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# **EXPLORING OF MALAYSIAN UNDERUTILISED 'SUPER' FRUITS FOR HUMAN NUTRITION AND SUSTAINABLE DIETS**

**AMIN ISMAIL, Ph.D.**  
**Professor**

**Department of Nutrition and Dietetics  
Faculty of Medicine and Health Sciences  
Universiti Putra Malaysia (UPM)  
Selangor, Malaysia**



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# Outline of Presentation

- Introduction to underutilized fruits
- Nutritional composition of Dabai & Bambangan
- Health promoting properties
- Concluding remarks

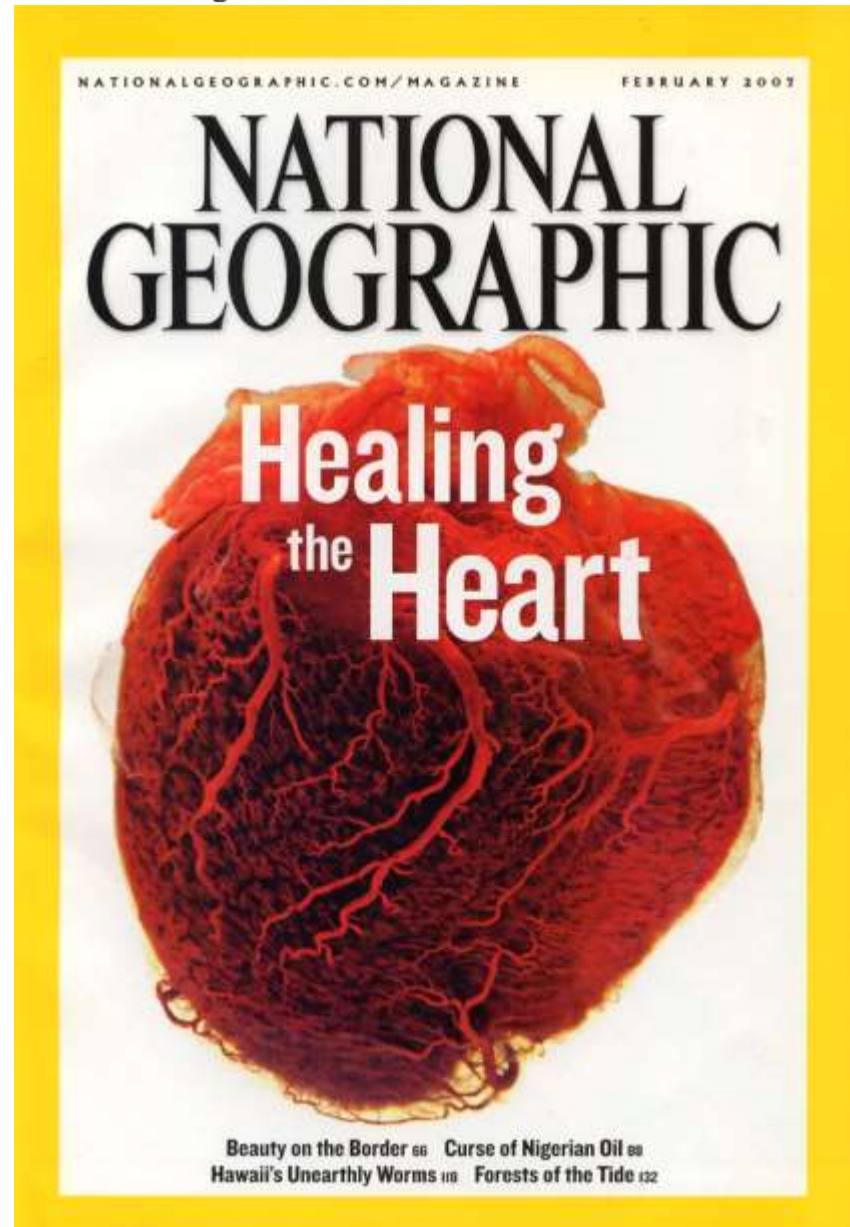


- Fruits - “food of the god”
- Inverse correlation between the incidence of chronic diseases and fruits consumption
- Insufficient consumption of fruits & vegetables is one of the ten leading global disease risk factors – WHO (2002)
- Many studies have been focused on commercial & export fruits



Several studies have reported that dietary fiber and antioxidants are two dietary factors involved cardiovascular disease (**Arts and Hollman, 2005; He et al., 2007; Pérez-Jiménez et al., 2008; Larsson et al., 2009** ).

Fruits and vegetables have received much attention as a source of biologically active substances because of their antioxidant and dietary fiber properties (**Dillard and German, 2000; Larsson et al., 2009**).





## NUTRITION AND BIODIVERSITY

➤ **Role of biodiversity:**  
source of foods, income  
for rural people for  
sustaining and  
strengthening food,  
nutrition, health and  
livelihood security

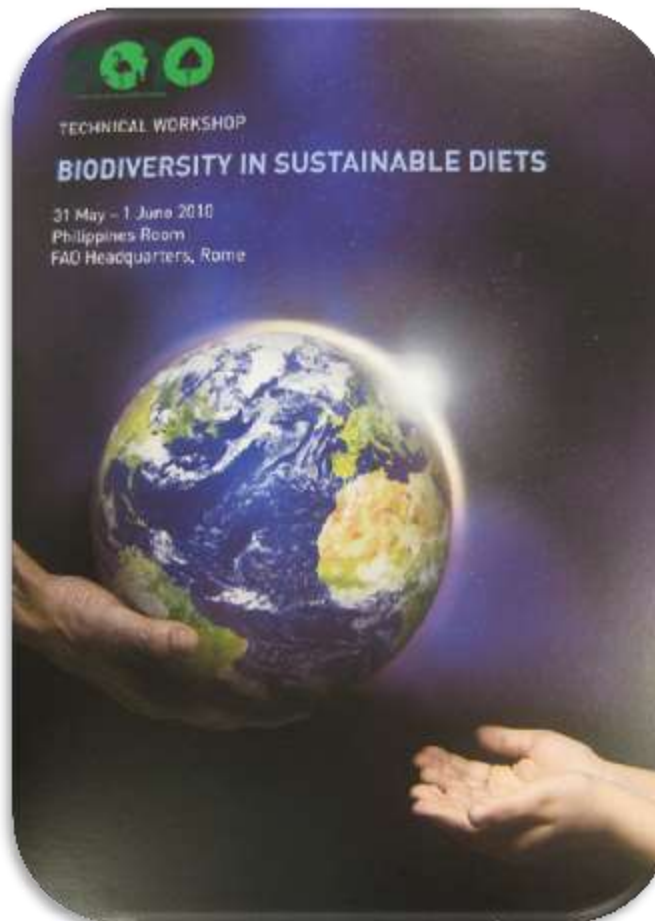
Terms:  
indigenous, rare,  
exotic, wild, under-  
exploited

## AGRICULTURAL BIODIVERSITY

➤ Contribute to → realization of  
**MDGs**, to halve the proportion of  
people who suffer from hunger  
and ensure environmental  
sustainability (FAO, 2010) .

## UNDERUTILIZED PLANT SPECIES: FRUITS & VEGETABLES

Species with underexploited  
potential to contribute in food  
security, health and nutrition,  
income generation and  
environmental services (GFU,  
2007)





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- In Malaysia - > 370 species of fruits
- Commercial fruits – papaya, mango, star fruits, pineapple, guava
- Rare fruits
- Indigenous fruits
- Wild fruits
- Exotic fruits







