

Extraction Process, Identification of Fatty Acids, Tocopherols, Sterols and Phenolic Constituents, and Antioxidant Evaluation of Seed Oils from Five Fabaceae Species

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Keywords: phenolic, antioxidant activity, sterols, tocopherols, fatty acids, Fabaceae seed oils

Abstract:

The present study aimed to extract seed oils and characterize the chemical composition, including fatty acid profiles, tocopherols, sterols, and total phenolics of oils and extracts from five Fabaceae seeds: *Glycine soja*, *Vigna angularis*, *Phaseolus lunatus*, *Phaseolus vulgaris*, and *Phaseolus coccineus*. The composition and content of all substance layers in total lipids of the extracted seed oils from five Fabaceae species contain: polar lipid (PL), sterol (ST), diacylglycerol (DG), triacylglycerol (TG), free fatty acid (FFA), and hydrocarbon and wax (HC + W). Antioxidant activity determined by the 2,2-diphenyl-1-picrylhydrazyl (DPPH) method was also estimated. Among these examined samples, *Phaseolus vulgaris* and *Phaseolus coccineus* seed oils showed high content of γ -linolenic acid (59.39% and 49.38%, respectively). Linoleic acid was abundantly found in *Vigna angularis* (49.01%). Ferulic and caffeic acid, α -tocopherol, and β -sitosterol were the main ingredients present in the species studied. The *V. angularis* seed extract displayed significant antioxidant activity.

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Article

Extraction Process, Identification of Fatty Acids, Tocopherols, Sterols and Phenolic Constituents, and Antioxidant Evaluation of Seed Oils from Five Fabaceae Species

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Abstract: The present study aimed to extract seed oils and characterize the chemical composition, including fatty acid profiles, tocopherols, sterols, and total phenolics of oils and extracts from five Fabaceae seeds: *Glycine soja*, *Vigna angularis*, *Phaseolus lunatus*, *Phaseolus vulgaris*, and *Phaseolus coccineus*. The composition and content of all substance layers in total lipids of the extracted seed oils from five Fabaceae species contain: polar lipid (PL), sterol (ST), diacylglycerol (DG), triacylglycerol (TG), free fatty acid (FFA), and hydrocarbon and wax (HC + W). Antioxidant activity determined by the 2,2-diphenyl-1-picrylhydrazyl (DPPH) method was also estimated. Among these examined samples, *Phaseolus vulgaris* and *Phaseolus coccineus* seed oils showed high content of α -linolenic acid (59.39% and 49.38%, respectively). Linoleic acid was abundantly found in *Vigna angularis* (49.01%). Ferulic and caffeic acid, γ -tocopherol, and β -sitosterol were the main ingredients present in the species studied. The *V. angularis* seed extract displayed significant antioxidant activity.

Keywords: Fabaceae seed oils; fatty acids; tocopherols; sterols; phenolic; antioxidant activity

1. Introduction

Although the plant biodiversity in Vietnam has compelled agricultural potential and utilization of bio-based resource to gain in importance, investigations on the chemical composition and economic feasibility of plants, especially plant seeds, have been scarce. In addition, recent calls for sustainable sources of nutrition have also increased the need for more knowledge about the composition of wild plant seeds from Vietnam [1]. Among the many seeds that are widely distributed in Vietnam, seeds of beans figure prominently due to their economic, nutritional, and medicinal values [2]. A wide array of nutrients can be found in beans, such as minerals, proteins, amino acids, and fatty acids [3]. Among them, fatty acids fundamentally compose lipid molecules, hormones, and cell membranes, serve as an energy source for cells, and play a key role in energetic, metabolic, and structural activities [4]. While

fatty acids constitute saturated and unsaturated fatty acids, the latter are the components of interest as they are considered to be health-beneficial.

The importance of unsaturated fatty acids is accentuated by the fact that the two polyunsaturated fatty acids, linoleic and linolenic acids, are essential and unobtainable, except by dietary means, in the human body. To be specific, linoleic acid, an unsaturated omega-6 fatty acid found in some specific plants, including pumpkin seeds, canola oil, soy beans, and flaxseeds, plays an important role for a wide range of human biological organs, including the nervous, skeletal, and reproductive systems, and allows them to function healthily [5]. In the human body, linoleic acid is converted into docosahexanoic acid (DHA), and eicosapentanoic acid (EPA), which are both responsible for the reduction of cholesterol and inflammation, enhancement of brain functions, and prevention of cancers and autoimmune conditions [6–9]. In addition, linolenic acid might contribute to improving cardiovascular health, as suggested by a previous large-scale study where linoleic acid consumption was found to confer moderate protection from heart disease. In fat cells treated with linolenic acid, it was found that the activity of eight different genes responsible for the promotion of cholesterol and triglyceride production is curbed. Furthermore, it is advisable that an inclusion of 5%–10% of omega-6 fatty acids in daily protein intake could lower the risk of heart disease [10].

