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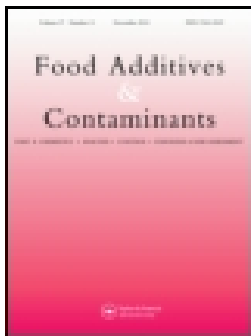
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Inhibitory effect of mixture herbs/spices on formation of heterocyclic amines and mutagenic activity of grilled beef

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Abstract

Natural antioxidants in spices and herbs have attracted considerable attention as potential inhibitors against the formation of mutagenic heterocyclic amines (HCAs) in heat processed meat. In this study, the inhibitory activity of four spices/herbs and their mixtures on HCAs formation in grilled beef were examined. A simplex centroid mixture design with four components comprising turmeric, curry leaf, torch ginger and lemon grass in 19 different proportions were applied on beef samples before grilling at 240 °C for 10 min. HCAs were extracted from the samples using solid phase extraction (SPE) method and analyzed using LC-MS/MS. All

spices/herbs in single or mixture forms were found to reduce total HCAs concentrations in marinated grilled beef ranging from 21.2% for beef marinated with curry leaf to 94.7% for the combination of turmeric and lemon grass (50:50 w/w). At the optimum marinade formula (turmeric: lemon grass 52.4%: 47.6%), concentration of 2-amino-3-methylimidazo[4,5-f]quinolone (IQ), 2-amino-1-methyl-6-phenylimidazo[4,5-b]pyridine (PhIP), Harman, Norharman, and AαC were 2.2, 1.4, 0.5, 2.8, and 1.2 ng/g, respectively. The results of the mutagenic activity demonstrated that this optimized marinade formula significantly ($p < 0.05$) diminished mutagenicity of marinated grilled beef in bacterial Ames test.

Keywords: Heterocyclic amines; Marinated grilled beef; Herbs/Spices; Antioxidant activity; Mutagenicity

Introduction

Heterocyclic amines (HCAs) and polycyclic aromatic amines (PAH) are potentially mutagenic and carcinogenic compounds formed in meat products (beef, chicken and fish) during heat processing (frying, broiling, roasting, grilling and barbequing) at high temperatures over 150 °C (Szterk et al. 2015, Alaejos et al. 2008; Gibis and Weiss 2012; Oz et al. 2010).

Reducing sugar such as glucose, free amino acids and creatine are the precursors responsible for HCAs formation (Puangsombat et al. 2012). Although they are formed at parts-per-billion (ppb) level of concentration, several epidemiological experiments on cancer demonstrated that high consumption of cooked meat products increased the risk of cancer due to HCAs-DNA adduct formation which is postulated to be a biomarker of cancer risk (Zheng and Lee 2009). Numerous research findings have demonstrated that HCAs can cause alteration in DNA, such as breaking of the hydrogen bonds of the DNA chain, site mutation, insertion and deletion (Szterk 2015). The International Agency for Research on Cancer (IARC) classified HCAs as a probable human carcinogens (2-amino-3-methylimidazo[4,5-f] quinoline (IQ) (class 2A) and possible human carcinogens (class 2B) (2-amino-1- methyl-6-phenylimidazo[4,5-b]pyridine (PhIP), (2-amino-3,4-dimethyl-imidazo[4,5-f]quinoline (MeIQ), and 2-amino- 3,8-dimethyl-imidazo[4,5-f]quinoxaline (MeIQx) (Szterk 2012, Gibis, et al. 2015).

HCAAs are divided into two main groups named amino imidazo-azaarenes (IAAs) and amino-carbolines (ACs) based on the temperature and pathway of the formation (Murkovic 2004). Amino imidazo-azaarenes known as polar HCAAs are the most important class of HCAAs in meat cooked at temperature above 150 °C. It is believed that formation of polar HCAAs initiates with Maillard reaction between reducing sugars especially glucose and different free amino acids (Gibis and Weiss, 2010; Puangsombat et al. 2012; Yu et al. 2016) and terminated by condensation of creatinine with pyridine and pyrazine free radicals intermediates of Maillard reaction. Pyrolysis of free amino acids, such as phenylalanine, glutamic acid, tryptophan, lysine and ornithine create amino-carbolines or non-polar HCAAs such as Phe-P-1, Glu-P-1, Trp-P-1 and Lys-P-1 and Orn-P-1. It also has been reported that some proteins, as such soy albumin, globulin, casein and gluten at the temperatures above 250 °C were produced HCAAs; however, the mechanism has not been fully elucidated (Kizil et al. 2011).

In the past years, numerous studies were performed to develop some strategies which could beneficially reduce or inhibit HCAAs formation in real meat matrix or in chemical model systems. Reducing cooking temperature and time (Oz et al., 2010), lower storage of meat (Szterk 2015), using fatty meat rather than lean meat (Szterk and Waszkiewicz-Robak 2014) microwave pretreatment of meat (Jinap et al., 2013) and marinating meat with different herbs and spices (Damašius, Venskutonis, Ferracane, & Fogliano, 2011; Gibis and Weiss, 2012) are the ways which were suggested to minimize HCAAs formation in meat. Spices and herbs, which are rich in antioxidants, are promising materials for inhibition of HCAAs formation in meat products due to their ability in scavenging free radicals (Oz and Kaya 2011; Gibis and Weiss 2010; Ahn and Grün 2005). Several researchers have reported that using black pepper powder (Oz and Kaya, 2011), extracts of basil, oregano, marjoram, rosemary, savory, thyme and coriander (Damašius, Venskutonis, Ferracane, and Fogliano, 2011), hibiscus (Gibis and Weiss 2010), and rosemary (Ahn and Grün 2005) as marinade ingredients could diminish HCAAs concentrations in heat-processed meat products. Their ability in suppression of HCAAs formation have been attributed to scavenging of free radicals formed during HCAAs formation pathways (Puangsombat et al. 2011).

Turmeric (*Curcuma longa*), curry leaf (*Murraya koenigii*), torch ginger (*Etilingera elatior*) and lemon grass (*Cymbopogon citratus*) are Asian spices and herbs widely used for flavoring and coloring in the preparation of different Asian cuisines (Wijekoon et al. 2011; Maheshwari et al. 2006; Singh et al. 2011; Figueirinha et al. 2008). Their antioxidant properties were reported by many researchers; thus, it is highly possible that they also will have inhibitory effects on HCAs formation in heat processed meat products. Among these herbs/spices, only inhibitory effect of turmeric was investigated on HCAs formation in fried beef (Puangsombat et al. 2011), and there is no information regarding mitigation of HCAs with curry leaf, lemon grass, and torch ginger and their combinations in heat-processed meat. This study was conducted to determine the effects of individual and combination of selected herbs/spices in different proportions on reduction of HCAs in grilled beef. For this purpose, a mixture design of experiment (simplex centroid design) was performed with four spices/herbs as the ingredients in marinade formula.

Material and methods

Chemicals and reagents

All HCAs standards, 2-amino-3-methyl-3H-imidazo[4,5-f]quinoxaline (IQx), 2-amino-3-methylimidazo[4,5-f]quinoline (IQ), 2-amino-3,8-dimethyl-imidazo[4,5-f]quinoxaline (MeIQx), 2-amino-3,4 dimethylimidazo[4,5-f]quinoline (MeIQ), 2-amino-3,4,8- trimethylimidazo[4,5-f]quinoxaline (7,8-DiMeIQx), (PhIP), 2-Amino-3,4,7,8-tetramethyl-3H-imidazo[4,5-f]quinoxaline (4,7,8-TriMeIQx), 2-Amino-9H-pyrido[2,3-b]indole (A α C), Harman, and Norharman were bought from Toronto Research Chemicals (Toronto, Canada). All HCAs standards were in powdered form with 99% purity and dissolved in methanol to give stock solution of 100 μ g/mL. For the recovery of HCAs, diatomaceous earth from the International Sorbent Technology (Hengoed Mid Gleadon, UK) and Oasis MCX cartridges (3 cm³/60 mg) from Waters (Milford, MA, USA) were used. All phenolic standards including curcumin, demethoxycurcumin, bisdemethoxycurcumin, rutin, quercetin-3-glycoside, myricetin, quercetin, chlorogenic acid, caffeic acid, p-coumaric acid, luteolin-7-o-glycoside were

purchased from Sigma–Aldrich (St. Louis, USA). For antioxidant activity analysis, 1,1-diphenyl-2-picrylhydrazyl (DPPH), ferric chloride, potassium ferricyanide, and trichloroacetic acid (TCA) and all analytical grade of organic solvents for extraction of HCAs, HPLC grade solvents for detection of HCAs were obtained from Merck. (Darmstadt, Germany). Creatine Colorimetric/Fluorometric Assay kit was purchased from BioVision Inc. (Milpitas, CA, USA). Dimethyl sulfoxide (DMSO), benzo[a]pyrene and histidine-biotin solution were bought from Sigma-Aldrich (St. Louis, MO, USA).

