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Preliminary Study: Vitamin C and Antioxidant IN Paederia Foetida Leaves

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Paederia foetida is an important perennial climbing medicinal herb native to eastern Asia. It is used as a remedy for diarrhea, dysentery, rheumatism and fever in Asia because the leaves are rich in carotene and vitamin C. Malay called this plant '*akar* sekentut' and it is often eaten raw or steamed by local people rather than using it as traditional medicine. This preliminary study aims to determine the amount of vitamin c (ascorbic acid) and antioxidant (phenol) in local *Paederia foetida*. Parts used are the plant leaves, young leaves and mature leaves. The dried leaves were soaked in ethanol for 1 day at room temperature before being evaporated to obtain the extract. Then, high performance liquid chromatography analysis has been used to analyze the samples. Results obtained show amount of vitamin C in mature leaves is higher than young leaves with 66 ppm and 64 ppm respectively but amount of antioxidant (phenol) are not detected. This shows that, *paederia foetida* consist considerable high amount of vitamin C and more study should be done on this local species to investigate chemical active compounds with biological function potential.

Keywords: Local, Paederia foetida, Vitamin C, Antioxidant.