## Underutilized Fruits (rare, indigenous, wild, exotic; long history of consumption & used by the locals)



**Asam paya**



**Durian Kuning**



**Dabai**



**Green Longan**



**Tampoi**



**Bambang**



**Cherry**  
(*Malpighia punicifolia*)



**'Kerandang'**  
(*Carissa congesta*)



**'Rokam manis'**  
(*Flacourtia rukam*)



**'Kuini'**  
(*Mangifera odorata*)



**'Asam gelugor'**



**'Bidara'**  
(*Ziziphus mauritania*)



**'Jambu bol'**  
(*Syzygium malaccense*)



**'Kuning telur'**  
(*Pouteria campechiana*)



**'Jambu susu'**  
(*Syzygium jambos*)





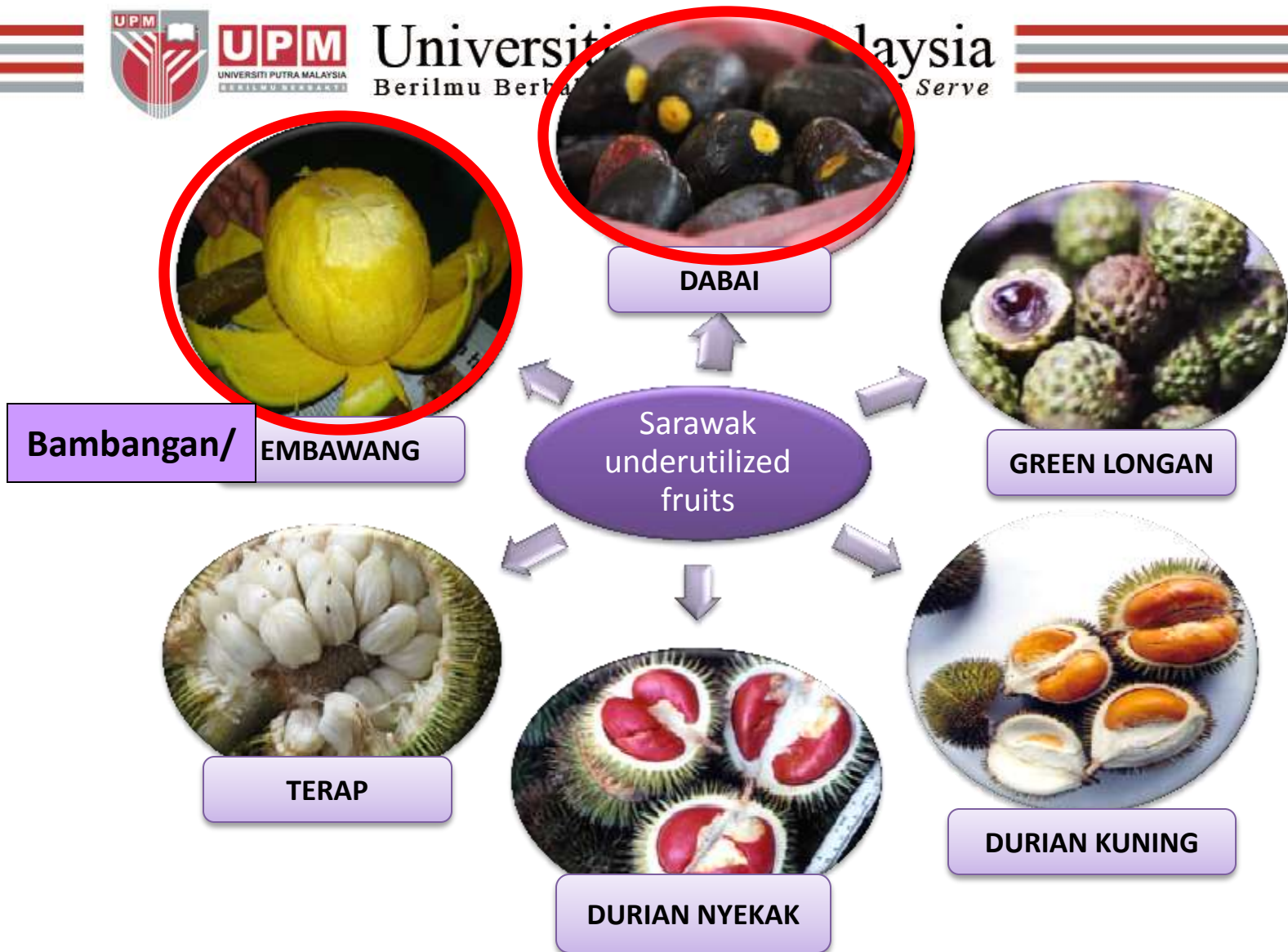
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# Underutilised fruits of Sarawak



hot-screensaver.com



**Sarawak State Department of Agriculture has identified 6 underutilized fruits → Economic Fruit Crop**





Contents lists available at ScienceDirect

## Journal of Food Composition and Analysis

journal homepage: [www.elsevier.com/locate/jfca](http://www.elsevier.com/locate/jfca)

## Original Article

## Antioxidant capacity and total phenolic content of Malaysian underutilized fruits

Emmy Hainida Khairul Ikram<sup>a</sup>, Khoo Hock Eng<sup>a</sup>, Abbe Amin Ismail<sup>a,\*</sup>, Salma Idris<sup>b</sup>, Azrina Azlan<sup>a</sup>, Halimatul Norzatol Akmar Mat Diton<sup>a</sup>, Ruzaidi Azli Mohd Mokht

<sup>a</sup> Department of Nutrition and Dietetics, Faculty of Medicine and Health Sciences, Universiti Putra Malaysia, 43400 Serdang, Selangor, Malaysia

<sup>b</sup> Botany Division, Strategic Resource Research Center, Malaysian Agricultural Research and Development Department, 43400 Serdang, Selangor, Malaysia

Food Chemistry 126 (2011) 283–288

Contents lists available at ScienceDirect

## Food Chemistry

journal homepage: [www.elsevier.com/locate/foodchem](http://www.elsevier.com/locate/foodchem)Characterisation of fibre-rich powder and antioxidant capacity of *Mangifera pajang* K. fruit peels

Fouad Abdulrahman Hassan<sup>a,b</sup>, Amin Ismail<sup>a,c,\*</sup>, Azizah Abdul Hamid<sup>d</sup>, Azrina Azlan<sup>a</sup>, Sadeq Hasan Al-sheraji<sup>a,b</sup>

<sup>a</sup> Department of Nutrition and Dietetics, Faculty of Medicine and Health Sciences, Universiti Putra Malaysia, UPM Serdang 43400, Selangor, Malaysia

<sup>b</sup> Department of Food Science, Faculty of Agriculture, Ibb University, Yemen

<sup>c</sup> Laboratory Analysis and Authentication, Halal Products Research Institute, Universiti Putra Malaysia, UPM Serdang 43400, Selangor, Malaysia

<sup>d</sup> Department of Food Science, Faculty of Food Science and Technology, Universiti Putra Malaysia, UPM Serdang 43400, Selangor, Malaysia

## ARTICLE INFO

Article history:

## ABSTRACT

The composition of bambangan peel dietary fibre (DF) and several properties

JOURNAL OF  
AGRICULTURAL AND  
FOOD CHEMISTRY

ARTICLE

[pubs.acs.org/jaf](http://pubs.acs.org/jaf)Functional Properties and Characterization of Dietary Fiber from *Mangifera pajang* Kort. Fruit Pulp

Sadeq Hassan Al-Sheraji<sup>a,1</sup>, Amin Ismail<sup>a,1</sup>, Mohd Yazid Manap<sup>†</sup>, Shuhaimi Mustafa<sup>§,1</sup>, Rokiah Mohd Yusof<sup>†</sup> and Fouad Abdulrahman Hassan<sup>a,1</sup>

<sup>a</sup> Department of Nutrition and Dietetics, Faculty of Medicine and Health Sciences, <sup>†</sup> Department of Food Technology, Faculty of Food Science and Technology, <sup>§</sup> Department of Microbiology, Faculty of Biotechnology and Biomolecular Sciences, <sup>†</sup> Laboratory Analysis and Authentications, Halal Products Research Institute, Universiti Putra Malaysia, 43400 UPM Serdang, Selangor, Malaysia

<sup>1</sup> Department of Food Science, Faculty of Agriculture, Ibb University, Yemen

Food Chemistry 128 (2011) 1121–1127

Contents lists available at ScienceDirect

## Food Chemistry

journal homepage: [www.elsevier.com/locate/foodchem](http://www.elsevier.com/locate/foodchem)

## Analytical Methods

Response surface optimisation for the extraction of phenolic compounds and antioxidant capacities of underutilised *Mangifera pajang* Kosterm. peels

K. Nagendra Prasad<sup>a,1</sup>, Fouad Abdulrahman Hassan<sup>a,1</sup>, Bao Yang<sup>b</sup>, Kin Weng Kong<sup>a,c</sup>, Ramakrishnan Nagasundara Ramanan<sup>d</sup>, Azrina Azlan<sup>a</sup>, Amin Ismail<sup>a,e,\*</sup>

<sup>a</sup> Department of Nutrition and Dietetics, Faculty of Medicine and Health Sciences, Universiti Putra Malaysia, 43400 Serdang, Selangor, Malaysia

<sup>b</sup> South China Botanical Garden, Chinese Academy of Sciences, Guangzhou 510650, PR China

<sup>c</sup> Department of Molecular Medicine, Faculty of Medicine, University of Malaya, 50603 Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia

<sup>d</sup> Chemical and Sustainable Process Engineering Research Group, School of Engineering, Monash University, 46150 Bandar Sunway, Selangor, Malaysia

<sup>e</sup> Laboratory of Analysis and Authentication, Halal Products Research Institute, Universiti Putra Malaysia, 43400 Serdang, Selangor, Malaysia

ARTICLE INFO

ABSTRACT



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## ***Bambangan and Dabai***

- Sarawak; **rich in biodiversity**
- 75 species of indigenous tree from 18 families with NOBLE quality fruits (Lau, 2009)

# *Canarium odontophyllum* Miq.

Family: Burseraceae

Local name: Dabai/Sibu olive





## Dabai fruits

- rarely eaten, unfamiliar and unknown elsewhere apart from Sarawak
- seasonal in nature and appreciated as an exotic fruit
- whole ripe fruit is soaked in warm water for 3-5 minutes to soften the pulp and eaten
- sometimes it is consumed seasoned with sugar, salt, pepper or sauce
- the stony hard seed is discarded





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# Dabai fruits





# Dabai fruits- physical properties

Property	Mean ( $\pm$ Standard deviation, SD)	
	Bigger size	Smaller size
Length (cm)	4.10 ( $\pm$ 0.11)	3.74 ( $\pm$ 0.08)
Width (cm)	2.79 ( $\pm$ 0.13)	2.40 ( $\pm$ 0.07)
Mass (g)	18.28 ( $\pm$ 1.59)	12.73 ( $\pm$ 0.69)
Mass (g) of fraction:		
Skin	1.02 ( $\pm$ 0.19)	0.86 ( $\pm$ ND)
Flesh	11.22 ( $\pm$ 0.93)	7.81 ( $\pm$ ND)
Kernel	6.79 ( $\pm$ 0.81)	5.84 ( $\pm$ ND)
Thickness (cm)	0.5 ( $\pm$ 0.0)	0.4 ( $\pm$ 0.0)
Sphericity index, $S_c$ (%)	43.62 ( $\pm$ 0.76)	41.28 ( $\pm$ 0.69)
Aspect ratio, $R_a$ (%)	67.37 ( $\pm$ 4.32)	65.79 ( $\pm$ 2.26)

-\*ND = not determined





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# Dabai fruits









- **Distribution**

**Locations of  
Dabai (*Canarium  
odontophyllum*)  
production.**



Source: Jackson (2008). The Star.

