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**Antiaggregation potential of berry fractions against pairs of
Streptococcus mutans with Fusobacterium nucleatum or
Actinomyces naeslundii**

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52 15 **Short title:** Berry fractions with antiaggregation potential
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18 **ABSTRACT**

19 Coaggregation is an interspecies adhesion process, which is essential to the development of
20 dental plaque. Here we studied *in vitro* the composition of the soluble solids in the berry
21 juice molecular size fractions [<10 kDa, FI; 10–100 kDa, FII; >100 kDa, FIII] derived from
22 apple, bilberry, blackcurrant, cloudberry, crowberry, and lingonberry and their ability to
23 inhibit and reverse coaggregation of the pairs of common species in dental plaque:
24 *Streptococcus mutans* with *Fusobacterium nucleatum* or *Actinomyces naeslundii*. Inhibitory
25 and reversal activity was found in the molecular size fractions FII and FIII of bilberry,
26 blackcurrant, crowberry, and lingonberry. The active fractions contained higher amounts of
27 polyphenols (5-12% of soluble solids) than those without activity ($<2\%$ of soluble solids).
28 Proanthocyanidins dominated in the active lingonberry juice fractions FII and FIII and also
29 small amounts of anthocyanins were detected. Anthocyanins, proanthocyanidins, and
30 flavonol glycosides were prevalent in FII and FIII fractions of bilberry, blackcurrant, and
31 crowberry juices. Comparable amounts of sugars and titratable acids were present in the
32 latter three berry juice fractions of different size. The results indicate that the high
33 molecular size fractions of lingonberry, bilberry, blackcurrant, and crowberry juices have
34 antiaggregation potential on common oral bacteria, the potential being associated to their
35 polyphenolic content.

36 **Keywords:** berries; dental biofilms; antiadhesion; coaggregation; antiaggregation;
37 polyphenols

38 INTRODUCTION

39 *Streptococcus*, *Actinomyces*, and *Fusobacterium* are among the major bacterial genera,
40 which colonize the oral cavity early in life (Könönen, 2000) and form crucial constituents of
41 dental plaque, i.e., dental biofilms accumulating on non-shedding tooth surfaces
42 (Kolenbrander *et al.*, 2006; Rosan and Lamont, 2000). Dental biofilms play a crucial role in
43 the pathogenesis of the two most common oral infections, caries and periodontal diseases,
44 where intergeneric coaggregation contributes to the development of cariogenic and
45 periodontopathogenic communities (Kolenbrander *et al.*, 2006; Sbordone *et al.*, 2003). The
46 first step in the formation of dental plaque is the adhesion of early colonizers (streptococci
47 and *Actinomyces*) to the pellicle-coated tooth surface, while *Fusobacterium nucleatum* acts
48 as a bridge between early and late colonizers, coaggregating with most oral bacteria
49 examined (Al-Ahmad *et al.*, 2007; Kolenbrander *et al.*, 2006). Coaggregation is a further
50 adhesion process by which two genetically distinct bacteria become attached to one another
51 via specific molecules present in the biofilms. The basics of coaggregation have been
52 examined *in vitro* with the simple method of mixing bacterial suspensions together
53 (Kolenbrander *et al.*, 2006).

54 While antimicrobial agents inhibit the survival and growth of bacteria, antiadhesion and
55 antiaggregation agents affect the formation of bacterial biofilms on oral surfaces. According
56 to Weiss *et al.* (2002), the American cranberry (*Vaccinium macrocarpon*) constituents are
57 able to inhibit and reverse the coaggregation of dental plaque bacteria (antiaggregation). In
58 this context, information on other berries is still limited. Also, cranberry has been
59 demonstrated to inhibit oral bacterial adhesion in artificial biofilms (Steinberg *et al.*, 2005;
60 Yamanaka *et al.*, 2004; 2007). Polyphenols are considered to be involved in nonspecific
61 antiadhesion effects against oral bacteria (Duarte *et al.*, 2006; Ferrazzano *et al.*, 2009;

