



## Vol. 15 (2020): Continuous Publication

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### Articles

#### **Café in small towns: A picture of the weakening social engagement**

Nino - Viartasiwi, Agus - Trihartono

e151687



PDF

#### **Sensory quality prediction of coffee assessed by physicochemical parameters and Multivariate model**

Laricia Oliveira Cardoso Domingues, Aline de Oliveira Garcia, Marcia Miguel Castro Ferreira, Marcelo Antônio Morgano

e151654



PDF

#### **Effect of Inf (cna - cnb) enzyme complex in the drying process and the coffee quality**

Kleso Silva Franco Júnior, Douglas Freitas Santos, Carlos Henrique da Silva, José Francisco Silva Neto, Giselle Prado Brigante, Leandro Carlos Paiva

e151677



PDF

**Physiological responses of *Coffea arabica* cultivars in association with arbuscular mycorrhizal fungi**

Rafaele de Sousa Cruz, Fausto Henrique Vieira Araújo, André Cabral França, Levy Tadin Sardinha, Caroline Maira Miranda Machado

e151641

 PDF

**The influence of natural fermentation on coffee drink quality**

Leandro Ferreira Bernardes Pereira, Camila Karen Reis Barbosa, Kleso Silva Franco Junior

e151673

 PDF

**Rooting biostimulants for *Coffea arabica* L. cuttings**

Hariana Paula Azevedo, Alex Mendonça Carvalho, Joyce Doria Rodrigues, Douglas Alves Vidal, Heloisa Oliveira Santos

e151635

 PDF

**Activity of robusta coffee on the expression of CRP and MMP-9 against hyperlipidemia**

Rendra Christedy Prasetya, Nadie Fatimatuzzahro, Widy Jatmiko

e151744

 PDF

**Screening for phosphate-solubilizing fungi from colombian andisols cultivated with coffee (*Coffea arabica* L.)**

Hernán González, Carmenza Esther Góngora, Rubén Darío Medina, Nelson Wálter Osorio

e151666

 PDF

## **Propagation of coffee conilon "Vitória" in conventional and alternative substrates**

Sávio da Silva Berilli, Rodrigo Amaro de Salles, Ramon Amaro de Sales, Alan Alvino Falcão Zooca, Helder Rodrigues Ribeiro, Ana Paula Candido Gabriel Berilli, Taiara Souza Costa, Tiago Pacheco Mendes, Waylson Zancanella Quartezeni

e151732

 PDF

## **Comparison of sensory attributes and chemical markers of the infrared spectrum between defective and non-defective Colombian coffee samples**

Yeison Fernando Barrios Rodriguez, Karen Tatiana Salas Calderon, Joel Giron Hernandez

e151659

 PDF

## **Evaluation of the effect of *Azospirillum brasilense* inoculation on arabic coffee seedlings**

Kleso Silva Franco Júnior, Camila Karen Reis Barbosa, Leonardo Caixeta da Silva

e151678

 PDF

## **Assessing potential plants extracts to reduce *Leucoptera coffeella* (Lepidoptera: Lyonetiidae) attack in coffee**

Thiago Luis Martins Fanela, José Paulo Franco Bentivenha, Edson Luiz Lopes Baldin, Alisson Silva Santana

e151653

 PDF

## **Soil attributes and coffee yield in an agroforestry system**

Máximo Gerardo Ochoa Jácome, José Ricardo Mantovani, Adriano Bortolotti da Silva, Tiago Teruel Rezende, Paulo Roberto Corrêa Landgraf

e151676

 PDF

## Coffee protects cardiovascular health by maintaining the structure of coronary arterial wall intimal collagen

I Dewa Ayu Ayu Susilawati, Suryono Suryono, Purwanto Purwanto, Juris Burlakovs, Abubakar Yaro

e151637

 PDF

## Technical and economic evaluation of different operating modes for mechanized fertilizer application in coffee plantations

