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ARTICLE INFORMATION	Fill in information in each box below
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Article Title (within 20 words without abbreviations)	Antioxidant, anti-inflammatory, anti-adipogenesis activities and proximate composition of <i>Hermetia illucens</i> larvae reared on food waste enriched with different wastes
Running Title (within 10 words)	Bioactivity of <i>H. illucens</i> extract reared on different organic wastes
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8 **Abstract**

9 The use of insects as a food source is not a new idea, but it has gained momentum in recent years due to the  
10 need for sustainable protein source in livestock feedstuffs and for more environmentally friendly organic  
11 waste treatment. In the case of black soldier fly larvae, *Hermetia illucens*, research has focused on their  
12 ability to convert organic waste into usable nutrients and their potential as a protein source for animal and  
13 human consumption. In this study, black soldier fly larvae were reared on raw food waste (FW) mixed with  
14 garlic peel waste (G) and hydroponic growth media waste (H) and the proximate composition and bioactive  
15 potential of black soldier fly larvae extract (SFL) were compared. Analysis showed that protein content of  
16 SFL fed with G was 4.21% higher and lipid content was 9.93% lower than FW. Similar results were  
17 obtained for SFL fed with H. Antioxidant activity of SFL-G was higher than that of SFL-FW and SFL-H.  
18 SFL-G treatment exhibited enhanced anti-inflammatory and anti-adipogenesis activities as well compared  
19 to SFL-FW. Current results suggested that feeding black soldier fly larvae with food waste added with  
20 garlic peel and hydroponic growth media waste resulted in increased nutritional value, polyphenol content  
21 and bioactivity for SFLs. In this context, garlic peel waste-added food waste was suggested a promising  
22 substrate for black soldier fly larvae to obtain high-quality protein source with enhanced antioxidant, anti-  
23 inflammatory and anti-adipogenic potential.

24

25 **Keywords:** Adipogenesis, antioxidant, anti-inflammatory, black soldier fly, *Hermetia illucens*, garlic peel.

26

27

## 28 Introduction

29 The food demand is steadily increasing parallel to increasing population and improved living standards  
30 along with quantity of food waste which causes a worldwide problem [1]. The demand for food is estimated  
31 to increase by more than 60% in 30 years, globally [2,3]. Coupled with changes in diets towards more  
32 animal-based products such as fish, milk and egg, future holds a great deal of need for livestock, poultry,  
33 and fishing [4]. Therefore, protein shortage is a global concern as sustainable animal husbandry depends  
34 on procurement of protein raw materials to be used in animal feed [5]. Up to date, the main ingredient for  
35 animal feed which is rich in protein is soybean meal. However, soybean cultivation comes with several  
36 problems such as diminishing land availability, deforestation, and threats to biodiversity [6,7]. Moreover,  
37 both soybean cultivation and other conventional sources of protein are being economically unfavorable as  
38 the cost of animal feeds allocate approximately 70% of total husbandry costs [8]. This led researchers to  
39 focus their efforts to alternative protein sources which are comparably less damaging to environment and  
40 provides quality protein.

41 In this context, using insects has gained momentum in recent years due to the increasing need for  
42 sustainable protein sources [9]. Although the use of insects as a food source is not a new idea and insects  
43 have been part of a diet in some cultures worldwide for centuries, approval of the use of insect protein in  
44 animal feed by governments and relevant agencies has opened the door for more widespread utilization of  
45 insects in both research and industrial fields [10,11]. Studies showed that insects are indeed promising  
46 protein sources with high-quality protein content among other essential nutrients such as vitamins and  
47 minerals [12-14]. Recent studies showed that although chicken feed prepared with insect meals resulted in  
48 altered products, it showed potential to replace chicken feed prepared with soybean meal [15]. Similarly,  
49 Toral et al. showed that insect-based protein rich ruminant feeds were comparable to traditional soybean  
50 meal-based feed and among four tested insects *Tenebrio molitor* feed exhibited very favorable ruminal  
51 intestinal digestibility and degradation [16]. However, the accumulation of toxins, heavy metals and other  
52 harmful substances by the insects are the main factors that limit wide use of insect protein as animal feed  
53 and led to several regulations and tests to eliminate risk of insect-triggered toxicity [17].

54 The use of insects in recent years is not limited to as a protein source. Insects are part of bioconversion  
55 processes of organic food waste. Sustainable management of food industry waste is one of the most  
56 alarming challenges of the current decade [18]. Instead of aiming at the elimination of food waste, biological  
57 waste treatment enables beneficial food waste management. Biological processes such as composting, and  
58 biogas production are very popular solutions to increasing food waste problems as they are both  
59 economically and environmentally beneficial [19,20]. Using living organisms such as insects is another  
60 attractive food waste management technique. Insects reared on food waste simultaneously treat the food  
61 waste to produce digestates and provide biomass growth rich in protein and fat [21,22]. The former is widely

62 utilized in agriculture as fertilizer, biogas production and composting. On the other hand, insect biomass  
63 can be utilized as protein source for animal or human consumption as previously mentioned.