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4 62 Yamanaka *et al.*, 2007). The most predominant polyphenols in berries are anthocyanins
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6 63 (anthocyanidin glycosides) (Määttä-Riihinen *et al.*, 2004a; 2004b; Määttä *et al.*, 2001),
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8 64 which are seen as light red to bluish black pigments. Flavonol glycosides and
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10 65 proanthocyanidins are other abundant polyphenols in berries (Hellström *et al.*, 2009;
11
12 66 Määttä-Riihinen *et al.*, 2004b). Recently, we reported that juice fractions of different
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14 67 molecular size prepared from bilberry (*Vaccinium myrtillus*), blackcurrant (*Ribes nigrum*),
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16 68 cranberry (*Vaccinium oxycoccus*), crowberry (*Empetrum nigrum & hermaphroditum*), and
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18 69 lingonberry (*Vaccinium vitis-idaea*) exhibit antiadhesion activity against a Gram-negative
19
20 70 human pathogen *Neisseria meningitidis* (Toivanen *et al.*, 2009). We have also shown
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22 71 binding or inhibitory activities of molecular size fractions prepared from *Vaccinium* berries
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24 72 and crowberry against different pathogenic streptococcal strains of human or animal origin
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26 73 (Toivanen *et al.*, 2010).
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33 74 The aim of the present study was to investigate *in vitro* the inhibition and reversal ability
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35 75 of apple, bilberry, blackcurrant, cloudberry (*Rubus chamaemorus*), crowberry, and
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37 76 lingonberry juice fractions against two pairs of oral bacterial species, namely, *Streptococcus*
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39 77 *mutans* with either *F. nucleatum* or *Actinomyces naeslundii*. In addition, the amount of
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41 78 titratable acids, sugars, proanthocyanidins, anthocyanins, and flavonol glycosides in the
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43 79 berry juice fractions was measured.
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80 MATERIALS AND METHODS

81 **Juice fractions.** Juice concentrates of apple (mix of cultivars) (70°Brix, content of soluble
82 solids g/100 g of solution) and blackcurrant (65°Brix) were obtained from VIP-Juicemaker
83 Ltd (Kuopio, Finland). Bilberry, lingonberry, and crowberry (berry juice concentrates
84 (65°Brix) and cloudberry were purchased from Kiantama Ltd (Suomussalmi, Finland).
85 Cloudberry juice was prepared as described by Toivanen *et al.* (Toivanen *et al.*, 2009).
86 Berry juices were stored at –20°C until used. The juices were fractionated into three
87 different fractions, <10 kDa fraction (FI), 10–100 kDa fraction (FII), and >100 kDa fraction
88 (FIII), through a molecular sieve by centrifugal filtering, as previously described (Toivanen
89 *et al.*, 2009; 2010). The soluble solids (SS) in the fractions were analyzed as °Brix values
90 (SS g/100 g) using a digital refractometer (ATAGO PR-32, Tokyo, Japan) and diluted to the
91 fixed SS content of 12 g/100g, except for the cloudberry juice fractions, which were
92 analyzed as such.

93 **Analyses of titratable acids and sugars.** Titratable acids and sugars were analyzed based
94 on the methods developed for various foods (Anon., 2000). Titratable acids were measured
95 from the juice fractions diluted in water by titrating with alkaline solution to their
96 potentiometric endpoint. The amounts of titratable acids were calculated by using the
97 equivalent weights of the major acids in berries (malic acid in apple, cloudberry, and
98 crowberry, and citric acid in bilberry, blackcurrant, and lingonberry). Sucrose was inverted
99 with acid hydrolysis prior to the analysis of reducing sugars with the Schoorl method
100 (Anon., 2000). Reducing sugars were determined by using stabilized alkaline solution of a
101 copper salt (two Fehling's solutions). In the reaction, the amount of reduced copper is
102 proportional to the amount of reducing sugars in the sample. The determination was
103 continued by immediate titration with standard sodium thiosulphate solution until the end