**Bambangan: Grown wild in Borneo Island includes Sabah,  
Sarawak, Brunei and East Kalimantan**



## Proximate Composition of Fresh Pulp (%)

	<i>Canarium Odontophyllum</i> (Dabai) (Voon & Kueh, 1999)	<i>Olea europea</i> (Olive) (McCance & Widdowson, 2000)
High metabolizable energy		
Moisture	41.3	16.35- 68.08
Fat	26.2	16.36 - 27.97
Protein	3.8	0.72- 2.16
Carbohydrate	22.1	8.02- 12.28
Ash	2.3	0.35- 1.24
Mineral content (g/100g)		
Element		
Potassium	0.81	0.53-3.39
Magnesium	0.10	0.01-0.06
Calcium	0.20	0.02-0.16
Sodium	-	0.01-0.22
Iron	0.0013	0.0003-0.009
Copper	0.0007	0.000003- 0.0005
Zink	0.00047	0.0001-0.003
Selenium	-	-
Fatty acid composition of pulp oil (%)		
	(Azrina et al., 2010)	
Fatty acids		
SFA	43.42 ± 0.05	22.00-11.70
MUFA	42.53 ± 0.06	78.00-41.65
PUFA	14.05 ± 0.09	60.10- 6.23
Oleic acids	14.05 ± 1.96	57.85- 72.70



# Fatty acids of Dabai Kernel



Fatty acid composition of kernel oil (Azrina et al., 2010)

	Dabai	Cocoa Butter
<b>Saturated fatty acid</b>	60.7	60.0
C16:0	46.3	8.4
C18:0	4.8	35.4
<b>Monounsaturated fatty acid</b>	35.6	35.5
C16:1	0.5	0.6
C18:1	35.1	15.3
<b>Polyunsaturated fatty acid</b>	3.7	3.1
C18:2	0.7	0



## Total Phenolic Content of Dabai oil

Type of oil	Total phenolic content (mg GAE/100 g oil)
Dabai kernel oil	3.94
Palm oil	4.70
Dabai pulp oil (without skin)	14.0
Dabai pulp oil (with skin)	20.2
Olive oils	10.85 – 44.43





# ***Carotenoid composition***



Carotenoids ( $\mu\text{g/g}$ fresh weight)	Peel	Pulp	Seed		
<b>all-<i>trans</i>-lutein</b>	<b><math>1.62 \pm 0.03</math></b>	<b><math>0.36 \pm 0.01</math></b>	<b><math>0.67 \pm 0.01</math></b>		
<b>9-<i>cis</i>-lutein</b>	<b><math>0.32 \pm 0.01</math></b>	<b><math>0.10 \pm 0.02</math></b>	<b><math>0.13 \pm 0.04</math></b>		
<b>13-<i>cis</i>-lutein</b>	<b><math>0.62 \pm 0.01</math></b>	<b><math>0.16 \pm 0.009</math></b>	<b><math>0.11 \pm 0.01</math></b>		
<b>di-<i>cis</i>-<math>\beta</math>-carotene</b>	<b><math>0.69 \pm 0.01</math></b>	<b><math>0.35 \pm 0.0005</math></b>	<b><math>0.37 \pm 0.01</math></b>		
<b>15- <i>cis</i> - <math>\beta</math>-carotene</b>	<b><math>18.29 \pm 2.4</math></b>	<b><math>11.9 \pm 0.3</math></b>	<b><math>8.38 \pm 0.4</math></b>		
<b>9-<i>cis</i>-<math>\beta</math>-carotene</b>	<b><math>39.61 \pm 0.28</math></b>	<b><math>5.8 \pm 0.69</math></b>	<b><math>3.20 \pm 0.3</math></b>		
<b>all -<i>trans</i>-<math>\beta</math>-carotene</b>	<b><math>69.52 \pm 1.0</math></b>	<b><math>31.1 \pm 0.76</math></b>	<b><math>15.1 \pm 3.</math></b>		
<b>13-<i>cis</i>-<math>\beta</math>-carotene</b>	<b><math>19.43 \pm 1.2</math></b>	<b><math>5.7 \pm 0.5</math></b>	<b><math>5.6 \pm 0.27</math></b>		
<b>Total</b>	<b>149.48</b>	<b>55.47</b>	<b>33.56</b>		



# Potential Health Benefits

Explore cardioprotective effect of Dabai parts using New Zealand White rabbits



Hypercholesterolemic  
(0.5% Cholesterol)

(8 weeks)



Treatment

Normal cholesterol

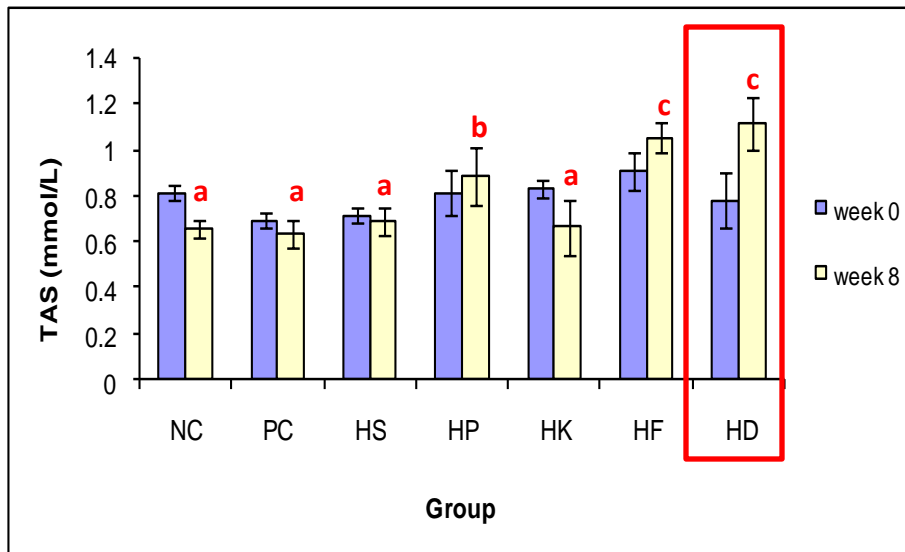
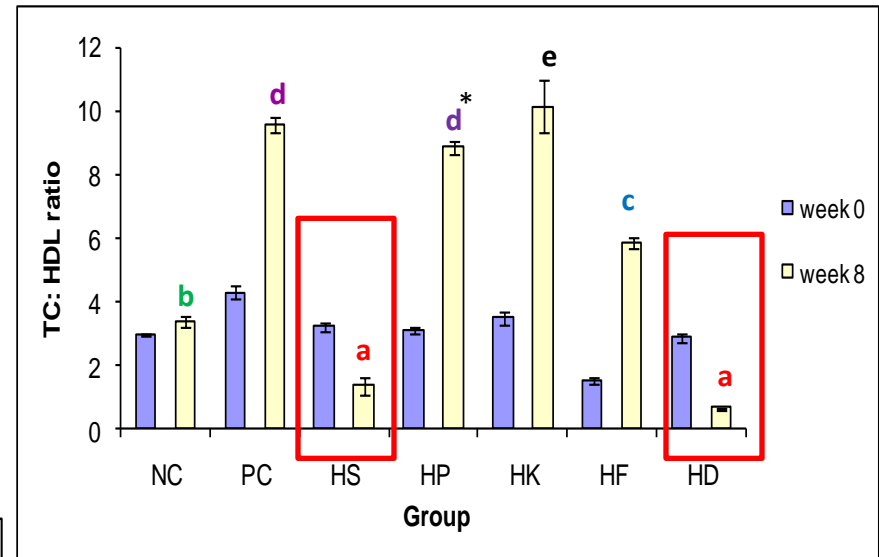
(4 weeks)