64 The larvae of black soldier fly, *Hermetia illucens*, have been the subject of research in recent years due  
65 to its potential role in food waste treatment and as protein source [23]. The use of black soldier fly larvae  
66 in organic waste treatment and as a protein source is gaining interest due to several factors. Firstly, black  
67 soldier fly larvae extracts offer sustainable alternative to traditional protein sources, such as soybean meal,  
68 which is often produced using environmentally harmful methods [6,7,15]. Also, using organic waste as feed  
69 for black soldier fly larvae can help reduce the amount of waste going to landfills, which can reduce  
70 greenhouse gas emissions and other environmental impacts [5]. In addition, the use of black soldier fly  
71 larvae in organic waste treatment can provide a valuable source of nutrients for agriculture. The larvae  
72 produce a nutrient-rich compost that can improve soil health and reduce the need for chemical fertilizers  
73 [24]. Also, this compost can be used in biogas production with higher yields compared to raw plant food  
74 waste [25]. It was reported that black soldier fly larvae were efficient at converting food waste into organic  
75 digestate; significantly decreased volume and weight against enhanced nutritional value [26,27]. Other  
76 studies also suggested that black soldier fly larvae extract (SFL) can be used as protein source for  
77 agricultural feedstuffs and given its nutritional value it might replace traditional protein sources such as  
78 soybean meal [28]. The studies also hinted that with proper legislation, SFL sourced nutrients are also  
79 suitable for human consumption [28-30]. However, use of black soldier fly larvae for treatment of organic  
80 waste is a safer and widely adapted method to utilize these insects compared to use of black soldier fly  
81 protein as animal feed due to possibility of toxicity. Studies showed that black soldier fly larvae body  
82 composition heavily affected by the breeding environment especially by the presence of heavy metals [31].  
83 Microbial toxins and pesticides might not alter the body composition in a negative way [32] but it has been  
84 shown that cadmium and lead could be accumulated in black soldier fly body at high concentrations [33]  
85 which raises a safety concern for animal feeds containing insect protein. Thus, in its current state,  
86 monitoring, and regular testing of insect sources for heavy metals are necessary. Although this might hinder  
87 its wide use as animal feed in several countries, future trends are expected to provide safer solutions to  
88 utilize this vast protein source.

89 Garlic peel is an agricultural waste often discarded or incinerated despite being a good source of bioactive  
90 substances and nutrients [34]. In this context, hydroponic growth systems, which were developed to provide  
91 environmentally friendly sustainable agriculture, produce significant amount waste, especially in terms of  
92 used growth medium. Reuse of this waste was suggested by several studies reporting its nutrient-rich  
93 composition [35]. In the current study, the proximate composition of SFL obtained from larvae reared on  
94 different organic waste substrates were compared. Black soldier fly larvae were reared on raw food waste  
95 containing garlic peel or hydroponic growth media waste. In addition, the effect of different organic waste

96 on the bioactive properties of SFL were investigated in terms of antioxidant, anti-inflammatory and anti-  
97 adipogenic activities.

98

## 99 **Materials and Methods**

### 100 **Preparation of different organic wastes**

101 Food waste to be fed to black soldier fly larvae was obtained from Geoje Food Waste Intermediate  
102 Treatment Industry. Food waste was ground and heated up to 110°C for 30 min prior to feeding. Garlic peel  
103 waste was purchased from Namhae Garlic Processing Plant. Hydroponic growth media waste was used  
104 coconut fiber growth media and was kindly given by Sacheon-gun tomato farms. Three different organic  
105 waste substrate was prepared as follows: Group 1 contained 100% raw food waste (FW), Group 2 contained  
106 80% (w/w) raw food waste and 20% garlic peel waste (G) and Group 3 contained 80% raw food waste and  
107 20% hydroponic growth media waste (H).

### 108 **Soldier fly larvae feeding and harvest**

109 Black soldier fly larvae (5 days old-post hatching; 300g) were obtained from Daum agricultural Co. Ltd.  
110 and bred for 10 days in 25°C containers (200 l capacity with width, height, and depth of  
111 550cm×1100cm×330cm) with 60% humidity and fed only once at the beginning of rearing (42 kg total  
112 feed). At the end of the day 10, larvae from different feeding groups were collected, separated from waste,  
113 and washed. Next, larvae were dried for 24 h at 65°C and subsequently ground to obtain black soldier fly  
114 larvae extract (SFL). This extract was kept at -20°C until use. For the assays SFL was dissolved in 10%  
115 dimethyl sulfoxide (DMSO) unless otherwise noted.

### 116 **Proximate composition**

117 SFL from different feeding groups was subjected to proximate composition analysis following the  
118 standard AOAC methods (2002) using the nitrogen to protein conversion factors reported by Janssen et al.  
119 [36]. The total moisture, protein and fat content was measured. Also, total polyphenol content of SFLs were  
120 measured by Folin–Denis' reagent (47742, Merck, Darmstadt, Germany). Briefly, 100 µl SFL samples with  
121 different concentrations were added to 500 µl 1N Folin–Denis' reagent (Merck), and kept at room  
122 temperature for 3 min, and then 7.5% Na<sub>2</sub>CO<sub>3</sub> (400 µl) was slowly added to the solution. Samples were  
123 kept at room temperature for another 90 min. Subsequently tubes were centrifuged at 4°C. Supernatants  
124 were used to detect optical density at 760 nm using a microplate reader (Multiskan GO, Tecan, Grodig,  
125 Austria). Total polyphenol content was measured using a standard curve which was established using gallic  
126 acid as a standard, and the results were presented in milligram gallic acid equivalent per 100 g of extract  
127 (mg/100 g).

### 128 **Antioxidant activity of SFLs**

129 Antioxidant properties of SFLs from different feeding groups were examined by cell-free scavenging  
130 assays using DPPH and nitric oxide (NO) as substrates.

131 The 2,2-diphenyl-1-picrylhydrazyl (DPPH) (Sigma-Aldrich, St. Louis, MO, USA) stock solution (150  
132  $\mu\text{M}$ ) was prepared by dissolving DPPH in 100% EtOH. In a 96-well plate well, 100  $\mu\text{l}$  SFL sample was  
133 mixed with 100  $\mu\text{l}$  DPPH solution and the plate was kept for 30 min in the dark at a room temperature.  
134 Finally, DPPH scavenging was measured by optical density of the wells at 520 nm, calculated with a  
135 microplate reader (Multiskan GO). The control group contained the same volume of ethanol and DPPH  
136 solution without any sample. Group with only ethanol was used as blank. Relative percentage-based  
137 scavenging of the DPPH free radical was quantified compared to the control.