For linoleic acid, the fatty acid is common in the seeds of many plant foods including safflower, sunflower, soybean, pine nuts, pecans, Brazil nuts, and corn oils. Linoleic acid also accounts for 85 to 90 percent of dietary omega-6 fatty acids. The ratio between omega-3 and omega-6 fatty acids is recommended to range from 2:1 to 4:1. However, due to the popularity and high omega-6 fatty acid content of safflower, sunflower, soybean, and corn oils in the standard Western diet, it is estimated that the consumption of omega-6 polyunsaturated fatty acids is 14 times higher than that of omega-3 fatty acids. To be specific, while the recommended daily intake of linoleic acid ranges from 1 to 2 g, one tablespoon of Flaxseeds, canola oil, or walnuts have already contributed 2.2, 1.3, and 0.3 g of linoleic acid [11–13].

Despite the nutritional potentials of seeds and their derived products, records on the chemical composition of extracts from seeds grown in Vietnam have been lacking. In this study, five seeds in the Fabaceae family, one of the most consumed and widely produced seed species in Vietnam, were characterized for fatty acids, tocopherols, sterols, and phenolic constituents using chromatographic and spectrometric methods. In addition, antioxidant determination by the 2,2-diphenyl-1-picrylhydrazyl (DPPH) method was also performed.

2. Materials and Methods

2.1. Plant Seed Materials

The five Fabaceae seeds: *Glycine soja* (M7), *Vigna angularis* (M12), *Phaseolus lunatus* (M9), *Phaseolus vulgaris* (M14), and *Phaseolus coccineus* (M10) were collected from Phu Yen, Vietnam in 2018. Samples were stored at $-4\text{ }^{\circ}\text{C}$ at the Department of Organic Biochemistry, Institute of Natural Products Chemistry, Vietnam Academy of Science and Technology. Samples were botanically identified by Dr. Nguyen Quoc Binh (Department of Biology, Vietnam National Museum of Nature, Vietnam Academy of Science and Technology) and given herbarium numbers.

2.2. Oil Extraction and Purification

Seeds were extracted using Soxhlet extraction following the modified method of ISO/DIS 659 (1988) [14]. To be specific, for each sample, 10 g of crushed seeds, produced from a ball mill machine, underwent extraction in a Twisselmann apparatus with 200 mL of petroleum ether for 6 h. Obtained products were subjected to rotary evaporation at $40\text{ }^{\circ}\text{C}$ and 25 torr to remove the solvent, followed by a gentle stream of nitrogen. The obtained product was stored at $-20\text{ }^{\circ}\text{C}$ until used.

2.3. Analysis of Fatty Acid, Tocopherol, Sterol Compositions and Phenolic Compounds

The fatty acid composition was determined via gas chromatography and a subsequent ISO draft standard method [15]. First, 10 mg of extracted oil was added, followed by the introduction of 25 μL of 2M sodium methanolate methanol solution in a vial containing 1 mL of petroleum ether. The closed vial was stirred vigorously for 1 min. Afterwards, centrifugation took place following the addition of 20 μL of water. The aqueous phase was separated and 20 μL of methyl orange in 0.1N HCl was added as a pH indicator. Prior to analysis, the final mixture underwent a thorough stirring. The chromatography instrument for determination of derivatives was a Hewlett-Packard Model 5890 Series II/5989 A, operating in combination with a 0.25 mm ZB-1 fused-silica capillary column (30 m \times 0.25 μm i.d.; Phenomenex, Torrance, CA, USA), and a carrier gas of helium at a flow rate of 1.0 mL/min.

To determine tocopherol, HPLC analysis was adopted following a previous procedure [16]. A mixture containing 250 mg of oil and 25 mL of heptanes was used as the sample for analysis in the HPLC instrument. The instrument was a Merck–Hitachi low-pressure gradient system, equipped with an L-6000 pump and a Merck–Hitachi F-1000 fluorescence spectrophotometer (detector wavelengths at 295 nm for excitation and 330 nm for emission) used in conjunction with Chemstation software. The injection of the sample onto a Diol phase HPLC column (250 mm \times 4.6 mm, i.d.; Merck, Darmstadt, Germany) was performed using a Merck 655-A40 autosampler. The flow rate of the column, 1.3 mL/min heptane/tert-butyl methyl ether (99 + 1, *v/v*), was used as the mobile phase. The results were expressed as mg vitamin E/100 g oil.

