antibacterial agents, systematic studies should be implemented so they can be further applicable.

Presently, there have been many reported cases about food poisoning due to fungal toxins (Lattanzio et al. 2007; Visconti et al. 2007). Fungal poisoning may lead to vomiting, abdominal pain, pulmonary oedema, convulsions, coma and, in extreme cases, death by cerebral oedema and the fatty involvement of the liver, kidneys and heart. The expression of these diseases may be influenced by age, sex, nutritional status and continuous exposure to the causative agents. Also, there are occurrences of carcinogenicity due to chronic intake of these fungal toxins (International Crops Research Institute for the Semi-Arid Tropics 2000). An extended study on the fungal toxicity will be helpful to understand the level of action of these plant-based extracts. Fungal broth with plant extracts may give diverse responses. The toxins extracted from the fungus can be determined by comparing with standard toxins through HPLC profiling (Zachariazova et al. 2010). Fungal mycelium can also be used to analyse the enzymatic levels and the RNA content and thus gene expression. This enables us to know how the changes occur, and the cause of the difference in growth and toxin levels.

Lamiaceae, or the mint family, is one of the well-known angiospermic families with about 236 genera, and more than 7000 species distributed over the Mediterranean to Central Asia. The most common genera of Lamiaceae are *Salvia, Thymus, Leucas, Ocimum, Plectranthus, Anisomeles, Pogostemon, Rosmarinus, Lavendula, Mentha*, etc. They are mainly used for flavouring, medicinal, culinary and perfumery purposes (Naghibi et al. 2010). The medicinal properties of the plants are widely studied, and many products have also been designed from them. The plants of this family possess anti-inflammatory, analgesic, antipyretic, antifertility, immunoprotective, antimicrobial, antiallergic, antioxidant, cardioprotective, antistress and wound healing activities (Joudi et al. 2011; Raja 2012).

Due to the presence of large amounts of bioactive components (George et al. 2016; Muniyandi et al. 2017), Lamiaceae members are widely used for therapeutic preparations. The genus *Pogostemon* consists of more than 85 species. *Pogostemon* is widely celebrated under the banner of patchouli oil. This is an essential oil extracted from *Pogostemon cablin*. The therapeutic effects of *Pogostemon* include antimicrobial, analgesic, anti-inflammatory, aphrodisiac, antidepressant, wound healing and insect repellent properties; and can be used to treat skin infections, diarrhoea, colds, fevers, kidney stones, piles, uterine hemorrhaging, snakebites, etc. (Ashwini et al. 2013). *Pogostemon mollis* Benth. is a medicinal plant of this genus. It is present mainly in the Western Ghats at an altitude above 6000 ft (Gamble 1915). This plant is used by the tribes of India for the treatment of many neurological disorders, for wound healing, etc. (Oudhia, 2012a,b). *P. mollis* is an aromatic plant which contains odoriferous and volatile substances which occur as essential oils in foliage and the plant's aerial parts (Rao et al. 2006). The other species of this genus are widely studied and many herbal products have already been marketed.