Eco-Friendly Approach to Control Mosquitoes (A. stephensi, C. quinquefasciatus, and A. aegypti) Using Silver Nanoparticle

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Abstract

The available controlling agents for mosquito vectors are chemical insecticides and the frequent usage of these insecticides creating resistance among mosquito vectors and environmental pollutions. Thus, the study was designed to synthesize and characterize the Ag nanoparticles (AgNPs) through a methanol leaf extract of Ocimum canum and find the larvicidal prospective of the AgNPs on the 4th instar larvae of Anopheles stephensi, Culex quinquefasciatus, and Aedes aegypti. The obtained outcomes show that the methanol leaf extract of O. canum was effectively reduced the silver ions and produce constant silver nanoparticles. It was characterized and confirmed by various scientific techniques such as UV-vis spectrum, XRD, SEM, FT-IR and EDAX. Various concentrations (10, 50, 150, 200, and 250 ppm) of characterized nanoparticles were tested for larvicidal activity. The premier larval death was observed at 24 h of treatment on A. aegypti with LC50= 17.03 ppm, followed by C. quinquefasciatus with LC50= 14.89 ppm of methanol extract of O. canum and no death was noticed on A. stephensi. The LD90 value for A. aegypti and C. quinquefasciatus were 24.18 & 20.65 ppm respectively. Hence, the Ag nanoparticles produced from methanol leaf extract of O. canum retains efficiency to control A. aegypti and C. quinquefasciatus. Thus, it might support partially to replace the chemical insecticide which used against these vectors and might contribute to reduce environmental pollution.

Keywords: O. canum, methanol extract, Biodegradable AgNPs, larvicidal activity, mosquito vectors

1 Introduction

The frequent usage of chemical insecticides and pesticides (pyrethroid) is creating severe environmental pollutions such as soil and water pollutions [1-5]. In growing countries like India, the management of mosquitoes and other insect vectors are still depends on chemical insecticides [6-9]. Thus, it might create environmental pollution and creates insecticide resistance among mosquitoes. Since the mosquitoes are the most significant insect which acts as a notable vector to cause several kinds of virus-borne infections in many countries, transmit disease approximately seven hundred lakhs people in each year in the entire globe and it crossing more than 40 lakhs people in each year in India [10-12]. Among several mosquito species, Anopheles stephensi, Culex quinquefasciatus, and Aedes aegypti are the responsible vector for causing filariasis, dengue fever, malaria, chikungunya, zika virus infection, etc. in numerous Asian countries [13-15]. In India, mosquito routed diseases happen more frequently with some common vectors such as, A. aegypti acts as a vector, which can cause yellow fever, dengue, chikungunya, etc. A. subpictus and C. quinquefasciatus are respectively acted as a vector for malaria and lymphatic filariasis on more than 50 lakhs people in India [16-18]. This caused an annual financial defeat of 15 million US dollars [19-21]. The most active vector control is usually counted on the synthetic pesticide practices pointing larvae of mosquito vector [22-24]. The recurrent usage of these synthetic pesticides promotes numerous ecological threats and develops resistance among insects, pests, and toxic effects on non-target organisms [25-27].

Recently researchers are focused on nanoparticles based resolution for this foresaid disputes. The potentiality and possible utilization of this modern material science completely rely on their morphological nature, such as size and shape [28-30]. It has been related to the chemical structure and physical nature of mother chemicals considered for nanoparticle fabrication [31, 32]. These nanoparticles (NPs) are having multiple-face, thus can be used in numerous areas of biological (antimicrobials, biosensors, drug delivery, bioplastics, etc.) and material sciences (catalysts, chemical sensors, etc.) field [33, 34]. The metal-based nanoparticles are extensively utilized in the medical field to deliver the drug exactly the targeted place and without the interaction of adjacent healthy cells and surprisingly, in recent years researchers are focused to diminish...
the spreading of disease through mosquitoes vector by nanoparticles synthesized by plant extracts and microbes [7, 18]. The plant-based nanoparticle production is more comfortable than other biological procedures for huge scale production in a short duration [8, 19]. Even though, the production of AgNPs with larvicidal efficiency and adult mosquito slaughter efficiency is still a challenge [9]. The phytochemical contents of plants have the prospective to break the complexed material to a simple form, it could be useful to various biological-based uses in multiple fields.