Preparation of marinating ingredients

All herbs and spices, turmeric (*Curcuma longa*), curry leaf (*Murraya koenigii*), torch ginger (*Etlingera elatior*) and lemon grass (*Cymbopogon citratus*), were purchased freshly from a local market in Selangor, Malaysia; cleaned and washed thoroughly under running tap water. The excess water was drained. They were chopped into small pieces and freeze-dried. Then, they were grounded into fine powder using a mechanical kitchen blender (Model DPA1, Tefal, Rumilly, France) and sieved (Woven wire mesh, Endecotts, London, England) to obtain particle size less than 630 µm; kept in prepared polyethylene (PE) containers and stored at -20°C prior to extraction and marinating.

Extraction of herbs and spices

The freeze-dried samples were extracted in 80% (w/v) ethanol for 1 hour using magnetic stirrer. The ratio of sample to solvent was 1:10 (w/v). The extracts were filtered through Whatman No.1 filter paper (Whatman International Ltd, Maidston, England) and concentrated using a vacuum rotary evaporator (Buchi, Rotavapor R-210, Flawil, Switzerland) under low pressure. The residue was freeze-dried, and then kept at -18°C prior to further analysis.

Determination of antioxidant activity of herbs and spices used in marinades

Ferric reducing antioxidant power assay (FRAP)

FRAP was determined according to the modified method described by Shon et al. (2003). In this method, antioxidants reduce the ferric ion (Fe^{3+}) to ferrous ion (Fe^{2+}), a blue product, which has maximum absorption at 700 nm. An aliquot (1 mL) of methanolic extract solution was diluted in 2.5 mL of 20 M phosphate buffer (pH: 6.6) and 2.5 mL 1% (w/v) potassium ferricyanide, followed by incubating the mixture at 50°C for 30 min. After incubation, 2.5 mL of trichloroacetic acid (10%) was added to the solution and centrifuged (Sigma 3-18K, Sartorius, Gettingen, Germany) at 650 g for 10 min. The supernatant (5 mL) was taken and mixed with distilled water (5 mL) followed by 500 μL ferric chloride solution (1% w/v) and mixed thoroughly. Solution was incubated at ambient temperature for 10 min. The absorbance was recorded at 700 nm using Genesys 10-S UV-Vis spectrophotometer (Thermo Fisher Scientific, Waltham, MA, USA) and expressed as milligram quercetin equivalent/g freeze-dried of crude extract (mg QE/g CE).

DPPH free radical-scavenging assay

The antioxidant capacity of the extracts was measured following the method described by Álvarez-Casas et al. (2014) using DPPH radical scavenging assay. An aliquot (100 μL) of extracts (0.8 mg/mL) was mixed with 3.9 mL of 0.1 mM methanolic DPPH solution. The mixture was thoroughly mixed and allowed to stand in the dark for 30 min at room temperature. The absorbance of solution was read at 517 nm. Results were expressed as percentage of inhibition of the DPPH radical which was calculated according to the following equation:

$$\text{(Eq. 1) } \% \text{ inhibition} = \frac{A_{\text{control}} - A_{\text{sample}}}{A_{\text{control}}} \times 100,$$

where A_{control} is the absorbance of the DPPH without plant extracts, and A_{sample} is the absorbance of the DPPH after adding extracts.

Identification and quantification of some bioactive compounds

HPLC separation system was applied to determine the amount of some targeted phenolic content of each extract. An Aliquot of (20 μ l) the extracts were injected to Waters 600 HPLC system (Milford, Massachusetts, USA) with a UV-diode array detector system equipped by Hypersil Gold column C18 (5 μ m, 250 x 4.6 mm, Thermo Fisher Scientific, Waltham, MA, USA). Various gradient programs were performed for different samples to achieve the optimum efficiency of chromatographic separation for each extract.

The quantification of turmeric active compounds including curcumin, desmethoxycurcumin and bisdesmethoxycurcumin was carried out using an isocratic method described by Wichitnithad et al. (2009) with slight following modification. Isocratic acetonitrile, 2% acetic acid 40:60 at 1 mL/min of flow rate for 30 min was used with detection of flavonoids at 425 nm. The column temperature was set at 33 °C.

For torch ginger and lemon grass, the same mobile phases, A: 0.2% aqueous formic acid and B: methanol with different gradients at a flow rate of 0.8 mL/min were used to identify chlorogenic acid in torch ginger and in lemon grass caffeic acid, p-coumaric acid and luteolin-7-o-glycoside. Column temperature was set at 24 °C. The gradient HPLC for lemon grass described by Figueirinha et al. (2008) started with 95–85% A (0–10 min), 85–70% A (10–15 min), 70–65% B (15–25 min), 65–50% A (25–35 min), 50–20% A (35–40 min), followed by isocratic 20% A for 20 min. Chromatographic profiles were acquired in the wavelength 280 nm. For torch ginger, modified gradient was used: 75–60% A (0–15 min), 60–80% A (15–25 min), 80–90% A (25–30 min), 90–75% A (30–40 min). The compound was monitored at 265 nm. A gradient chromatographic separation was performed (Singh et al. 2011) in order to determine the curry leaf bioactive compounds including rutin, Quercetin-3-glycoside, Myrecitin and quercetin at ambient temperature using a mobile phase of solvent A: 10% methanol at pH 3.5 with 0.01% formic acid and solvent B: methanol, water, acetonitrile (20:20:60) at pH 3.5 with 0.01% formic acid, with a constant flow rate of 1 mL/min, ambient temperature for column and a detection wavelength of 366nm. The gradient program was: 0–5 min 100% A, 5–10 min 85 % A, 10–20 min 80% A, 20–25

min 75% A, 25-27 min 73% A, 27-30 min 60% A, 30-35 min 50% A, A: 35-40 min 10% A, and returned to 100% A for 20 min.

Determination of precursor of HCAs in beef and marinade components

Glucose

The sugar contents of beef, herbs, and spices were determined using HPLC equipped with refractive index detector (RI-1350, JASCO Corp. Tokyo, Japan). The column was NH₂ polar bonded-phase (Agilent 250 mm 4.6 mm I.D.). Sugar standard was prepared in the concentrations range of 0.5–2% (w/v). Sugar extraction of beef samples was carried out prior to determination by HPLC using the method described by Hasnol, Jinap, and Sanny (2014) with some modifications. An aliquot (10 mL) of 75% acetonitrile was added to 10 g of the grounded beef and 1 g of herbs and spices, then the samples were centrifuged for 10 min at 700 g. An aliquot (2 mL) of aqueous phase was taken and filtered through 0.45 µm nylon syringe filter (Macherey-Nagel, Düren, Germany), and a 20 µL aliquot of the sample was injected to HPLC. The isocratic method was applied for 15 min. Mobile phase was acetonitrile-water (80:20, v/v) with the flow rate of 1 mL/min.

Extraction and determination of free amino acids

Total free amino acids were determined using the Phenomenex EZ:faast™ amino acid analysis kit (Phenomenex, Torrance, CA, USA) (Badawy, Morgan, and Turner, 2008). An aliquot of (1 g) of beef, herb/spice samples were placed into three different 15 mL centrifuge tubes and 10 mL of acetonitrile (50%) and 0.01 N HCl was added to them to disrupt the cell wall and release the biological molecule within solution. Acetonitrile also was reported as an efficient solvent for precipitating the proteins of the sample (Polson et al. 2003). The prepared suspension was vortexed (IKA Vortex Genius3; IKA Werke GmbH and Co. KG, Staufen, Germany) vigorously for 3 min and centrifuged for 30 min at 700 g to remove the residue. An aliquot (100 µL) of the supernatant

was filtered through 0.45 μ m nylon syringe filter (Macherey-Nagel, Düren, Germany) and subjected to derivatization procedure using reagents that were provided in the Phenomenex EZ:faast™ amino acid analysis kit (Phenomenex, Torrance, CA, USA). Amino acids were quantified using Agilent 7890A GC-FID (Agilent Technologies, Wilmington, DE, USA). The column was a Zebron ZB-AAA capillary GC column (10 m \times 0.25 mm i.d., Phenomenex, Torrance, CA, USA). The column oven temperature program was as follow: 110 to 320°C at 32°C/min. The temperature of FID detector was 320°C, and 1 μ L of each sample was injected at an injection temperature of 250°C and a split level of 1:15. The carrier gas was helium at a pressure of 3 kPa/min (a flow rate of 1.5 mL/min).

