

Physiologic Investigation of frequent Administration of Aqueous Extract of *Raphia Hookeri* Fruit Pulp on Selected Reproductive Hormones in Female Wistar Rats

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Abstract: *This research is aimed at evaluating the effect of frequent consumption of aqueous extract of raphia hookeri fruit pulp on selected reproductive hormones in female Wistar rats. A total of 32 apparently healthy rats weighing 130g to 180g grouped into 4, group1 as control fed with distilled water and feed, group 2 given 500mg/kg, group3 given 1000mg/kg, group 4 given 2000mg/kg body weight of the extract for 28days. Animals sacrificed and blood samples taken for laboratory analysis, results analyzed using statistical tool SPSS version 21.0, one-way ANOVA, $P < 0.05$ considered significant, values expressed as mean, standard error of mean (SEM). Outcome displayed significant ($P > 0.05$) reduction in Estrogen levels in groups 2 (17.65 ± 1.25) and 3 (23.00 ± 0.00), but group 4 (43.15 ± 3.85) showed a significant increase when compared to control (37.00 ± 4.00). Follicle Stimulating Hormone levels in all treated groups did not indicate significant ($P > 0.05$) changes when compared to the control group (2.10 ± 0.30), however, group 4 (3.45 ± 1.15) showed a significant increase when compared to groups 2 (0.65 ± 0.25) and 3 (1.00 ± 0.10). No significant ($P > 0.05$) variations in luteinizing hormone levels when treated groups compared to the control group (1.40 ± 0.30), only group 4 (2.25 ± 0.15) indicated significant ($P < 0.05$) increase when compared to groups 2 (0.55 ± 0.45) and 3 (1.35 ± 0.15). Hence, it can be inferred that the frequent consumption of aqueous extract from *Raphia Hookeri* fruit pulp has the potential to alleviate female reproductive disorders associated with hormonal imbalances or dysfunctions*

Keywords: *Raphia Hookeri*