The oxidation and reduction approaches are routinely engaged in Ag and other metals-based nanoparticles production through reducing chemical agents [2, 20, 21, 33]. However, these chemical-based approaches have some hinders and toxic nature on the regular consumption of nanoparticles in biological applications. Thus this research work was designed to reveal the green fabrication of biodegradable AgNPs through methanol leaf extract of *O. canum* and assess their larvicidal and adult slaughter potential on *A. Aegypti*, *A. stephensi*, and *C. quinquefasciatus*.

### 2 Materials and Methods

#### 2.1 Preparation of methanol leaf extract from *O. canum*

As per the previous study [34], the *O. canum* was chosen for this work. The leaf of *O. canum* was used for the extraction process with methanol solvent as per the protocol of Minjas and Sarda [35] with minor alterations. About 10 g of fresh leaves of *O. canum* sample was thoroughly washed with Tween -20 for 3–4 times. The rinsed leaves were sliced into adequate quantities and heated with 100 mL of methanol solvent in 250 mL conical flask at 60°C for 5 min. The final extract was sieved through Whatman filter paper (No. 1) and preserved at -20°C for supplementary analyses.

#### 2.2 Synthesis of Ag nanoparticles

The AgNPs were produced from *O. canum* as per the methodology of Huang et al. [36], concisely 10 mL of methanol extract of *O. canum* was treated with 90 mL of 1 mM AgNO3 in 250 mL flask and retained at chamber temperature for 12 mins and perceived the blackish-brown to yellowish-orange color development, it primarily confirms the production of AgNPs.

#### 2.3 Analyses of AgNPs

The reduction and structural elucidation of filtered AgNPs was performed by following the methodology of Parthiban et al. [37] and Minjas and Sarda [35] with some modifications.

#### 2.3.1 UV-Visible Spectrophotometer analysis

The absorption maxima of reduced AgNPs produced from *O. canum* was examined through a UV-Vis spectrophotometer (Shimadzu-UV2600I, Japan) at 300-700 nm and functioned at a resolution of 1 nm at diverse time breaks (2, 4, 6, & 8 hr). Briefly, 0.2 mL of a diluted small aliquot of the sample was spun at 8,000 rpm for 15 min and the pellet was filtered (0.40µm) and dissolved in distilled water for further characterization study.

#### 2.3.2 XRD analysis

The dried nanoparticles were taken for XRD analysis by coated on the grid of XRD [39]. The spectra were documented using Phillips PW 1830 operated at 30 mA and 40 kV current with CuKα radiation (XRD-LYNXEYE-T detector, Rigaku, Japan). (acut)

#### 2.3.3 Fourier Transform Infrared Spectroscopy (FT-IR) analysis

The FT-IR analysis was achieved to find promising useful groups accountable for the reduction of AgNO3 into AgNPs. The powdered AgNPs were studied using FT-IR (FT-IR-Model - 400, Japan) with potassium bromide pellets as a contextual over the choice of 400–4000 cm⁻¹.

#### 2.3.4 SEM-EDaX analysis

The size and external morphology of the AgNPs was detected by SEM (JEOL- JSM 6390). The size and morphology of the AgNPs sample were observed through 25 µL of AgNPs was coated on a copper stub device, worked at hastening energy at 15 kV. The EDaX examination was performed by added the dried AgNPs particles on a copper grid coated with carbon and executed on an SEM device with Thermo-EDaX (FEI-Quanta 250) supplement.

#### 2.4 Mosquito culture

The most problematic mosquito vectors, such as *A. Aegypti*, *C. quinquefasciatus*, and *A. stephensi* were chosen for this study. The mosquito larvae were acquired from the Institute for Vector Control and Zoonosis, Hosur, Tamil Nadu, India. The procured cultures were successfully retained and raised under laboratory conditions [13]. The larvae were raised in clean platters comprising clean water and presented at 28 ± 1°C, with 70–80% of humidity and light and dark photoperiod of 14:10 ratio. Further 3:1 rate of dog biscuit and yeast powder was used as feed for larvae growth.

