



TITLE: Antioxidant and antiproliferative potential of fruiting bodies of the wild-growing king bolete mushroom, *Boletus edulis* (Agaricomycetes), from Western Serbia

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1 **Antioxidant and antiproliferative potential of fruiting bodies of**
2 **wild-growing mushroom *Boletus edulis* (Bull.) collected in Western**
3 **Serbia**

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13 **SHORT TITLE:** Bioactivity potential of *Boletus edulis*

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25 **ABSTRACT:***Boletus edulis* is considered to be one among the most known
26 and most delicious mushroom in the world which is commonly consumed
27 and eaten in soups, pasta or risotto. Considering its diverse popularity and
28 use, the aim of this work was to study bioactivity of crude aqueous and
29 ethanolic extracts of *B. edulis* prepared from cap and stipe (BecAq, BesAq,
30 BecEtOH, BesEtOH) of wild-growing sporocarps collected from Prijepolje
31 region (Western Serbia). The bioactivity screening included antioxidant
32 (DPPH•, NO•, SO•, OH• and FRAP) and antiproliferative (human breast
33 MCF-7 cancer cell-line; MTT) assays. In addition, all extracts were primarily
34 characterized by UV-VIS spectrophotometry in order to determine total
35 phenolic and flavonoid contents. The highest anti-DPPH and anti-OH radical
36 activity were observed in BecAq (IC₅₀= 50.97 µg/ml and IC₅₀= 2.05 µg/ml)
37 while the highest anti-NO radical activity was observed in BesAq (IC₅₀=
38 10.74 µg/ml). The ethanolic extract obtained from the mushroom stipe
39 showed higher anti-SO radical activity (IC₅₀= 9.84 µg/ml) and ferric
40 reducing antioxidant power (22.14mg AAE/g d.w.) compared to aqueous
41 extracts. Total phenolic(TP) content for all extracts was similar but total
42 flavonoid (TF) content was significantly higher in BecAq (4.5 mg QE/g
43 d.w.). All crude extracts showed activity against MCF-7 cell line, with
44 BesEtOH (IC₅₀ 56 µg/ml) being the most potent. This is the first report on
45 the antiproliferative effects of crude aqueous and ethanolic extracts prepared
46 from cap and stipe of wild-growing sporocarps of *B. edulis* on human breast
47 MCF-7 cancer cell-line.

48

49 **KEY WORDS:** *Boletus edulis*, fruiting body, phenolic compounds,
50 antiradical and antiproliferative activity

51 **ABBREVIATIONS:** **AAE:** ascorbic acid equivalents; **Aq:**aqueous; **Bec:**
52 cap; **Bes:** stipe; **DMEM:** Dulbecco's modified Eagle's medium; **DMSO:**
53 dimethyl sulfoxide; **DPPH•:**2,2 – diphenyl – 1-picrylhydrazyl;
54 **EtOH:**ethanol; **FC:**FolinCiocalteu; **FCS:**fetal calf serum; **FRAP:** Ferric
55 reducing antioxidant power; **GAE:** gallic acid equivalents; **IC₅₀:**half-
56 maximal inhibitory concentration values; **MCF-7:** breast carcinoma cell
57 line; **MDA:** malondialdehyde; **MTT:**3-(4,5-dimethylthiazole-2-yl)-2,5-
58 diphenyltetrazolium bromide; **NADH:** nicotinamide adenine dinucleotide;
59 **NEDA:** naphthylethylenediamine dihydrochloride; **NO•:** nitric oxid radical;
60 **OH•:**hydroxyl radical; **PMS:** phenazine methosulfate; **ROS:**reactive oxygen
61 species; **SA:** sulfanilamide; **SNP:** sodium nitroprusside dihydrate; **SO•:**
62 superoxide anion radical; **TBA:** 2-thiobarbituric acid; **TF:** total flavonoid;
63 **TP:** total phenolic

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71 I. INTRODUCTION

72 Since ancient times, mushrooms have been mainly used as special food, due to
73 their high nutritional value, undoubtedly fine flavors, as well as their pronounced
74 health beneficial properties^{1,2}.

75 Basidiomycete family Boletaceae are mushrooms that are mainly known by fleshy
76 context and a tubulose, rarely lamellate or loculate hymenophore. This family has
77 extraordinary diversity which includes about 50 genera and 800 species³.