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4 104 point. Water was used as blank for the samples. The sugar content was read from a
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6 105 conversion table based on the titer difference of the sample from the blank.
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9 106 **Analysis of proanthocyanidins.** Proanthocyanidin contents in the fractionated juices was
10
11 107 estimated by a spectrophotometric procedure (Rohr *et al.*, 2000), which was modified as
12
13 108 described by Toivanen *et al.* (2009). Briefly, juice fractions were diluted in acidified
14
15 109 methanol (0.6 M HCl) and the absorbance values of the samples were measured at 520 nm
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17 110 with a UV-visible spectrophotometer (Shimadzu UV-1650PC; Kyoto, Japan) before and
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19 111 after incubation at +70°C (Memmert ULE 500 oven, Schwabach, Germany) for 3 h. The
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21 112 absorbance differences of incubated and nonincubated samples were used for
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23 113 semiquantification of proanthocyanidins as released anthocyanidins. The calibration curves
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25 114 of proanthocyanidins were constructed by using depolymerized lingonberry dimer and
26
27 115 trimer isolate with purity of 80% (Määttä-Riihinen *et al.*, 2005). The range of the calibration
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29 116 curve corresponded to 0.6-30% of proanthocyanidins of SS in the juice samples.
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34 117 **Analyses of anthocyanins and flavonol glycosides.** In order to analyze anthocyanins and
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36 118 flavonol glycosides, the fractions were first diluted with methanol and acidified with
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38 119 concentrated HCl to 0.6 M and then filtered through a 0.45- μ m syringe filter (Pall Life
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40 120 Sciences, Ann Arbor, MI) to the vials. High-performance liquid chromatography with diode
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42 121 array detection (HPLC-DAD) apparatus consisted of a Hewlett-Packard (HP) instrument
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44 122 with a 1100 series quaternary pump, an autosampler, and a diode array detector linked to an
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46 123 HP-ChemStation data handling system (Waldbronn Analytical Division, Germany). HPLC
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48 124 separation was achieved on a (150 x 4.6 mm i.d., 5 μ m) Phenomenex Gemini reversed
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50 125 phased (RP) column (RP-18, Merck, Darmstadt, Germany) protected with a guard column
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52 126 of the same material (4 x 3 mm). The gradient program based on acetonitrile and methanol
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54 127 (ACN:MeOH, 85:15, v/v) as the organic phase and 8.5% formic acid as the water phase was
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56 128 modified from the procedure of Lätti *et al.* (2008). The gradual increase of the ACN-MeOH
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4 129 at flow rate of 1 ml/min was arranged as follows: 4-10% (0-2 min), 10% (2-20 min), 10-
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6 130 15% (20-35 min), 15-35% (35-40 min), 35-80% (40-50 min), 80% (50-52 min), return to
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9 131 initial conditions in 8 min, and re-equilibration of the column for 10 min. Anthocyanins (at
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11 132 520 nm) and flavonol glycosides (at 360 nm) were identified based on our earlier HPLC-
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13 133 DAD identification (Määttä-Riihinen *et al.*, 2004a; 2004b; Määttä *et al.*, 2001). The
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15 134 response factors for quantification of anthocyanins and flavonol glycosides were determined
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17 135 from freshly prepared solutions of cyanidin-3-glucoside and quercetin-3-glucoside in the
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19 136 concentration ranges 1.8-386 mg/l and 2-250 mg/l, respectively. Flavonol glycoside
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21 137 concentrations lower than 2 mg/l were considered as non-significant (NS) (Table 1). The
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23 138 cyanidin-3-glucoside was measured in acidified mixture of methanol and water by using the
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25 139 same solvent composition as used for the samples, since pH and water content affect the
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27 140 absorption coefficient of anthocyanins.

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32 141 **Bacterial strains.** Five clinical strains were selected, including Gram-positive *S. mutans*
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34 142 IH 113728, *A. naeslundii* AHP 28639 and AHP 28651, and Gram-negative *F. nucleatum*
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36 143 AHN 23952 and AHN 23937. The strains were grown in Brain Heart Infusion (BHI, LabM,
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38 144 England) broth with 0.5% yeast extract (Difco) under anaerobic conditions at 37°C. The
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40 145 bacterial cells were harvested and washed with Dulbecco's phosphate-buffered saline (D-
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42 146 PBS) (10X stock solution, ECM4053, Euroclone) containing calcium and magnesium. The
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44 147 washed cells were then either suspended in coaggregation buffer D-PBS to an optical
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46 148 density of 1.5 at 400 nm (UV-Vis Spectrophotometer, GENESYS 10 Series, Thermo
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48 149 Electron Corporation) for the coaggregation assay or stored at -20°C in 50% glycerol
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50 150 (99.5%, analytical grade, Normpur). The suspended cells were stored at 4°C for the test
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52 151 period of two weeks.

