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<u>TOP</u> > <u>Available Issues</u> > <u>Table of Contents</u> > Abstract

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## High *tert*-Butylperoxyl Radical Scavenging Activities of Sweet Potato Cultivars with Purple Flesh

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The *tert*-butylperoxyl radical (*t*-BuOO<sup>•</sup>) scavenging activities of ethanol extracts of 21 sweet potato cultivars with several flesh colors were examined using a *tert*-butyl hydroperoxide (*t*-BuOOH)/hemin/luminol system. Among them, sweet potato cultivars with purple flesh, which contained anthocyanins, had the highest *t*-BuOO<sup>•</sup> scavenging activities. Those cultivars with purple flesh also had the highest antioxidative activities against lipid peroxidation induced by auto-oxidation of linoleic acid. Most of the sweet potato cultivars with white, white-yellow, yellow and orange flesh had low *t*-BuOO<sup>•</sup> scavenging and antioxidative activities; however, some of them had higher activities. In all sweet potato cultivars tested, the *t*-BuOO<sup>•</sup> scavenging activities became higher with an increase in the total phenolic content.

Keywords: <u>t-BuOO-</u> scavenging activity, chemiluminescence intensity, antioxidative activity, lipid peroxidation, total phenolic content, anthocyanin, sweet potato

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