78 According to recent phylogenetic analyses, seven major clades at the subfamily
79 level have been revealed, namely Austroboletoidae, Boletoidae,
80 Chalciporoideae, Leccinoideae, Xerocomoideae, Zangioideae, and the
81 *Pulveroboletus* group⁴. Some of these boletes have great economic, dietary and

82 health value such as *Boletus edulis* sensu lato (Porcini) which is a gourmet
83 mushroom highly prized in many parts of the world, including the Balkans region.

84 This species is widely distributed in the across Europe, Asia and North America,
85 but it is also one of the most popular mushroom species in Serbian cuisine. Among
86 the species within genus *Boletus*, there are many species which are consumed in
87 our region such as *B. aereus*, *B. aestivalis*, *B. erythropus*, *B. pinicola*, *B. queletii*
88 etc⁵. Within the local edible species in Serbia, *B. edulis*, stands out due to high

89 consumption and its economic value. The mushroom is low in fat and digestible
90 carbohydrates and high in protein, vitamins, minerals and dietary fiber. Although it
91 is sold commercially, it is very difficult to cultivate due to its mychorizal needs. It
92 is available in wild, and it is most often dried, packaged and distributed
93 worldwide. After drying, it keeps flavor which makes it suitable as milled powder
94 to be used in cooking^{6,7,8}.

95 This species produces a variety of nutraceuticals, with a diverse spectrum of
96 biological activity such as anti-oxidant, anticancer, anti-microbial^{9,10,11}. The
97 bioactivity of Porcini was first confirmed by Lucas in 1957, when he isolated a
98 substance from *B. edulis* which showed a significant inhibitory effect against
99 tumor cells of sarcoma (S-180)^{12,13}.

100

101 Free radicals are reactive oxygen species (ROS) in cells, which are constantly
102 produced in the human body¹⁴. There is a lot of evidence that supports the
103 implication of oxidative stress induced by reactive oxygen species (DPPH•NO•,
104 SO•, OH•) in the pathogenesis of several chronic and degenerative diseases such
105 as: Alzheimer's, Parkinson's, atherosclerosis, diabetes mellitus, chronic
106 inflammation and cancer. Therefore, the enhancement of the antioxidant systems
107 for the prevention of cellular oxidative stress via the consumption of antioxidant
108 rich foods is of great interest today^{14,15,16,17,18,19}.

109 Since the bioactivity of fungal species is mostly influenced by geographical origin
110 or specificity of the single fungal strain²⁰ the aim of this study was to evaluate
111 antioxidant and antiproliferative properties of aqueous and ethanolic crude extracts
112 of caps and stipes of autochthonous *B. edulis* species with respect to their total
113 phenolic and flavonoid contents.

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115 Moreover, based on the literature data concerning antioxidant properties obtained
116 for different parts of fruiting bodies (cap and stipe) the aim of this study was also
117 to make a comparison between bioactive properties of cap and stipe of
118 autochthonous mushroom species *B. edulis*.

119 To the best of our knowledge, this paper presents the first report concerning
120 antioxidant and cytotoxic potential of the tested species from Western Serbian
121 region of Prijepolje. Furthermore, for the first time ethanolic and aqueous extracts
122 of cap and stipe were analyzed against MCF-7 breast carcinoma cell line.

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124 **II. MATERIALS AND METHODS**

125 **A. Materials and Chemical**

126 *B. edulis* was collected from Prijepolje region (Western Serbia) during autumn
127 2011. After its identification, a voucher specimen was deposited at the Herbarium
128 BUNS, Novi Sad, Serbia. The fungal samples were separated to the cap (Bec) and
129 stipe (Bes) parts and frozen at -20°C, prior to freeze-drying procedure (Bio alpha,
130 Martin Christ GmbH, Germany). Freeze-dried samples were ground to a fine
131 powder, wrapped in plastic bags and stored in dark place at room temperature,
132 until further use. Folin-Ciocalteu (FC) reagent, anhydrous sodium carbonate, gallic
133 acid, aluminium (III) chloride hexahydrate, sodium acetate trihydrate, quercetin
134 hydrate, 2,2 – diphenyl – 1-picrylhydrazyl (DPPH•), anhydrous iron(III) chloride
135 (FeCl₃), disodium hydrogen phosphate, phenazine methosulfate (PMS), and β-
136 nicotinamide adenine dinucleotide (NADH), malondialdehyde (MDA), 3-(4,5-
137 dimethylthiazole-2-yl)-2,5-diphenyltetrazolium bromide (MTT), dimethyl
138 sulfoxide (DMSO), were purchased from Sigma-Aldrich (Steinheim, Germany).
139 Dulbecco's Modified Eagle's Medium with 4.5% of glucose (DMEM) and fetal
140 calf serum (FCS) were purchased from PAA Laboratories (Pasching, Austria).
141 Ascorbic acid, hydrochloric acid (HCl), potassium dihydrogen phosphate, sodium
142 nitroprusside dihydrate (SNP), naphthylethylenediamine dihydrochloride (NEDA),