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58 152 **Coaggregation and antiaggregation assay.** The inhibition and reversal activities of the
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60 153 berry and fruit juice fractions against bacterial coaggregates were studied by using a

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4 154 modification of the turbidimetric assay developed by McIntire et al. (Kolenbrander, 1995;
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6 155 McIntire *et al.*, 1982). The coaggregating bacteria used in the assays were *S. mutans* with
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8 156 either *A. naeslundii* (two strains) or *F. nucleatum* (two strains). In order to obtain four
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10 157 parallel results, the antiaggregation assays were carried out in two runs. Berry juice
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12 158 fractions were diluted in D-PBS to the concentrations of 12 and 48 mg/g. Coaggregation
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14 159 assays, inhibition and reversal of bacterial aggregates, and background measurements were
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16 160 run simultaneously. In the inhibition assays, a 25 μ l aliquot of each berry juice fraction was
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18 161 mixed vigorously for 10 s with 25 μ l of D-PBST (D-PBS with 0.05% (v/v) Tween20) and
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20 162 with 25 μ l of the cell suspension of *S. mutans* and *A. naeslundii* or *F. nucleatum*. In the
21
22 163 reversal test, 25 μ l of the *S. mutans* cell suspension, 25 μ l of the *A. naeslundii* or *F.*
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24 164 *nucleatum* cell suspension, and 25 μ l of D-PBST were vigorously mixed for 10 s. To allow
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26 165 the formation of stable bacterial aggregates or bacterium-berry coupling, the mixtures were
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28 166 then agitated gently (100 revolutions per minute) in an orbital shaker (Orbital Shaker, Stuart
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30 167 Scientific, United Kingdom) for 30 min. Then the other bacterial pair (25 μ l of the cell
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32 168 suspension) was added to the inhibition test mixtures and berry juice fraction (25 μ l) was
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34 169 added to the reversal test mixtures. For background measurements, two different blanks
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36 170 were made. The blanks were prepared by mixing 25 μ l of each bacterial cell suspension
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38 171 with 50 μ l of D-PBST and 25 μ l of the berry fraction as well as by mixing 25 μ l of each cell
39
40 172 suspension with 75 μ l of D-PBST. The coaggregation score for each bacterial pair was
41
42 173 measured from the mixture containing 25 μ l of the both cell suspensions and 50 μ l of D-
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44 174 PBST. All the prepared samples and blanks were mixed vigorously, agitated gently for 30
45
46 175 min, as described above, and then 200 μ l of D-PBST was added. The mixtures were then
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48 176 centrifuged at 200 rpm (Eppendorf centrifuge 5415D, Hamburg, Germany) for 10 min to
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50 177 pack down the aggregates. The top part of the supernatant was transferred to a flat-bottomed
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4 178 microtiter well. The turbidity was measured at 630 nm by using a microtiter plate reader
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6 179 (Victor2, 1420 Multilabel counter, Wallac, PerkinElmer LifeSciences, Boston, USA).

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9 180 The coaggregation percent was calculated as follows:
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$$\text{Coaggregation\%} = \frac{(A_1 + A_2) - (A_{1+2})}{(A_1 + A_2)} * 100$$

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21 184 where A_1 and A_2 present absorptions of the bacterial cell suspensions and A_{1+2} presents
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23 185 absorption of the coaggregation mixtures. The inhibition and the reversal activity induced
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25 186 by the juice fractions (F) was expressed as percents and calculated as follows:
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$$\text{CoaggregationF\%} = \frac{(A_{1+F} + A_2) - (A_{1+2+F})}{(A_{1+F} + A_2)} * 100$$

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$$\text{Inhibition / reversal\%} = \frac{\text{Coaggregation\%} - \text{CoaggregationF\%}}{\text{Coaggregation\%}} * 100$$

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4 190 **RESULTS**

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6 191 **Composition of the juice fractions.** The contents of proanthocyanidins and anthocyanins
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8 192 in the juice fractions varied between different berry species (Table 1). The low molecular
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10 193 size fractions (<10 kDa in FI) and all the three fractions of apple and cloudberry displayed
11
12 194 low amounts of proanthocyanidins and no anthocyanins. The anthocyanin concentration
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14 195 was high in bilberry FII and FIII (3.99 % and 5.21 % of SS, respectively) and in crowberry
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16 196 FII and FIII (2.80% and 5.18 %, respectively). The proanthocyanidin concentration was
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18 197 high in blackcurrant FII and FIII (8.5% and 6.2%, respectively), in crowberry FII and FIII
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20 198 (5.8% and 6.3 %, respectively), and in lingonberry FII and FIII (5.8% and 4.7%,
21
22 199 respectively). Although the anthocyanin contents were lower in fractions FI, the
23
24 200 chromatographic profiles of anthocyanins in the three fractions of the bilberry, blackcurrant,
25
26 201 crowberry, and lingonberry juices were identical in RP-HPLC-DAD analysis, as shown for
27
28 202 crowberry in Figure 1. Flavonol glycosides were distributed mainly in fractions FII and
29
30 203 FIII and major contents were 0.14% of SS in bilberry FIII, 0.09% of SS in blackcurrant FII,
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32 204 0.05% of SS in blackcurrant FIII, and 0.07% of SS in crowberry FIII (Table 1). Titratable
33
34 205 acids and sugars were detected in comparable amounts in all the three fractions (Table 1).