To determine sterol, the official method of the International Olive Oil Council was employed [17]. The determination commenced with the saponification of 15 g of oil sample using 50 mL of 2 N ethanolic potassium hydroxide solution. The resultant fraction that was unsaponifiable was added to chloroform, weighed to 20 mg, and applied on a basic silica thin layer chromatography (TLC) plate. The separation of sterol and triterpenediol fraction was performed by eluent mixture with hexane and diethyl ether 65:35 (*v/v*). A UV light was used for the determination of bands following a spraying with 2,7-dichlorofluorescein in 0.2% ethanolic solution, scraping with a spatula, and extraction with chloroform. The extract was then dried and trimethylsilyl ethers were formed by the conversion of sterols and triterpenediols using pyridine hexamethyldisilazane-trimethylchlorosilane (9:3:1, *v/v/v*). The resultant mixture was allowed to stabilize for 15 min and was subsequently subjected to centrifugation. Sterols were analyzed on a fused silica capillary column coated with 2% isopropanol/98% hexane (30 m \times 0.32 mm i.d., film thickness 0.25 μm ; Rtx-5: Restek Corporation, Bellefonte, PA, USA; 99 or HP-5: Agilent Technologies Inc., Little Falls, DE, USA). The analysis instrument was a Hewlett Packard series 6890 GC (Waldbronn, Germany) equipped with a split/splitless injector, an autosampler, and a flame ionization detector (FID). First, 1.0 mL of aliquot of 1 derivatized sample solution was split injected into the column (300 $^{\circ}\text{C}$, split ratio 1:50). Isolation of constituents was performed isothermally at 300 $^{\circ}\text{C}$, and the determination was carried out with the FID (at 310 $^{\circ}\text{C}$). Individual peaks of sterols were identified by carrier gas of helium. Relative retention times (RRT) for sterols was determined with reference to a major sterol compound, β -sistosterol, whose RRT is equal to 1 as described by COI [18].

The total phenolic compound was determined as follows. First, 1 g of powdered seed was ultrasonically extracted with 5 mL of methanol at a concentration of 80% for 30 min at ambient temperature. Then, Whatman Grade 1 filter paper was used to filter the resultant supernatants. The filtrate was stored at 4 $^{\circ}\text{C}$ prior to total phenolic content analysis via the Folin–Ciocalteu method [19]. Results were expressed as milligram equivalents of gallic acid (GAE) (400–1000 mg/L) per grams of the sample. Average values were reported according to triplicate experimental attempts.

Thirteen phenolic acids were quantified via reversed phase high performance liquid chromatography (RP-HPLC). The instrument used was an Agilent Technologies 1100 series, operating in conjunction with an UV-Vis multiwavelength detector [20]. The separation was conducted at room temperature with a 250 mm \times 4.6 mm, 4 μm Hypersil ODS C18 reversed phase column. Two solvents were used for the mobile phase. The first solvent, denoted as solvent A, consisted of acetonitrile, and the second solvent, denoted as solvent B, was H_2O with 0.2% H_2SO_4 . The flow rate was maintained at

0.5 mL min⁻¹. The progress of the gradient was programmed into six consecutive phases. The duration of phase 1 to 6 was 12, 2, 4, 2, 4, and 4 min, respectively. The ratio of A/B of the solvent system used in phase 1 to 6 was 15/85, 40/60, 60/40, 80/20, 90/10, and 100/0, respectively. The sample for analysis was first subjected to filtration using a 0.45 µm membrane filter and was then injected at a volume of 20 µL. Identification of peaks were made by comparing observations at 280 nm with standards. Triplicate attempts were made for all determinations, in which a specified quantity of trans-2-hydroxycinnamic acid was used as an internal standard.

Antioxidant activity was determined with the DPPH radical scavenging method. For determination of the antioxidant activity of different extracts, the stable 1,1-diphenyl-2-picrylhydrazyl (DPPH) radical was used [21]. This method allows for quick determination of the antiradical power of an antioxidant by measurement of the decrease in the absorbance of DPPH at 515 nm. For each extract, different concentrations were tested. An aliquot (0.5 mL) of the DPPH solution (about 50 mg/100 mL) was diluted in 4.5 mL of methanol, and 0.1 mL of a methanolic solution of the extract was added. The mixture was shaken vigorously and allowed to stand for 45 min in the dark. The decrease in absorbance was measured at 515 nm against a blank (without extract) with a spectrophotometer. From a calibration curve established with different amounts of extract, the ED50 was calculated. The ED50 was the required concentration of an antioxidant to quench 50% of the initial DPPH radicals under the given experimental conditions.