143 and sulfanilamide (SA) were purchased from Lach-ner (Neratovice, Czech
144 Republic). Deionized water was produced using a Millipore water purification
145 system.

146

147 **B. Preparation of ethanolic and aqueous extracts from *B. edulis***

148 The processed caps and stipes of *B. edulis* (10 g) were extracted with distilled
149 water (Aq) and ethanol (EtOH) for 24h, on a shaker (Thermo Fisher Scientific,
150 USA; 120 rpm) at room temperature (25°C). The extracts were filtered through
151 Whatman No. 4, while the solvents (EtOH) were removed by rotary evaporator
152 unit at 40°C (Büchi, Switzerland); the aqueous extract (BecAq, BesAq) was
153 freeze-dried prior to analysis. The obtained extracts (ethanolic -BecEtOH,
154 BesEtOH and aqueous BecAq, BesAq) were stored at +4°C and -20°C,
155 respectively. Relevant dried residues were re-dissolved in 5% DMSO.

156

157 **C. Total phenolic content (TP)**

158 Total phenolic content (TP) of all analyzed extracts was determined according to
159 method by Singleton et al. ²², adapted for a 96-well plate reader (Multiskan
160 Ascent, Thermo Electron Corporation, USA). Folin-Ciocalteu reagent (125 µl, 0.1
161 M) was added to 25 µl of diluted extracts. After 10 min, 100 µl of 7.5% w/v
162 sodium carbonate was added and reaction mixture was incubated for 2 h.
163 Absorbance was read at 690 nm. TP was expressed as mg gallic acid equivalents
164 (GAE)/g of dry weight (d.w.). The experiments were performed in triplicate.

165 **D. Total flavonoid content (TF)**

166 Total flavonoid (TF) content of all extracts was measured spectrophotometrically,
167 in a 96-well plate reader, using a modified method by Chang et al.²³. The relevant
168 sample (30 μ l) was mixed with 90 μ l of methanol, 6 μ l of 0.75 M aluminium-
169 trichloride, 6 μ l of 1 M sodium acetate and 170 μ l of distilled water. Absorbance
170 was measured at 414 nm, after incubation of 30 min. The experiments were
171 repeated three times, while results were expressed as mg quercetin equivalents
172 (QE)/g of dry weight (d.w.).

173 **E. Determination of DPPH•, NO•, SO• and OH• scavenging activity**

174 DPPH• scavenging activity was evaluated according to Espin et al.²⁴. The
175 reaction mixture consisted of 10 μ l of sample, 60 μ l of DPPH• solution and 180 μ l
176 of methanol. After incubation of 60 min (dark place, at room temperature),
177 absorbance was measured at 540 nm. Each sample was tested at different
178 concentrations in the range (15 – 600 μ g/ml), while results were expressed as IC₅₀
179 value.

180 Nitric oxide scavenging capacity was determined according to the
181 procedure of Green et al.²⁵. The reaction mixtures in test tubes consisted of 30 μ l
182 extract, 500 μ l SNP, and 500 μ l of phosphate buffer, pH=7.4. Control contained
183 equivalent volume of ethanol, while reagents were replaced with phosphate buffer
184 in the correction. Test tubes were incubated at room temperature for 90 min, under
185 light exposure. After incubation, 1 ml of Griess reagent (0.2% solution of NEDA
186 and 2% solution of SA in 4% phosphoric acid in the ratio 1:1 (v:v) was added
187 equally to samples, corrections and control. Aliquots of 250 μ l were transferred to
188 the plate, and their absorbance was measured using plate reader at 540 nm.
189 Samples were tested at different concentrations (0.9 – 1477 μ g/ml) to obtain IC₂₅.