Alan Delon Andrade, Gabriel Araújo e Silva Ferraz, Rafael de Oliveira Faria, Murilo Machado de Barros, Fábio Moreira da Silva, Daniele Sarri, Marco Vieri

e151748

 PDF

## Mathematical modeling of dehydration resistance of pericarp tissues and endosperm in fruits of arabic coffee

Camila de Almeida Dias, Ednilton Tavares de Andrade, Isabella Ávila Lemos, Flavio Meira Borém, Diogo Nogueira Westerich, Ana Claudia Almeida da Silva

e151670

 PDF

## Agronomic performance of coffee in response to framework pruning in cycles of the "safra zero"

Pedro Lage Maia, Denis Silva Nadaleti, Cesar Botelho, Deila Botelho, Priscila Moreira, Gladyston Carvalho

e151629

 PDF

## Using unmanned aerial vehicle and machine learning algorithm to monitor leaf nitrogen in coffee

Ronaldo Luiz Mincato, Taya Cristo Parreiras, Guilherme Henrique Expedito Lense, Rodrigo Santos Moreira, Derielsen Brandão Santana

e151736

 PDF

# Activity of robusta coffee on the expression of CRP and MMP-9 against hyperlipidemia

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## ABSTRACT

Hyperlipidemia especially LDL accumulation causing inflammation in blood vessel. CRP and MMP-9 are component that triggering in inflammation process. This study to know activity of robusta coffee against hyperlipidemia on this component. This study using male wistar rats were divided into three groups ; normal, hyperlipidemia and that were given coffee with high fat diet groups. Robusta coffee was given  $3.6 \times 10^{-6} \text{ m}^3$  by intragastric gavage. Blood collection was carried out using infra-orbital for analysis of LDL levels. Furthermore, the experimental animals were sacrificed and coronary arteries were taken for CRP and MMP-9 immunohistochemical staining. Data were analyzed using ANOVA followed LSD test. Results show The highest expression score for CRP and MMP-9 within the hyperlipidemia group was  $188.27 \pm 1.8$  and  $277.56 \pm 2.1$ . The decrease in the expression score of CRP and MMP-9 happened within the ones that were given coffee with  $59.33 \pm 1.5$  and  $116.7 \pm 0.2$  each. Results showed that were differences in the expression of CRP and MMP-9 in all groups ( $p < 0.05$ ). In conclusion, activity robusta coffee can decreases the expression of CRP and MMP-9 against hyperlipidemia.

**Key words:** Coronary disease; hyperlipidemia; robusta coffee.

## 1 INTRODUCTION

Hyperlipidemia is a condition where the High Density Lipoprotein (HDL) decreases and cholesterol levels, triglycerides and Low Density Lipoprotein (LDL) increase (Anthony et al., 2012). The phenomena caused LDL accumulation on the blood vessel wall, causing oxidative stress, which would decrease the bio-availability of Nitric Oxide (NO) and increase the Reactive Oxygen Species (ROS).

The increasing level of ROS will cause the oxidation of LDL and turn it into ox-LDL which, then, will be processed as a foreign object that induced the CRP secretion, which is an acute phase within the liver Chung, Makambi and Soldin (2014), Bentzon (2014). CRP functions during the opsonization mechanism of oxLDL, triggering the phagocytosis process and forming foam cells (Calabro; Golia; Yeh, 2009). The accumulation of foam cell will form fibro-fatty lesion which then mature and form a mature atherosclerotic plaque (*fibrous cap*). *Fibrous cap* consists of two main components: the center rich in lipids and the extracellular matrix, that contains collagen and protein (Bentzon, 2014). CRP also induce MMP-9 secretion with the endothelium cell (Fonseca; Lima; Couto, 2014).

The result of the research shows that there is an escalation of *matrix metalloproteinase-9* (MMP-9) expression, in addition to the core of fibrous cap (Yabluchanskiy, 2012). MMP-9 has a role in the degradation of collagen and elastin, immune response stimulation during the early stage of pathogenesis and disease progression, sitokin and kemokin activity. The higher MMP-9, the thinner the matrix extracellular component (collagen) in the fibrous cap which will cause the fibrous cap to

become unstable and rupture (Newby, 2015). The phenomena can cause various complications such as coronary disease, when the coronary artery ruptures until antioxidant substance that can be found in coffee is needed.

