

Synthesis Of Iron Nanoparticles From *Halophila Ovalis* Seagrass And Their Antioxidant Activities.

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ABSTRACT:

Ecological biosynthesis of nanoparticles (NPs) are gained much interest among researchers. In present investigation, iron nanoparticles were synthesized via green synthesis method using *Halophila ovalis* seagrass extract, having the capacity of reducing iron ions to iron nanoparticles. Synthesis nanoparticles was confirmed by UV-vis spectroscopy, Scanning electron microscope (SEM) with EDS analysis, Distribution of the elements were characterized by Elemental mapping in SEM analysis. Antioxidant activities of synthesis nanoparticles were measured against 2,2-diphenyl-1-picryl-hydrazyl (DPPH), TAA and TAP.

Keywords: *Halophila ovalis*, Iron nanoparticles, Seagrass, Antioxidant.

1. INTRODUCTION

Size and shape controlled nanoparticles were developed by various synthetic method, since the discovery of nanotechnology. Manipulation of materials with dimensions in the small range of 1 to 100 nm in their construction and design is a nanofabrication process. In general, there are two methods for the synthesis of nanomaterial's by top-down and bottom-up methods. Nanoparticle synthesis was done by several methods namely chemical and physical such as hydrothermal, supercritical fluid synthesis, microwave method, pyrolysis, sol-gel transition, engraving, ball milling, ablation laser, solid state synthesis and lithography respectively. [1-5] Most of the above synthesis method involves toxic solvents, due to this great effort has been taken to develop the green synthesis method for the synthesis of nanoparticles. Green synthesis

methods are less expensive, less toxic and opens a way for the production of crystalline nanoparticles which possess a dissimilar shapes and sizes. The plant environment and metal salt extract, pH of the reaction medium, the parameters like temperature, mixing rate of precursor and plant extract and reaction time. Seagrasses are kind of plants which grows under the sea water, with high growth rate except in polar region than tidal and sub tidal marine surroundings. Clonal plants that can form patches or dense beds in the littoral zone of temperate and tropical seas are known as sea grasses. They provide food and habitats for organisms and affect biogeochemical and sedimentary processes. *Halophila ovalis* is a dioecious seagrass, which is distributed widely in the tropical indo-west pacific. It is also found in some areas outside the tropics. In shallow coastal waters, Seagrass beds are measured as one of the most significant biotic communities as they provide numerous ecological functions and services. In addition, owing to their ability to concentrate a wide range of toxic pollutants, Biomonitoring of toxic chemical contamination are employed by sea grasses. *Halophila ovalis* is one of the sea grass which contains higher bioactive compounds, which play a role of both reducing and capping agent. Due to its high antioxidant additive is restricted, we could end up with different morphology of nanoparticles. [6-10] Our team has extensive knowledge and research experience that has translate into high quality of publications [11–23].

Present study mixed phase of Iron nanoparticle's were synthesized using natural sea grass by green synthesis method and formation was confirmed by various characterization technique and utilized for the investigation of antioxidant property against DPPH assay.

2. Materials and Methods:

2.1. Materials

From Sigma Aldrich Iron(III) chloride hexahydrate ($\text{FeCl}_3 \cdot 6\text{H}_2\text{O}$), methanol (CH_3OH) and 2,2-diphenyl-1-picrylhydrazyl (DPPH) were purchased, other than the above were analytical grade chemicals used during chemical process. The *Halophila ovalis* saegrass were collected from Tuticorin district, Tamil Nadu.

2.2. Preparation of extracts and nanoparticle manufacture

Saegrass samples were collected from Tuticorin district. The collected seagrass was cleaned using double distilled water, and allowed to drying at shade until it completely dry. The

dried samples are crushed using mortar and pestle to attain the powder. Aqueous solution of powder seagrass (50 g) was made with solvent extraction method and kept in an orbital shaker for 24 hours. The solutions was collected and filtered the filtrate was subjected to rotary evaporator to reduce the concentration of the extract to get crude samples. Synthesis of iron nanoparticles were done by using above synthesized cured extract. 10mM of aqueous solution of $\text{FeCl}_3 \cdot 6\text{H}_2\text{O}$ was taken in a conical flask, then 10ml of aqueous extract of seagrass was added and allowed to chemical reduction process. Visible change of color was observed for the initial and final solution of reaction medium from green to dark brown which indicates the formation of Iron nanoparticles shown in Fig.1. The above solution was subjected to centrifugation at 1200 rpm and the final Nps was collected after several wash with distilled water and ethanol.



Fig.1. Preparation of extracts and green synthesis of Fe nanoparticle.