Determination of creatine content

Briefly, 5 g of sample were homogenized with 10 mL of 0.01 N HCl for 15 min by vertical shaker and further centrifuged 11000 g for 20 min (Del Campo et al., 1998). An aliquot (2 μ L) of the supernatant was subjected to Creatine Colorimetric/Fluorometric Assay kit (BioVision Inc., Milpitas, CA) according to the manufacturer's instructions.

Determination of fat content of beef

Fat content of raw beef was measured using the method described by Carpenter (2014) for meat samples in 960.39 of AOAC. Three grams of fresh sample was added to an extraction thimble. Petroleum ether (350 ml) was utilized for solving the fat content of the samples. Extraction was carried out for 3 samples at the same time for 6 hours. The amount of fat content was calculated from the difference between the weight of pre-dried boiling flask before and after extraction.

Preparation of marinade and grilling condition of beef

Fresh beef, fat content 12.4%, was purchased and stored at -20°C prior to marinating. One day before experiment, the frozen beef was thawed at 4°C overnight and then cut into small cubes (2 cm × 2 cm dimension). Herbs and spices (single or combination) were weighed (total 3g/100g beef) for marinating of beef based on formula shown in Table 1. The marinated beef cubes were kept in polyethylene bags at 4°C for eight hours and then skewered. They were grilled in electrical grilling 240°C for 10 min.

Extraction of heterocyclic amines

Extraction and clean up procedures were carried out based on the method described by Hasnol et al. (2014). Exact weight, 5 g of each grilled beef samples was dissolved in 20 mL of 1 M NaOH solution. The suspension was homogenized for 3 hours by means of a magnetic stirrer. The samples were mixed with 17 g diatomaceous earth and placed in Extrelut column (20 mL). A volume of 50 mL ethyl acetate was collected when it was utilized as extraction solvent. An aliquot (25 mL) of collected sample was passed through MCX column which was preconditioned with 2 mL 0.1 M HCl followed by 2 mL methanol. The column was eluted with 2 mL methanol:concentrated ammonia (25%) (19/1, v/v) to collect the HCAs. The collected solvent were evaporated using a stream of nitrogen and the final extracts were dissolved in 300 µL methanol containing 4,7,8-TriMeIQx (50 ppb) as an internal standard.

Limit of detection (LOD) and limit of quantification (LOQ), standard curve, and recovery

The peaks of targeted HCAs were identified by comparing their retention time and mass spectrum with peaks obtained from HCAs standards solutions. A mixtures of HCAs standard were prepared ranging from 1 ng/mL to 1000 ng/mL containing 50 ng internal standards (4,7,8-TriMeIQx) were injected into the LC-MS/MS for tuning of the system prior to injection of samples extract. Standard curves (area ratio of each standard versus concentration) were plotted for individual HCAs in each mixture. The LOD and LOQ were determined based on the concentration with a signal-to-noise ratio 3:1 and 10:1, respectively. They were obtained by performing

seven replications of the lowest acceptable standard concentration. A recovery study was performed by spiking the mixture solution (100 ppb) containing each of the following HCAs: IQ_x, IQ, MeIQ_x, MeIQ, 7,8-DiMeIQ_x, PhIP, Harman, Norharman, and A α C in seven replications in grilled beef. Unspiked samples were considered as controls. The recoveries were determined (in percentage) by comparing the HCAs concentrations of the spiked samples with those of the control samples.

Quantification of HCAs

HCAs analysis was performed using an LC-MS/MS (AB Sciex 3200 QTrap LCMS/MS, MA, USA) system equipped with Eksigent 110 ultra-high performance liquid chromatography (UHPLC) system (Perkin Elmer Flexar FX15, MA, USA), an ESI (electron spray ionization) probe and TSQ Quantum quadrupole mass spectrometer detector. Multiple reaction monitoring (MRM) was carried out to screen samples in negative polarity. Prior to injection samples extracts, the LC-MS/MS instrument was tuned based on the unique fragments for each reference standards. The parent compounds were targeted and then fragmented to their unique fragment masses. Two fragment ions from the same compound were monitored for further confirmation purposes (Table 2). Then samples peaks were identified by comparing their mass spectral and retention time with reference standards. Fig. 1 shows the chromatogram of mixture HCAs standards at 1 ppb concentration. HPLC procedure described by (Barceló-Barrachina et al., 2006) was followed with minor modification (gradient program was modified). HCAs were separated with a Phenomenex Aqua C18 (Phenomenex, Torrance, CA, USA) reversed-phase column (50 mm \times 2.1 mm, 5 μ M). An aliquot (10 μ l) of mixture 9 HCAs standards and internal standard at different concentration of 1, 5, 10, 25, 50, 75, 100, 200, 500 and 1000 ppb was used to construct a 10-point standard curve for each compound. HCAs separation was achieved using binary mobile phase at a flow rate of 400 μ l/min. Solvent A: 30 mM formic acid/ammonium formate pH 4.7; solvent B: acetonitrile. The total running time was 10 min as follow gradient program: 0-6 min 5% B to 100% B, 6-8 min 100% B, 8-10 min 5% B to equilibrate the column. Each beef sample extract was passed through

0.22 µm nylon syringe filter (Macherey-Nagel, Düren, Germany) prior to injection (10 µl) into the HPLC system.

Sensory evaluation

The marinade formula with the optimum point of mixture design was selected based on the method described by Gibis and Weiss (2010) for sensory evaluation analysis using the 9-point hedonic scale as follows: 9 = like extremely, 8 = like very much, 7 = like moderately, 6 = like slightly, 5 = neither like nor dislike, 4 = dislike slightly, 3 = dislike moderately, 2 = dislike very much, and 1 = dislike extremely. Unmarinated (control) and marinated beef samples (turmeric and lemon grass at 52.42:47.57%) were grilled in the same condition of the experiment (240°C for 10 min). Exactly 60 untrained panelists consisting of 38 female and 22 male were requested to evaluate the color, tenderness, flavor, and overall acceptability of the samples from 1-9 points. The samples were labeled with random 3-digit codes and randomly served in order to the panelists. Plain water was provided to the assessors for mouth rinsing between samples to remove residual taste of previous samples. Collected data were analyzed through student's t-test in order to determine flavor desirability and overall acceptability.

Mutagenicity test

The marinated grilled beef sample (5 g) containing the optimized ratio of turmeric and lemon grass (52.42%:47.57%) and unmarinated beef sample (5 g) were extracted by the method described earlier (Section 2.9). The only difference is that for mutagenicity test the final extracts were dissolved in 100 µL DMSO 10% instead of 300 µL methanol. The method described by Ames, McCann, and Yamasaki (1975) was applied for mutagenicity assay. Bacteria strains, *Salmonella* Typhimurium TA1535 (ATCC ® Number: 29629) and TA1537 (ATCC ® Number: 29630) were provided by The American Type Culture Collection (ATCC) Bacteria Department of Georgetown University, Washington, USA. *S. Typhimurim* TA1535 detects base substitution

mutations and *S. Typhimurim* TA1537 detects frameshift mutations. An aliquot 0.5 mL S9 rat liver enzymes (Sigma–Aldrich, St. Louis, MO, USA) were utilized for metabolic activation of HCAs. Since the HCAs exert their mutagenic activity only after metabolic activation, the presence of S9 is obligatory for mutagenicity test. It activates the exocyclic amine group of HCAs by N-hydroxylation and produces an intermediate which has been implicated in general toxicity and DNA damage. DMSO (10%) was used as a negative control and benzo[a]pyrene (BaP) (10µg/ plate) was used as a positive control. Top agar, histidine-biotin solution (0.5 mM), and minimal glucose plates were prepared as described by Maron and Ames (1983). An Aliquot (0.1 mL) of the overnight bacterial culture (10^8), 0.5 mL of S9 fraction, 0.1 mL of sample extract and 0.5 mL of phosphate buffer were added to the test tube containing 2 mL of top agar warmed at 50°C in a water bath. The mixture was gently vortexed (IKA Vortex Genius3; IKA Werke GmbH and Co. KG, Staufen, Germany) for 3 seconds at low speed and poured onto plates containing a minimal glucose agar. After 1 hour, the plates were placed in an incubator at 37 °C, and they were counted for revertant colonies after 72 h.