Coffee contains phytopharmaceutical substances that may potentially act as antioxidants. There are various types of coffee that contain phytopharmaceutical substances, one of them is Robusta, that which has more fitofarmaka more phytopharmaceutical substances than others (Farah, 2012). Robusta coffee contains several alkaloids and polifenol substances such as caffeine, *chlorogenic acid* (CGAs), *ferulic acid* (FA), and *Dihydrocaffeic acid* (DHCA) (Farah, 2012). Caffeine has the effect to enhance the cell migration of the endothelium and re-endotheliumination, CGAs acts as an anti-tumor and MMP-9 inhibitor, FA acts as a potent antioxidant; DHCA acts as an MMP-2 inhibitor and MMP-9 for the cerebral ischemic rats model (Lee; Lee; Bu, 2015; Silva; Batista, 2017; Fang et al., 2012). Based on the explanation, the writers aim to find out the effect of Robusta coffee on CRP and MMP-9 expression against hyperlipidemia.

## 2 MATERIAL AND METHODS

This research has the ethical clearance from the ethical committee of the Faculty of Dentistry of University of Jember No. 256/UN25.8/KEPK/DL/2019. The material of this research were follows : fifteen of 2-3 month male wistar rats (LPPT UGM, Yogyakarta) were randomly divided into three groups. One, control group was fed with normal food (*Feedmill-Malindo*, Gresik), second is hyperlipidemia group was fed with high fat diet food. High fat diet food making is

### 3 RESULTS

#### 3.1 CRP and MMP-9 Expression

done by mixing 0,003 kg of pig fat and 0,002 kg of duck egg yolk (Harsa, 2014), and the third group is coffee group was fed with high fat diet food and coffee solution  $3.6 \times 10^{-6} \text{ m}^3$ . Coffee powder (*PTPN XII, Jember*) solution making by conversion coffee dose in humans. After the conversion is done, the rats are given  $18 \text{ kg} \cdot \text{m}^{-3}$  ground coffee were diluted into boiling water ( $100 \text{ }^\circ\text{C}$ ). Experimental animals were grouped into three groups: control group, hyperlipidemia and coffee group. Both groups with hyperlipidemia and those given coffee were treated with a high-fat diet, with  $5 \times 10^{-6} \text{ m}^3$  every morning using intragastric gavage. Subsequently, the ones given coffee with  $3.6 \times 10^{-6} \text{ m}^3$  by intragastric gavage too. After 4 weeks, the experimental animals were anesthetized using Ketamine HCl (*Phzer Co*). Then, euthanasia was then carried out and the coronary artery was taken by the cardiac surgery. The process of coronary artery extraction was done carried out by taking a longitudinal cut below 3 mm from the atrial and ventricular border (Eckman et al., 2013). The heart organ was fixed into PBS (Phosphate Buffer Saline/*Sigma*) solution for 24 h. The next step was the histochemical process, before cutting the liquid paraffin. Immunolocalization of CRP and MMP-9 expression using CRP kit antibody (1:200 dilution, *Santa Cruz*<sup>®</sup>) and MMP-9 kit antibody (1:400 dilution, *Santa Cruz*<sup>®</sup>), DAB (Diaminobenzidine/Daco), HRP (horseradish peroxidase) and was left for one night at  $4 \text{ }^\circ\text{C}$ . After this, the object was then observed under a microscope with 400x magnification. Expressions of CRP and MMP-9 were calculated using histo score (h-score) (Indriani; Saputra; Maker, 2017).

#### 2.1 Statistical Analysis

Result are reported as mean  $\pm$  standart deviation. Differences between groups were compared using ANOVA test.  $P < 0.05$  was followed LSD test.