190 Superoxide anion radical scavenging capacity of extracts was determined
191 by measuring their ability to neutralize superoxide anion radicals generated during
192 aerobic reduction of nitro blue tetrazolium by NADH mediated by PMS²⁶. Total
193 amount of 100 μ l of 677 μ M NADH, 100 μ l of 60 μ M PMS, 200 μ l of 144 μ M
194 NBT and 1,1 ml of phosphate buffer (pH = 8.3) were mixed with 10 μ l of extract
195 in the test tube. Control contained ethanol instead of extract, and correction
196 contained 10 μ l of extract and 1,5 ml of phosphate buffer. After 5 min, aliquots of
197 250 μ l were transferred to the well plate and their absorbance was measured at 540
198 nm using plate reader. Five different concentrations of each sample (1.65 – 99.3
199 μ g/ml) were tested to obtain IC_{50} .

200 The content of OH radicals was determined from the degradation reaction
201 of 2-deoxy-D-ribose into fragments²⁷, while the malondialdehyde MDA reaction
202 with 2-thiobarbituric acid TBA reagent was determined spectrophotometrically at
203 532 nm. Each reaction was performed in triplicate using 10 μ L of fungal extract
204 (0.98 – 28.79 μ g/mL).

205 All results were calculated to obtain IC_{50} , and all experiments were
206 performed in triplicate.

207 **F. Ferric reducing antioxidant power (FRAP)**

208 FRAP assay was performed according to a modified procedure of Benzie and
209 Strain²⁸. The FRAP reagent consisted of 300 mM acetate buffer (pH=3.6), 10 mM
210 TPTZ in 40 mM HCl and 20 mM $FeCl_3$, in the ratio 10:1:1 (v:v:v). The sample (10
211 μ l), 225 μ l of FRAP reagent and 22.5 μ l of distilled water were added in a 96-well
212 plate. Absorbance was measured after 6 min at 620 nm. The results were

213 expressed as mg ascorbic acid equivalents (AAE)/g of dry weight (d.w.). Each
214 analysis was performed three times.

215 **G. Antiproliferative activity**

216 **1. Cells**

217 Estrogen dependent MCF-7 cells were grown in DMEM supplemented with 10%
218 FCS. The cells were seeded in a 96-well microplate (5000 cells per well). After
219 incubation for 24 h, the growth medium was replaced with 100 μ l of medium
220 containing examined samples (extracts) at four different concentrations (33.3
221 μ g/ml, 100.0 μ g/ml, 300.0 μ g/ml, and 900.0 μ g/ml). Untreated cells served as
222 control, while pure DMSO was used as a positive control. The effects of the
223 extracts on the growth of MCF-7 cells were evaluated by standard colorimetric
224 assay – MTT.

225 **2. MTT Assay**

226 After 24 h and 72 h respectively, the cell viability was determined by the
227 proliferation MTT assay²⁹. This assay is based on the color reaction of
228 mitochondrial dehydrogenase in living cells with MTT reagent. After incubation,
229 MTT reagent was added to each well (50 μ g/100 μ l/well at 37 °C, in 5% CO₂ for 3
230 h). The crystals of produced formazan were dissolved in 100 μ l of acidified
231 isopropanol (0.04 M HCl in isopropanol). Absorbance was measured at 540 nm
232 and 690 nm on a 96 well plate reader (Multiskan Ascent, Thermo Electron
233 Corporation, USA).

234 Calculation of cytotoxicity is expressed as: a percentage of corresponding control
235 value (non-treated cells) obtained in a minimum of three independent experiments.

236 The half-maximal inhibitory concentration values (IC₅₀), defined as the

237 concentration that inhibits 50% of cell growth, were calculated from
238 concentration-response curves. IC₅₀ values were determined in accordance with
239 dose dependent effects and dose-response curves. IC₅₀ values were expressed as
240 the mean value of a minimum of three repeated experiments performed for each
241 extract.

242 **H. Statistical analysis**

243 Statistical analysis was performed using Statistica software system (StatSoft, Inc.
244 version 12.0, 2013)³⁰. Significant differences between two groups were determined
245 by Duncan's multiple range tests. Finally, Pearson correlation was calculated for
246 TP and TF, DPPH•, NO•, SO•, OH•, FRAP and IC₅₀ values for antiproliferative
247 activity.