138 Nitric oxide (NO) free radical scavenging activity was measured as previously reported with slight  
139 modifications. Briefly, 500  $\mu\text{l}$  of 10 mM sodium nitroprusside solution was added to 500  $\mu\text{l}$  of the SFL  
140 sample dissolved in 20 mM phosphate buffer (pH 7.4). Reaction was progressed at 25°C for 150 min, and  
141 the tubes were centrifuged ( $12,000 \times g$ , 10 min). Production of NO was measured by using the supernatants  
142 and performing Griess reaction. One milliliter of Griess solution was added to the supernatant and the  
143 mixture was kept at 25°C for 10 min. The absorbance value of mixture was measured at 542 nm using a  
144 multiplate reader (Multiskan GO). Ascorbic acid was used as a positive control group. NO scavenging  
145 effect was calculated as a relative percentage compared to untreated control.

#### 146 **Cytotoxicity of SFLs**

147 Prior to conduct in vitro assays using cell lines, any cytotoxic presence of SFL was measured by MTT  
148 assay. Briefly, RAW264.7 mouse macrophages and 3T3-L1 mouse pre-adipocytes were transferred into  
149 96-well plates with a density of  $3 \times 10^3$  cells per well and kept for 24 h in incubators. Both cell lines were  
150 fed with Dulbecco's Modified Eagle Medium (DMEM; Gibco BRL, Gaithersburg, MD, USA) containing  
151 10% fetal bovine serum (FBS; Gibco BRL), 100 U/ml penicillin (Gibco-BRL), and 100 mg/ml streptomycin  
152 (Gibco-BRL). After 24 h, cells were added with varying concentrations of SFLs for the next 48 h. Next,  
153 culture medium was swapped with 100  $\mu\text{l}$  of MTT reagent (0.05%, m/v) and the plates were kept in  
154 incubators for 4 h, after which the reaction was stopped by adding 100% DMSO to each well. Absorbance  
155 values were then measured at 540 nm (Multiskan GO). Cell viability was quantified as the absorbance value  
156 of each well and given as relative percentage of the untreated control.

#### 157 **Anti-inflammatory activity of SFLs**

158 Anti-inflammatory effect of SFLs was screened in RAW264.7 mouse macrophages. Inflammatory  
159 response in RAW264.7 cells were induced by lipopolysaccharide (LPS) stimulation and NO levels were  
160 measured as an indicator of inflammation. The RAW264.7 cells were seeded into wells ( $1.0 \times 10^4$  cell/well)  
161 of a 96 well plate and fed with DMEM medium containing 10% FBS for 24 h at 37°C incubators with a 5%  
162  $\text{CO}_2$  atmosphere. After 24 h, medium was replaced with fresh one containing LPS (final conc. 1.0  $\mu\text{g}/\text{ml}$ )  
163 and plates were incubated for another 1 h. Subsequently, the SFL samples were added to the wells and  
164 treatment lasted for 48 h. After 48 h, culture medium was harvested from wells and centrifuged. The  
165 supernatants were collected and mixed with Griess reagent (Sigma, USA) at 1:1 ratio. The mixture was left

166 at room temperature for 15 min. and the absorbance value of mixture was measured at 540 nm using a  
167 multiplate reader. Anti-inflammatory effect was measured via the NO production levels which were given  
168 as a relative percentage of untreated control.

#### 169 **Anti-adipogenesis activity of SFLs**

170 Anti-adipogenic activity of SFL samples was evaluated in 3T3-L1 mouse pre-adipocyte cell line. Cells  
171 were induced to differentiate into mature adipocytes and antiadipogenic properties of SFLs were recorded  
172 via their ability to decrease intracellular lipid accumulation. Briefly, 3T3-L1 cells were seeded in 6-well  
173 plates ( $1 \times 10^4$  cells/well) and fed with DMEM containing 10% FBS. After cells reached confluency,  
174 medium was changed with differentiation medium (DMEM containing insulin (5  $\mu\text{g/ml}$ ),  
175 methylisobutylxanthine (0.5 mM), and dexamethasone (0.25  $\mu\text{M}$ )) along with or without SFL samples (day  
176 0). After two days of incubation, differentiation medium was swapped with feeding medium (DMEM  
177 containing insulin (5  $\mu\text{g/ml}$ )). Feeding medium was changed with fresh one every 2 days until intracellular  
178 lipid droplets were visible (day 8). The intracellular lipid droplets were then stained with Oil Red O. Briefly,  
179 differentiated cells at day 8 in 6-well plates were washed with PBS and fixed on wells by adding 1 ml  
180 formaldehyde (3.7%, v/v in distilled water) and incubating for 1 h. Fixed cells were then washed again and  
181 incubated with filtered Oil red O staining solution (0.5% Oil Red O stain, w/v in a mixture of 60%  
182 isopropanol and 40% distilled water) for 1 h at room temperature. Subsequently stain was removed from  
183 wells, and red lipid droplets were observed under a light microscope (Nikon, Tokyo, Japan). The level of  
184 accumulated lipid droplets was measured by quantification of the retained stain in the wells. Quantification  
185 was carried out by eluting the stain from the cells with addition of 100% isopropanol. The amount of stain  
186 was then calculated by the measuring absorbance at 500 nm using a microplate reader (Multiskan GO).  
187 Lipid accumulation was given as a relative percentage of lipid levels in untreated fully differentiated control  
188 group.

#### 189 **Statistical analysis**

190 The data were presented as mean  $\pm$  SD ( $n = 3$ ) where applicable. Significant differences between the  
191 means of the different treatment groups were expressed at the  $p < 0.05$  level calculated by one-way analysis  
192 of variance (ANOVA) coupled with Duncan's multiple range post-hoc test (SAS v9.1, SAS Institute, Cary,  
193 NC, USA).

194

195

## 196 **Results and Discussion**

197 In this study, black soldier fly larvae were reared on different organic waste substrates for comparison.  
198 Three different feeding group was established by mixing raw food waste with garlic peel waste from garlic  
199 processing industry and coconut fiber growth media waste from hydroponic farming. By doing this, it was



200 aimed to treat wide range of organic waste while improving the black soldier fly larvae biomass in terms  
201 of nutritional value and bioactive potential.

