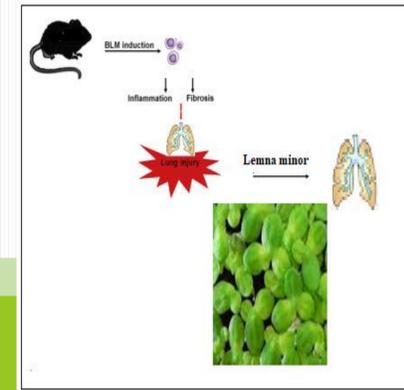


LEMNA MINOR L. EXTRACT AMELIORATE THE INTRACELLULAR C-REACTIVE PROTEIN AND ROS LEVELS IN PROGRESSIVE BLEOMYCIN-INDUCED PULMONARY FIBROSIS

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Introduction

The protective effect of Lemna minor L. (*L. minor*) roots extract to Bleomycin-induced progressive pulmonary fibrosis (BLM-PF) in mice was investigated. The LME (at 200 mg/mL concentration) antioxidant capacity were quantified by catalase-like activity (CAT), superoxide dismutase-like activity (SOD), total antioxidant capacity (TAC), DPPH absorption (98%) and DPPH radical-scavenging activity (97.3%), by using spectrophotometrical and EPR analysis.

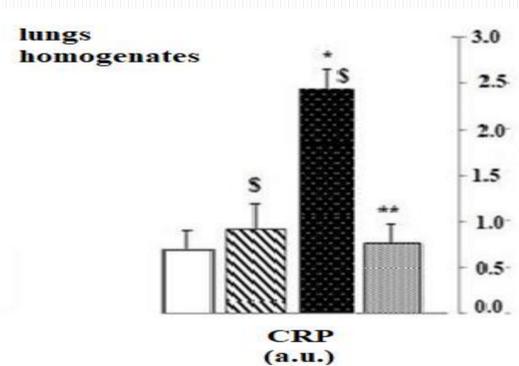
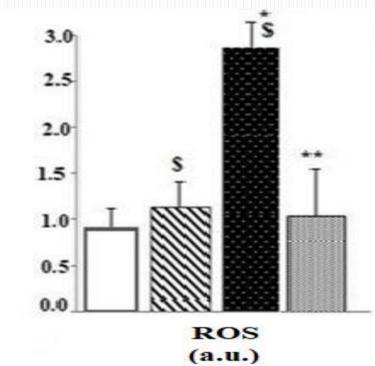
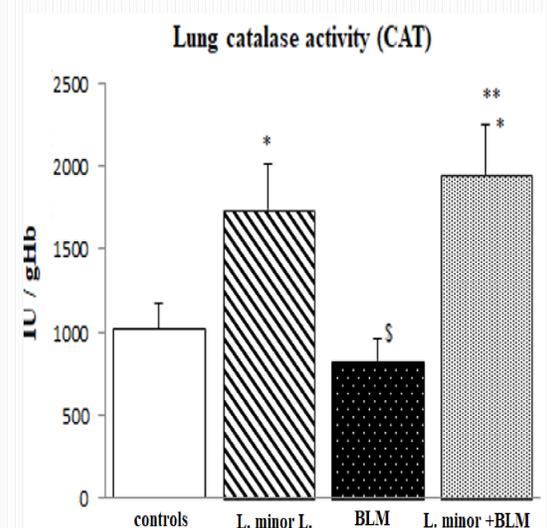
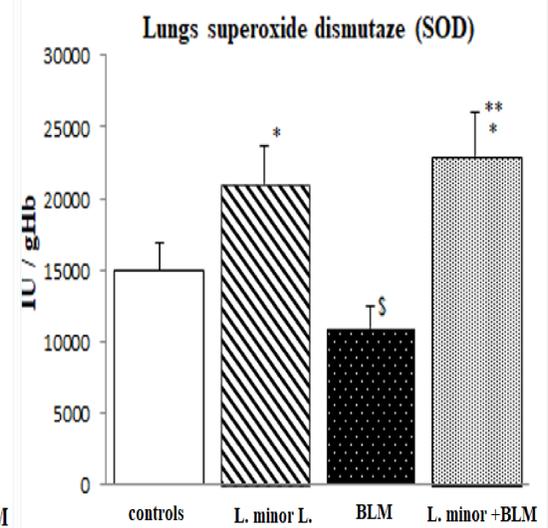
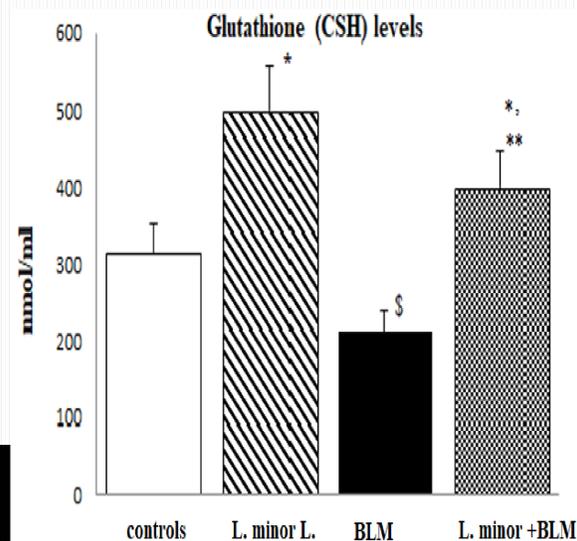
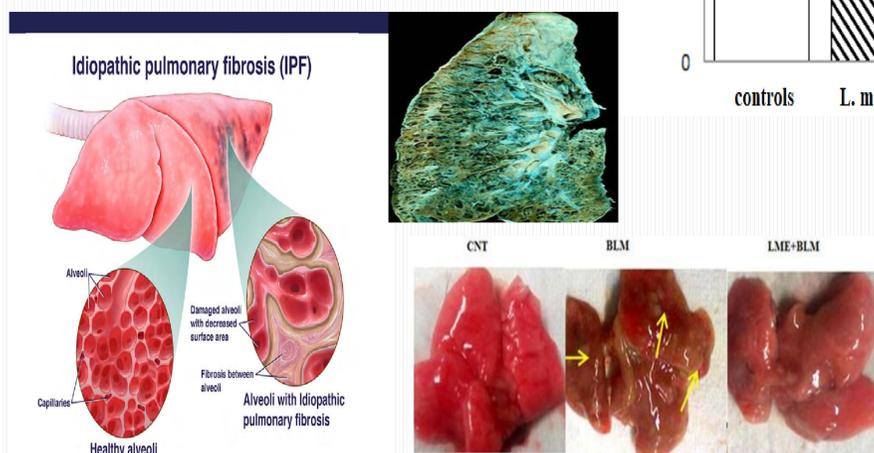
The progressive model (29 days) was used to investigate the BLM-PF; after 16 days of BLM-administration the PF were registered. Pulmonary toxicity was induced by intraperitoneal injection of animals once daily with BLM (0.069 U/mL; 0.29 U/kg bw; n=12 IRC/b mice) for 4 weeks. The *L. minor* was administered once a day, 4 weeks, 2h prior (200 mg/mL; 0.341 mg/kg/day; in n=6 IRC/b mice). The 4 groups were as follows: 1) control group- tap to water and normal food; 2) BLM- administration; 3) *L. minor* - administration; 4) *L. minor* protection + BLM- administration. The physiological status and behavior of animals were monitored daily and on the 30th day the mice were sacrificed (Nembutal 50 mg/kg i.p.). The lung samples were removed (pH=7.4, 4°C) and analyzed for biochemical parameters (SOD, CAT, GSH, GPX1, malondialdehyde (MDA)). C-reactive protein (CRP) was investigating by using Canine C-ELISA Kit- 