#### 2.5 Larvicidal Bioassay

The WHO [40] protocol was followed to achieve larvicidal bioassay. Briefly, 25 number of 4th instar larvae were used to individual repeats in 249 mL of water and 1.0 mL of methanol extract of *O. canum* with various concentrations (10, 50, 100, 150, and 200 ppm) and kept for 24 h in multi vial tray. The same concentrations and setup were performed with Synthesized AgNP. Cypermethrin and water are used for positive and negative control. Control (AgNO3 and distilled water separately) was maintained with triplicates of each dosage. After the treatment, the numbers of dead larvae of *A. Aegypti*, *A. stephensi*, and *C. quinquefasciatus* mosquitoes (acute toxicity) were computed the percentage of mortality was calculated.

#### 2.6 CDC Bottle Bioassay

The CDC Bioassay was achieved by following the protocol of Rahuman et al. [38] with some modifications. About 250 mL glass tubes were coated with the produced AgNPs with various concentrations (10, 50, 100, 150, and 200 ppm). About 20 numbers of each mosquito were introduced by aspiration into the CDC bottle. Knock-down was recorded at 10-minute intervals for three hours. After the treatment, knock-down and alive mosquitoes were removed and separated from the bottles and kept in discrete paper cups filled with 10% sucrose solution and kept at insectary for 24 hours. After, 10% sucrose treatment, adult mosquitoes confirmed and scored as alive or dead. The identified functional dosage level could be useful to study the potential on the field population.

#### 2.7 Probit Analysis

The obtained typical larvae and mosquitoes’ death results were exposed to probity study for computing LC50, LC90 at 95% confidence bounds of upper confidence limit (UCL) and lower confidence limit (LCL) values, and chi-square tests were analyzed with SPSS 13.0.
3 Results

3.2 Synthesis of silver nanoparticle- UV- Spec. analysis

The eco-friendly synthesis of AgNPs from AgNO3 with methanol leaf extract of O. canum was evaluated and confirmed by UV–Vis spectra studies with 300 to 700 nm wavelength range. The color was changed from blackish brown to yellowish-orange (Fig. 1A) which initially confirm the production of AgNPs i.e. reduction of Ag salt through methanol leaf extract of O. canum. The maximum absorption spectrum was observed at 453 nm at 8th hour analysis (Fig. 1B). This confirms that the methanol leaf extract of O. canum has silver reducing phytochemical ingredients that enhancing the reduction of silver salt.

3.3 XRD analysis

The crystalline size and nanostructure of green synthesized AgNPs were observed by employing an X-ray powder diffraction device. The analysis was demonstrated and confirmed through characteristic peaks observed at 2θ values of 38.08° (111) in XRD image (Fig. 2). The developed broaden of Bragg's peaks indicates the formation and confirmation of nanoparticles.

3.4 FT-IR analysis

The conceivable band existing in the biomolecule was accountable for the peaks and suitable for capping and competence in stabilizing AgNPs produced by methanol leaf extract of O. canum. The spectra showed a strong peak at 1646.24 cm⁻¹ allotted to N-H stretching of 2555.46 with OH clusters, and the spectra showed an intense peak at 3449 cm⁻¹ consigned to C-H stretching binding of R-COOH. The fragile band was found at 576.16 cm⁻¹ resembles to C=C and C-N stretching with the alkenes group (Fig. 3).

3.5 SEM analysis

The image of SEM analysis of these AgNPs revealed that the particles accumulate over the exterior due to the collaboration of hydrogen with electrostatic bonding among the carbon-based capping particles destined to the AgNPs. The produced AgNPs were in size stretching from 32.75 nm - 78.88 nm, with most of them were spherical, and remains were elongated in shape (Fig. 4).