Prevention

## HYPERCHOLESTEROLEMIC CONDITION

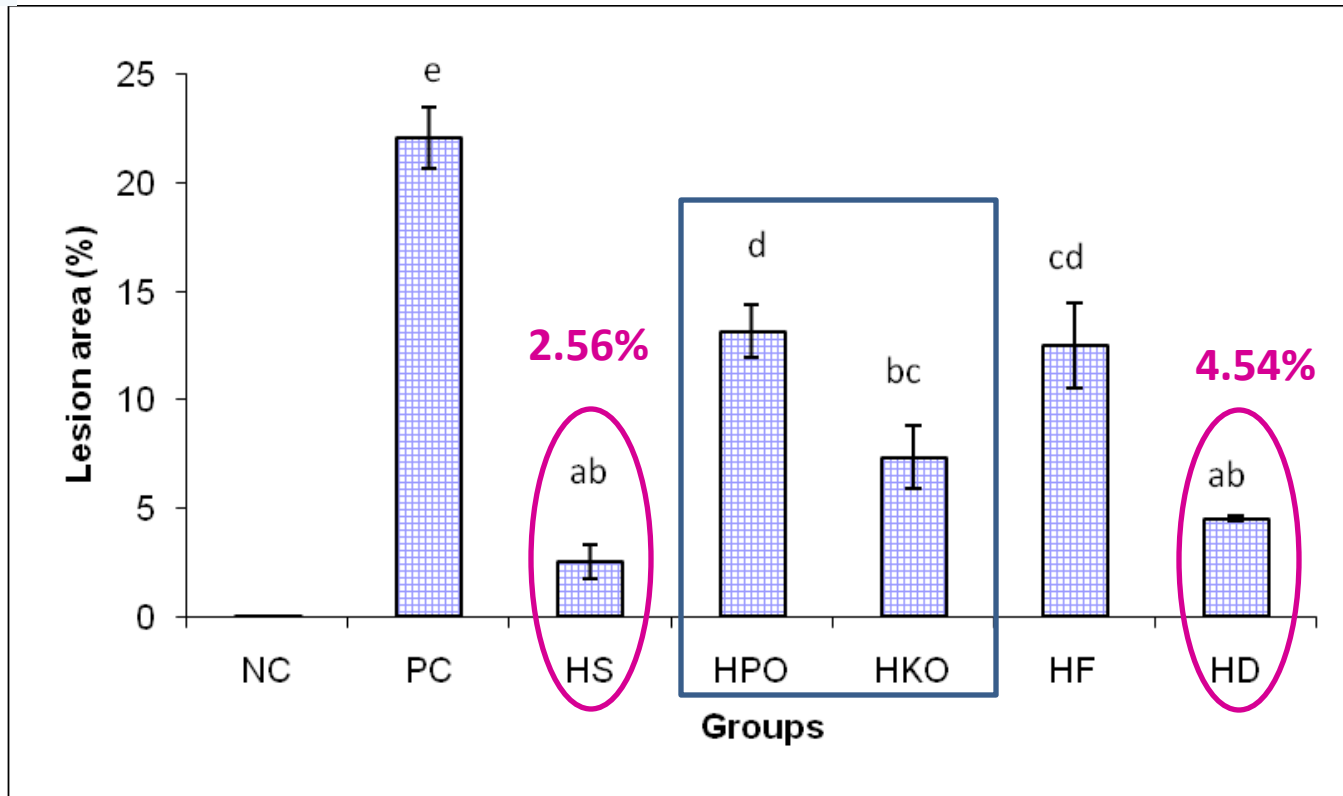
NC: negative control,  
PC: positive control  
HS: simvastatin  
HP: pulp oil  
HK: kernel oil  
HF: fullfat pulp  
HD: defatted pulp



Each value represents the mean  $\pm$  SD.



## Percentage of lesion area of intimal surface of aorta of animal groups







In **hypercholesterolemic** condition,

- Plasma lipids and antioxidant status were improved to an extent **BETTER than STATIN** following intake of **defatted pulp**
- **Fat** extracted from **pulp** of dabai has **more important effect** compared to kernel



## ***Conclusions***



- Dabai has high health-promoting components ....'super' fruit
- Dabai fractions offer prevention against CVD
- Attributed to bioactivity of multiple components in Dabai (vitamins, minerals, fiber, phytonutrients especially phenolic compounds)



## ***Mangifera pajang* (bambangan)**

- Underutilised fruit
- Grown wild in Borneo Island includes Sarawak + Brunei
- 2-3 fold bigger than commercial mango
- Thick peel and
- Pleasant taste and aroma
- Its flesh has rich in antioxidants





## ***Nutrient Composition of Bambang***

### **Proximate Composition and Gross Energy of Bambang Pulp and Juice Powder**

<b>Constituent</b>	<b>Pulp</b>	<b>Juice Powder</b>
<b>Moisture</b>	86.84	10.01
<b>Protein</b>	1.13	3.78
<b>Fat</b>	1.98	1.75
<b>Carbohydrate</b>	21.02	76.09
<b>Soluble Dietary Fiber</b>	0.43	3.30
<b>Insoluble Dietary Fiber</b>	5.26	0.80
<b>Total Dietary Fiber</b>	4.84	0.12
<b>Ash</b>	0.42	0.68
<b>Gross Energy</b>	428.68	335.23





# Nutrient Composition of Bambangan

## Antioxidant Properties of Bambangan Pulp and Juice Powder

Antioxidant Parameter	Pulp	Juice Powder
Ascorbic Acid (mg/100 g)	46.31	132.14
$\beta$ -Carotene (mg/100 g)	42.21	35.59
Total Phenolic Content (mg GAE/100 g)	26.09	19.30
Ferric Reducing Antioxidant Capacity (mM/100 g)	26.50	39.58
DPPH Radical Scavenging Activity (% in 1.0 mg/mL)	43.25	52.61

## Identification and Quantification of Phenolic Compounds in Bambangan (*Mangifera pajang* Kort.) Peels and Their Free Radical Scavenging Activity

Fouad Abdulrahman Hassan,<sup>1,2</sup> Amin Ismail,<sup>3,4,5</sup> Azizah Abdulhamid,<sup>3</sup> and Azrina Azlan<sup>1,5</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Department of Nutrition and Dietetics, Faculty of Medicine and Health Sciences, Universiti Putra Malaysia, UPM Serdang 43400, Selangor, Malaysia

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Characterisation of fibre-rich powder and antioxidant capacity of *Mangifera pajang* K. fruit peels

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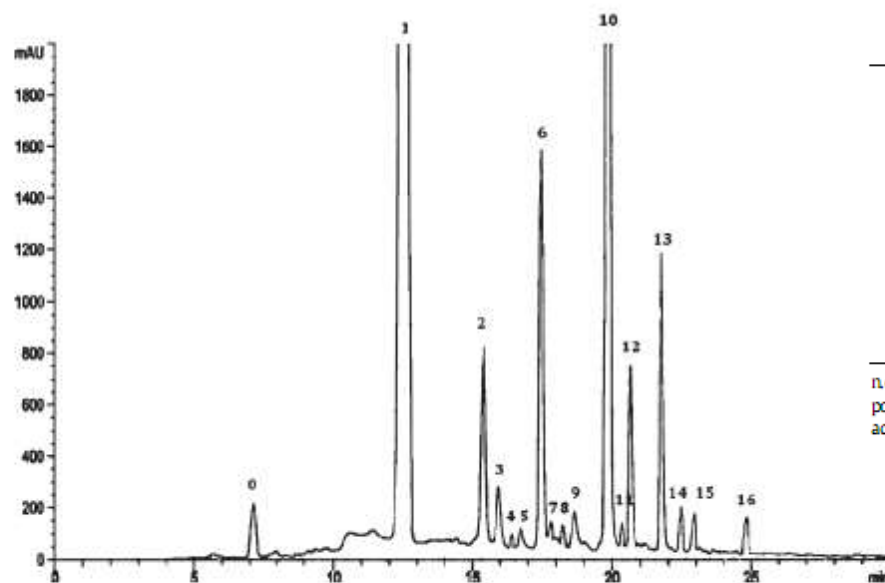


Figure 2. HPLC profile of phenolic compounds in *Mangifera pajang* peel, peak identification: 0, unknown; 1, gallic acid; 2, protocatechuic acid; 3, catechin; 4, chlorogenic acid; 5, methyl gallate; 6, mangiferin; 7, 4-hydroxybenzoic acid; 8, vanillic acid; 9, ethyl gallate; 10, p-coumaric acid; 11, ferulic acid; 12, rutin; 13, ellagic acid; 14, morin; 15, daidzein; 16, kaempferol.

Table 3

Monosaccharide composition of SDF and IDF of the FRP.

Monosaccharide	Fibre-rich powder (% dry weight)	
	Soluble dietary fibre	Insoluble dietary fibre
Erythrose	n.d.	n.d.
Glucose	2.49 ± 0.23	1.15 ± 0.15
Galactose	0.80 ± 0.06	0.17 ± 0.01
Rhamnose	0.44 ± 0.02	0.20 ± 0.02
Arabinose	4.89 ± 0.28	3.05 ± 0.13
Mannose	12.49 ± 0.56	4.87 ± 0.22
Xylose	0.40 ± 0.14	0.09 ± 0.01
Fructose	0.15 ± 0.01	0.10 ± 0.01
Neutral sugars	21.66 ± 0.32	9.63 ± 0.53
Uronic acids	11.75 ± 0.23	7.60 ± 0.11
Klason lignin	n.d.	21.51 ± 0.47
Total NSP	33.41 ± 0.32	17.26 ± 0.52

n.d. Represents not detected. Mean values ± STD (n = 3). NSP is the non-starch polysaccharide representing the following equation: NSP = neutral sugars + uronic acid.