248

249 **III. RESULTS AND DISCUSSION**

250 **A. Antioxidant activity and total phenolic and flavonoid contents**

251 Scavenging effects of examined extracts from *B. edulis* on DPPH• increased with
252 increased extract concentrations. For scavenging ability on DPPH radicals,
253 extracts were effective in the following order of activities: BecAq> BesEtOH
254 >BesAq>BecEtOH. Among the examined extracts, IC₅₀ value of BecAq stood out
255 (50.97 µg/ml) in DPPH• scavenging assay (Table 1). In general, analysis showed
256 that aqueous extracts of cap and stipe had higher activities in DPPH assay than
257 experimental data obtained for *B. edulis* extracts of cap and stipe originated from
258 Portugal²¹ and lower activities than ethanol extracts of the entire mushroom
259 originated from Istra region of Croatia³¹. Extracts of *B. edulis* showed good
260 scavenging activity on nitric oxide, where BesAq extract showed the highest

261 activity expressed as IC₂₅ at 10.74 µg/ml while all extracts were effective in the
262 following order: BesAq > BecAq > BesEtOH > BecEtOH. The radical scavenging
263 activity on SO•, exhibited relatively high level at lower concentration (IC₅₀
264 BesEtOH was at 8.55 µg/ml) while the extracts were effective in the following
265 order: BesEtOH > BesAq > BecAq > BecEtOH.

266 All analyzed extracts were able to scavenge hydroxyl radicals (BecAq > BecEtOH
267 > BesAq > BesEtOH) (Table 1), although BecAq extract showed the highest
268 activity (IC₅₀=2.61 µg/ml). These results showed more potent values than those
269 reported by previous researches on various extracts from *B. edulis*³². Moreover, all
270 analyzed extracts showed very good scavenging activity towards SO• and OH
271 radical, although IC₅₀ values did not differ significantly between them.

272 Furthermore the aqueous extract obtained from the mushroom cap showed also the
273 highest ferric reducing antioxidant power (FRAP) (22.14 mg/g): BecAq >
274 BesEtOH > BecEtOH > BesAq, although IC₅₀ did not differ significantly.

275 Total phenolic (TP) content was in the range of 29.18–36.36 mg/g although it did
276 not differ significantly (Table 2). These results are in accordance with previous
277 studies on *B. edulis* samples from India, Taiwan, Turkey and Portugal^{16,33,34,35}. The
278 examined EtOH extracts in this study had slightly lower TP than ethanolic extracts
279 of *B. edulis* samples from Istra region of Croatia³¹. TF contents were found to be
280 in the range of 0.65 – 4.50mg/g and BesAq extract showed significantly higher
281 concentration. The highest antioxidant values, including antiradical (the lowest
282 IC₅₀ values) were found for the BecAq, which is in agreement with its highest TP
283 and TF content.

284 **B. Antiproliferative activity**

285 The antiproliferative activity of extracts from *B. edulis* was screened by the MTT
286 assay on human breast carcinoma cells (MCF-7). It has been previously reported³⁶
287 that compounds exhibiting cytotoxic effects in cell lines can demonstrate distinct
288 kinetic profiles that fit into three categories: acute (< 1h to full toxicity), subacute
289 (1 - 40h), and long term (>40h). Guided by these findings, exposure times of 24 h
290 and 72h have been selected to allow the expression of full cytotoxic potential of
291 investigated fungal extracts.

292 Under the experimental conditions all extracts showed cytotoxic activity (Table 3).
293 At the highest tested concentration (900 µg/ml), cytotoxicity of EtOH extracts was
294 expressed in the range of 45% - 94%, while for Aq extracts it was in the narrow
295 range of activities between 32% - 84%. Ethanolic extracts from stipe_ (BesEtOH)
296 elicited very prominent antiproliferative effect (IC₅₀=59.14 µg/ml). This extract
297 showed significantly higher activity (lower IC₅₀) than aqueous extract especially
298 for the chronic treatment at 72 h (Table 3). The aqueous extracts from cap
299 (BecAq) induced less pronounced cytotoxicity (with IC₅₀>900 µg/ml). However,
300 when comparing our results with the findings from the similar studies,
301 antiproliferative potency of *B. edulis* on the human breast cancer cell line (MCF-7)
302 is evident.