3.6 EDaX analysis

According to the bio-reduction process, energy-dispersive micro and element investigation was performed to gain further perception of the AgNPs employing EDaX techniques. The binding energies of AgNPs were observed at peaks around 72.64. The findings specify that the response product exists in the pure form of silver nanoparticles (Fig. 5).

Figure 1: UV–Vis spectra of AgNPs synthesized by methanol extract of O. canum: A) Visible color change it’s indicated that synthesized silver nanoparticle and B) AgNPs producing a peak at 453nm at different time interval

Figure 2: XRD pattern of AgNPs synthesized by methanol extract of O. canum

The conceivable band existing in the biomolecule was accountable for the peaks and suitable for capping and competence in stabilizing AgNPs produced by methanol leaf extract of O. canum. The spectra showed a strong peak at 1646.24 cm⁻¹ allotted to N-H stretching of 2555.46 with OH clusters, and the spectra showed an intense peak at 3449 cm⁻¹ consigned to C-H stretching binding of R-COOH. The fragile band was found at 576.16 cm⁻¹ resembles to C=C and C-N stretching with the alkenes group (Fig. 3).
3.7 Assessment of Larvicidal activity by bioassay

The death proportion was perceived in the initial 4th instars of A. aegypti and C. quinquefasciatus with five diverse dosages (10, 50, 100, 150, and 200 ppm) AgNPs synthesized from methanol leaf extract of O. canum to assess the extent larvicidal potential. The findings declared that the maximum larval death was recorded in AgNPs than positive control against A. aegypti (LC50 = 17.03 with LCL = 14.44 & UCL = 19.62 ppm), followed by C. quinquefasciatus (LC50 = 14.89 with LCL = 11.72 & UCL = 18.06 ppm) than methanol extract alone (A. aegypti: LC50 = 52.04 with LCL = 49.77 & UCL = 54.32 ppm and C. quinquefasciatus: LC50 = 47.19 with LCL = 41.22 & UCL = 53.17 ppm) and aqueous AgNO3 alone (A. aegypti: LC50=43.33 with LCL=41.11 & 45.55 ppm and C. quinquefasciatus: LC50=56.10 with LCL=52.80 & 59.47 ppm) (Table 1 and 2). There was no noticeable larvicidal activity on A. stephensi by synthesized AgNPs. The LC90 results were also significant to the results of LC50 larvicidal efficacy of AgNPs synthesized from methanol extract of O. canum.

Table 1: Larvicidal activity of methanol extract synthesized AgNPs against fourth instar larvae of A. aegypti