Experimental design and statistical analysis

A simplex centroid design was applied to define an optimum mixture proportion of the selected herbs and spices to reduce the amount of HCAs in grilled beef. Table 1 shows a matrix design which consists of 19 experimental points. The four independent variables (spices/herbs) in the mixture design consisted of turmeric (X1), curry leaf (X2), torch ginger (X3), and lemon grass (X4) have been studied at 7 levels namely 0 (0%), 1/2 (50%), 1/3 (33%), 1/4 (25%), 1/8 (12.5%), 5/8 (62.5%), and 1 (100%) (Table 1). The amounts of heterocyclic amines were defined as independent variables for the analysis. The experimental design, regression analysis, and optimization were performed using Minitab v.17 software (Version 16, Minitab Inc., State College, PA, USA). Numerical optimization was used in the Minitab software to identify the optimum proportion of marinade ingredients which result in the reduction of HCAs. Regression analysis offered quadratic regression

model to simulate the optimized ratio of the marinade components. The standard form of the quadratic model is represented in the following equation:

$$\text{(Eq. 2)} \quad Y = \sum_{i=1}^a \beta_i x_i + \sum_{i=1}^a \sum_{j=1}^a \beta_{ij} x_i x_j$$

where Y is the predicted response, β_i is the regression coefficient for each linear effect terms, and β_{ij} is binary interaction effect terms.

Results and discussion

Effects of combination of herbs and spices on concentration of HCAs

Herbs and spices are rich in various phytochemicals reported to inhibit HCAs formation due to their antioxidant properties. They act as a radical scavenger to trap free radicals created in different pathways of HCAs formation (Gibis and Weiss 2012). In this study, a simplex centroid mixture design was applied to evaluate the effect of four different herbs/spices and their mixtures on the reduction of HCAs concentrations in grilled beef. The results presented in Table 3 show that the herbs and spices used in this study as well as their combinations positively inhibited HCAs formation in grilled beef. Concentration of IQ, IQx, 7,8 DiMeIQx, PhIP, Harman, Norharman, and A α C in the control sample were quantitated to be 4.6, 3.1, 1.7, 17.6, 45.6, 87.4, and 47.2 ng/g, respectively. They were higher than those measured in marinated grilled beef samples with exception of PhIP in grilled beef marinated with curry leaf. The concentrations of MeIQ and MeIQx both in control and marinated samples were lower than limit of detection (LOD) and treated as zero when calculating the mean values. Degradation of some heterocyclic amines at high temperatures reported by some researchers (Randel et al. 2007; Skog et al. 2000) might be the explanation of this phenomenon.

Although a number of studies (Ahn and Grün 2005; Damašius et al. 2011; Gibis and Weiss 2012; Jinap et al 2013; Quelhas et al. 2010) reported the effectiveness of using powders or natural extracts of herbs, spices,

fruits, and plant seed oils on the reduction of the HCAs concentration in meat products, in some cases, plants extracts promoted the concentration of HCAs. A study by Damašius et al. (2011) demonstrated that using 0.2% and 0.5% extracts of oregano, thyme, and savory in raw beef samples (w/w) decreased the formation of PhIP; on the contrary, adding coriander, sweet grass, basil and rosemary extracts increased PhIP concentration in cooked beef. In another study, application of hibiscus extract in the broiled beef patties decreased the concentration of PhIP and MeIQx by approximately 40% and 50%, respectively; on the contrary, it promoted the concentrations of Norharman and Harman (Gibis and Weiss, 2010). For the explanation of this phenomenon, it was presumed that hibiscus extract contributed other components such as glycosides to the HCAs pathways which can likely increase or inhibit the HCAs formation. Hence, in the present study, in order to clarify more precisely the inhibitory effect of herbs/spices on HCAs formation, in addition to antioxidant activity, concentration of HCAs precursors (glucose and free amino acids) of herbs and spices were evaluated.

As shown in Table 3, samples with binary mixture of marinade ingredients exhibited the lowest amount of total HCAs. The reduction of total HCAs content in the marinated samples with single herbs or spices ranged from 21.3% for curry leaf to 75.4% for turmeric; whereas, in combination of herbs and spices, the reduction increased to 94.8% in mixture of turmeric and lemon grass (50:50 w/w) and 91.73% in mixture of turmeric and torch ginger (50:50 w/w). These results were expected, because the highest scavenging of DPPH⁺ and ferric ion reduction belonged to turmeric which might lead to higher reduction of total HCAs (75%). Surprisingly, although antioxidant activity of curry leaf was far higher than torch ginger and lemon grass (Table 4), it only reduced total HCAs at 21.3% compared to torch ginger and lemon grass at 66.96% and 71.94%, respectively. In the sample marinated with curry leaf, the concentration of PhIP was around 3-times more than in those of unmarinated sample (control) and the concentrations of Norharman slightly decreased. The high concentration of phenylalanine (2.8 $\mu\text{mol/g dw}$) and tryptophan (4.0 $\mu\text{mol/g dw}$) in curry leaf which are the precursors of PhIP (Turesky 2007) and Norharman (Herraiz 2004, 2000a), respectively could be the explanation for the high

level of PhIP (48.6 ng/g) and Norharman (82 ng/g) in samples marinated with curry leaf. Therefore, despite the strong antioxidant activity of turmeric which is more likely the main reason for reduction of HCAs concentration in marinated grilled beef, the lower level of total amino acids in turmeric (66.2 $\mu\text{mol/g dw}$) and lemon grass (18.3 $\mu\text{mol/g dw}$) than curry leaf (119.6 $\mu\text{mol/g dw}$) and torch ginger (96.8 $\mu\text{mol/g dw}$) might be the other explanation of the lowest concentration of total HCAs in grilled beef marinated with this mixture. In a study by Skog et al. (2000), adding tryptophan and phenylalanine at 5-fold original level to meat juice model system resulted in markedly increase in the level of Harman (10 fold) and PhIP (2-fold), while adding glucose negligibly increased or even reduced the level of these compounds.

It was reported that glucose could enhanced or inhibited the HCAs formation depending on its concentration (Murkovic 2004). In a study conducted by Jägerstad et al. (1991), optimum HCAs yield were obtained when the concentration of glucose was around half of the molar concentration of creatin(in)e or amino acid, and excessive concentration of glucose either in model system or in real meat system reduce the amount of HCAs. Hence, higher concentration of glucose in turmeric (405.1 $\mu\text{mol/g dw}$) and lemon grass (108.8 $\mu\text{mol/g dw}$) (Table 2) compared with curry leaf and torch ginger can be the other explanation of the highest reduction of total HCAs in the mixture of turmeric and lemon grass. The mechanisms behind the inhibitory effect of glucose on HCAs concentration are not elucidated yet. However, it is postulated that increasing the concentration of sugar as compared with the amino acids in model system led to formation of other Maillard reaction products which might compete with the compounds creating the HCAs (Skog and Jägerstad 1990).

The results in Table 3 show that since the curry leaf was eliminated from the mixtures and substituted by turmeric and lemon grass, concentration of total HCAs diminished. The results can be attributed to three factors: 1) the high antioxidant activity of turmeric which can scavenge free radicals formed in the pathway of HCAs formation, 2) the high glucose content of turmeric and lemongrass which can mask creatine and deplete it from

the reaction pathway 3) the high amino acid content of curry leaf which can enhance the concentration of some HCAs.

Antioxidant properties and concentration of some bioactive compounds in herb/spices

The results presented in Table 4 indicate that FRAP values varied significantly ($p < 0.05$) among different sample extracts. Turmeric exhibited the strongest FRAP with 55.8 mg QE/g CE followed by curry leaf, torch ginger and lemon grass with 52.4, 40.01 and 8.4 mg QE/g CE, respectively. The trend of DPPH% showed a parallel trend with FRAP where turmeric with 47.4% was the greatest DPPH radical inhibitor followed by curry leaf with 41.7 %, torch ginger with 27%, and lemon grass with 10.37 % which showed the lowest DPPH%. The high quantity of curcuminoids, especially curcumin (280 mg/g dw) may explain the strong antioxidant activity of turmeric compared with other herbs/spices used. The presence of phenolic compounds in turmeric, curry leaf, torch ginger and lemon grass were demonstrated in HPLC profiles of these materials (Fig. 2). They were identified by comparing their UV spectra with those of standards, and they were quantified by peak height ratio method (Table 4). The inhibitory activity of some phenolic compounds on HCAs formation were reported in earlier studies (Oguri et al. 1998; Cheng et al. 2007; Cheng et al. 2009; Moon and Shin 2013). Therefore, the reduction of HCAs formation in grilled beef might result from the presence of antioxidants in the herbs and spices used for marinating beef.