303 The mushroom biopolymers (polysaccharides and glycoproteins) isolated from *B.*
304 *edulis* hot water extract showed very prominent antiproliferative effect in colon
305 cancer cells (CCD 841 CoTr) and no toxic effect against normal colon epithelial
306 cells¹⁸. The novel lectin from *B. edulis* was found to effectively inhibit the
307 proliferation MCF-7 (breast adenocarcinoma), HepG-2 (hepatocellular carcinoma),
308 CaCo-2 (colorectal adenocarcinoma), CFPAC-1(pancreatic duct adenocarcinoma),

309 HeLa, SK-MEL-28, U-87 MG cell lines¹⁹. On the other hand three non-isoprenoid
310 botryane sesquiterpenoids named boledulins A–C (1–3) isolated from the cultures
311 of *B. edulis* exhibited inhibitory activity against five human cancer cell lines: HL-
312 60, SMMC-7721, A-549, MCF-7 and SW480³⁷.

313 The observed difference in antioxidant and antiproliferative activity of *B. edulis*
314 extracts might depend on their chemical composition. Mushrooms contain a
315 variety of complex compounds derived from secondary metabolism such as
316 phenolic compounds, polyketides, triterpenoids and steroids which are specific to
317 each mushroom and have specific effects on humans^{38,13,9,40}. Phenolic compounds
318 in mushrooms and in other sources display a remarkable spectrum of biological
319 activities including antioxidant, antitumor and antimicrobial
320 properties^{41,42,43,44,45,46,47}.

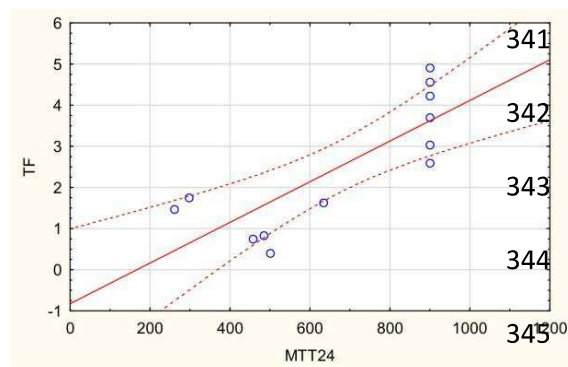
321 Protocatechuic acid, *p*-hydroxybenzoic acid, *p*-coumaric acid, cinnamic acid, and
322 quinic acid were previously found in some *B. edulis* extracts from Portugal and
323 Serbia^{35,47} and variagatic acid in extracts from Istra region of Croatia³¹. These
324 phenolic acids possess several bioactivities, such as antioxidant⁴¹, cytotoxic⁴⁸,
325 antiradical⁴² and antitumor⁴⁹. Heleno et al.⁴⁵ referred the cytotoxic and antitumor
326 activities of *p*-coumaric acid against breast MCF-7, NCI-H460 and HCT15
327 carcinoma cell lines and also referred to the antioxidant activities. In addition,
328 anticancer studies *in vitro* and *in vivo* pointed to flavonoids as major compounds,
329 against cancer which prevent carcinogen metabolic activation, antiproliferation,
330 cell cycle arrest, induction of apoptosis, promotion of differentiation, antioxidative
331 activity and modulation of multidrug resistance⁵⁰.

332 Correlation between TP and TF content and tested antiproliferative activity (IC_{50}
333 value) among all applied tests showed much higher values ($r=0.806$, $p<0.05$) for
334 TF content, especially for treatment at 24 h (Fig. 1) than for TP content ($r=0.49$,
335 $p<0.05$), and for DPPH assay ($r=-0.80$, $p<0.05$) (Fig. 2). This suggests an important
336 role of flavonoid compounds in demonstrated antiproliferative activities and
337 radical scavenging activities on DPPH.