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name of mosquito</th>
<th>Sample</th>
<th>n*</th>
<th>LC50 (ppm)</th>
<th>95% confidence limit (ppm) LCL</th>
<th>UCL</th>
<th>LC90 (ppm)</th>
<th>95% confidence limit (ppm) LCL</th>
<th>UCL</th>
<th>df</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A. aegypti</td>
<td>AgNPs</td>
<td>375</td>
<td>17.03±0.42</td>
<td>14.44±0.82</td>
<td>19.62±0.86</td>
<td>24.18±0.15</td>
<td>15.15±0.51</td>
<td>33.21±1.5</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Methanol extract</td>
<td></td>
<td>52.04±2.54</td>
<td>49.77±2.21</td>
<td>54.32±2.11</td>
<td>65.17±0.12</td>
<td>61.35±4.7</td>
<td>69.0±3.01</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Aqueous AgNO3</td>
<td>375</td>
<td>43.33±1.71</td>
<td>41.19±2.15</td>
<td>45.55±2.11</td>
<td>62.07±3.9</td>
<td>59.82±3.62</td>
<td>64.32±5.1</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Positive</td>
<td>375</td>
<td>20.85±2.28</td>
<td>27.98±2.31</td>
<td>22.82±2.31</td>
<td>30.32±0.51</td>
<td>25.98±3.17</td>
<td>35.32±5.1</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Legend: n* - means Number of larvae (triplicates: 25x3x5conc.), LC50 - Lethal concentration 50% mortality, LC90 - Lethal concentration 90% mortality, LCL - lower confidence limits, UCL - upper confidence limits, df - degrees of freedom
**Table 2:** Larvicidal activity of methanol extract synthesized AgNPs against fourth instar larvae of *C. quinquefasciatus*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name of mosquito</th>
<th>Sample</th>
<th>n§</th>
<th>LC₅₀ (ppm)</th>
<th>95% confidence limit (ppm)</th>
<th>n§</th>
<th>LC₉₀ (ppm)</th>
<th>95% confidence limit (ppm)</th>
<th>d</th>
<th>f</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>AgNPs</td>
<td>375</td>
<td>14.89±0.34</td>
<td>11.72±0.11</td>
<td>18.06±0.21</td>
<td>20.65±1.66</td>
<td>14.39±0.11</td>
<td>26.91±1.32</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><em>C. quinquefasciatus</em></td>
<td>Methanol extract</td>
<td>375</td>
<td>47.19±0.86</td>
<td>41.22±4.39</td>
<td>53.17±4.72</td>
<td>82.37±5.9</td>
<td>78.23±2.14</td>
<td>86.51±5.1</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Aqueous AgNO₃</td>
<td>375</td>
<td>56.10±0.31</td>
<td>52.80±3.11</td>
<td>59.41±2.63</td>
<td>87.67±7.24</td>
<td>78.00±5.65</td>
<td>97.35±8.12</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Positive</td>
<td>375</td>
<td>18.18±3.78</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Legend:** n§ - means Number of larvae (triplicates: 25x3x5conc.), LC₅₀ - Lethal concentration 50% mortality, LC₉₀ - Lethal concentration 90% mortality, LCL - lower confidence limits, UCL - upper confidence limits, df - degrees of freedom

**Table 3:** CDC Bottle Bioassay: Efficiency of methanol leaf extract synthesized AgNPs against *A. aegypti*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name of mosquito</th>
<th>Sample</th>
<th>n§</th>
<th>LC₅₀ (ppm)</th>
<th>95% confidence limit (ppm)</th>
<th>n§</th>
<th>LC₉₀ (ppm)</th>
<th>95% confidence limit (ppm)</th>
<th>d</th>
<th>f</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><em>A. aegypti</em></td>
<td>AgNPs</td>
<td>300</td>
<td>18.79±1.01</td>
<td>15.84±0.60</td>
<td>21.74±1.21</td>
<td>26.16±0.89</td>
<td>16.21±0.42</td>
<td>36.11±2.5</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Methanol extract</td>
<td>300</td>
<td>54.91±1.21</td>
<td>51.62±3.01</td>
<td>58.21±4.23</td>
<td>64.57±1.24</td>
<td>60.95±5.13</td>
<td>68.2±4.31</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Aqueous AgNO₃</td>
<td>300</td>
<td>45.91±1.32</td>
<td>42.21±1.56</td>
<td>49.61±3.23</td>
<td>63.76±2.70</td>
<td>62.14±4.35</td>
<td>65.38±4.21</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Positive</td>
<td>300</td>
<td>22.68±2.47</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Legend:** n§ - means Number of larvae (triplicates: 20x3x5conc.), LC₅₀ - Lethal concentration 50% mortality, LC₉₀ - Lethal concentration 90% mortality, LCL - lower confidence limits, UCL - upper confidence limits, df - degrees of freedom