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36 206 **Coaggregation and antiaggregation assays.** The degree of coaggregation was relatively
37
38 207 low, being equal between *S. mutans* IH 113728 and the two strains of *A. naeslundii* (AHP
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40 208 28639 and AHP 28651) and between *S. mutans* IH 113728 and the two strains of *F.*
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42 209 *nucleatum* (AHN 23952 and AHN 23937) (Table 2). Inhibition and reversal activities less
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44 210 than 50% were ignored, as proposed by McIntire *et al.* (1982). All positive scores for
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46 211 inhibition and reversal (antiaggregation) activities displayed low standard deviations and
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48 212 were reproducible in the four experiments. The reversal and inhibitory activity was found in
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50 213 FII and FIII of bilberry, blackcurrant, crowberry, and lingonberry juices (Table 2). The
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52 214 antiaggregation activity was detected in all eight bacterial pairs with the fraction FII of
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4 215 bilberry, crowberry, and lingonberry juices. In addition, the crowberry juice fraction FIII
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6 216 had antiaggregation activity to seven of the eight studied pairs. Of the blackcurrant juice
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9 217 fractions, FIII was the most active but the effect was limited to the four bacterial pairs of *S.*
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11 218 *mutans* and *A. naeslundii*. The blackcurrant FII fraction had effect only to one of the studied
12
13 219 eight bacterial pairs. The fractions FIII of bilberry juice and lingonberry juice showed
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15 220 activity to three and one of the eight bacterial pairs, respectively. The antiaggregation was
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17 221 mainly achieved with the berry concentration of 48 mg/g of SS. The crowberry juice
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19 222 fraction FIII with the concentration of 12 mg/g of SS gave reversal activity to two of the
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21 223 bacterial pairs and that of blackcurrant induced aggregation inhibition of one bacterial pair.
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23 224 The inhibitory and reversal activity of 100% was detected in the FII fraction of bilberry
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25 225 juice with the concentration of 48 mg/g of SS. The fractions of apple and cloudberry juices
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30 226 exhibited no antiaggregation activity.
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227 **DISCUSSION**

228 The fractions of bilberry, blackcurrant, crowberry, and lingonberry demonstrated
229 antiaggregation activity against the oral bacterial pairs examined. As shown in the present
230 study and previous studies using spectrophotometric and chromatographic or NMR analyses
231 (Toivanen *et al.*, 2009, 2010), these berries possess high proportions of polyphenols. In the
232 fractions without antiaggregation activity, the polyphenol content was very low or
233 polyphenols were not detected.

234 Plant-derived substances can affect the formation of bacterial aggregates either by
235 inhibition of their formation and by reversal of formed units, which mechanisms may be
236 applied in the control of plaque-related diseases (Allaker *et al.*, 2009). In the present
237 antiaggregation study, the berry fractions were selected based on our recent results achieved
238 with berry juice fractions against pathogens, including Gram-positive *Streptococcus* strains,
239 *S. pneumonia*, *S. agalactiae*, and *S. suis*, and a Gram-negative *N. meningitidis* (Toivanen *et*
240 *al.*, 2009; 2010). In the present study, *S. mutans* was selected for coaggregation
241 experiments, since it has been considered as one of the key organisms involved in caries
242 (Kleinberg, 2002), while *A. naeslundii* and *F. nucleatum* are important species in the
243 maturation process of dental biofilms (Al-Ahmad *et al.*, 2007). In general, oral streptococci
244 are prominent early colonizers on tooth enamel and they form coaggregates with other early
245 colonizers, such as *Actinomyces*. However, coaggregation scores between *S. mutans* and *A.*
246 *naeslundii* have been found to be rather weak (Cisar *et al.*, 1979; Crowley *et al.*, 1987).
247 Thus, the low coaggregation score found for the pairs of *S. mutans* with the two strains of *A.*
248 *naeslundii* in the present study was expected. Furthermore, *S. mutans* coaggregated with *F.*
249 *nucleatum* strains with a low score. The low coaggregation scores were taken into