3. Result and Discussion

3.1.UV absorption spectroscopy

Ferric chloride solution were added to the seagrass extract of *Halophile ovalis*, we could able to observe the rapid colour change in the reaction medium from light brown to darck black, representing the formation of Fe NPs, The synthesized nanoparticles where observed by UV-Vis

spectroscopy and results are represented in Figure 2. Two characteristic absorption peaks of ferric chloride solution with saegrass extract were obtained at 320 nm and 400 nm from UV analysis, upon being treated with *Halophila ovalis* extracts treated for 2 min not shown much difference, the absorption maximum were shift to 321 nm and 373 nm. The shift is observed due to surface plasmon, which indicates the transformation of ferric ion to Fe nanoparticles. From the above result it is evident that the saegrass extract has the ability of reducing the Fe ions to Fe Nps. The results are in agreement with previous reports and the slight variation of peaks in the results may be corresponds to the presence of various biomolecules in the plant. [24]

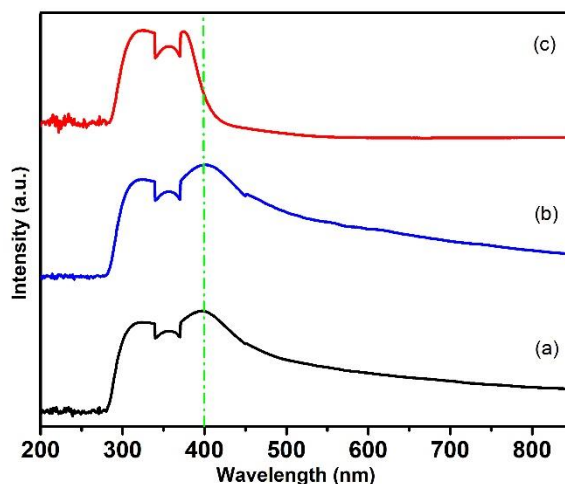


Figure 2(a-c). UV spectrum of *Halophila ovalis* with FeCl₃.6H₂O, 2 min treated and Fe and Fe₂O₃ NPs Respectively.

3.2. Morphological Analysis

Morphology of biosynthesized Fe nanoparticles were analyzed by SEM with EDS analysis. Obtained images are shown in Fig 3(a-e). We found the irregular morphology of samples with nano sized. In the EDS analysis we found Fe, O and Si. Presence of Si is due to the sample preparation for SEM analysis on Silica substrate and O due to the partial formation of Iron oxide when the biosynthesized Fe is exposed to atmosphere. Elemental mapping of the samples are done in order to identify the distribution of elements in NPs and shown in Fig 3(c-e). [25]