**Table 4:** CDC Bottle Bioassay: Efficiency of methanol leaf extract synthesized AgNPs against *C. quinquefasciatus*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name of mosquito</th>
<th>Sample</th>
<th>n§</th>
<th>LC₅₀ (ppm)</th>
<th>95% confidence limit (ppm)</th>
<th>n§</th>
<th>LC₉₀ (ppm)</th>
<th>95% confidence limit (ppm)</th>
<th>d</th>
<th>f</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><em>C. quinquefasciatus</em></td>
<td>AgNPs</td>
<td>300</td>
<td>16.02±0.34</td>
<td>12.89±0.45</td>
<td>19.16±0.56</td>
<td>20.85±1.66</td>
<td>16.41±0.58</td>
<td>25.29±2.10</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Methanol extract</td>
<td>300</td>
<td>48.39±0.86</td>
<td>42.14±3.79</td>
<td>54.65±3.21</td>
<td>81.56±5.9</td>
<td>77.51±3.31</td>
<td>85.62±4.1</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Aqueous AgNO₃</td>
<td>300</td>
<td>53.83±0.86</td>
<td>49.45±2.31</td>
<td>58.22±1.45</td>
<td>85.71±7.24</td>
<td>76.21±4.29</td>
<td>95.22±4.23</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Positive</td>
<td>300</td>
<td>19.24±1.41</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<td>3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Legend:** n§ - means Number of larvae (triplicates: 20x3x5conc.), LC₅₀ - Lethal concentration 50% mortality, LC₉₀ - Lethal concentration 90% mortality, LCL - lower confidence limits, UCL - upper confidence limits, df - degrees of freedom

### 3.8 CDC Bottle Bioassay

The lethal dosage of synthesized AgNPs against adult mosquitoes (*A. stephensi*, *A. aegypti*, and *C. quinquefasciatus*) were studied in the CDC bottle with different dosage range from 10-200 ppm (10, 50, 100, 150, & 200 ppm) at 10 minutes to 3 hours interval. The results obtained are perfectly correlated with the lethal activity of AgNPs on 4th instar larvae. The LC₅₀ and LC₉₀ values of AgNPs against *A. aegypti* and *C. quinquefasciatus* were 18.79 & 26.16 ppm and 16.02 & 20.85 ppm respectively than the positive control, methanol extract, and aqueous AgNO₃. The absence of lethal activity was recorded on *A. stephensi* (Tables 3 and 4).

### 4 Discussion

Even though the chemical insecticide application is greatly active on mosquitoes, it faces some risk due to the raising of insecticide resistance and negative impacts on non-target organisms [41]. The development of insecticide resistance among mosquitoes could lead to health threats worldwide, including developing and developed nations. Frequent changes in the insecticide for mosquito vector control practices lead to severe resistance mechanisms among mosquitoes [42]. Though the development of resistance among mosquitoes, frequent use of chemical insecticides has raised diverse environmental and ecological issues, such as distraction of regular biological regulator systems and adverse impacts on non-target beings and raising health issues human being [42].

The synthesis of AgNPs was preliminarily identified by the development of color changes from dark brown to yellowish-orange due to the reduction of AgNO₃ by methanol leaf extract of *O. canum*. The present findings declared that the AgNPs produced from methanol leaf extract of *O. canum* was analyzed using a spectrophotometer (300 to 700 nm) and noticed one strong peak curve at 453 nm, suggesting the synthesis of AgNPs at the time interval of 8th hours. The obtained peaks of silver nanoparticles might be related to the surface plasmon vibration of AgNO₃ reduction [19, 27, 28]. The outcome of the XRD specifies the occurrence of clear bands of Bragg peaks at 38.08° (111) indicates Bragg's reflection, it could be related to the Face Centred Cubic (FCC) structure of AgNPs [2]. This might support the steadiness of the nanoparticles produced from methanol extract of *O. canum*, and hence endorsing the crystallization of the organic phase present on the external of AgNPs [44, 45]. The conceivable relations between silver and bioactive molecules were analyzed by FT-IR and them accountable for the reduction and maintenance of AgNPs, indicates the occurrence of the group of hydroxyl, carboxylic, alkyl halide, and benzene ring correspondingly. The FT-IR noticeable peaks confirmed the occurrence of amide group [46]. The 1646.24 cm⁻¹ allotted to N-H stretching (2555.45) with OH groups. The fragile band at 576.16 cm⁻¹ parallels to C=C section in the CH₃ group. The obtained peaks correlate with the average peak value of certain phytochemical components [47, 48]. Therefore, the terpenoids of plant extracts are previously reported as they have possible action to renovate the —CHO into R—COOH in nanoparticle [31, 32].

