

H3: Physical and Chemical Characteristics of Kelulut (Trigona Spp.) Honey from Different Regions of Peninsular Malaysia

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ABSTRACT

Introduction: Kelulut honey (KH) is a unique honey from stingless bee *Trigona* spp. *Trigona* is the largest genus of stingless bee and they store their honey in small resin pots near the extremities of their hives. **Methods:** This study aimed to determine the physical and chemical characteristics of KH collected from centre, north and east coast regions of Peninsular Malaysia. The physical properties comprised of moisture content, pH, and colour intensity. A series of chemical analyses namely total sugar, proline content, ascorbic acid content, total phenolic content (TPC), total flavonoid content (TFC), DPPH radical scavenging assay and ferric reducing antioxidant antioxidant power (FRAP) assay were performed on KH. **Results:** KH from the three regions contained 21.40-31.59% moisture content, pH in the range of 3.29-3.71, and with colour intensity of 1029.00-2103.17 mAU. KH from different regions of Peninsular Malaysia contained 67-74% of total sugar content. KH from center region of Peninsular Malaysia has the highest proline (29.19±0.35 g/kg) and ascorbic acid (10.43±1.27 g/kg) content. TPC (1169.36±51.11 mg GAE/kg) and TFC (79.13±0.49 mg QE/kg) were highest in KH from east coast region of Peninsular Malaysia. The latter also has the strongest antioxidant activities indicated through the highest FRAP value (7477.03 µM Fe (II)/kg) and the lowest IC50 (15.07±1.05 mg/mL) in DPPH radical scavenging activity. **Conclusion:** The physical and chemical characteristics of KH were varied which may due to nectar that was collected from different floral origin. This study provides some fundamental data related to KH can be used as reference for future research work.

KEY WORDS:

Kelulut; Trigona; physical; chemical; characteristic

H4: Bullying and Truancy: Predictors to Sexual Practices among School-going Adolescents in Malaysia

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ABSTRACT

Introduction: Adolescents' involvement in sexual activities are becoming a major public health concern in Malaysia. This study aims to determine the prevalence of sexual practices among Malaysian school adolescents and its predictive factors. **Methods:** A cross sectional study was carried out from April 2012 till September 2012 among 16 years old school adolescents from two different schools. They were selected through simple random sampling and these adolescents answered a self-administered questionnaire consisting of three sections i.e. socio-demography, negative behaviors and family-adolescents relationship. Data were analyzed using Pearson Chi Square test while Simple Logistic Regression and Multiple Logistic Regression were applied to determine the predictive factors. **Results:** The prevalence of sexual practices was 30.1% in which they were either involved in pornography (26.8%), pre-sexual activities (8.5%) or pre-marital sex (2.9%). Six predictive factors were identified which were male (aOR 2.7, CI 1.4- 2.5), truancy (aOR 2.3, CI 1.3-4.2), bully (aOR 3.5, CI 1.7-7.3), hanging out (aOR 2.8, 1.4-5.6), staying out late (aOR 3.2, CI 1.5-6.8) and conflict with family (aOR 4.1, CI 1.9-8.9). **Conclusion:** This study identifies that boys, adolescents involved in truancy and bullying, hanging out behavior, staying out late and conflict with family were factors that predict sexual practices among adolescent. These findings may create an avenue for planning prevention and intervention programmes for these targeted age group. Outcome of this study suggest on identification of group of adolescents with modifiable risk and protective factors in relation to sexual practices among them. Asian background differs from the western countries and this study would be suitable in creating prevention and intervention programme among Asian adolescents.

KEY WORDS:

Adolescents, sexual practices, pre-marital sex, negative behaviors