2.4. Composition and Content of Lipid Class Analysis

Total lipid was extracted from fresh seeds by the Bligh and Dyer method [22]. The seeds (10 g) were crushed, and the lipid was extracted at 4 °C for 24 h by stirring with a mixture of chloroform/methanol (30/60 mL, *v/v*). After that, the mixture was filtered and the biphasic system was obtained by adding chloroform (30 mL) and H₂O (30 mL). After settling (24 h), the lower layer was separated, and the aqueous layer was subject to another extraction with chloroform (30 mL). The total lipid mixture, obtained by mixing and evaporating chloroform layers under low pressure, was stored at -20 °C for further investigation. The total lipid content was determined gravimetrically [23]. One-dimensional thin layer chromatography (TLC), with pre-coated silica gel plates (10 cm × 10 cm), Sorbfil PTLC-AF-V (Sorbfil, Krasnodar, Russia), was employed to determine total lipid compositions. First, development of the plates took place to full length with *n*-hexan/Et₂O/AcOH (70/20/1, by vol.). Following that, the plates were developed to 25% length with CHCl₃/MeOH/C₆H₆/NH₄OH (65/30/5/10, by vol.). The plates were then air dried, sprayed with 10% H₂SO₄/MeOH, and heated at 240 °C for 10 min. To obtain chromatograms, an image scanner (Epson Perfection 2400 PHOTO), operating in a grayscale mode, was utilized. Lipid contents were quantified in percentages using an image analysis program (Sorbfil TLC Videodensitometer, Krasnodar, Russia) with band intensities as inputs. Peak areas and lipid class percentages were calculated according to the previously described method [24,25].

3. Results and Discussion

3.1. Lipid Content and Fatty Acid Composition

The total lipid contents of five collected seeds were in the range of 1.24 and 16.91% (Table 1). Only *Glycine soja* seed contained 16.91% oil whereas other seeds contained oil less than 3%. These results were in line with some previously reported results. To be specific, it was reported that the crude oil content varied from 2.8 to 18.0% with a mean of 10.2% for some Korean wild soybean (*Glycine soja*) lines [25] and from 1.3–2.3 g/100 g for some lima bean varieties [26]. The oils from five Fabaceae seeds were further investigated for fatty acid, tocopherol, and sterol compositions. Table 1 lists the fatty acid compositions of five samples, showing considerable compositional variation among seed samples. All seed oils shared several saturated fatty acids (SFA), but in different contents, including palmitic acid (16:0) or stearic acid (18:0), and some unsaturated fatty acids (USFA) such as oleic acid (18:1n-9), linoleic acid (18:2n-6), or α-linolenic acid (18:3n-3).

Table 1. List of compositions fatty acids from five Fabaceae seed samples.

Fatty Acids			Samples					
			M7	M12	M9	M14	M10	
Total lipid (% weight of fresh seaweed)			16.91	2.01	1.27	1.89	1.24	
Fatty acids (% total fatty)								
1	16:0	Hexadecanoic acid	Palmitic acid	11.13	12.64	23.42	7.91	9.47
2	16:1(n-7)	9-Hexadecenoic acid	Palmitoleic acid	0.09	0.62	0.17	0.26	0.15
3	17:0	Heptadecanoic acid	Margaric acid	0.11	0.18	0.28	0.21	0.17
4	18:0	Octadecanoic acid	Stearic acid	2.76	3.25	5.80	1.62	1.30
5	18:1(n-9)	cis-9-octadecenoic acid	Oleic acid	29.66	6.56	5.61	5.57	5.13
6	18:1(n-11)	cis-7-octadecenoic acid	Vaccenic acid	0.08	0.46	1.14	2.16	2.11
7	18:2(n-6)	cis-9,12-octadecadienoic acid	Linoleic acid	48.09	49.01	41.64	20.34	29.20
8	18:3(n-3)	cis-9,12,15-octadecatrienoic acid	Linolenic acid (ALA)	6.76	26.10	17.77	59.39	49.53
9	20:0	Eicosanoic acid	Arachidic acid (AA)	0.38	0.48	1.01	0.39	0.38
10	20:1(n-9)	11-eicosenoic acid	Eicosenoic acid	0.29	0.02	0.16	0.15	0.15
11	22:0	Docosanoic acid	Behenic acid	0.58	1.04	2.08	1.28	1.90
12	24:0	Tetracosanoic acid	Lignoceric acid	0.07	0.18	0.92	0.72	0.51
Saturated				15.03	17.77	33.51	12.13	13.73
Unsaturated				84.97	82.77	66.49	87.87	86.27