Amino acids, sugar, creatine and fat content

Amino acids composition and glucose content were analyzed to give insight into the concentration of glucose and amino acids in beef and marinade ingredients. The results of free amino acids, glucose and creatine content are summarized in Table 5. The total free amino acids in fresh beef was 25.9 $\mu\text{mol/g}$ fresh weight. Among four herbs/ spices tested in this study, curry leaf exhibited the highest quantity of free amino acids content (119.6 $\mu\text{mol/g}$ dried weight), while lemon grass showed the lowest total amino acids content (18.3 $\mu\text{mol/g}$ dw). In beef

sample, alanine with 5.1 $\mu\text{mol/g}$ fw was the dominant amino acid followed by glutamine with 4.7 $\mu\text{mol/g}$ fw. The results obtained in this study are in agreement with those reported by Gibis and Weiss (2010) and Skog et al. (2000) who found that the concentration of alanine and glutamine were higher than other amino acids in beef sample. The content of total amino acids in our study is lower than the previous studies, because they were reported based on freeze dried weight of beef samples, while in the present study they were reported based on the weight of fresh beef. In turmeric and lemon grass, asparagine had the highest concentration, and in curry leaf and torch ginger, glutamine ranked the highest amino acid amongst the others. The glucose and creatine content of the beef sample were 14.4 and 33 $\mu\text{mol/g}$ fw, respectively which are almost identical with the results obtained by Arvidsson et al. (1997). Because there were no studies in the literature measuring amino acids content of the herbs and spices used in the present study, comparison our finding with others was impossible. The fat content of beef was 12.4% which was agreement with the results reported by Polak, Andrenšek, Žlender, and Gašperlin (2009).

Evaluation of limit of detection (LOD) and limit of quantification (LOQ), standard curve and recovery

Limit of detection (LOD), limit of quantitation (LOQ), and recovery of HCAs were presented in Table 2. The LOD and LOQ for HCAs ranged from 0.016 to 0.066 ng/g and 0.036 to 0.198 ng/g, respectively. The efficiency of HCAs recovery for beef samples ranged from 54.2% for Harman to 78.6% for MeIQx which are comparable with the recovery of HCAs reported by Oz et al. (2010) between 32 and 66% and Ruan et al. (2014) from 47.3 to 64.4%.

Fitting the model

All terms which were significant ($p < 0.05$) were remained in the quadratic model and refitted to gain the final reducing model. All linear terms of main factors must always be included in the design because once the proportion of one factor changes in mixture, it leads to change the proportion of the other factors. Therefore, the

p-value of main factors would not be presented in Table 6. The significance of the estimated regression coefficient for each response variable, after final reducing model, was assessed by its F-ratio at a probability (p-value) of 0.05. The adequacy of the response models was determined using model analysis, such as coefficient of-determination (R^2). The mixture analysis revealed that the relationships of the marinade components, turmeric (X1), curry leaf (X2), torch ginger (X3), and lemon grass (X4) with IQ, PhIP, Harman, Norharman, and AαC could be explained by significant quadratic regression equation (Table 6). The satisfactory coefficient of determination (R^2) from 72.39 to 94.05 indicated a valid fitted model.

Optimization and validation procedures

The numerical multiple optimizations revealed that marinated grilled beef with the least content of mentioned heterocyclic amines was predicted to be obtained from the mixture of turmeric and lemon grass with a proportion of 52.42:47.57% (w/w). At this optimum marinade ingredient ratio, the corresponding predicted response values for the minimum amount of IQ, PhIP, Harman, Norharman, and AαC were predicted to be 2.2, 1.4, 0.5, 2.8, and 1.2 ng/g, respectively whereby the total desirability to be 0.9996. The adequacy of predicted optimum marinade was evaluated using the t-test. The insignificant difference ($p > 0.05$) observed between the experimental and predicted values confirmed the validity of the final reduced model.

Sensory evaluation

The analysis of sensory data (Table 7) showed that marinating with mixture of turmeric and lemon grass (8 h) improved the color and flavor characteristics of the grilled beef samples. For this reason, the assessors gave higher scores to those of attributes in marinated samples compared to control samples. The attributes of overall acceptability for marinated samples received higher score than those of control samples, indicating good sensory quality; whereas, results of tenderness revealed no significant differences ($p > 0.05$) between marinated and unmarinated (control) sample.

Mutagenicity test

The results showed that the grilled beef samples marinated by optimized marinade formula (turmeric:lemon grass, 52.42%:47.57%) had a lower bacteria colony count (Fig. 3). The mutagenic activity of control grilled beef (unmarinated beef) was 78 revertants per gram of beef (revertants /g) for *S. Typhimurium* TA1535 and 48 revertants/g for *S. Typhimurium* TA1537. However, the mutagenic activities of BaP, which was applied as positive control, was rather high 109 revertants/ μ g for *S. Typhimurium* TA1535 and 114 revertants/ μ g for *S. Typhimurium* TA1537. Marinated beef with optimized marinade formula before grilling reduced the mutagenicity of grilled beef to a level of about 32 revertants/g for *S. Typhimurium* TA1535 and about 26 revertants/g for *S. Typhimurium* TA1537 (Table 8). Comparison of mutagenic activity of marinated and unmarinated grilled beef (t-test) using Ames test demonstrated that combination of turmeric and lemon grass significantly ($p < 0.05$) reduced the mutagenicity of grilled beef, which also proved the reduction of HCAs concentration in this sample.

The results of this study were comparable to those reported by Nerurkar et al. (1999) who observed that fried beef steaks marinated with turmeric-garlic sauce resulted in 34% and 45% lower mutagenic activity at 10 and 15 min barbequing, respectively. Shin and Ustunol (2004) reported reduction in overall mutagenicity in chicken breast and fried beef steak marinated with lemon juice, clover, garlic, soy sauce, and buckwheat honey. Tikkanen et al. (1996) observed a reduction of mutagenic activity of marinated grilled chicken by 28% on *S. Typhimurium* TA98 that reflected the marinade effect on the concentration of HCAs.

Conclusions

It can be concluded that all selected herbs and spices utilized in this study possessed antioxidant activity due to presence of phenolic compounds which can diminish total HCAs concentration in marinated grilled beef. Different proportions of mixtures of herbs/spices demonstrated variation in reduction of HCAs level.

Combination of turmeric and lemon grass (52.42%:47.57%) gave the satisfactory results for the maximum reduction of the amount of total HCAs which resulted in lower mutagenicity of marinated beef compared to unmarinated sample. Results indicated that besides the antioxidant property which is a key factor in the inhibition of HCAs formation, other factors in marinade ingredients such as concentration of HCAs precursors, glucose and amino acids, are also effective on HCAs formation or reduction. Therefore, with a proper choice of marinade components, it would be possible to minimize HCAs concentration and mutagenicity of grilled beef.

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Conflict of interest

490 The authors have declared no potential conflict of interests

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Table 1
 Matrix of the simple centroid mixture design for optimization the HCAs reduction

No	Variables (%)				Turmeric (g/100 g)	Curry leaf (g/100 g)	Torch ginger (g/100 g)	Lemon grass (g/100 g)
	Turmeric (X1)	Curry leaf (X2)	Torch ginger (X3)	Lemon grass (X4)				
1	100	0	0	0	3	0	0	0
2	0	100	0	0	0	3	0	0
3	0	0	100	0	0	0	3	0
4	0	0	0	100	0	0	0	3
5	50	50	0	0	1.5	1.5	0	0
6	50	0	50	0	1.5	0	1.5	0
7	50	0	0	50	1.5	0	0	1.5
8	0	50	50	0	0	1.5	1.5	0
9	0	50	0	50	0	1.5	0	1.5
10	0	0	50	50	0	0	1.5	1.5
11	33.3	33.3	33.3	0	1	1	1	0
12	33.3	33.3	0	33.3	1	1	0	1
13	33.3	0	33.3	33.3	1	0	1	1
14	0	33.3	33.3	33.3	0	1	1	1
15	25	25	25	25	0.75	0.75	0.75	0.75
16	62.5	12.5	12.5	12.5	1.875	0.375	0.375	0.375
17	12.5	62.5	12.5	12.5	0.375	1.875	0.375	0.375
18	12.5	12.5	62.5	12.5	0.375	0.375	1.875	0.375
19	12.5	12.5	12.5	62.5	0.375	0.375	0.375	1.875