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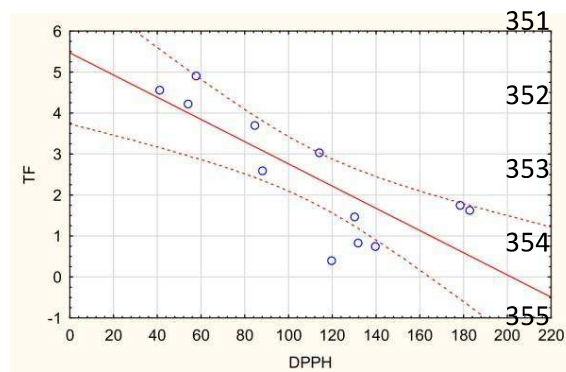


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348 **FIG. 1:** Correlation between TP and TF content and tested antiproliferative activity (IC_{50}
349 value).

350



356

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358

359 **FIG.2:** Correlation between TF content and scavenging ability on DPPH radicals (IC₅₀
360 value).

361

362 **IV. CONCLUSIONS**

363 According to the results of this study, it is clearly indicated that the tested
364 mushroom extracts of *B. edulis*, especially aqueous extract from cap have strong
365 antioxidant activity *in vitro*, including antiradical and FRAP activity. Cytotoxicity
366 assay proved that crude ethanolic extract from stipe possesses the highest
367 antiproliferative activity. According to the results obtained the examined fungal
368 species herein, may be considered as a promising source of natural antioxidants
369 with potential significance for regular human diet. Considering autochthonous
370 origin of wild-growing sporocarps of *B. edulis*, demonstrated activities are even
371 more important for the region and for the further exploitation. The future research
372 work should be primarily directed towards elucidation of chemical profiles of
373 analyzed extracts derived from cap and stipe and their possible mechanism(s) of
374 action.

375

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379

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521 **TABLE 1: Bioactivity of different extracts of *B.edulis***

	BecEtOH	BecAq	BesEtOH	BesAq
* Antiradical assays IC₅₀ (µg/ml)				
DPPH [•]	163.83 ^c	50.97 ^a	95.60 ^b	130.42 ^c
**NO [•]	1034.88 ^c	433.97 ^{a,b}	1212.16 ^c	10.74 ^a
SO [•]	18.38 ^a	12.36 ^a	9.84 ^a	10.55 ^a
OH [•]	3.75 ^a	2.05 ^a	30.0 ^a	5.28 ^a
* Antioxidant assay				
FRAP ^{***}	12.59 ^a	15.13 ^a	22.14 ^a	8.43 ^a

522 ** expressed as concentration of extracts that caused 50% activity - IC₅₀ (µg/ml)*

523 *** expressed as concentration of extracts that caused 25% activity – IC₂₅ (µg/ml)*

524 **** Ferric reducing antioxidant power (FRAP) is expressed as mg ascorbic acid*

525 *equivalents/g extract dry weight (mg AAE/g d.w.)*

526 *^{a,b,c} Significant differences between groups (columns) were determined by*

527 *Duncan's test (p<0.05)*

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537 **TABLE 2: Chemical composition of different extracts of *B.edulis***

Total content	BecEtOH	BecAq	BesEtOH	BesAq
TP*	23.94 ^a	34.73 ^a	36.36 ^a	29.18 ^a
TF*	1.61 ^c	4.50 ^d	3.10 ^a	0.65 ^b

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539 *Total phenolic (TP) content is expressed as mg gallic acid equivalents/g extract
 540 dry weight (mg GAE/g d.w.), while total flavonoid (TF) content is expressed as mg
 541 quercetin equivalents/g extract dry weight (mg QE/g d.w.)

542 ^{a,b,c} Significant differences between groups (columns) were determined by
 543 Duncan's test ($p < 0.05$)

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558 **TABLE 3: Antiproliferative activity of *B. edulis* extracts on MCF-7 cell line**

MTT assay IC ₅₀ (µg/ml)		
Extracts	24h	72h
BecEtOH	397.80 ^a ± 68.42	163.82 ^b ± 4.20
BecAq	∞900 ^b ± 0.00	∞900 ^d ± 0.00
BesEtOH	∞900 ^b ± 0.00	59.14 ^a ± 6.66
BesAq	481.48 ^a ± 7.25	435.61 ^c ± 15.14

559 *a,b,... Values with different letters in superscript within a row are statistically*
 560 *different (p<0.05), Duncan's test.*

561 **FIG. 1: Correlation between TP and TF content and tested antiproliferative**
 562 **activity (IC₅₀ value).**

563 **FIG. 2: Correlation between TF content and scavenging ability on DPPH**
 564 **radicals (IC₅₀ value).**

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