In five samples, USFA content was very high, ranging from 66.49% to 87.87% in which *Phaseolus vulgaris* and *Phaseolus coccineus* species achieved the highest contents. This is a special case because α -linolenic acid (ALA) is the predominant USFA identified in *P. vulgaris* and *P. coccineus* (59.39% and 49.53%, respectively), making them valuable sources for this fatty acid. This ALA acid was also reported in considerable amounts in several plant samples including some green leafy vegetables, soybeans, linseed, rapeseed, flaxseed, and canola oils, as well as in phytoplankton, algae, and fish [27]. In some specific plant species with very high nutritional values, this ALA acid was found in excess amounts, such as in *Salvia hispanica* (64%), *Perilla frutescens* (58%), *Linum usitatissimum* (55%), and *Phaseolus vulgaris* (49%) [28]. The fatty acid composition patterns exhibited in the examined samples in this study are quite similar to those reported for seeds of *Perilla frutescens*, a species in the mint Lamiaceae family. The oil extracted from perilla seed oil exhibited strong anti-inflammatory activities and is one of the sources with the richest contents of omega-3 fatty acids, which are medicinally beneficial and important in preventing cardiovascular disorders, cancer, and inflammatory and rheumatoid arthritis. In addition, perilla leaves were also probed for anti-inflammatory properties [29].

Two other bean samples (*P. lunatus* and *V. angularis*) have a lower content of ALA acid, ranging from 17.77% to 26.10%. The content of oleic acid is low among the total fatty acids, ranging from 5.13% (*P. coccineus*) to 29.66% (*G. soja*). There are four bean samples containing oleic acid with content less than 7% of the total fatty acids and only one sample with a content of 29.66%, which is *G. soja*. Other monounsaturated fatty acids were also detected with three other acids including C16:1(n-7), C18:1(n-11), and C20:1(n-9), which have a very low content (<2.5% total fatty acid).

Several species were characterized by high amounts of saturated fatty acids including *Phaseolus aureus* (38.30%), *P. lunatus* (30.00%), and *V. angularis* (25.00%). Among the common saturated fatty acids, the content of palmitic acid ranged from 7.91% (*P. vulgaris*) to 23.42% (*P. lunatus*) while the content of stearic acid was marginal, ranging between 1.30% (*P. coccineus*) and 5.80% (*P. lunatus*). C22:0 behenic acid and C24:0 lignoceric acid were found in four of the seed oils in very low content.

3.2. Tocochromanol Composition

The seed oils were assessed with regard to two indicators, namely vitamin-E-active compounds and tocochromanols. The tocochromanol composition of the sample oils are presented in Table 2.

Similar to the previous result, the oils showed a wide range in the total tocochromanol content and composition. The content of tocochromanols varied from 14.85 mg/kg (*G. soja*) to 266.92 mg/kg (*P. coccineus*). With regard to the contents of tocochromanols, while *G. soja*, *V. angularis*, and *P. lunatus* contained tocochromanols at less than 25 mg/kg, the remaining species, including *P. vulgaris* and *P. coccineus*, showed very high amounts of tocochromanols of more than 100 mg/kg (164.55 and

266.92 mg/kg, respectively). Tocochromanol-rich seeds find a myriad of applications in the manufacture of food and functional products, medicine fields, and in stabilizing the oxidation of fats and oils. The health benefits of tocochromanols have been confirmed in various studies. Tocopherols in the examined species also possess significant antioxidant and anti-inflammatory activities, evidenced by high γ -tocopherol contents varying from 3.94 to 247.85 mg/kg. The highest amounts of γ -tocopherol were found in the seed oils of *P. coccineus* (247.85 mg/kg) and *V. angularis* (152.58 mg/kg). In addition, the amount of α -tocopherol in the examined seeds was relatively low (less than 20.90 mg/kg). Even though all principal tocopherols were found in the examined samples, the examined samples had lower tocopherol contents in comparison with those found in other legumes [30,31]. One of notable functions of tocopherols is to prevent the peroxidation of polyunsaturated fatty acids (PUFA) [32]. Evidently, in a previous analysis where the relationship between the level of tocopherol and unsaturation was explored in vegetable oils, it was found that γ -tocopherol was positively related with α -linolenic acid [33]. While α -tocopherol is considered to have significant nutritional value, recent evidence pointed out that γ -tocopherol may act as a superior risk-reducing factor for certain types of cancer and myocardial infarctions in comparison with α -tocopherol [33].

Table 2. Tocopherol compositions (mg/Kg) of five seed oil samples.