Table 2

Limit of detection (LOD), Limit of quantification (LOQ), recovery and fragment ions of HACs

Compound	LOD (ng/g)	LOQ (ng/g)	Recovery		Fragment ions	
			Value (%)	SD	ms	ms ²
IQ	0.052	0.156	62.4	2.3	199.08	184.2 , 157.3
IQx	0.061	0.183	70.2	2.1	200.04	185.1 , 187.7
MeIQ	0.085	0.255	72.3	1.8	213.09	198.2 , 197.7
MeIQx	0.066	0.198	78.6	1.6	214.07	199.1 , 131.1
7,8 DiMeIQx	0.032	0.096	68.4	2.4	228.11	213.3 , 115.1
PhIP	0.062	0.186	62.1	2.7	225.11	210.2 , 140.1
Harman	0.022	0.066	54.2	1.5	183.11	115.2 , 89.1
Norharman	0.016	0.048	66.3	1.9	169.13	115.1 , 89.1
AαC	0.021	0.036	61.7	1.3	184.16	140.1 , 116.2

Table 3

Concentration of HCAs in different marinated beef samples

*BLD: Below Limit of Detection

Note: Values display the mean values of triplicate determinations \pm SD

No	Polar HCAs (ng/g)						Non polar HCAs (ng/g)			Total HCA
	IQ	IQx	MeIQ	MeIQx	7,8 DiMeIQx	PhIP	Harman	Norharman	AaC	
1	2.5 \pm 0.1	2.1 \pm 0.3	BLD	BLD	0.9 \pm 0.2	7.2 \pm 0.4	11.0 \pm 1.5	16.4 \pm 2.2	11.0 \pm 1.3	51.1 \pm 6.0
2	2.3 \pm 0.3	1.3 \pm 0.2	BLD	BLD	1.1 \pm 0.2	48.6 \pm 2.5	14.0 \pm 3.8	82.0 \pm 2.5	13.7 \pm 1.3	163.1 \pm 4.0
3	3.0 \pm 0.1	2.8 \pm 0.2	BLD	BLD	0.9 \pm 0.2	8.4 \pm 1.9	10.2 \pm 2.2	34.3 \pm 2.3	8.8 \pm 1.5	68.5 \pm 8.0
4	2.78 \pm 0.1	2.2 \pm 0.2	BLD	BLD	BLD	BLD	9.2 \pm 2.0	32.8 \pm 3.4	11.1 \pm 1.4	58.1 \pm 7.0
5	3.4 \pm 0.5	2.5 \pm 0.4	BLD	BLD	1.1 \pm 0.2	5.6 \pm 1.7	12.1 \pm 1.7	50.6 \pm 4.0	11.5 \pm 2.1	86.9 \pm 10.0
6	2.4 \pm 0.3	0.5 \pm 0.0	BLD	BLD	0.9 \pm 0.2	BLD	3.1 \pm 1.0	7.1 \pm 1.8	3.1 \pm 1.0	17.1 \pm 4.0
7	2.2 \pm 0.6	BLD*	BLD	BLD	0.9 \pm 0.2	BLD	1.1 \pm 0.2	5.6 \pm 1.3	1.1 \pm 0.4	10.9 \pm 2.0
8	2.2 \pm 0.3	BLD	BLD	BLD	1.0 \pm 0.4	BLD	4.7 \pm 1.1	30.6 \pm 3.2	4.7 \pm 1.2	43.2 \pm 6.0
9	2.6 \pm 0.1	2.0 \pm 0.3	BLD	BLD	1.0 \pm 0.3	11.4 \pm 1.6	4.3 \pm 1.1	36.0 \pm 3.6	4.7 \pm 1.3	62.1 \pm 4.0
10	2.5 \pm 0.1	BLD	BLD	BLD	0.8 \pm 0.1	7.1 \pm 0.7	3.6 \pm 0.4	10.6 \pm 1.8	3.6 \pm 1.0	28.3 \pm 4.0
11	2.4 \pm 0.3	1.1 \pm 0.1	BLD	BLD	0.9 \pm 0.2	3.2 \pm 1.1	1.7 \pm 0.9	10.8 \pm 2.2	2.3 \pm 0.8	22.4 \pm 4.0
12	2.6 \pm 0.5	0.9 \pm 0.1	BLD	BLD	1.1 \pm 0.5	2.9 \pm 1.0	4.4 \pm 1.4	22.6 \pm 2.5	3.6 \pm 0.9	38.2 \pm 6.0
13	2.2 \pm 0.6	BLD	BLD	BLD	BLD	BLD	1.8 \pm 0.8	9.0 \pm 1.8	2.0 \pm 0.8	15.1 \pm 3.0
14	2.2 \pm 0.6	2.4 \pm 0.2	BLD	BLD	1.0 \pm 0.3	0.6 \pm 0.1	2.8 \pm 0.9	16.9 \pm 2.0	3.1 \pm 0.6	29.1 \pm 4.0
15	3.4 \pm 0.7	1.4 \pm 0.2	BLD	BLD	0.9 \pm 0.1	BLD	3.1 \pm 1.0	17.5 \pm 2.8	3.4 \pm 0.7	29.6 \pm 5.0
16	2.94 \pm 0.3	1.8 \pm 0.3	BLD	BLD	BLD	10.3 \pm 2.3	3.0 \pm 0.6	11.9 \pm 2.1	3.3 \pm 0.5	33.3 \pm 4.0
17	2.4 \pm 0.2	BLD	BLD	BLD	1.0 \pm 0.2	10.1 \pm 1.1	2.5 \pm 0.3	35.0 \pm 2.6	6.4 \pm 1.2	57.4 \pm 5.0
18	2.2 \pm 0.1	1.7 \pm 0.2	BLD	BLD	0.9 \pm 0.3	BLD	2.9 \pm 0.2	11.9 \pm 1.3	2.7 \pm 0.7	22.2 \pm 2.0
19	2.3 \pm 0.1	BLD	BLD	BLD	BLD	BLD	1.8 \pm 0.2	8.0 \pm 1.1	2.1 \pm 0.6	14.2 \pm 2.0
Control	4.6 \pm 0.4	3.1 \pm 0.9	BLD	BLD	1.7 \pm 0.4	17.6 \pm 2.3	45.6 \pm 2.49	87.4 \pm 4.0	47.2 \pm 3.7	207.2 \pm 10.0

Table 4

Quantification of some targeted compounds and antioxidant activities of the samples extracts.

Plant sources	Quantity of active compounds (mg/g freeze-dried of crude extract)	DPPH%	FRAP (mgQE/g freeze-dried of sample extract)	Note:
Turmeric		47.4±2.6	55.8±0.4	Values display the mean values of triplicate determinations ± SD
Curcumin	280.1±0.3			
Desmethoxycurcumin	81.1±0.1			
Bisdemethoxycurcumin	69.1±0.5			
Curry leaf		41.7 ±1.0	52.4±2.4	
Rutin	0.1±0.00			
Quercetin-3-glycoside	5.4 ±0.0			
Myrecitin	2.4±0.0			
Quercetin	0.1 ±0.0			
Torch ginger		27.0±1.9	40.0±1.4	
Chlorogenic acid	21.8±0.0			
Lemon grass		10.4±1.1	8.4±0.9	
Caffeic acid	0.1 ±0.0			
p-coumaric acid	0.3±0.0			
luteolin-7-o-glycoside	0.4±0.0			

Table 5

Concentration of HCAs precursor in beef, turmeric, curry leaf, torch ginger and lemon grass