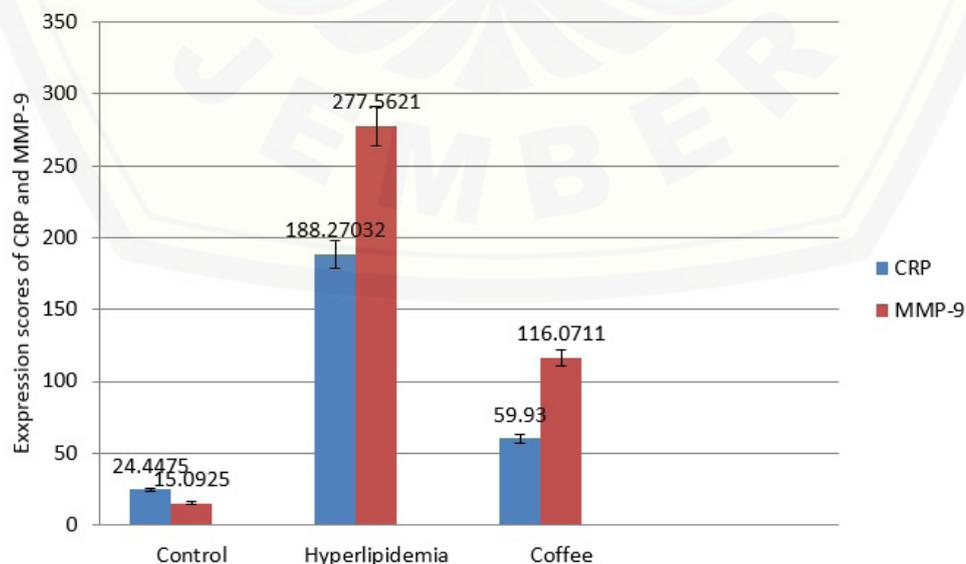
CRP and MMP-9 expression scores were measured using the H-score showing on average, the highest CRP and MMP-9 expression was found in the group with hyperlipidemia with  $188.27 \pm 1.88$  and  $277.56 \pm 0.48$  each. For the groups to which coffee was given, a decline towards the number of  $59.33 \pm 1.50$  and  $116.07 \pm 1.02$  was observed to the average CRP and MMP-9 expression of the control group (Figure 1).

The highest expression of CRP and MMP-9 was found in the hyperlipidemia group which was characterized by a deeper brown color intensity than the control group and the coffee treatment group. The lightest brown color occurred within the control group, while in the coffee treatment group there is was a touch of brown with moderate intensity (Figure 2).

One Way Anova test result had a significant value ( $p < 0.05$ ), which shows a significant difference in the CRP and MMP-9 expression scores in all groups (Table 1). To determine the difference in CRP and MMP-9 expression scores between treatment groups, a post hoc LSD test was performed. The LSD test showed a significant difference between all treatment groups ( $p < 0.05$ ).

