The hypoglycemic effects of American ginseng (*Panax quinquefolius* L.) on a diabetic mouse model

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American ginseng (*Panax quinquefolius* L.) roots are known to have various health benefits, including treatment of type II diabetes. This study was conducted to elucidate the hypoglycemic effects of American red ginseng (ARG). The antihyperglycemic effects of methanol fraction extract of ARG, ferulic acid and cinnamic acid were examined using a type 2 diabetic mouse model. The ARG treated group presented relatively lower blood glucose levels than the control group (*p* < 0.05). In addition, the glycogen and HDL contents were significantly increased while levels of plasma cholesterol and LDL concentration were significantly decreased in the ARG treated group. The groups treated with ferulic and cinnamic acids showed similar effects as those found in the ARG treated group. Thus, it is suggested that ARG roots, ferulic acid, and cinnamic acid have hypoglycemic effects in an animal model.