Samples	Compositions (mg/Kg)									
	α -T	α -T3	β -T	γ -T	β -T3	P8	γ -T3	δ -T	δ -T3	Sum
M7	2.17	<LQ	0.42	3.94	<LQ	<LQ	<LQ	8.31	<LQ	14.85
M12	1.41	2.70	<LQ	12.74	<LQ	<LQ	<LQ	1.06	<LQ	17.92
M9	<LQ	0.44	<LQ	19.96	0.15	<LQ	<LQ	0.91	1.00	22.47
M14	6.74	<LQ	0.35	152.58	<LQ	2.02	<LQ	2.87	<LQ	164.55
M10	<LQ	5.15	<LQ	247.85	2.61	<LQ	<LQ	10.70	0.62	266.92

LQ: Limit of quantification.

3.3. Sterol Composition

Several typical sterols were predominant in the samples, including campesterol, stigmasterol, $\Delta^{5,23}$ -stigmastadienol, β -sitosterol, sitostanol, Δ^5 -avenasterol, and Δ^7 -stigmastenol (Table 3).

Table 3. Sterol compositions (%) of five seed samples.

Name	M7	M9	M14	M10	M12
Cholesterol	0.60	0.10	0.10	0.10	0.10
Brassicasterol	0.30	<LQ	0.10	<LQ	0.20
24-methylenecholesterol	0.50	<LQ	0.10	<LQ	0.90
Campesterol	15.70	2.50	5.20	4.70	8.50
Campestanol	1.30	3.80	<LQ	<LQ	<LQ
Stigmasterol	15.40	39.00	28.60	26.90	2.10
Δ^7 -camersterol	0.80	0.30	0.20	0.30	1.10
$\Delta^{5,23}$ -stigmastadienol	0.70	<LQ	1.10	<LQ	<LQ
Chlerosterol	0.30	0.90	Nd	1.10	0.70
β -sitosterol	53.60	42.70	53.20	57.80	83.30
Sitostanol	2.50	0.90	0.50	Nd	Nd
Δ^5 -Avenasterol	2.30	6.80	9.10	6.70	1.70
$\Delta^{5,24}$ -Stigmastadienol	0.20	1.10	1.60	1.00	0.40
Δ^7 -Stigmastenol	4.50	0.70	0.20	0.90	0.80
Δ^7 -Avenasterol	1.30	1.30	0.10	0.70	0.10
Total	100	100	100	100	100

LQ: Limit of quantification.

β -sitosterol was the major constituent, with the content ranging from 42.70 mg/g (*P. lunatus*) to 83.30 mg/g (*V. angularis*). β -sitosterol has been shown to exhibit multiple beneficial properties including anti-hypercholesterolemic, anti-inflammatory, antibacterial, antifungal, and anti-hyperlipoproteinemic

activities. Other discovered functions of this component include the inhibition of carcinogenesis [34], the simultaneous reduction of glycated hemoglobin and serum glucose levels, and the promotion of serum insulin levels [35]. With regard to stigmasterol, five examined samples possessed the constituent at varying content from 2.10 mg/g (*V. angularis*) to 39.00 mg/g (*P. lunatus*). Some typical sterols also appeared in large quantities in a few species such as campesterol in *G. soja* (15.70%).

3.4. Phenolic Acids Composition

Phenolic constituents in the samples were detected using a standard mixture consisting of thirteen phenolic acids. It was found that most standard compounds existed in the samples with contents ranging from 0.16 to 34.47 mg/g (Table 4). In general, ferulic acid and chlorogenic acid were the two components existing in most seed samples at considerable quantities. The content of ferulic acid varied from 2.08 mg/kg (*P. lunatus*) to 14.49 mg/kg (*V. angularis*). The content of chlorogenic acid varied from 1.89 mg/kg (*G. soja*) to 11.06 mg/kg (*P. vulgaris*). Caffeic acid only presents in four seed samples, and the percentages ranged from 0.32 mg/g (*G. soja*) to 8.00 mg/g (*P. coccineus*). There are three samples containing p-coumaric acid with content at less than 6 mg/g, including *P. lunatus*, at 11.41 mg/kg, and *V. angularis*, at 13.21 mg/kg. *P. vulgaris* seeds also had naringenin acid and taxifolin content at 6.03 and 3.99 mg/kg, respectively [34]. The values reported here are different from those reported for leguminous seeds (pea, bean, lentil, faba bean, broad bean, everlasting bean, and chickpea) elsewhere [36].

Table 4. Phenolic compositions (%) in the eight seed oil samples.