### 202 **Proximate composition of SFLs**

203 The SFL samples obtained from black soldier fly larvae reared on three different feeding groups were  
204 first compared by their proximate composition. Analysis showed that SFL from raw food waste feeding  
205 group (SFL-FW) recorded  $4.73\pm 0.32\%$  moisture,  $35.29\pm 0.21\%$  crude protein and  $38.77\pm 2.86\%$  fat content  
206 (Table 1). The SFL from raw food waste-garlic peel waste feeding group (SFL-G) recorded a higher crude  
207 protein content with  $39.08\pm 0.36\%$  along with lower values of fat and moisture,  $28.80\pm 2.94\%$  and  $3.13\pm 0.12\%$   
208 respectively. A similar trend was observed from the analysis of SFL from raw food waste-hydroponic  
209 growth media waste feeding group (SFL-H) with  $3.70\pm 0.08\%$  moisture,  $36.17\pm 0.21\%$  crude protein and  
210  $28.11\pm 2.82\%$  fat content.

211 Results showed that by altering the waste composition, protein yield of SFL biomass was increased while  
212 fat content was lowered. Studies showed that most of SFL that were aimed to be used in feed industry in  
213 Korea are subjected to defatting process in order to drop the fat levels to the required amounts due to high  
214 fat content of SFLs [37,38]. Current results indicated that by adding garlic peel waste to the feeding  
215 substrate fat content of SFL was decreased by 9.97% without any further procedure. It also yielded 3.79%  
216 more protein. The black soldier fly larvae contain high amounts of fat which hinders the direct production  
217 of animal feed [17]. Therefore, the larvae are subjected to defatting process to remove the excess fat prior  
218 to use as a feedstock. Thus, higher protein yield with decreased fat composition of SFL-G suggests  
219 enriching larvae feed with garlic waste is a promising approach to obtain more favorable biomass.

### 220 **Comparison of bioactivities of SFL extracts**

221 Yielding high-quality protein as an alternative to traditional sources is not the only benefit of SFL  
222 utilization. Studies showed that SFL exhibited various bioactivities which may prove beneficial to animal  
223 for which SFL used as feedstuff. Reports already documented that SFL has antimicrobial properties against  
224 several bacterial strains, including *Escherichia coli*, *Staphylococcus aureus*, and *Salmonella enterica*  
225 [39,40]. Also, SFL has been found to possess antioxidant and anti-inflammatory properties which were  
226 attributed to the presence bioactive compounds such as phenols and flavonoids [41,42]. In this context, total  
227 polyphenol content analysis was conducted for both feeds and SFLs. Analysis of feeds revealed that garlic  
228 peel added waste (G) had higher polyphenol content than that of food waste (FW) and hydroponic growth  
229 waste added waste (H) (Table 2). Analysis of SFLs revealed that all extracts had significantly higher levels  
230 of polyphenols ( $p < 0.05$ ) compared to feed materials (Table 3). SFL-FW contained  $1513.23\pm 28.18$  mg  
231 polyphenol per 100 g of dry matter. This content was significantly increased to  $1992.40\pm 20.81$  for SFL-G.  
232 However, SFL-H recorded a lower polyphenol content with  $1422.60\pm 7.86$  mg polyphenol per 100 g of dry  
233 matter. Compared with the polyphenol contents of FW, G and H, which were  $1022.16\pm 29.75$ ,  
234  $1166.27\pm 50.63$  and  $823.14\pm 1.70$  respectively, SFL-H recorded the highest increase by 72.82% followed by

235 70.83% for SFL-G and 48.04% for SFL-FW. Results indicated that enriched food wastes resulted in  
236 elevated levels of polyphenol transformation by black soldier flies. Increasing evidence suggests that  
237 polyphenol rich ingredients translate into beneficial effects in overall health, mainly due to their antioxidant  
238 potential [43]. In this context, garlic peel waste enriched food waste resulting in increased polyphenol  
239 content in SFLs was speculated to be a way to produce more bioactive ingredients.

#### 240 **Antioxidant activity**

241 First, antioxidant potential of three different SFLs were evaluated by their DPPH and NO scavenging  
242 activities. Results showed that all three SFLs exerted significant DPPH scavenging activity in a dose-  
243 dependent manner (Figure 1A). Both, SFL-FW and SFL-G showed dose-dependent increase in scavenging  
244 activity until the highest concentration of 10 mg/ml while SFL-H scavenging activity was not increased by  
245 increasing doses after 2 mg/ml proportional to other samples. At 1 mg/ml concentration, SFL-FW exhibited  
246 53.34% DPPH scavenging while SFL-G and SFL-H scavenging activity was recorded as 102.94% and  
247 72.79% respectively. The IC<sub>50</sub> values for this antioxidant activity were calculated to be 1.11 mg/ml, 0.09  
248 mg/ml and 0.42 mg/ml for SFL-FW, SFL-G and SFL-H. Similar results were observed in NO scavenging  
249 activity of SFLs. At 10 mg/ml concentration, SFL-FW NO scavenging activity was 84.68% against 93.12%  
250 of SFL-G and 77.10% SFL-H (Figure 1B). Positive control ascorbic acid exerted 99.44% scavenging effect  
251 at 1 mg/ml concentration. Parallel to polyphenol content results, addition of garlic peel waste notably  
252 increased antioxidant potential of SFL. Although it scavenged NO higher than FW group, H was showed  
253 not to affect antioxidant potential of SFL significantly which was also apparent as decreased polyphenol  
254 content. Nevertheless, garlic peel waste was suggested to beneficial addition to black soldier fly larvae  
255 feeding substrate to enhance its antioxidant potential. Studies mainly reported the antioxidant properties of  
256 hydrolysates from black soldier fly larvae extracts, attributing the effect to bioactive peptides [44,45].  
257 However according to current results showing that antioxidant of SFL was parallel to polyphenol content,  
258 there might be increase in phenolic compounds such as flavonoids responsible for the enhanced antioxidant  
259 potential and bioconversion of garlic peel waste was suggested to be the reason behind this enhancement.