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4 250 consideration in calculations so that inhibition and reversal activities less than 50% were not
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6 251 considered significant.
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10 252 It is notable that the antiaggregation activity may not be connected to a certain group of
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12 253 polyphenols. As shown in Table 1, the fractions FII and FIII of bilberry juice contained a
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14 254 relatively high amount of anthocyanins but a low amount of proanthocyanidins, while high
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16 255 amounts of both anthocyanins and proanthocyanidins were found in the fractions FII and
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18 256 FIII of crowberry juice. In contrast, in the fractions FII and FIII of lingonberry and
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20 257 blackcurrant juices, the anthocyanin concentration was low compared to the
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22 258 proanthocyanidin concentration. Flavonol glycosides were found predominantly in active
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24 259 fractions, which may have an impact on antiaggregation activity, however, their amount
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26 260 was lower compared to major proanthocyanidins and anthocyanins. We have recently
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28 261 demonstrated that polyphenol macromolecular complexes with proanthocyanidins and
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30 262 polyhydroxyflavonoids are present in the active berry juice fractions FII and FIII, while
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32 263 these complexes are absent in the inactive FI and in weakly effective lingonberry FIII
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34 264 fractions (Toivanen *et al.*, 2009).
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41 265 According to our recent nuclear magnetic resonance (NMR) analysis (Toivanen *et al.*,
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43 266 2010), high molecular size fractions contain low molecular weight sugars (mainly glucose)
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45 267 and benzoic acid and high molecular weight polyphenols. In the present study, acids and
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47 268 sugars were equally found both in active and in inactive fractions (Table 1), indicating that
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49 269 they are not the major promoters of the antiaggregation properties. This observation is in
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51 270 agreement with earlier studies (Johnson-White *et al.*, 2006; Steinberg *et al.*, 2005). Our
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53 271 finding on identical chromatographic profiles of anthocyanins (Figure 1) in the fractions FI,
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55 272 FII, and FIII of bilberry, blackcurrant, and crowberry juices indicates that the three fractions
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57 273 contained similar anthocyanin molecules. Although the antiaggregation activity seems to be
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4 274 associated with polyphenols, it is not due to the specific anthocyanin structures in the
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6 275 studied bilberry, blackcurrant or crowberry juice fractions.
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10 276 Among berries, there are two different types of proanthocyanidins: A-type (rare) and B-
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12 277 type (common). The rare A-types dominate in the Finnish *Vaccinium* berries (Määttä-
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14 278 Riihinen *et al.*, 2005). The type of proanthocyanidin can influence the antiaggregation
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16 279 ability (Foo *et al.*, 2000). This concerns especially the high molecular size fraction FII of
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18 280 lingonberry juice but also its weakly effective fraction FIII. In lingonberry and blackcurrant
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20 281 juice fractions, the antiaggregation activity may result from the high content of
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22 282 proanthocyanidins as well.
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27 283 It has been demonstrated that the polyphenol fraction (0.25 mg/ml of which 62% were
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29 284 polyphenols) of American cranberry is able to inhibit the biofilm formation of two
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31 285 periodontitis-associated anaerobes, *Porphyromonas gingivalis* and *F. nucleatum* (Yamanaka
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33 286 *et al.*, 2007). In another study, cranberry proanthocyanidins (0.500 mg/ml) and flavonols
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35 287 (0.125 mg/ml), alone or in combination, reduced the formation and accumulation of *S.*
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37 288 *mutans* biofilms (Duarte *et al.*, 2006). In the present study, 0.6-1.4 mg/g of polyphenols in
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39 289 bilberry, blackcurrant, crowberry, and lingonberry juice fractions displayed inhibition
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41 290 and/or reversal activity against the studied coaggregates. The dilutions of the juice fractions
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43 291 used in our antiaggregation assay represented the concentrations present in a drinkable
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45 292 juice.
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52 293 Berry juices can have a high content of fructose, glucose, citric acid, and malic acid
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54 294 (Viljakainen *et al.*, 2002). Therefore, a drinkable berry juice without further processing is
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56 295 unsuitable for oral hygiene purposes. In the present study, considerable amounts of sugars
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58 296 and titratable acids were present in all the three fractions examined. Low molecular weight
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4 297 sugars are fermentable by acid-producing dental bacteria in plaque, which may increase the
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6 298 risk of dental caries. Moreover, the low pH value and titratable acidity are the major
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9 299 chemical risk factors for dental erosion (Lussi and Jaeggi, 2008). Therefore, for clinical
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11 300 studies or for possible clinical applications, antiaggregative berry polyphenols should be
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13 301 isolated from the active fractions, as described for the high molecular weight non-dialyzable
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15 302 material from cranberry juice concentrate (Weiss *et al.*, 2004). In the case of polyphenolic
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17 303 beverages, such as cocoa bean husk extract, red wine, cistus, and black tea, which have also
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19 304 shown their potential in prevention of biofilm-induced diseases in the oral cavity, no further
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21 305 processing is needed (Matsumoto *et al.*, 2004; Hannig *et al.*, 2009). There is preliminary *in*
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23 306 *vivo* evidence that daily usage of a mouthwash containing cranberry constituents or cacao
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25 307 bean husk can reduce mutans streptococcal counts in the mouth (Matsumoto *et al.*, 2004;
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27 308 Weiss *et al.*, 2004). It has recently been reported that oral rinses with red wine, cistus tea,
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29 309 and black tea can reduce the total count of adherent bacteria (Hannig *et al.*, 2009).
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36 310 Our *in vitro* results suggest that polyphenol constituents in the high molecular size
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38 311 fractions of bilberry, blackcurrant, crowberry, and lingonberry juices may affect the
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40 312 coaggregation capabilities of oral bacteria. Anthocyanins, proanthocyanidins, and flavonol
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42 313 glycosides may be responsible for the observed antiaggregation activity. The susceptibility
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44 314 of oral biofilms to antimicrobial and antiaggregation agents is limited due to the properties
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46 315 of the microbial community (Sbordone *et al.*, 2003). Therefore, the results of the present
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48 316 coaggregation study may not be directly extrapolated as an evidence of the inhibitory effect
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50 317 of the berry components against dental biofilms. Although berry polyphenols have shown
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52 318 their antiaggregation potential, sugars and acids should be eliminated from berry material to
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54 319 get it more suitable for oral hygiene purposes. In order to evaluate the effect of various
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4 320 berry components on oral pathogens, characterization of the antiaggregative molecules and
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6 321 *in vivo* studies will be needed.
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12 428 **FIGURE LEGEND**
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15 429 Figure 1. HPLC-DAD chromatograms at 520 nm of different molecular size crowberry
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17 430 fractions: <10 kDa (FI), 10-100 kDa (FII), and >100 kDa (FIII). Identity of anthocyanins:
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19 431 (1) delphinidin 3-galactoside, (2) cyanidin 3-galactoside, (3) delphinidin 3-arabinoside, (4)
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22 432 petunidin 3-galactoside, (5) cyanidin 3-arabinoside, (6) peonidin 3-galactoside, and (7)
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24 433 malvidin 3-galactoside.
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434 TABLE 1. Composition of soluble solids (SS)^a in indicated juice fractions.