## Potential Health Benefits

Explore health benefits of different dosage of Bambang juice using New Zealand White rabbits



Hypercholesterolemic  
(1.0 % Cholesterol)  
(10 weeks)

**Control:** Rabbits fed with 1% cholesterol without any treatment for 70 days

**Group 1:** 1% cholesterol + 5% Bambang juice powder (BJP)/kg/day

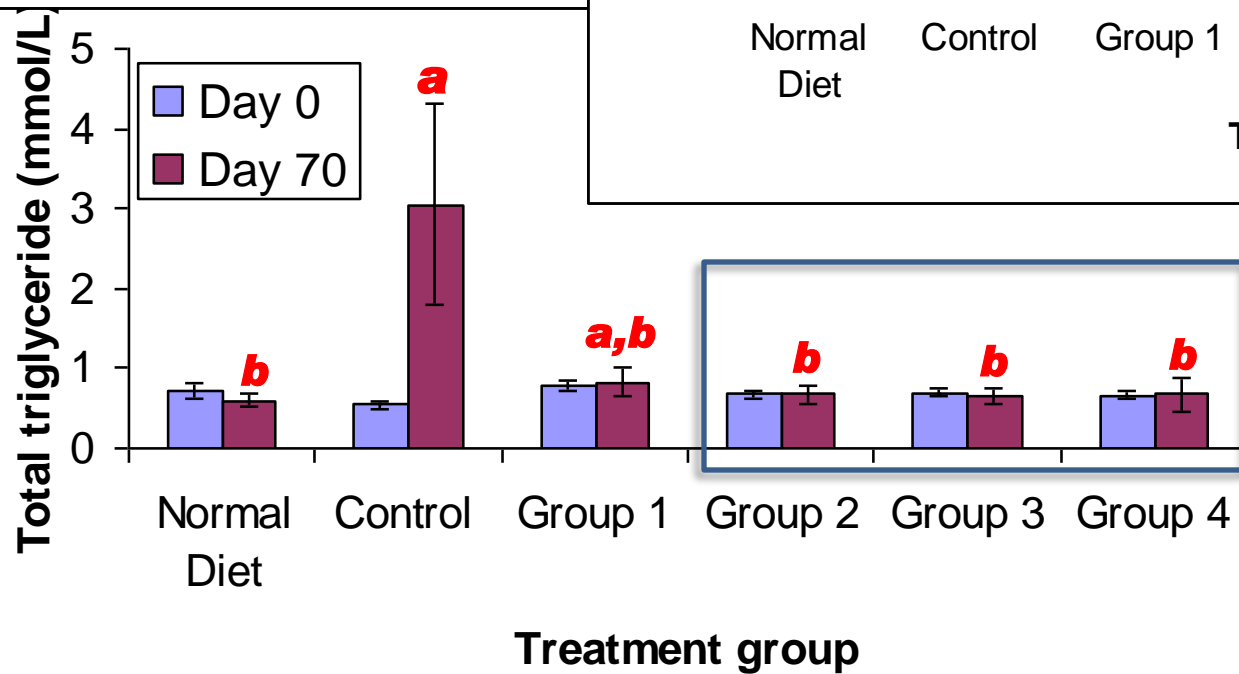
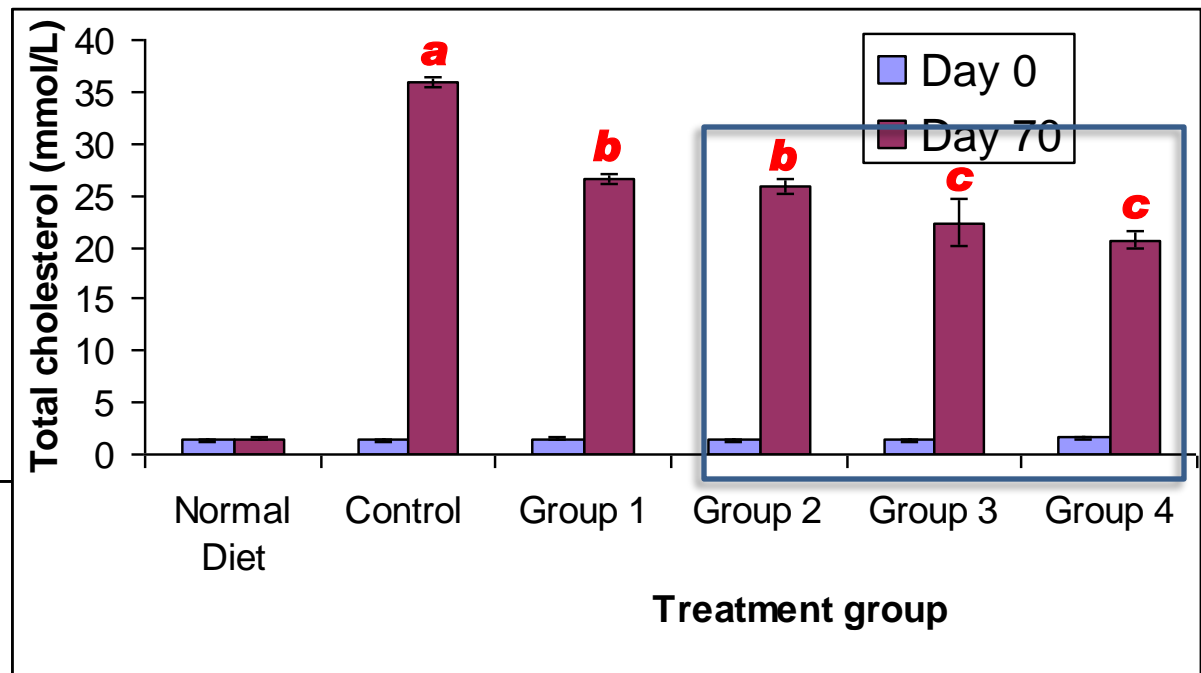
**Group 2:** 1% cholesterol + 15% BJP/kg/day

**Group 3:** 1% cholesterol + 25% BJP/kg/day

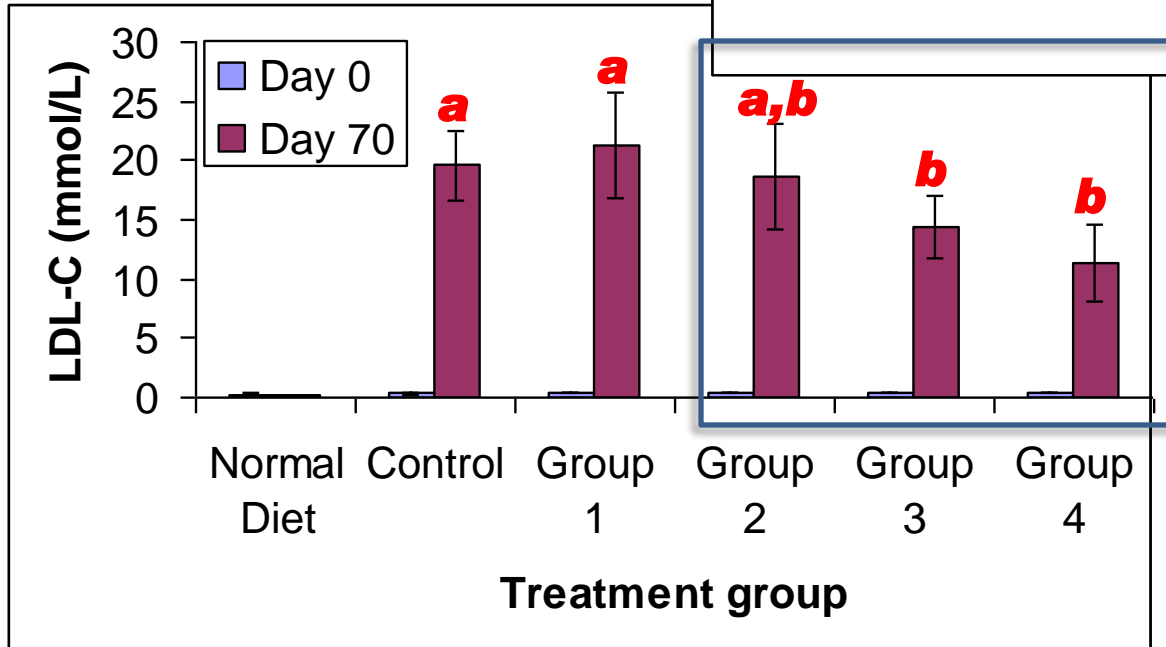
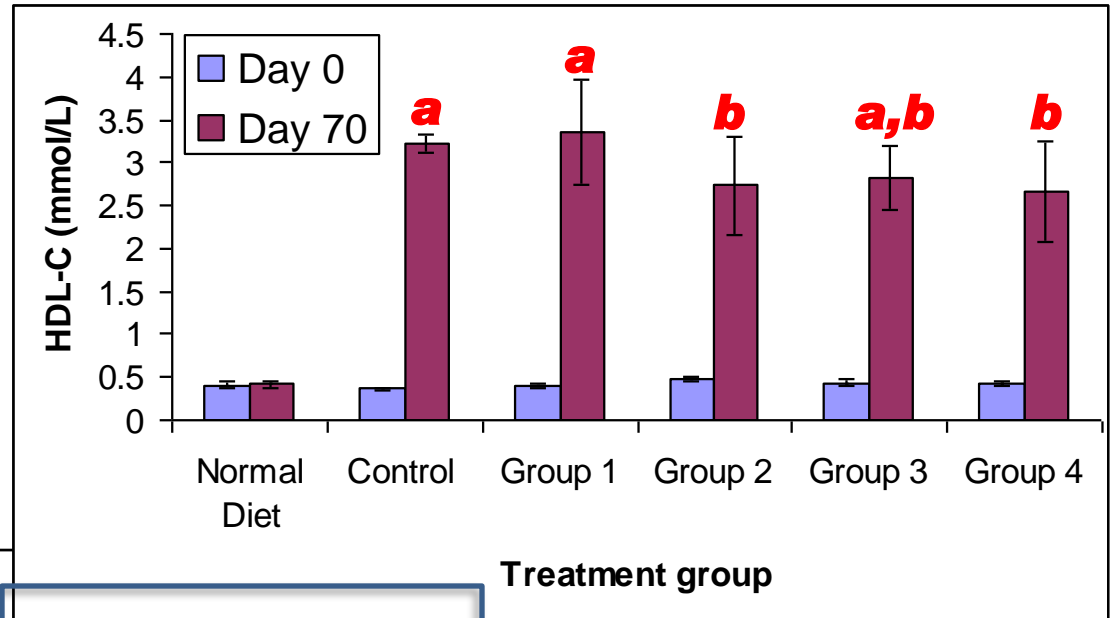
**Group 4:** 1% cholesterol + 35% BJP/kg/day