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The SEM analysis report clearly states that the shape of synthesized AgNPs as spherical and elongated in appearance and size ranges from 32.75 to 78 nm with the uniform surface distribution. Similar kinds of results were reported by Suganya et al. [47]. They produced AgNPs using Nelumbo nucifera leaf extract with shape like triangle, spherical and truncated triangles with 25 to 80 nm in size. The EDaX peak about 72.64 to the binding energies, and it confirms the untainted form of AgNPs. The EDaX verified AgNPs produced from methanol extracts exhibited a solid signal of silver from 3 keV. The X-ray discharge might be derived from biomolecules like carbohydrates, enzymes, etc. which exists in the leaves of O. canaum. Tian et al. [45] have considered the flavonoid component of lotus leaves for silver nanoparticle synthesis. Biological components play a significant part in reducing corresponding metal nanoparticles as like silver [47, 48]. Hence, the present study result confirms that the phytochemical contents of O. canaum could play the most significant role reduction of AgNO3 to AgNPs. Therefore, in addition to the existing vector control measures, AgNPs synthesized from plant extracts could play an important role in controlling mosquito vector-borne diseases such as malaria and filariasis. The larvae mortality potential of synthesized AgNPs on larvae of A. aegypti, A. stephensi, and C. quinquefasciatus were studied. There was no lethal activity against larvae of A. stephensi. The very low LC50 and LC90 values were noted for A. aegypti and C. quinquefasciatus as 17.03 & 24.18 ppm and 14.89 & 20.65 ppm respectively than the positive control (Table 3 & 4). Similarly, it shows better activity on adult mosquitoes’ namely A. aegypti and C. quinquefasciatus with minimum LC50 values (Table 3 & 4). Our results are partially correlated with the report of Suganya et al. [47] they produced NPs from Leucas aspera revealed prospective larvicidal action on A. aegypti larvae with LC50 and LC90 22.21 & 27.32 ppm.

Further, Parthiban et al. [37] reported green synthesized silver nanoparticles from aqueous leaf extract of Annona reticulata and which possess excellent larvicidal activity on larvae of Aedes aegypti. The mortality of larvae and adult mosquito by AgNPs might be due to the disintegration of sulfur or phosphorous components of biomolecules. This resulting failing enzymes activities leads to decrease in ATP synthesis and condenses the cellular membrane permeability which origins the loss of the cell metabolisms and leads to cell lysis [25, 36]. For the environmental protection and mosquito control management, the green synthesis based AgNPs, which have potential mortality against mosquito vectors, could be suitable for pest management and to minimize the mosquito vector-borne diseases.

5 Conclusion

The overall results conclude that the AgNPs were fruitfully synthesized using methanol leaf extract of O. canaum. The synthesized AgNPs are characterized and confirmed through the UV-Vis spectrum, XRD, SEM, EdaX, and FTIR. The low dosage of AgNPs showed outstanding mosquito larvicidal activity on A. aegypti as LC50 = 17.03 with LCL = 14.448 & UCL = 19.6286 ppm, it followed by C. quinquefasciatus as LC50 = 14.89 with LCL = 11.721 & UCL=18.0621 ppm. These results declared that the AgNPs produced from methanol leaf extract of O. canaum have outstanding mosquito control potential at both larvae and adult stage. The prominence of the present findings exists in the probability that the production of NPs attached with plant bioactive compounds, which might enhance the NPs activity to control mosquito vectors. Thus could be act as replacement for chemical insecticides and possibilities of reducing environmental pollution.

Authors’ contributions

The author IMM planned the outline of the research work, carried out the research, NM prepared the manuscript. GR and SK support result analysis and manuscript editing. MSS supervise the research work. The authors have read and approved the final manuscript.

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Declarations

The authors declare the following consent

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Conflict of Interest

The authors declare that there is no conflict of interest regarding the publication of this manuscript.

Ethics approval

Not applicable

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Availability of data and materials

The detailed methodology and analytical data of the present findings are available from the corresponding author on reasonable request.

Code availability

Not applicable

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