557826-D. The ROS levels were measured by spin-adduct-reduction between phenyl N-tertiary-butyl nitron (PBN in DMSO) and generated radicals, by EPR-EMXmicro, X-band spectrometer after double integration of the corresponding spectra. The results present BLM-oxidative toxicity and statistically significant decrease in SOD (p<0.03), CAT (p<0.05) GPX1 (p<0.05) enzyme activity and two-fold increases in MDA (p<0.05), CRP (p<0.05) and ROS- levels (p=0.004), compared to group 1. In opposite in groups 3 and 4, the highly-toxic BLM-effects were significantly decreased for all parameters in pulmonary cells (p<0.05, t-test), relative to the controls. In conclusion, were indicated that *L. minor* treatment stimulates endogenous activity, and effectively reduced CRP-inflammation and scavenging ROS products. The positive correlation were registered between CRP and ROS (r=0.49, t-test). The *L. minor* ameliorates ROS-formations and neutralized the BLM-induced oxidative toxicity probably by suppressing the body/pulmonary cell residual inflammation processes.

Keywords: *L. minor*, BLM, CRP, ROS

- *proteins (up to 35%),
- *vegetable fibers (up to 17%),
- *fats (up to 5%),
- *polysaccharides,
- *flavonoids,
- *amino acids,
- *aliphatic acids,
- *phenolic acids,
- *triterpene compounds,
- *vitamins,
- *micro- and macro-elements
- *In Bulgarian Lemna were identify the presence of 32 biologically active substances
- *Phytosterols (52.8 mg/kg), saturated hydrocarbons (23.1 mg/kg), aldehydes and ketones (20.2 mg/kg), fatty acids and their derivatives (11.1 mg/kg)

Lemna minor-Antioxidant activity, %
catalase-like activity (CAT, 73%),
superoxide dismutase-like activity (SOD, 85%),
total antioxidant capacity (TAC, 70.22%),
DPPH absorption (>98%)

EPR analysis
DPPH radical-scavenging activity (97.3%)



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