**Treatment**

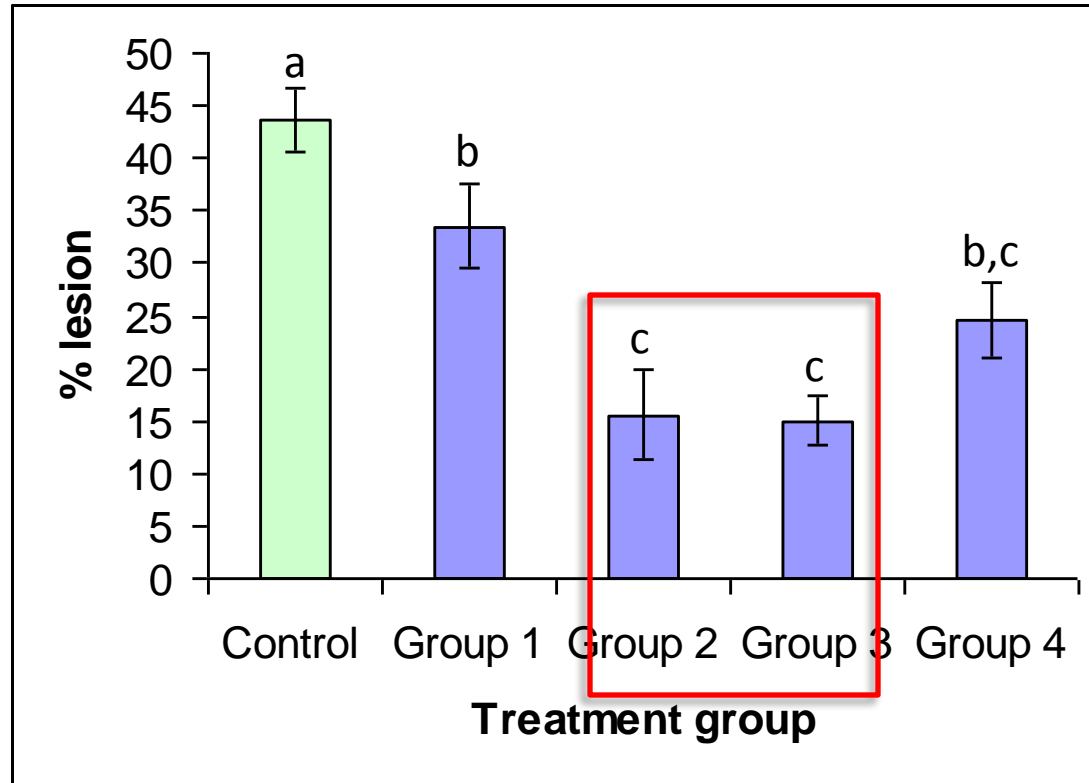




**Blood  
Lipids**

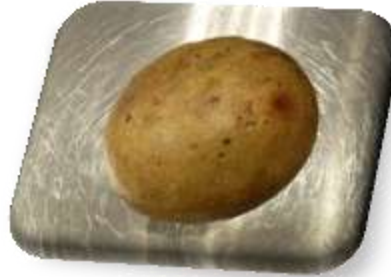


# Atherosclerotic Lesion



Control: Rabbits fed with 1% cholesterol without any treatment for 70 days;  
 Group 1: 1% cholesterol + 5% Bambangan juice power (BJP)/kg/day; Group 2:  
 1% cholesterol + 15% JP/kg/day; Group 3: 1% cholesterol + 25% JP/kg/day;  
 Group 4: 1% cholesterol + 35% JP/kg/day





50 g MPJP  
66 mg vit. C  
18 mg  $\beta$ -carotene





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## To examine the effects of Bambang juice powder (BJP) drink on:

Lipid profiles, MDA and antioxidant levels of **healthy subjects** (normal cholesterol level  $\leq 5.20$  mmol/l) in a **30-day cross-over, single-blind, placebo-controlled study**