### 4 DISCUSSION

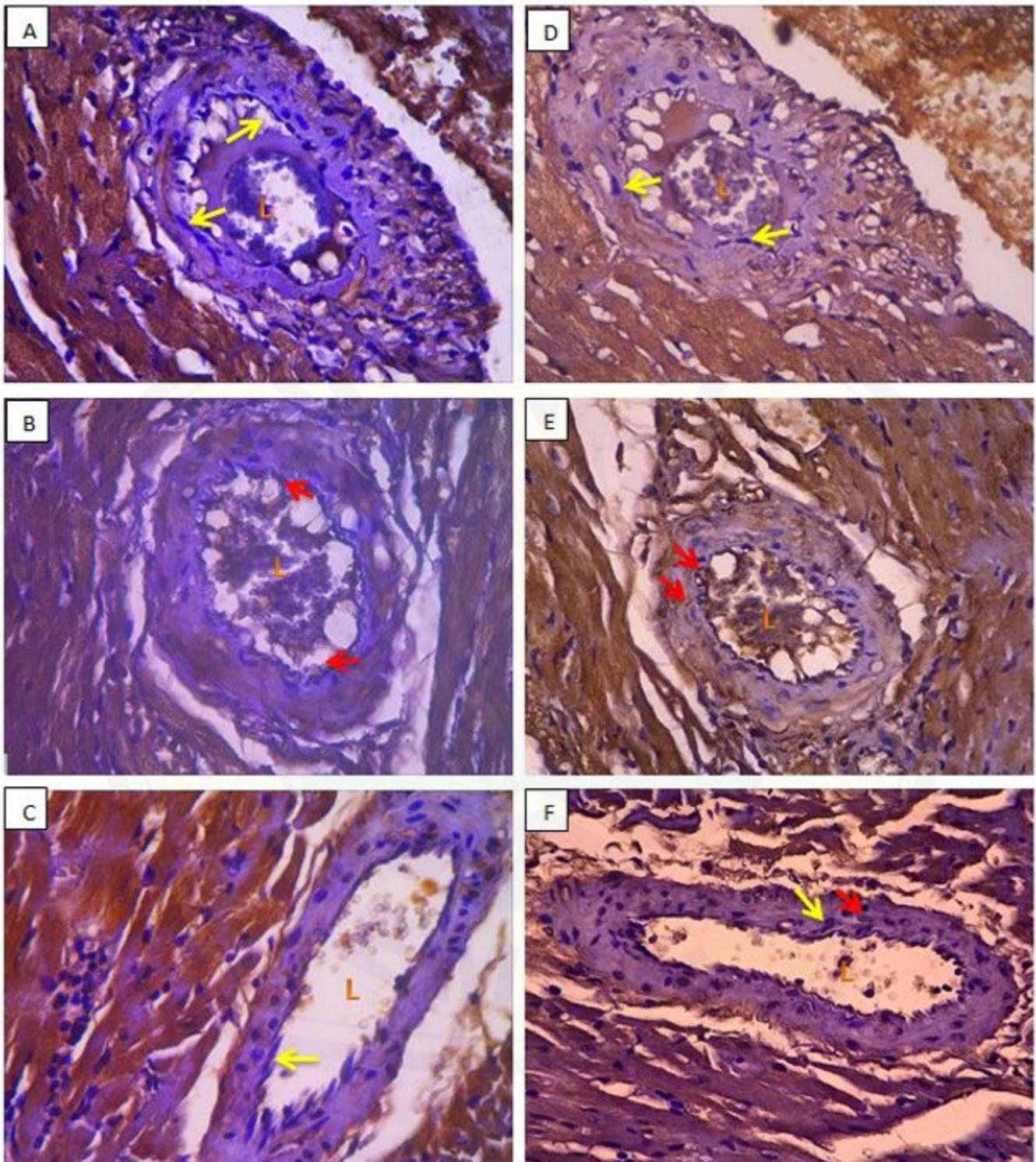
The result of this study shows that there is an increase in LDL levels in the hyperlipidemia group compared to the coffee treatment group and the control group. This condition occurs due to the deposit of lipids in hepatocytes are metabolized into triglycerides and cholesterol esters. Cholesterol esters in LDL will be carried to the liver and steroidogenic tissues such as the



**Figure 1:** CRP and MMP-9 expression scores using H-Score.

adrenal glands, testicles, and ovaries that have LDL cholesterol receptors. Some LDL cholesterol will experience oxidation

which will trigger an inflammatory response (Sudoyo et al., 2010).



**Figure 2:** An immunohistochemical description of coronary artery preparations with an-adjustment of 400 x. CRP expression is shown in figures (A), (B), and (C). MMP-9 expression is shown in figures (D), (E), and (F). Control group (A) and (D), hyperlipidemia group (B) and (E), and treatment groups of coffee (C) and (F). The yellow arrow shows endothelium cells that do not express CRP and MMP-9, while the red arrow shows endothelium cells that express CRP and MMP-9. Description: L (lumen).

**Table 1:** Summary ANOVA test result CRP and MMP-9 expression score.

	Sum of Squares	df	Mean Square	F	Sig.
CRP Between groups	75393.140	2	37696.570	4.08453	.000
Within Groups	83.080	9			
Total	75476.220	11			
MMP 9 Between groups	140122.562	2	70061.281	3.67554	.000
Within Groups	17.158	9	1.906		
Total	140139.720	11			

Based on the result of this study, it seems that the CRP and MMP-9 expression are the most intense in the endothelium cells when the artery group with hyperlipidemia is given a high-fat diet. Increased expression of CRP and MMP-9 occurs as a result of continuous inflammation by ox-LDL. The inflammatory process that occurs begins with an increase in Reactive Oxygen Species (ROS) and a decrease in the bioavailability of Nitric Oxide (NO) so that endothelium cells experience dysfunction and increased permeability. This causes LDL to oxidize to form oxLDL (Wu et al., 2017). The process, will trigger CRP secretion by hepatocyte cells (Chung; Makambi; Soldin, 2014).