#### 260 **Anti-inflammatory activity**

261 Next, anti-inflammatory effect of SFL was tested on LPS-induced RAW264.7 mouse macrophage cells.  
262 Prior to evaluate the effect of samples on NO production in inflammatory response-induced cells,  
263 cytotoxicity of SFLs were investigated. Results showed that up to 1000 µg/ml, SFL treatment did not cause  
264 cell viability to drop below 90% (Figure 2A). Therefore, the assay was carried out using this concentration  
265 as the upper limit.

266 LPS-induced inflammatory response in macrophages is known to elevate production of pro-  
267 inflammatory cytokines and release of NO as a result [46]. This was observed in the current results, where  
268 NO levels were increased 91.64% following LPS-stimulation (Figure 2B). Treatment with three different  
269 SFLs were able to decrease LPS-induced NO levels in a dose-dependent manner. At the highest

270 concentration treated (1000 µg/ml), NO levels were 64.44%, 20.72% and 43.53% of untreated control group  
271 for SFL-FW, SFL-G and SFL-H respectively. In accordance with the antioxidant activity, SFL-G was  
272 observed to exert enhanced anti-inflammatory activity compared to SFL-FW. Results suggested that  
273 primarily garlic peel waste addition yielded beneficial effects on antioxidant and anti-inflammatory  
274 activities of SFL, further promoting its utilization as protein source for animal feed. Although current results  
275 were not enough to claim its anti-inflammatory effect in livestock, it was postulated that black soldier fly  
276 larvae reared on garlic peel waste added organic substrate would provide bioactive biomass which might  
277 reduce inflammatory responses in the livestock which it was fed.

### 278 **Anti-adipogenesis activity**

279 Finally, anti-adipogenic potential of SFLs were tested in 3T3-L1 mouse pre-adipocytes. Cells were  
280 induced to differentiate into mature adipocytes and accumulate lipid droplets and the effect of SFLs on  
281 decreasing lipid accumulation was investigated. Cytotoxicity analysis showed that up to 500 µg/ml, SFL  
282 treatment did not cause cell viability to drop below 90% (Figure 3). Therefore, the assay was carried out  
283 using this concentration as the upper limit.

284 Both stained images of lipid droplets and measurement of lipid staining showed that presence of SFL  
285 significantly decreased the accumulated lipid droplets in adipocytes dose-dependently (Figure 4). Among  
286 all tested SFLs, SFL-G was again the most active sample to decrease lipid accumulation in adipocytes.  
287 Compared to untreated control group, SFL-G group exhibited 64.02% less lipid whereas this decrease was  
288 51.86% for SFL-FW and 50.45% for SFL-H at the concentration of 500 µg/ml. Results suggested that SFL  
289 with food waste feeding exhibited a lipid decreasing effect on adipocytes which was further enhanced by  
290 addition of garlic peel waste parallel to prior results.

291 Studies already showed that when utilized as fish feed ingredient, SFL exerted beneficial effects on tissue  
292 fat composition of different fish such as juvenile mirror carp and juvenile Jian carp [47,48]. Current results  
293 suggested that SFL exerts inhibitory effects on lipid accumulation during adipogenic differentiation. In  
294 addition, alteration of black soldier fly larvae feed by adding different organic waste such as garlic peel  
295 significantly enhanced its effects on lipid profile. Overall, garlic peel waste addition to raw food waste was  
296 suggested to be a promising approach to yield notably more bioactive SFL which also contains higher  
297 amount of protein and polyphenols, and less fat.

## 298 **Conclusions**

299 Current results showed that rearing black soldier fly larvae on raw food waste added with garlic peel  
300 waste significantly increase its protein content while decreasing its fat content. Also, biomass obtained from  
301 larvae fed with garlic peel waste-added food waste exhibited enhanced antioxidant, anti-inflammatory and  
302 anti-adipogenic potential in vitro compared to larvae wed with raw food waste only. Although, addition of  
303 hydroponic growth media waste did not alter the proximate composition and bioactivity as notable as garlic  
304 peel extract, current results provided valuable insights towards food waste composition that would result in

305 value-added black soldier fly larvae extract. Despite the safety concerns for using insect proteins as animal  
306 feed due to the possibility of heavy metal accumulation, current results might provide insights towards  
307 futures studies. In conclusion, different compositions of food waste substrate for black soldier fly larvae as  
308 a means of converting organic waste into biomass is a promising solution for reducing wide range of organic  
309 waste and producing a sustainable source of high-quality protein.