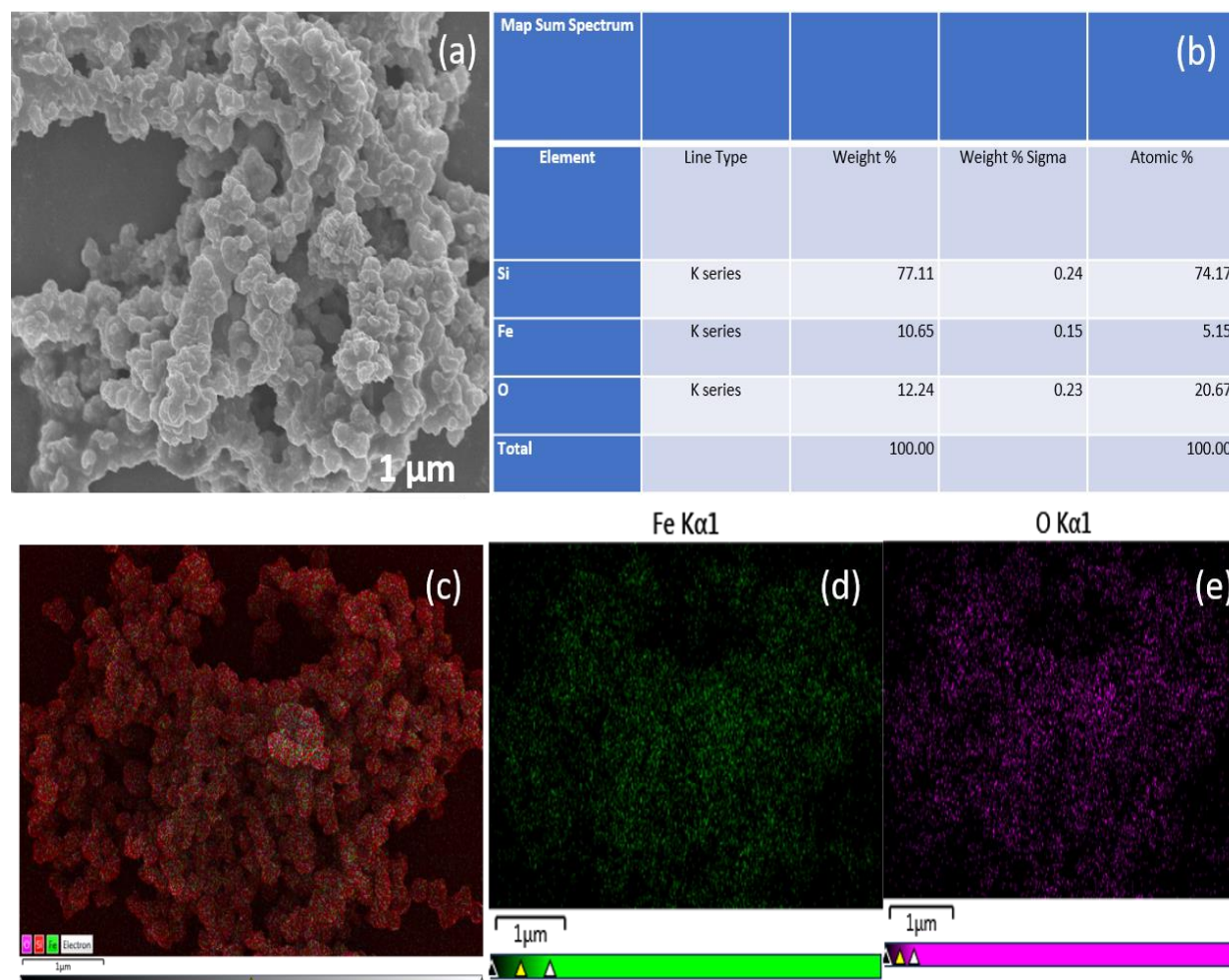


Figure 3(a-e). Morphology, EDS, Elemental mapping, Fe and O of Fe and Fe₂O₃ NPs Respectively.

3.3. Antioxidant assays

3.3.1. DPPH Assay

The 2,2-diphenyl-1-picrylhydrazyl (DPPH) was used as extensively as free radicals to estimate reducing agent and are valuable reagents for examining the scavenging activities of free radical in compounds. Synthesized nanoparticles was utilized for the evolution of antioxidant property at different concentration like 25, 50, 75, 100 μg/ml. An antioxidant activity was monitored by measuring the variation in the absorbance of DPPH radical at 517nm. The extract with methanol of *Halophila ovalis* displayed the DPPH radical scavenging activity and 50 % of the scavenging activity was found at the 100 μg/mL concentration. (Fig 4(a)). By increasing the

concentration of Fe nanoparticles we are able to see the increase in scavenging activities in DPPH assays.

3.3.2. Phosphomolybdenum method (TAA)

The total antioxidant activity of synthesized Fe Nps was examined by Phosphomolybdenum method and the results are shown in Fig 4(b). In this method, the oxidation state of Mo (VI) was reduced to Mo (V) by adding the Fe Nps through the formation of phosphate/Mo (V) complex. The total antioxidant activity increased with increasing concentration (25–100 $\mu\text{g/mL}$). Among various concentration of Nps 100 $\mu\text{g/mL}$ shows the higher (60 %) of antioxidant activity.

3.3.3. The reducing power (TAP)

The reducing power of Synthesized Fe Nps is represented in Fig 4(c). As shown in Fig 4 (c), the reducing power was directly proportional to the concentration of nanoparticles. The inhibition percentage was increased with concentration increased from 25–100 $\mu\text{g/mL}$. [26-28]

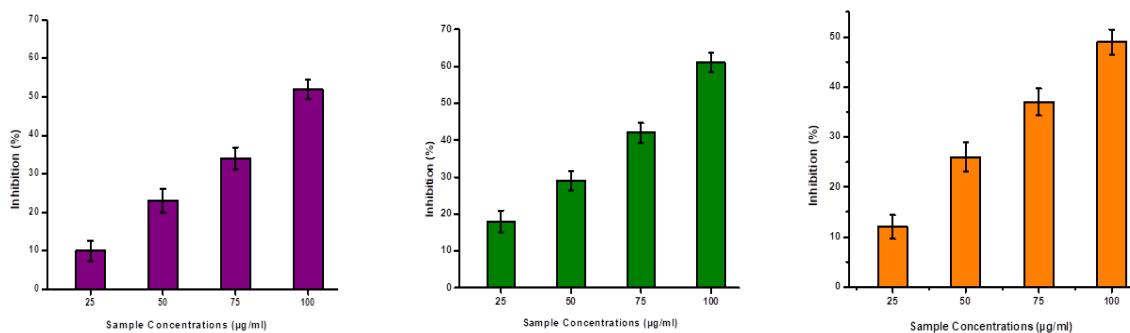


Figure 4(a-c). The different concentration of methanol extract of seagrass *H. ovalis* towards the DPPH radical scavenging activity (%), were represented.

4. Conclusion:

In conclusion, our investigation showed that the crude extraction of *Halophila ovalis* seagrass and utilized it for biosynthesis of Fe Nps. UV analysis confirms the formation of Fe Nps and morphology, elemental analysis and distribution of sample was observed by SEM analysis with EDS and mapping. The seagrass extract of *H. ovalis* mediated synthesized Fe Nps was found to be a capable candidate as antioxidant agent.

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