CRP plays an active role in endothelium dysfunction and the formation and development of atherosclerotic plaques, where it has been found in atherosclerotic plaques. CRP performs down-regulated transcription of endothelial nitric oxide (NO) synthase (eNOS) in endothelium cells, resulting in a decrease in the amount of released NO. This inhibition of NO production facilitates apoptotic endothelium cells. CRP also regulates intercellular adhesionmolecular 1 (ICAM-1), VCAM-1, and E-selectin adhesion molecules. Besides, CRP stimulates the migration and proliferation of vascular smooth muscle cells, neointimal formation, and ROS production. Another mechanism by which CRP actively participates in atheroma formation is facilitating through the opsonization of LDL by macrophages which then becomes foam cells and develops into atheroma plaques (Montero et al., 2006; Cardoso; Paulos, 2017). CRP can induce MMP-9 secretion by smooth muscle cells that cause instability in atheroma plaques (Fonseca; Lima; Couto, 2014).

Decreased expression of CRP and MMP-9 occurs in the coffee treatment group compared to the hyperlipidemia group. Decreased expression of CRP and MMP-9 in the coffee treatment group is suspected due to the content of phytopharmaceutical compounds found in coffee. Chlorogenic acid (CGAs) has an anti-inflammatory effect by inhibiting the secretion of pro-inflammatory cytokines in PBMC (Peripheral Blood Mononuclear Cells) (Krakauer, 2002). Chlorogenic acid (CGAs) plays an important role as an anti-tumor agent through

inhibition of MMP-9 and it has been proven to inhibit MMP-9 (Marco; Fischer; Henle, 2011; Jin et al., 2005). Based on the results of existing studies, it is proven that CGAs and caffeine are effective in inhibiting the signals of PKD, IKK, NF-kB and IL-8 which are inflammatory pathways through the binding of intracellular ROS. In addition, the mechanism of CGAs and kefins in inhibiting MMP-9 expression is related to other transduction signals such as antioxidant and redox signaling pathways, which can increase HO-1 (Heme Oxygenase-1) and NQO-1 regulation (NAD (P) H dihydrogenase), which are antioxidant enzymes and have been known to act as a protector of endothelium cells against oxidative stress. The regulatory mechanisms of HO-1 and NQO-1 occur through activation of Nrf-2 (Nuclear factor erythroid 2-related factor 2) and Akt phosphorylation which is also known as kinase-B proteins (Shin et al., 2017).

Another coffee component, ferulic acid, inhibits the expression of CRP and MMP-9 through 5 main pathways by direct binding to ROS, stabilizing unstable molecules by donating one electron, inhibiting oxidative enzymes, such as xanthine oxidase, protein kinase C, and others resulting in a reduction in ROS production, binding of transition metals such as Fe<sup>2+</sup> and Cu involved in the conversion of O<sub>2</sub> and H<sub>2</sub>O into free radicals, and repairing damage that occurs in cells such as damage to membrane lipids, proteins, and deoxyribonucleic acid (DNA) cells (Silva; Batista, 2017). The mechanism of inhibition of free radicals by ferulic acid causes inhibition of the pro-inflammatory secretion of cytokines so that it can reduce the expression of CRP and MMP-9 in endothelium cells in the intima of the rats' coronary artery (Fang et al., 2012; Lampiasi; Montana, 2016). Another coffee substance that has positive effects is dihydrocaffeic acid (DHCA). Based on existing in vitro studies showing that DHCA at a concentration of 100 µg.mL<sup>-1</sup> can inhibit MMP-9 and MMP-2 in the mouse model of cerebral ischemia (Lee; Lee; Bu, 2015).

MMP-9 expression in the control group is lower than that in the hyperlipidemia group and coffee treatment group. This happens since the control group is the only one that is

given a standard diet so that LDL does not occur in the intima tunica. In general, under normal conditions MMP-9 is also secreted to normal limit but if there is inflammation there will be an increase in MMP-9 (Wulandari et al., 2016).

The LSD test result shows a significant difference between groups. A significant difference between the coffee treatment group and the hyperlipidemia group shows that coffee intake can reduce MMP-9 expression. Decreasing MMP-9 expression occurs due to the coffee content which has anti-inflammatory and anti-oxidant effects.

## 5 CONCLUSION

Robusta coffee can reduce the expression of CRP and MMP-9 in coronary artery endothelium cells that are induced by hyperlipidemia.

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