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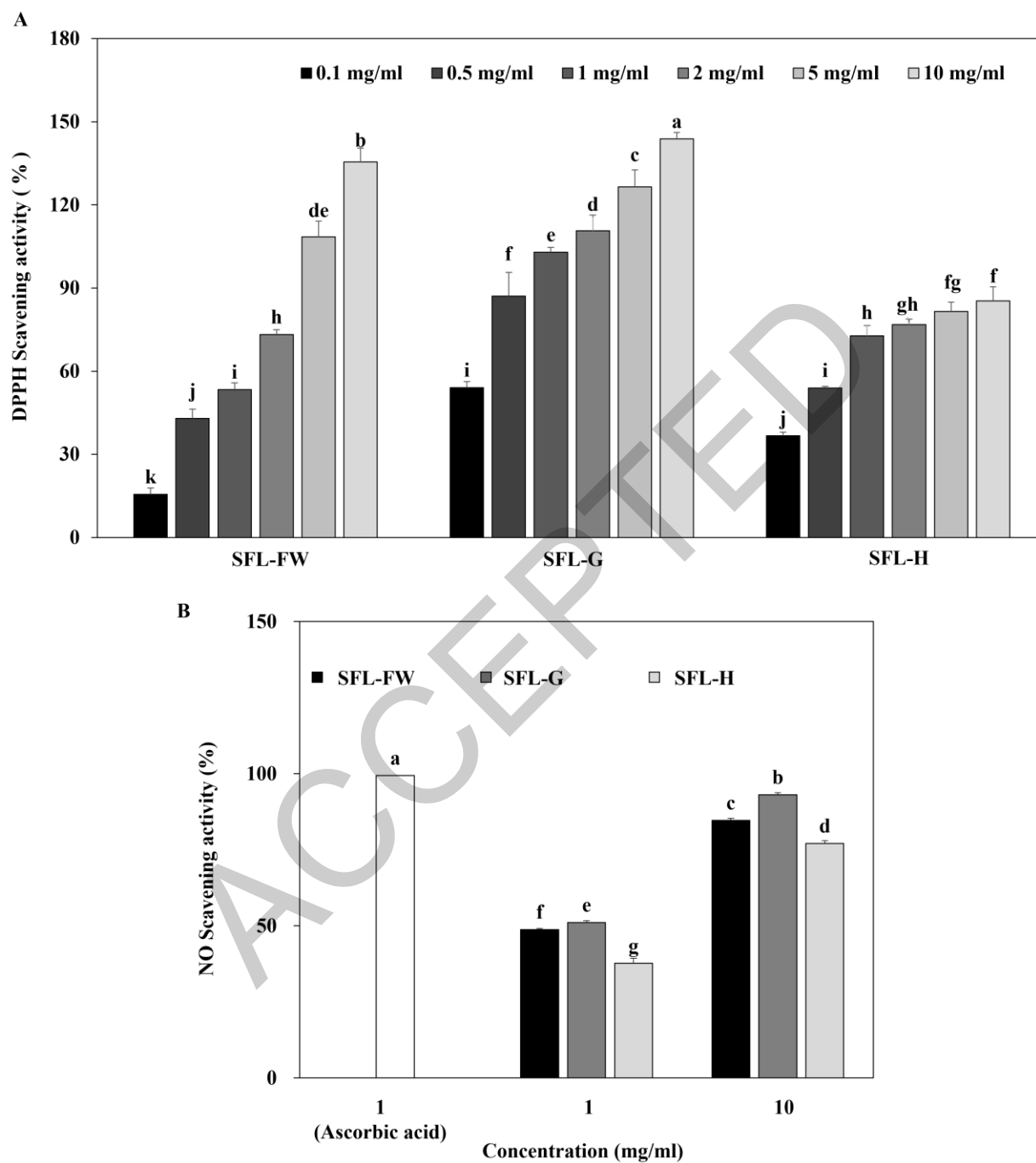
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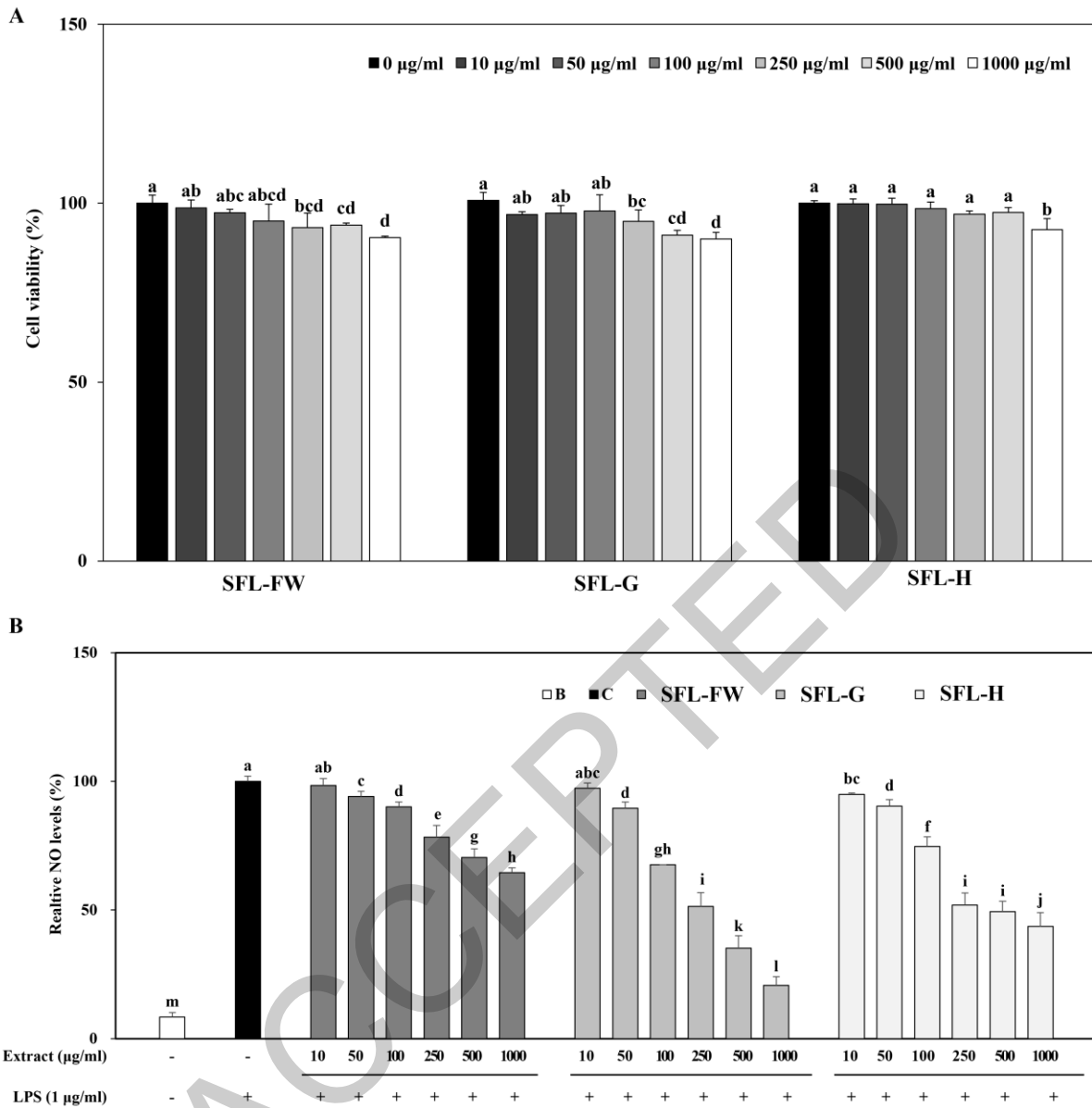
460 **Figure 1.** Antioxidant activity of black soldier fly larvae extract (SFL) obtained from larvae fed  
 461 with food waste (FW), garlic peel added food waste (G), or hydroponic growth media added food  
 462 waste (H) evaluated by their ability to scavenge (A) DPPH and (B) NO radicals in cell-free  
 463 environments. Ascorbic acid was used as a positive control. <sup>a-k</sup>Groups with different superscript

464 letters are significantly different, whereas same superscript letters mean no significant difference  
465 as revealed by Duncan's multiple range post-hoc test ( $p < 0.05$ ).