Name	M7	M9	M14	M10	M12
Chlorogenic acid	1.89	4.13	11.06	6.54	5.15
Gallic acid	0.6	1.85	3.06	2.62	1.70
Caffeic acid	0.32	<LOQ	4.68	8.00	1.30
Vanillic acid	<LOQ	2.15	4.37	1.88	0.92
Isovanillic acid	<LOQ	<LOQ	<LOQ	1.74	1.66
Vanillin	1.03	<LOQ	<LOQ	<LOQ	<LOQ
β -Coumaric acid	5.18	11.41	<LOQ	<LOQ	13.21
Ferulic acid	4.28	2.08	6.33	3.2	14.49
Taxifolin	1.71	3.11	<LOQ	<LOQ	3.99
Rosmarinic acid	2.54	8.37	2.79	<LOQ	6.51
Daidzein	<LOQ	1.44	2.26	<LOQ	0.88
Cinnamic acid	<LOQ	1.67	0.64	<LOQ	1.17
Naringenin	<LOQ	0.71	6.03	<LOQ	3.25

3.5. Composition and Content of Lipid Classes from Total Lipid

According to the result in Table 5 and Figure 1, the total lipid of bean seed samples is composed of six main layers with content fluctuating from 10% to 20%. Layers included polar lipid (PL), sterol (ST), triacylglycerol (TG), free fatty acid (FFA), diacylglycerol (DG), hydrocarbons, and wax (HC + W). Among them, triacylglycerol and polar lipid layers were found in the highest content in lima bean, bush bean, and red bean samples. In addition, free fatty acid content also occupied a relatively high proportion (average of 15% across the five samples). The content of the phospholipid layer was also high, suggesting the existence of a phospholipid class. This form of polar lipid has high biological activity and also presents abundantly in the soybean seed's lipid.

Table 5. Lipid class composition (% of total lipid).

No	Lipid Layers	Content %				
		M7	M9	M14	M10	M12
1	Polar Lipid (PL)	18.51	19.1	20.8	24.88	22.5
2	Sterol (ST)	15.37	19.3	10.7	9.59	8.3

Table 5. Cont.

No	Lipid Layers	Content %				
		M7	M9	M14	M10	M12
3	Free fatty acid	17.52	13.2	16.5	14.31	15.3
4	Triacylglycerol (TG)	31.42	29.6	37.7	35.54	37.2
5	Diacyl glyxerol	7.81	5.5	8.2	8.15	9.5
6	Wax Hydrocarbon	9.37	13.4	6.1	7.53	7.2
	Total	100	100	100	100	100