1: Fresh weight

2: Dried weight

3: Not detected

Precursor ($\mu\text{mol/g}$)	Raw Material				
	Raw beef ($\mu\text{mol/g fw}^1$)	Turmeric ($\mu\text{mol/g dw}^2$)	Curry leaf ($\mu\text{mol/g dw}$)	Torch ginger ($\mu\text{mol/g dw}$)	Lemon grass ($\mu\text{mol/g dw}$)
Alanine	5.1±0.9	4.9 ±0.6	1.4±0.4	0.7±0.2	1.6±0.3
Asparagine	0.4 ±0.1	30.2±1.0	3.5 ±0.9	6.5±0.8	7.3±2.3
Aspartic Acid	0.1±0.0	3.0±0.4	0.8 ±0.2	0.7 ±0.2	0.6 ±0.2
Glutamic Acid	1.1±0.2	ND ³	ND	ND	ND
Glutamine	4.7±0.9	ND	80.9±4.0	66.4±2.5	ND
Glycine	1.5±0.2	ND	ND	ND	ND
Histidine	0.4 ±0.1	0.4 ±0.1	ND	2.0±0.4	ND
Isoleucine	0.8 ±0.1	0.4±0.1	0.9±0.9	1.8 ±0.3	0.7 ±0.0
Leucine	1.6±0.3	1.4±0.5	1.3±0.2	1.9±0.3	1.3±0.2
Lysine	1.0±0.1	ND	4.6±0.6	4.0 ±0.7	ND
Methionine	0.7±0.2	ND	ND	ND	ND
Ornithin	1.3 ±0.2	ND	ND	2.4±0.6	ND
Phenylalanine	0.7±0.1	0.9±0.1	2.8 ±0.5	1.6±0.6	0.8 ±0.3
Proline	0.5±0.1	0.9±0.2	1.5 ±0.4	0.5±0.1	0.2 ±0.1
Serine	1.4±0.3	15.6±1.1	11.6±0.6	3.8 ±1.0	ND
Threonine	0.9±0.2	4.8±1.1	3.4±1.1	ND	ND
Tryptophan	0.6±0.2	0.6±0.2	4.0 ±1.3	2.1 ±0.7	2.3 ±0.9
Tyrosine	0.3±0.1	0.3±0.1	0.9±0.2	1±0.2	0.9±0.2
Valine	1.4±0.2	1.36±0.5	0.7±0.1	2.4 ±0.8	0.5 ±0.1
Total amino acids	25.9 ±4.4	66.2 ±5.8	119.6±11.3	96.8 ±9.2	18.3 ±3.3
Creatine	33±3.6	----	----	----	----
Glucose	14.4±2.5	405.1 ±6.1	70.33±2.38	7.2±0.6	108.8±5.3

Note:
Values display the mean values of triplicate determinations ± SD

Table 6

Regression coefficients and R^2 for the final reduced models (component proportions) of heterocyclic amines of grilled beef

Regression terms	IQ			PhIP			Harman	
	Coefficient	F value	P value	Coefficient	F value	P value	Coefficient	F value
X1 (Turmeric)	0.025	----	----	0.18	----	----	0.051	----
X2 (Curry leaf)	0.021	----	----	0.47	----	----	0.14	----
X3 (Torch ginger)	0.021	----	----	0.002	----	----	0.02	----
X4 (lemon grass)	0.027	----	----	0.02	----	----	0.10	----
X1X2	0.0003	19.08	0.001	-0.009	25.43	0.000		----
X1X3	----	----	----	----	----	----		----
X1X4	-1.83	5.2	0.04	0.009	29.68	0.000	-0.002	17.79
X2X3	----	----	----	----	----	----	-0.002	7.40
X2X4	----	----	----	-0.005	8.52	0.014	-0.003	12.32
X3X4	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----
Regression		6.82	0.003		17.90	0.000		7.88
Linear		2.73	0.86		34.17	0.000		9.07
Quadratic		12.59	0.001		15.58	0.000		9.41
R²	72.39			91.93			78.28	

Table 6 (Continued)

Regression coefficients and R^2 for the final reduced models (component proportions) of heterocyclic amines of grilled beef

Regression terms	Nor-Harman			AaC			Total HCAs
	Coefficient	F value	P value	Coefficient	F value	P value	Coefficient
X1 (Turmeric)	0.126	----	----	0.067	----	----	0.374
X2 (Curry leaf)	0.81	----	----	0.139	----	----	1.5
X3 (Torch ginger)	0.034	----	----	0.049	----	----	0.14
X4 (lemon grass)	0.32	----	----	0.112	----	----	0.614

X1X2	----	----	----	----	----	----	----
X1X3	----	----	----	-0.001	6.27	0.031	----
X1X4	-0.007	7.41	0.019	-0.003	38.89	0.000	-0.022
X2X3	-0.007	7.81	0.016	-0.002	18.27	0.002	-0.022
X2X4	-0.01	13.20	0.003	-0.003	40.65	0.000	-0.01
X3X4	----	----	----	-0.001	9.58	0.011	----
Regression		23.22	0.000		19.72	0.000	
Linear		39.30	0.000		13.81	0.001	
Quadratic		9.06	0.002		20.66	0.000	
R²	92.07			94.05			85.47

Table 7
Effect of marinating on sensory attributes of grilled beef.

Samples	Attributes			
	Colour	Tenderness	Flavour	Overall acceptability
Unmarinated grilled beef (control)	5.53	5.33	5.63	5.33
Marinated grilled beef	6.20*	4.93	6.12*	6.66*

*: Attributes with an asterisk indicate a significant difference from the control at $P < 0.05$

Table 8
Effect of optimized marinade formulation on mutagenicity measured by *S. Typhimurium* TA1535 and TA1538 in grilled beef

Treatment	<i>S. Typhimurium</i> TA1535 revertants/g of grilled beef	<i>S. Typhimurium</i> TA1537 revertants/g of grilled beef
BaP (positive control)	109±20	114±32
Unmarinated grilled beef	78±12	48±8
Marinated grilled beef	32±6*	26±6*

*: Attributes with an asterisk indicate a significant difference from the unmarinated sample at $P < 0.05$

Note: Values display the mean values of triplicate determinations ± SD

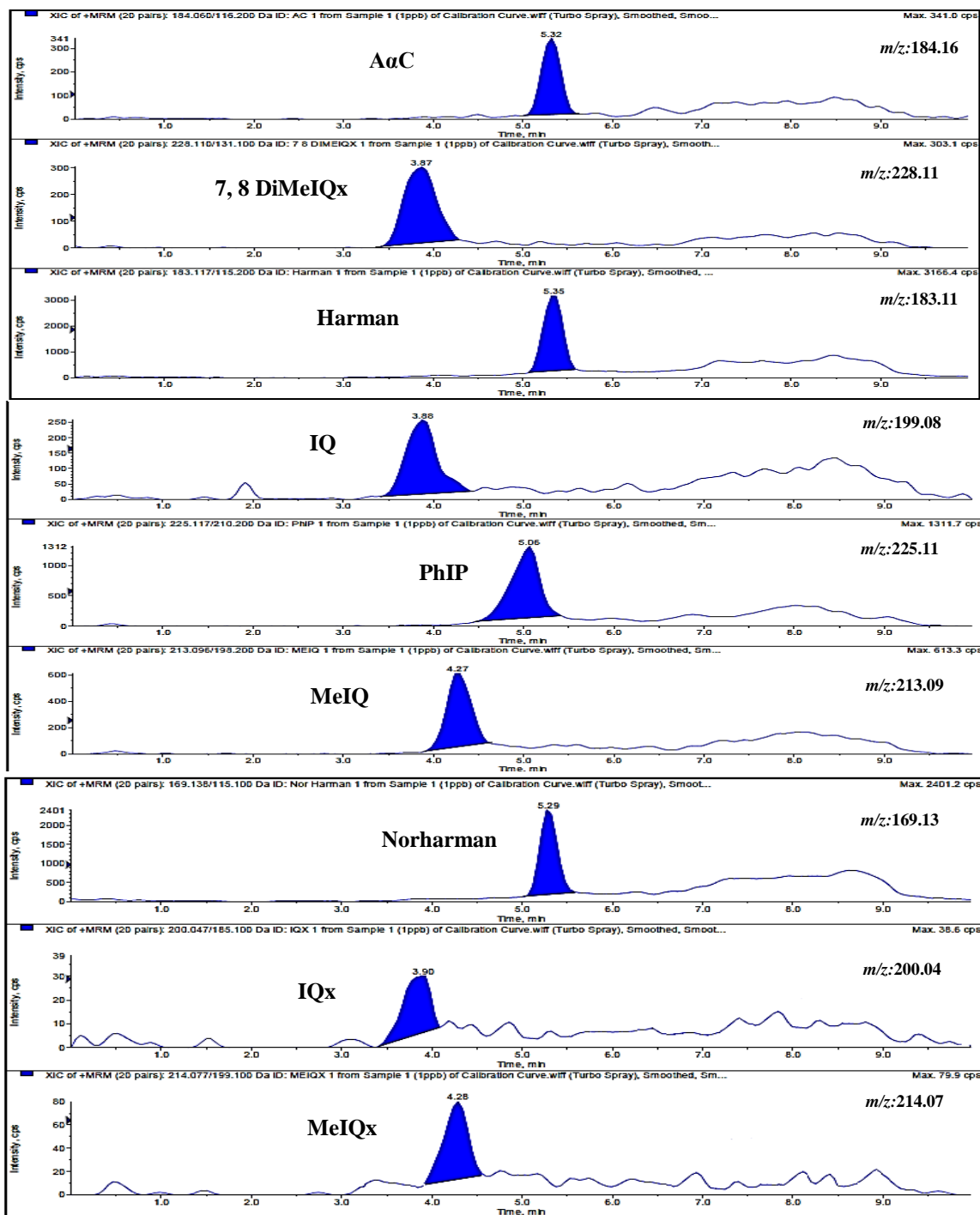


Fig. 1. Chromatograms of HCAs standard solution (1ppb) in MRM acquisition.