	SS g/100g	% of SS				
		TA	Sugar	PA	AC	FG
Apple						
FI	22	4.5	70	<0.6	ND ^c	ND
FII	24	4.6	77	<0.6	ND	ND
FIII	24	4.5	77	<0.6	ND	ND
Bilberry						
FI	18	11.2	80	<0.6	0.34	ND
FII	24	11.9	63	1.9	3.99	NS
FIII	32	12.7	83	1.4	5.21	0.14
Blackcurrant						
FI	17	24.4	63	0.7	0.29	ND
FII	25	22.3	59	8.5	2.01	0.09
FIII	24	22.2	58	6.2	1.31	0.05
Cloudberry						
FI	3	18.9	57	<0.6	ND	ND
FII	4	19.1	65	<0.6	ND	ND
FIII	3	NA	NA	<0.6	ND	ND
Crowberry						
FI	16	7.4	65	0.7	0.29	ND
FII	22	7.6	55	5.8	2.80	NS
FIII	32	7.5	48	6.3	5.18	0.07
Lingonberry						
FI	19	17.4	52	1.2	0.09	NS
FII	25	16.4	53	5.8	0.32	NS

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4 FIII 25 15.4 63 4.7 0.21 NS
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436 ^aAbbreviations: titratable acids (TA), proanthocyanidins (PA), anthocyanins (AC), flavonol
437 glycosides (FG), not analyzed (NA), not detected (ND), and not significant (NS). ^bJuice
438 concentrates were fractionated into three different fractions according to their molecular
439 size, i.e. <10 kDa fraction (FI), 10–100 kDa fraction (FII), >100 kDa fraction (FIII). ^cNo
440 peaks were detected at 520 nm for AC and at 360 nm for FG in HPLC-DAD.

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1 TABLE 2. Inhibition (%) and reversal (%) of coaggregation between oral bacteria pairs with indicated juice fractions^a.