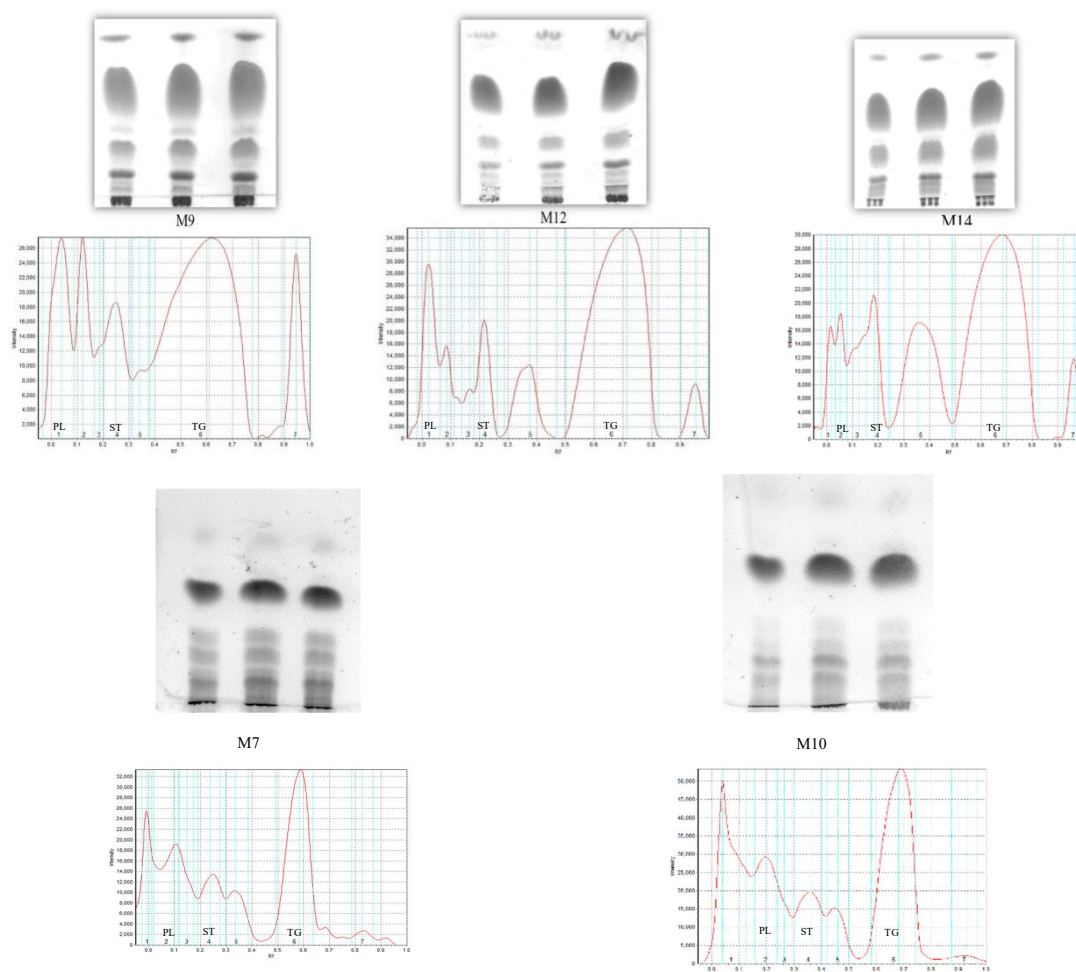


Figure 1. Thin layer chromatography (TLC) images and chromatograms of content of lipid layers of bean seeds. Polar Lipid (PL), Sterol (ST), Triacylglycerol (TG).

3.6. Antioxidant Activity

The total extractable compounds (EC), total phenolic compounds (PC), and DPPH free radical scavenging activity of methanol extracts of five seed samples are provided in Table 6. The results demonstrated that all samples showed moderate antioxidant capacity, in which *V. angularis* appeared to have the most potential (Table 6). Methanol extracts of the five oil samples exhibited moderate antioxidant activity, as demonstrated by SC_{50} values ranging from 14.27 to 91.56 $\mu\text{g/mL}$. Ascorbic acid, which serves as the standard compound (Vitamin C), achieved an SC_{50} value of 26.48 $\mu\text{g/mL}$. The antioxidant potential of seeds showed that *V. angularis* varieties were characterized by the highest DPPH scavenging activity of 14.27 $\mu\text{g/mL}$, followed by the extracts of *P. lunatus* and *G. soja* seeds at 23.69 $\mu\text{g/mL}$ –25.43 $\mu\text{g/mL}$. While the species with the strongest antioxidant potential, *V. angularis*, was

abundantly composed of ferulic acid (14.49%) and β -Coumaric acid (13.21%), *P. coccineus*, the sample with the second highest antioxidant activities, was mainly composed of caffeic acid (8%).

Table 6. Total extractable compounds (EC) [mg/g], total phenolic compounds (PC) [mg/g], and 2,2-diphenyl-1-picrylhydrazyl (DPPH) free radical scavenging activity of methanol extracts of five seed samples (SC50) [$\mu\text{g/mL}$].

No	Code	Scientific Name	EC (mg/g)	PC (mg/g)	DPPH Free Radical Scavenging Activity (SC ₅₀ , $\mu\text{g/mL}$)
1	M7	<i>Glycine soja</i>	165	5.3064	25.43
2	M9	<i>Phaseolus lunatus</i>	76	8.7965	23.69
3	M14	<i>Phaseolus vulgaris</i>	67.4	12.9214	91.56
4	M10	<i>Phaseolus coccineus</i>	80	16.1161	68.60
5	M12	<i>Vigna angularis</i>	80.5	18.4690	14.27
6	Vitamin C				26.48

As suggested by Oomah et al. [37], the antioxidant activity of bean phenolics could be best characterized by total phenolic content. To be specific, the antiradical activity could be largely described by total phenolics and the antioxidant activity is moderately related to flavonols with the correlation degree varying with bean type. Due to redox properties, phenolics may take the role of reducing agents, hydrogen donors, and singlet oxygen quenchers, in turn enhancing antioxidant activity. Among five seed extracts, the *Vigna angularis* seed extract showed the highest content of total phenolic content (18.46 mg/g), followed by the *P. coccineus* extract at 16.11 mg/g.

4. Conclusions

The present study compared the total lipid, the composition of fatty acids, tocopherols, sterols, phenolics, and the antioxidant potential of five common bean varieties with white coats in Vietnam. The most dominant fatty acid in *P. vulgaris* seed oil was polyunsaturated α -linolenic acid (ALA) with an abundance of 59.39% and 49.53% in *P. vulgaris* and *P. coccineus* seed oil, respectively. *V. angularis* seed oil was the richest source of linoleic acid content (49.01%), total phenolic content (18.46 mg/g), ferulic acid (14.49%), and β -Coumaric acid (13.21%) and had higher antioxidant activity than other seed beans. Our findings suggest that phenolic extracts from seed beans have high commercial potential as antioxidant sources for use in food or cosmetics.

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