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470 **Figure 2.** Effect of black soldier fly larvae extract (SFL) obtained from larvae fed with food waste  
 471 (FW), garlic peel added food waste (G), or hydroponic growth media added food waste (H) on cell  
 472 viability (A) and NO production (B) in RAW264.7 mouse macrophage cell line. (A) Cells were  
 473 treated with samples in given concentrations for 48 h and the viable cell levels were measured by  
 474 MTT assay. Cell viability is given as a relative percentage of untreated (0 µg/ml) control group.  
 475 (B) Inflammatory response in cells were induced by addition of lipopolysaccharides (LPS) 1 h  
 476 prior to sample treatment. NO levels in cell culture medium were measured by Griess reaction. B:  
 477 unstimulated untreated blank, C: LPS-stimulated untreated control. NO production levels were  
 478 given as relative percentage of C. <sup>a-m</sup>Groups with different superscript letters are significantly

479 different, whereas same superscript letters mean no significant difference as revealed by Duncan's  
480 multiple range post-hoc test ( $p < 0.05$ ).

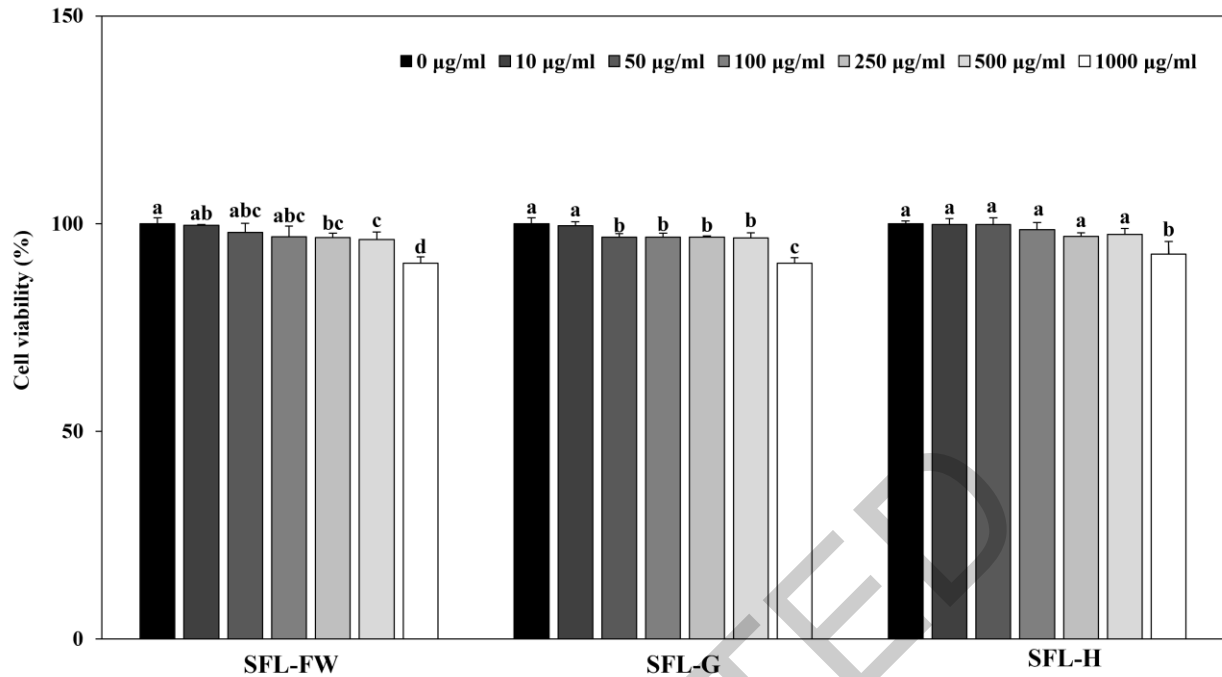
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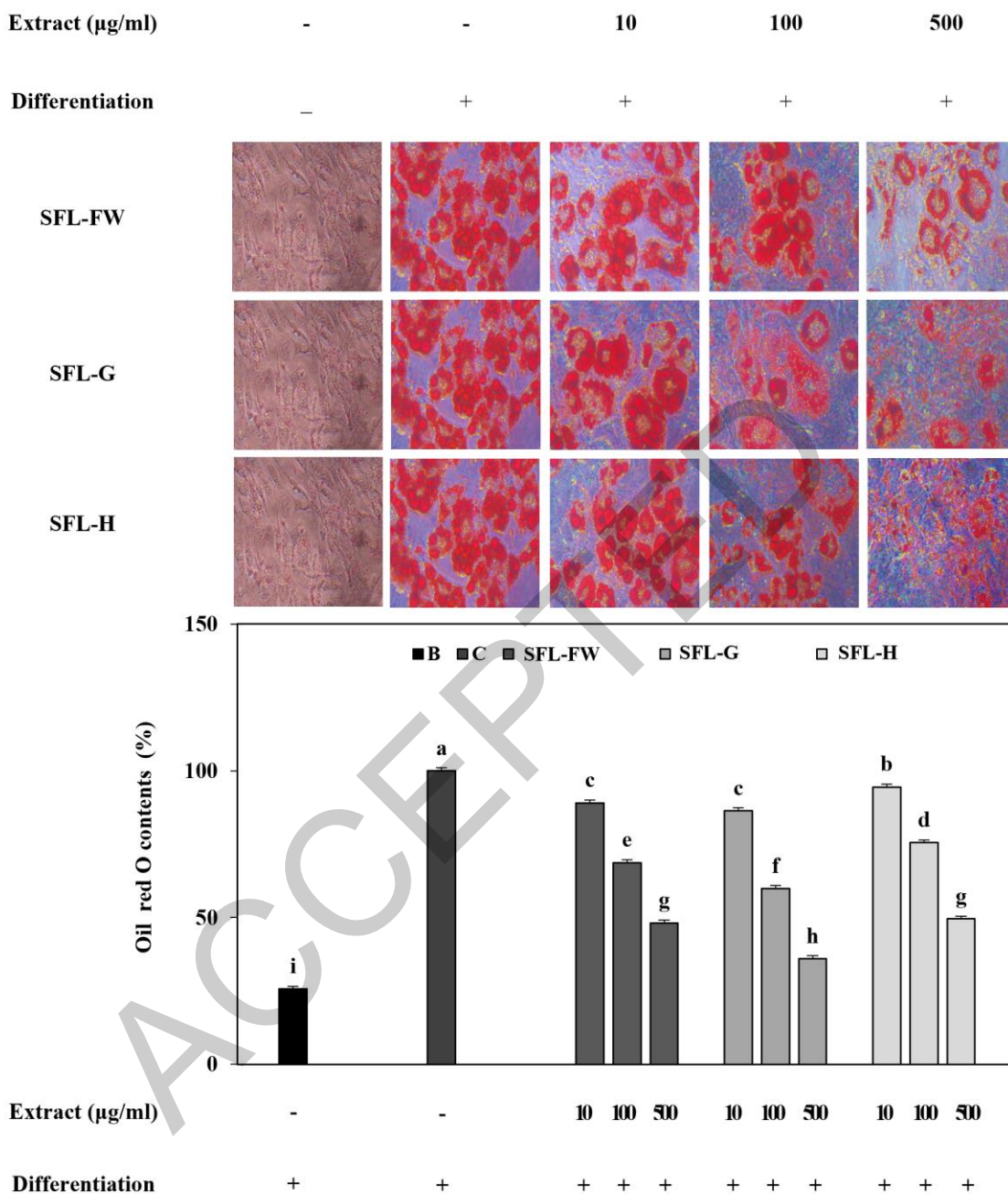


