

**Title** Search for antifungal agents from selected Chinese herbal medicine against the citrus storage disease

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### **Abstract**

A very large number of fungi such as *Penicillium italicum* and *Alternaria citri* are responsible for production mycotoxins in various fruit. Herbal medicines have been the basis of treatment and cure for various diseases and physiological condition in traditional methods practiced such as clove, garlic and thyme. The application of natural plant extracts in the storage of fresh fruit can control post-harvest decay, reduce the adverse effect of chemical fungicide to people, and can prevent the resistance of fungi to fungicide, be friendly to the natural environment. The past years have been a dramatic increase in microbial resistance to antimicrobial agents that lead to repeated use of antibiotics and insufficient control of the disease. China has a rich flora that is widely distributed throughout the county. This prompted us to evaluate plant as source of potential chemotherapeutic agents antimicrobial activity based on their ethnomedical use. In this screening we have studied the antimicrobial activity of ethanol extracts of 61 plants belonging to 28 different families. Also petroleum fraction and residual fraction of ethanol extracts of 7 plant of them having higher activity against a battery of microorganisms.