250 ml BJP  
drink



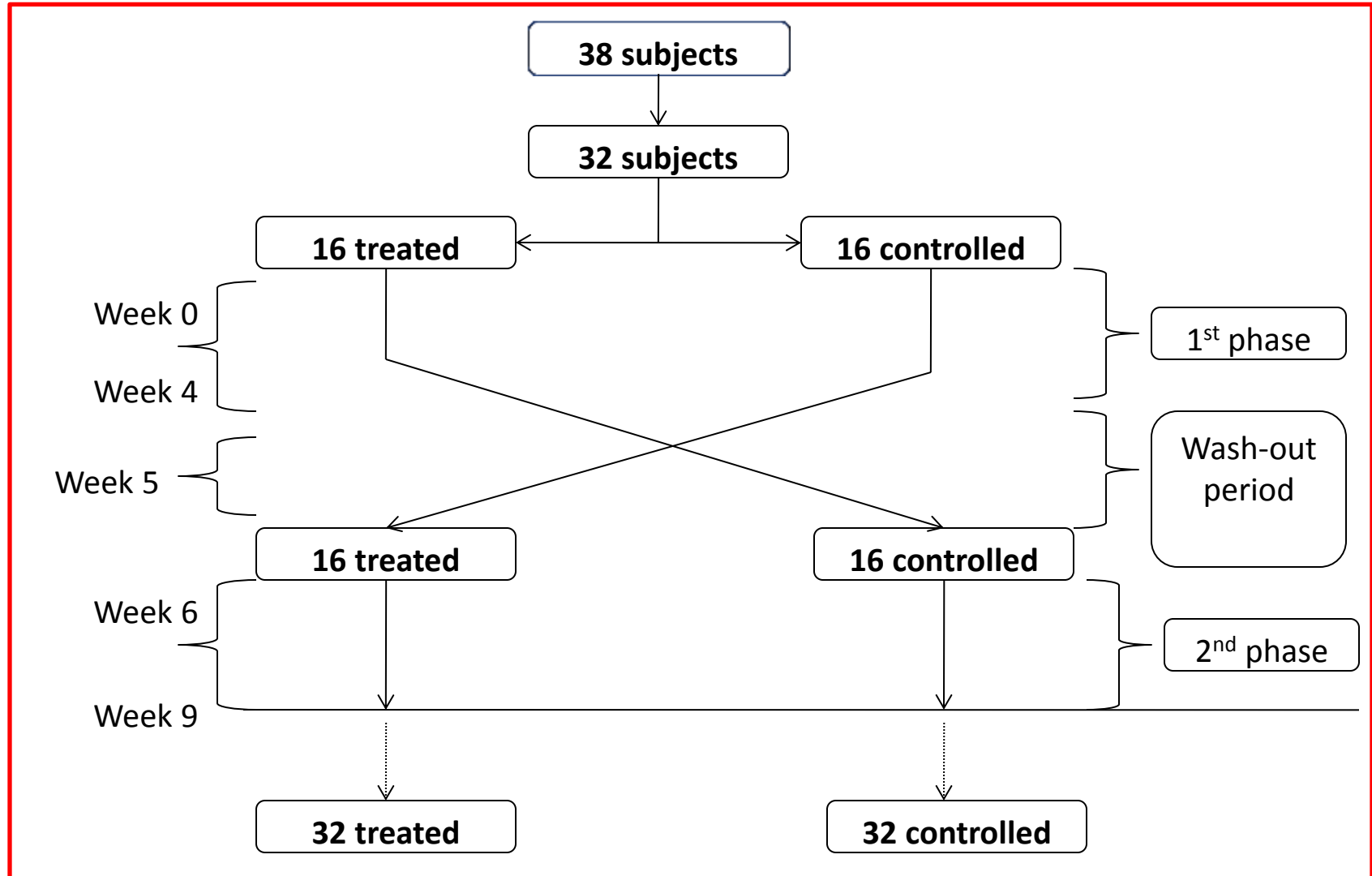
250 ml placebo  
drink



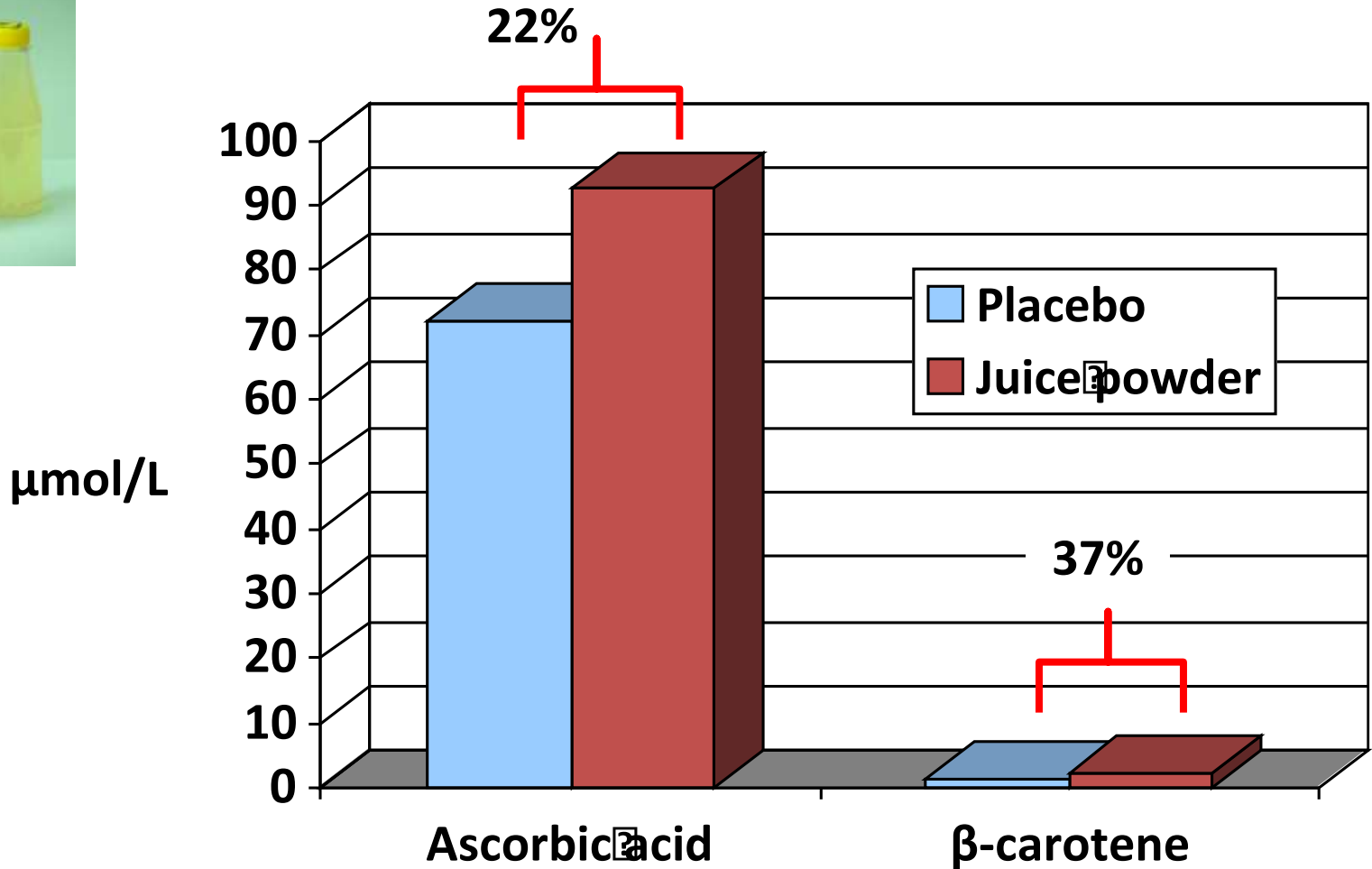
Source: Ibrahim (2010). PhD thesis



# Experimental Design



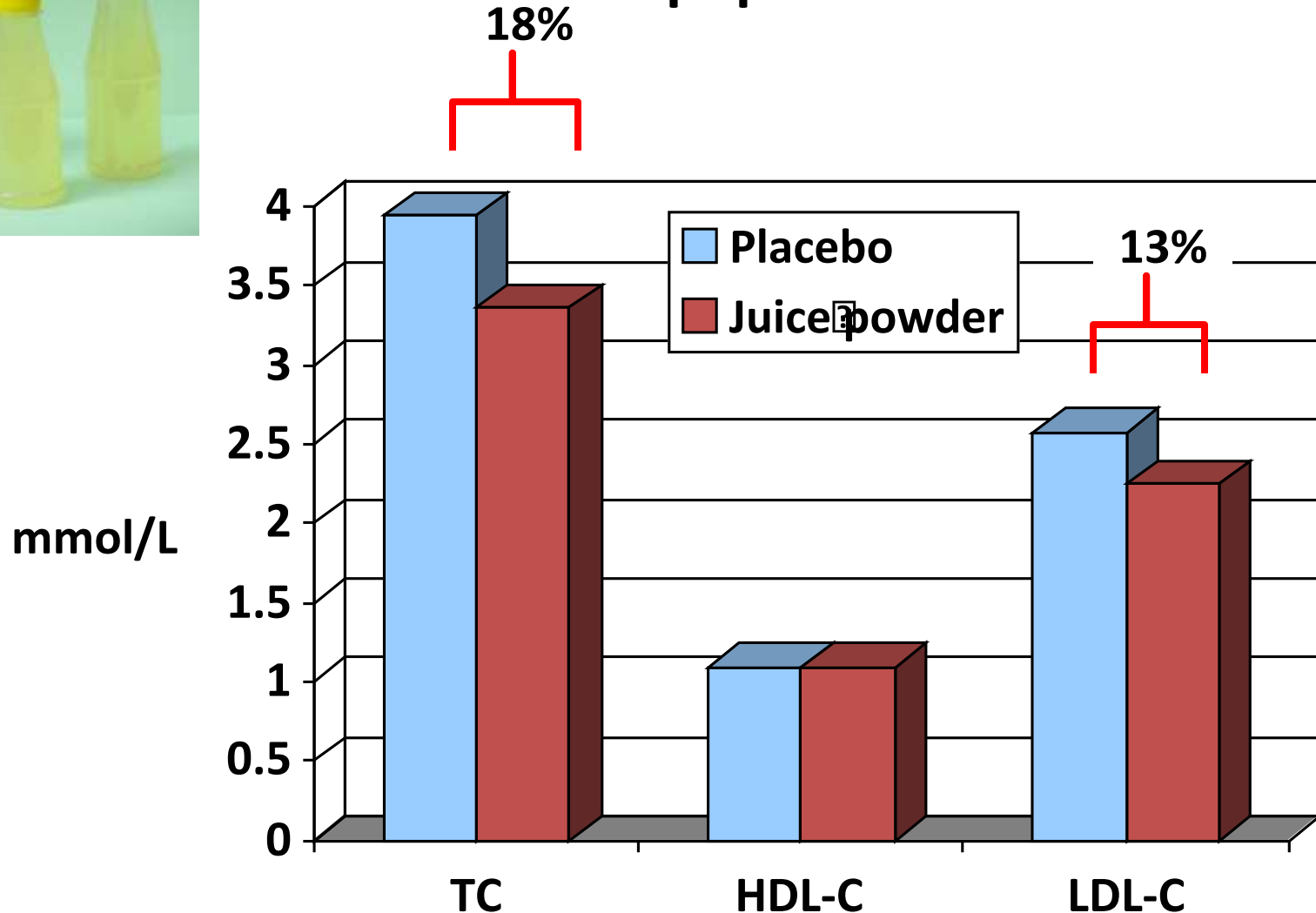
## Ascorbic acid and $\beta$ -carotene contents in plasma of the subjects supplemented with BJP