486

487 **Figure 3.** Effect of black soldier fly larvae extract (SFL) obtained from larvae fed with food waste  
 488 (FW), garlic peel added food waste (G), or hydroponic growth media added food waste (H) on  
 489 viability of 3T3-L1 mouse pre-adipocytes. Cells were treated with samples in given concentrations  
 490 for 48 h and the viable cell levels were measured by MTT assay. Cell viability is given as a relative  
 491 percentage of untreated (0 µg/ml) control group. <sup>a-m</sup>Groups with different superscript letters are  
 492 significantly different, whereas same superscript letters mean no significant difference as revealed  
 493 by Duncan's multiple range post-hoc test ( $p < 0.05$ ).

494

495



497  
 498 **Figure 4.** Effect of black soldier fly larvae extract (SFL) obtained from larvae fed with food waste  
 499 (FW), garlic peel added food waste (G), or hydroponic growth media added food waste (H) on  
 500 lipid accumulation in 3T3-L1 adipocytes. Cells were induced to differentiate into adipocytes in the  
 501 presence or absence of samples. At day 8 of differentiation, intracellular lipid droplets were stained  
 502 by Oil Red O and the retained stain were measured. B: non-differentiated untreated blank, C:  
 503 differentiated untreated control. Staining levels were given as relative percentage of C. <sup>a-i</sup>Groups

504 with different superscript letters are significantly different, whereas same superscript letters mean  
505 no significant difference as revealed by Duncan's multiple range post-hoc test ( $p < 0.05$ ).  
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507 **Tables and Figures**

508 **Table 1.** Proximate composition of black soldier fly larvae extracts

Sample	Moisture (%)	Crude Protein (%)	Fat (%)
SFL-FW	4.73±0.32 <sup>a</sup>	35.29±0.21 <sup>c</sup>	38.77±2.86 <sup>a</sup>
SFL-G	3.13±0.12 <sup>c</sup>	39.08±0.36 <sup>a</sup>	28.80±2.94 <sup>b</sup>
SFL-H	3.70±0.08 <sup>b</sup>	36.17±0.21 <sup>b</sup>	28.11±2.82 <sup>b</sup>

509  
510 Date are means ± SD. Black soldier fly larvae extract (SFL) obtained from larvae fed with food  
511 waste (FW), garlic peel waste added food waste (G), or hydroponic growth media waste added  
512 food waste (H). <sup>a-c</sup> Data with different superscript letters are significantly different, whereas same  
513 superscript letters mean no significant difference as revealed by Duncan's multiple range post-hoc  
514 test (p<0.05) compared within same test group (moisture, crude protein and fat).

515

516 **Table 2.** Total polyphenol contents food waste (FW), garlic peel added food waste (G) and  
517 hydroponic growth media added food waste (H)

Sample	Total polyphenol contents (mg GAE/100 g dry matter)
FW	1022.16±29.75 <sup>b</sup>
G	1166.27±50.63 <sup>a</sup>
H	823.14±1.70 <sup>c</sup>

518

519 GAE: gallic acid equivalent. <sup>a-c</sup>Values with different letters are significantly different (p<0.05).

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521 **Table 3.** Total polyphenol contents of black soldier fly larvae extract (SFL) obtained from larvae  
522 fed with food waste (FW), garlic peel added food waste (G) or hydroponic growth media added  
523 food waste (H)

Sample	Total polyphenol contents (mg GAE/100 g dry matter)
SFL-FW	1513.23±28.18 <sup>b</sup>
SFL-G	1992.40±20.81 <sup>a</sup>
SFL-H	1422.60±7.86 <sup>c</sup>

524

525 GAE: gallic acid equivalent. <sup>a-c</sup>Values with different letters are significantly different (p<0.05).

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