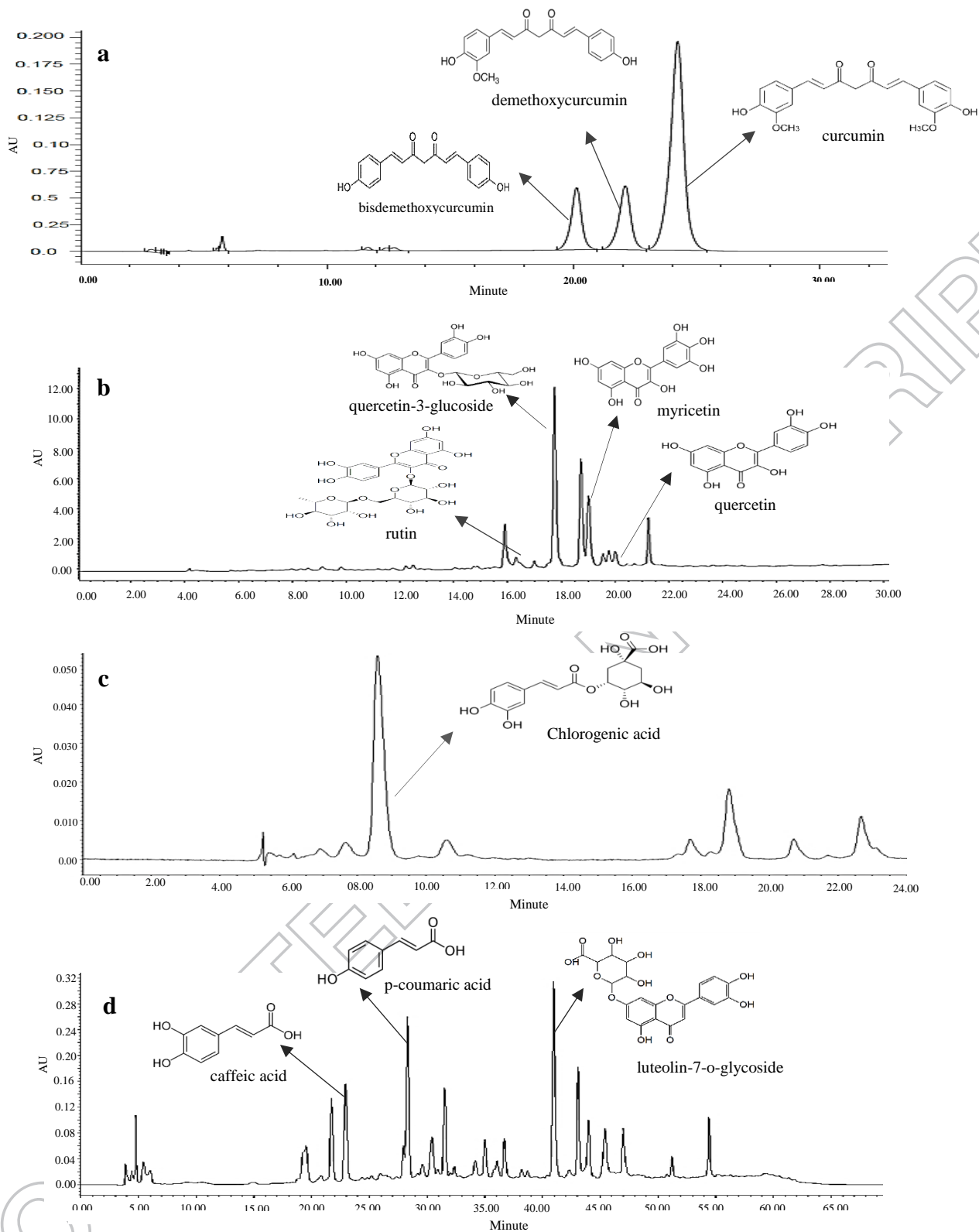


Fig. 2. HPLC profile of turmeric (a), curry leaf (b), torch ginger (c) and lemon grass (d).

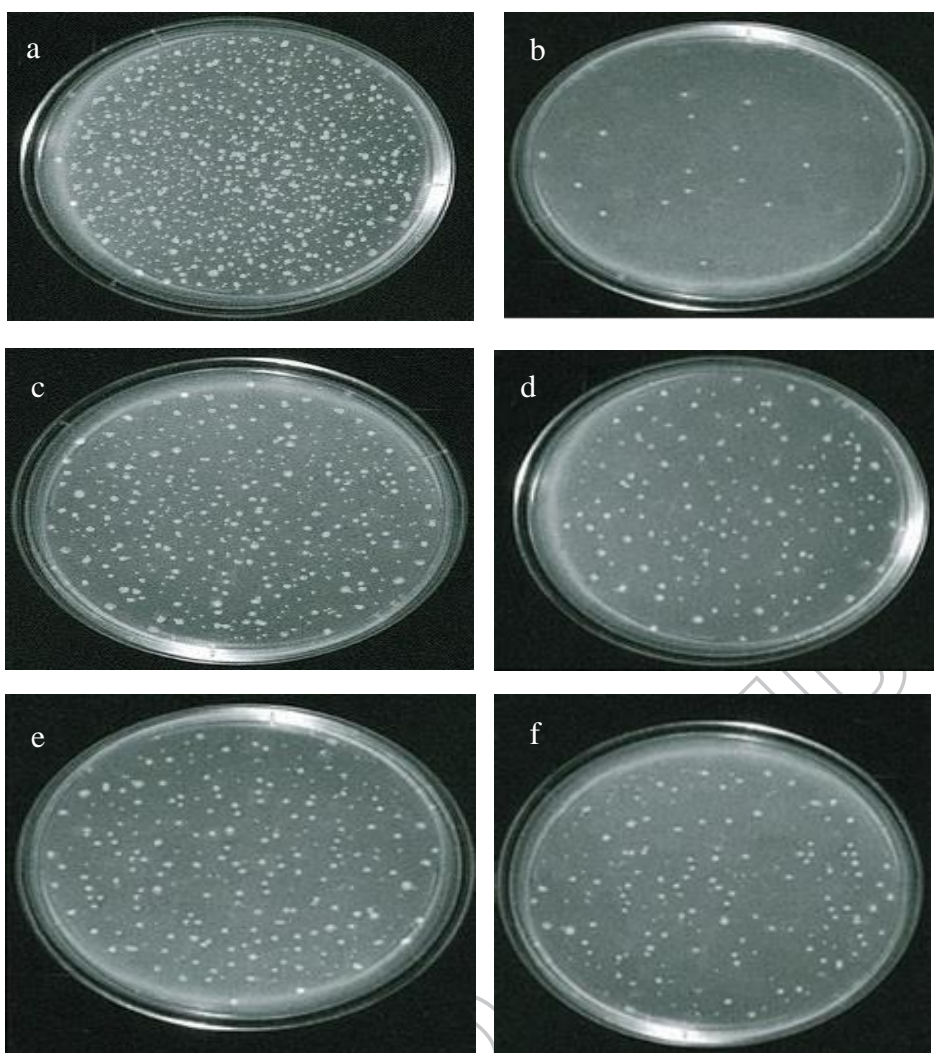


Fig. 3. Mutagenic activity of BaP as a positive control (a), 10% DMSO as a negative control (b), unmarinated grill beef extract in *S. Typhimurium* TA1537 (c), marinated grill beef extract in *S. Typhimurium* TA1537 (d), unmarinated grill beef extract in *S. Typhimurium* TA1535 (e), marinated grill beef extract in *S. Typhimurium* TA1535 (f).

Graphical Abstract

