split region was slowly healed.
- (3) 3 days: Keratin formed around athlete's foot region, and pain around athlete's foot region disappeared.
- (4) 4 days: Keratin formation was very conspicuous, and athlete's foot seemed to be completely healed.

For those not having serious athlete's foot, treatment twice per day could cause sufficient keratin formation and athlete's foot could be completely healed.

In addition, during application of Foeniculum vulgare, particular

symptom and side effects were not observed on the skin of the subjects.

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Accordingly, *Foeniculum vulgare* oil composition causes keratinization of athlete's foot tissues to change growth conditions of *Trichophyton*, thereby treating athlete's foot.

According to the present invention, antibacterial extracts were separated from *Foeniculum vulgare*, *Illicium verum*, *Asarum heterotropoides*, *Cinnamomum sp.* plants, and cloves, and the antibacterial compounds fenchone, eugenol, isoeugenol, methyleugenol, cinnamyl alcohol, and cinnamic aldehyde were identified. The antibacterial extracts and compounds can be used as natural antibacterial compounds without toxicity because they have very strong antibacterial activities for *Trichophyton* and *Candida*.

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

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1. An antibacterial composition comprising an extract of one or more kinds of plants selected from a group consisting of *Foeniculum vulgare*, *Illicium verum*, *Asarum heterotropoides*, *Cinnamomum sp.* plants, and cloves.

- 2. The antibacterial composition according to Claim 1, wherein the *Cinnamomum sp.* plant is one or more kinds selected from a group consisting of *Cinnamomum sieboldii*, *C. cassia*, *C. zeylanica*, a cinnamon tree, and *C. laureirii*.
- 3. The antibacterial composition according to Claim 1, wherein the extract is prepared using at least one solvent selected from a group consisting of an organic solvent, distilled water, and alcohol.
- 4. The antibacterial composition according to Claim 1, wherein the extract is at least one selected from a group consisting of *Foeniculum vulgare* oil, *Illicium verum* oil, *Asarum heterotropoides* oil, *Cinnamomum sieboldii* oil, *C. cassia* oil, clove oil, and clove bud oil.
- 5. The antibacterial composition according to Claim 1, wherein the composition has antibacterial activity for *Trichophyton* or *Candida*.
- 6. The antibacterial composition according to Claim 1, wherein the composition has antibacterial activity for one or more kinds of fungi selected from a group consisting of *Trichophyton rubrum, Microsporum audouinii, Trichophyton ferrugineum, Epidermophyton floccosum, Trichophyton mentagrophytes, and Candida albicans*.
 - 7. An antibacterial composition comprising a compound selected

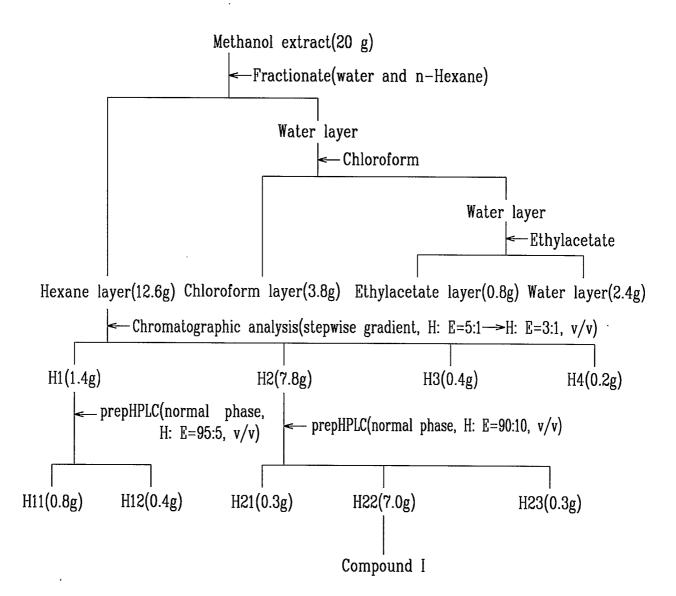
from fenchone, eugenol, isoeugenol, methyleugenol, cinnamyl alcohol, cinnamic aldehyde, and a mixture thereof.

8. The antibacterial composition according to Claim 7, wherein the composition has antibacterial activity for *Trichophyton* and *Candida*.

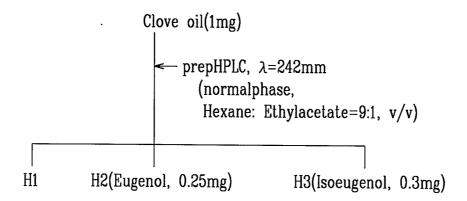
9. The antibacterial composition according to Claim 7 for treating athlete's foot.

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1/2 FIG.1



2/2 FIG.2



INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No. PCT/KR 02/00826

combined with one or more other such documents, such combination

CI.	ASSIFI	CATION	OF SUB	JECT MA	ATTER

IPC⁷: A61K 35/78

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)

IPC⁷: A61k

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practicable, search terms used)

WPI, PAJ

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
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* Special categories of cited documents:A" document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevanceE" earlier application or patent but published on or after the international	".T" later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention "X" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be
filing date "".L." document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is	considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone
cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified)	"Y" document of particular relevance: the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is

means being obvious to a person skilled in the art ... being obvious to a person skilled in the art ... document published prior to the international filing date but later than ... document member of the same patent family the priority date claimed

Date of the actual completion of the international search	Date of mailing of the international search report
9 July 2002 (09.07.2002)	22 July 2002 (22.07.2002)
Name and mailing adress of the ISA/AT	Authorized officer
Austrian Patent Office	WOLF K.
Kohlmarkt 8-10; A-1014 Vienna	VVOLI IX.
Facsimile No. 1/53424/535	Telephone No. 1/53424/436

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International application No.

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