		<i>S. mutans</i> IH 113728 & <i>A. naeslundii</i> AHP 28639		<i>S. mutans</i> IH 113728 & <i>A. naeslundii</i> AHP 28651		<i>S. mutans</i> IH 113728 & <i>F. nucleatum</i> AHN 23952		<i>S. mutans</i> IH 113728 & <i>F. nucleatum</i> AHN 23937	
		Coaggr. 35 (±5)% n=22		Coaggr. 34 (±6)% n=22		Coaggr. 33 (±8)% n=34		Coaggr. 31 (±6)% n=34	
Fractions	SS mg/g	inhibition ^b	reversal	inhibition	reversal	inhibition	reversal	inhibition	reversal
Apple									
FI	48	< 50 ^b	< 50	< 50	< 50	< 50	< 50	< 50	< 50
FII	48	< 50	< 50	< 50	< 50	< 50	< 50	< 50	< 50
FIII	48	< 50	< 50	< 50	< 50	< 50	< 50	< 50	< 50
Bilberry									
FI	≤48	< 50	< 50	< 50	< 50	< 50	< 50	< 50	< 50
FII	12	< 50	< 50	< 50	< 50	< 50	< 50	< 50	< 50
FII	48	95 (±9)	100 (±0)	100 (±0)	100 (±0)	93 (±9)	99 (±1)	93 (±15)	100 (±0)
FIII	12	< 50	< 50	< 50	< 50	< 50	< 50	< 50	< 50
FIII	48	77 (±27)	< 50	< 50	79 (±24)	< 50	80 (±23)	< 50	< 50
Black currant									
FI	≤48	< 50	< 50	< 50	< 50	< 50	< 50	< 50	< 50
FII	12	< 50	< 50	< 50	< 50	< 50	< 50	< 50	< 50
FII	48	< 50	< 50	< 50	84 (±17)	< 50	< 50	< 50	< 50

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2	FIII	12	71 (\pm 13)	< 50	< 50	< 50	< 50	< 50	< 50	< 50
3										
4	FIII	48	79 (\pm 21)	81(\pm 21)	87 (\pm 13)	90 (\pm 6)	< 50	< 50	< 50	< 50
5										
6	Cloudberry									
7										
8	FI	34	< 50	< 50	< 50	< 50	< 50	< 50	< 50	< 50
9										
10	FII	40	< 50	< 50	< 50	< 50	< 50	< 50	< 50	< 50
11										
12	FIII	33	< 50	< 50	< 50	< 50	< 50	< 50	< 50	< 50
13										
14	Crowberry									
15										
16	FI	\leq 48	< 50	< 50	< 50	< 50	< 50	< 50	< 50	< 50
17										
18	FII	12	< 50	< 50	< 50	< 50	< 50	< 50	< 50	< 50
19										
20	FII	48	83 (\pm 21)	93 (\pm 8)	91 (\pm 12)	90 (\pm 12)	85 (\pm 17)	98 (\pm 1)	71 (\pm 28)	95 (\pm 8)
21										
22	FIII	12	< 50	85 (\pm 11)	< 50	82 (\pm 21)	< 50	< 50	< 50	< 50
23										
24	FIII	48	86 (\pm 19)	94 (\pm 9)	84 (\pm 13)	80 (\pm 30)	< 50	88 (\pm 27)	74 (\pm 9)	79 (\pm 9)
25										
26	Lingonberry									
27										
28	FI	\leq 48	< 50	< 50	< 50	< 50	< 50	< 50	< 50	< 50
29										
30	FII	12	< 50	< 50	< 50	< 50	< 50	< 50	< 50	< 50
31										
32	FII	48	81 (\pm 22)	100 (\pm 0)	94 (\pm 8)	97 (\pm 7)	80 (\pm 14)	88 (\pm 14)	83 (\pm 12)	99 (\pm 1)
33										
34	FIII	12	< 50	< 50	< 50	< 50	< 50	< 50	< 50	< 50
35										
36	FIII	48	< 50	< 50	< 50	< 50	< 50	< 50	93 (\pm 12)	< 50
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41	1	^a Descriptions of fractions in Table 1.								
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1 ^aDescriptions of fractions in Table 1.

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1 ^bDuplicates of bacterial pairs in inhibition and reversal assays were used and each experiment was repeated at least twice. Positive scores over
2 the limit 50% in reversal and inhibition are shown. Standard deviation is shown in parentheses.

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FIGURE 1