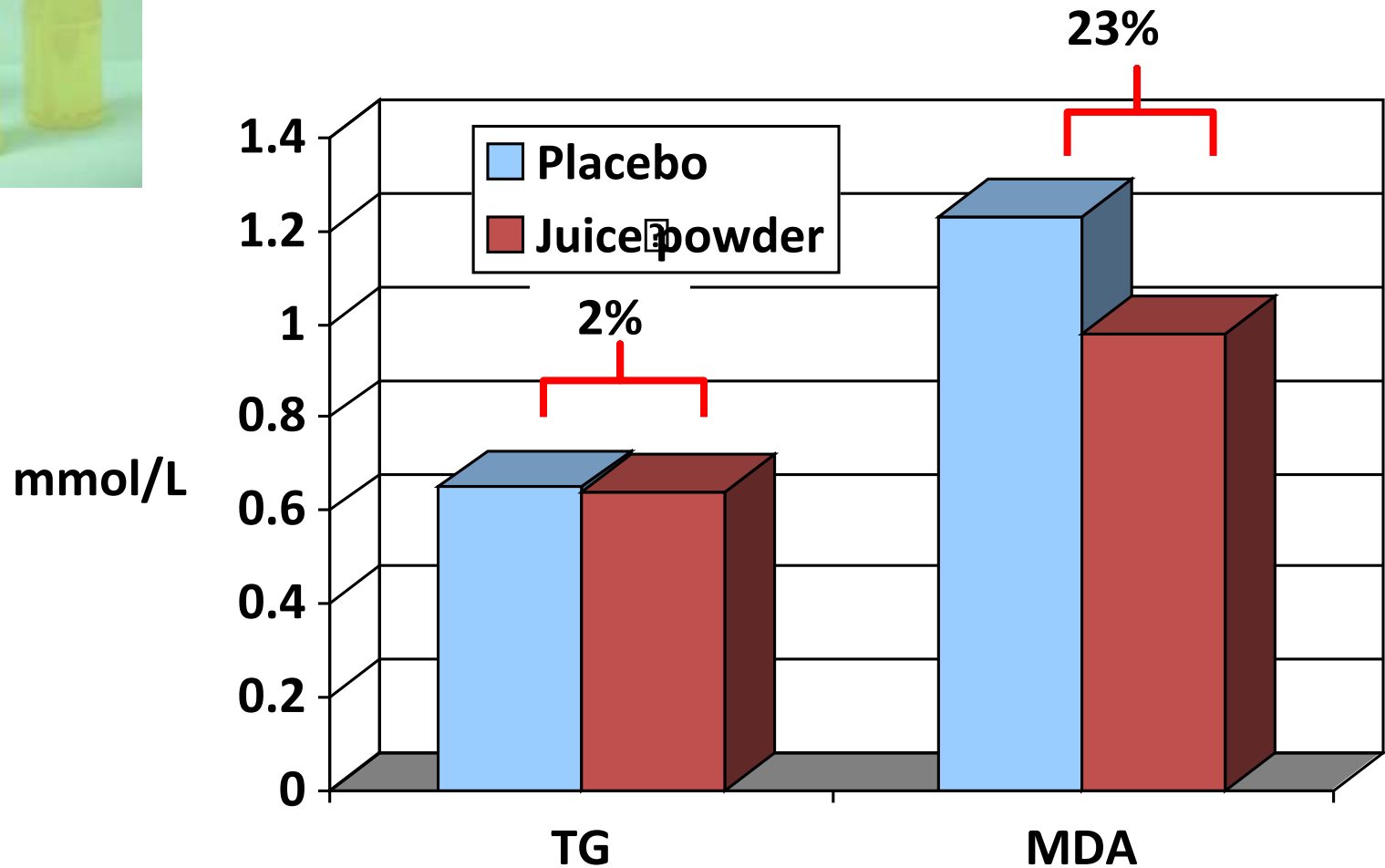


## Effect of BJP on plasma total cholesterol and lipoprotein levels

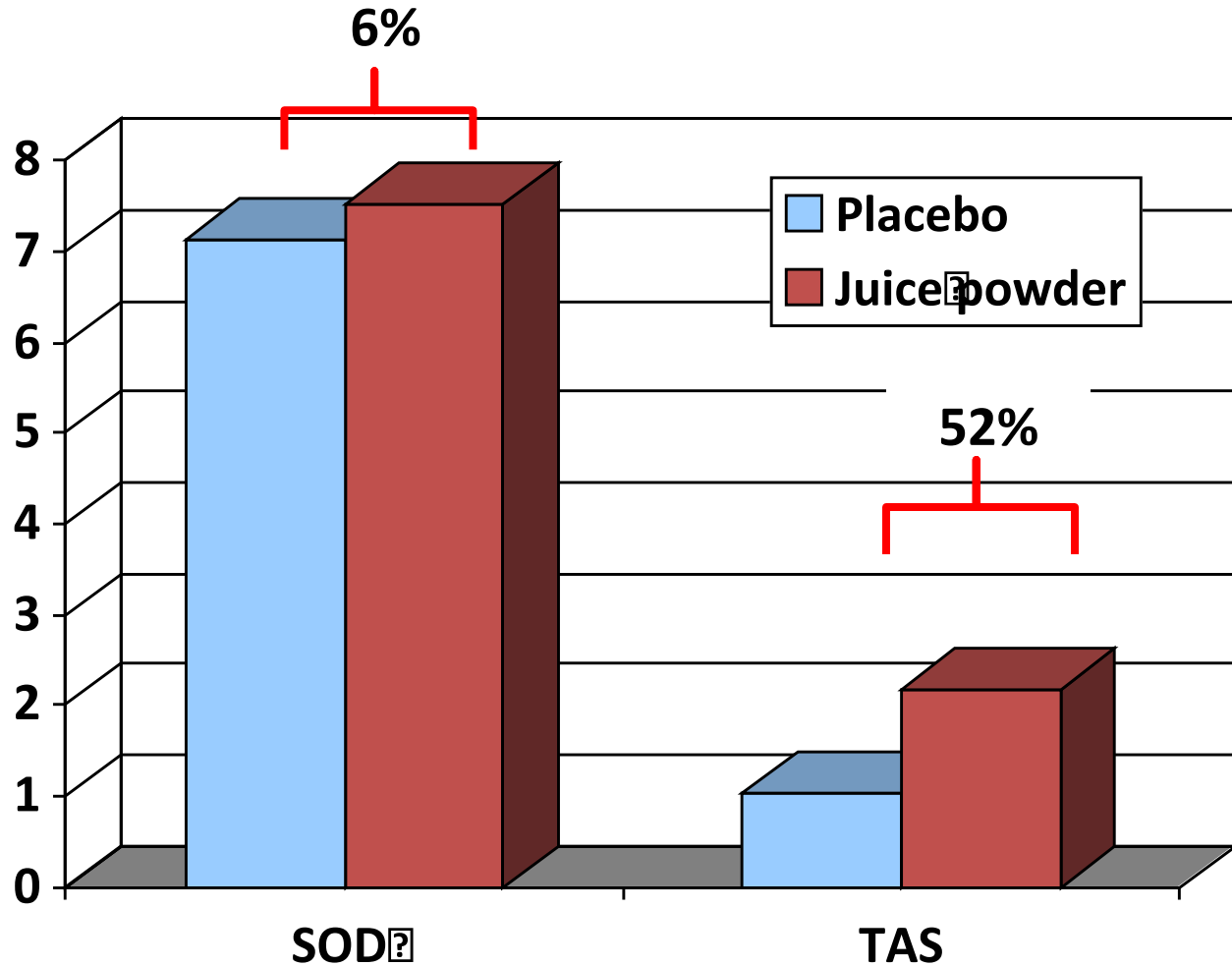




## Effect of BJP on TG and MDA levels



## Effect of BJP on plasma antioxidant status



**Note** SOD: Superoxide dimutase (U/mL)

TAS: Total antioxidant status (mmol/L)



## Conclusions

- **Bambangan fruit is rich in antioxidant compounds** (polyphenols, vitamin C and  $\beta$ -carotene).
- Its antioxidant properties shown significant effects on hypolipidemic and anti-atherosclerotic, especially BJP in animal and human studies.
- BJP supplemented group (normalcholesterolemic) had shown an increase in plasma TAS,  $\beta$ -carotene and ascorbic acid.



## Concluding remarks

- RDI on health-promoting components will help the food industry to create new products for wellbeing based on the scientific data of the tropical fruits.
- The safety and efficacy of such products on human subjects through randomized clinical trials are the ultimate before making health claims.
- Our underutilised 'super' fruits (UF) have a potential to be placed along with commercial & export fruits for dietary diversity, food security, poverty alleviation for rural communities.
- More research should be focused on UF
- We really need a balanced diet includes a variety of functional food component-rich food is important for the promotion of our health.



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Guava



Carambola  
"Star Fruit"



Mango



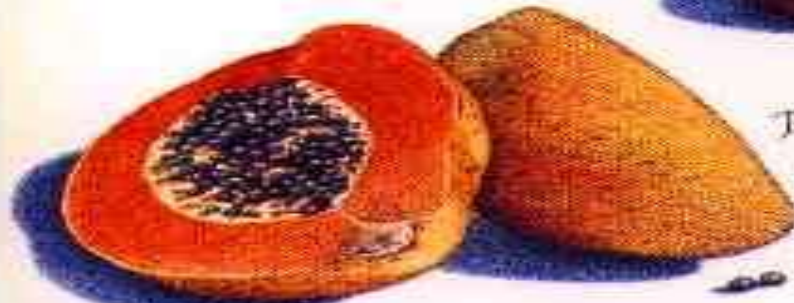
Cherimoya "Custard Apple"



Pepino

Thank you for your  
attention

Kiwano  
"Horned Melon"



Passion Fruit

Papaya

Pineapple

TROPICAL FRUIT