Solanum Nigrum L., popularly known as Maria Preta has been studied for presenting antitumor properties. Several researchers believe it is correlated with the presence of antioxidant compounds found in fruit. This study evaluated the antioxidant activity of methanolic extracts from the seed, peel and pulp of Maria Preta. The extracts were prepared in a ratio 10:1 (solvent:sample) and after that they were rotaevaporated. Next, the determination of the antioxidant capacity was evaluated by DPPH method and it was expressed in the extract concentration required to inhibit 50% of the radical (IC50% in µg/mL). The quantification of phenolic compounds was carried out according to Folin-Ciocalteou and it was expressed in equivalent mg per liter of gallic acid (mgGAE/L). Besides, the flavonoid analysis was accomplished according to Buriol et al. (2009) and expressed in equivalent mg per liter of quercetin (mgQE/L). The seeds showed antioxidant capacity of 505.73µg/mL, the peel: 361.85µg/mL and the pulp: 386.76µg/mL. The amount of phenolic compounds was 10.81mgGAE/L in the seeds, 14.31mgGAE/L in the peel and in the pulp showed the highest value, 274.66mgGAE/L. The amount of flavonoids in the fruit was 46.77mgQE/L in the seeds, 38.22mgQE/L in the peel and 64.18mgQE/L in the pulp. The different parts of fruit showed good antioxidant activity and considerable amounts of phenolics and flavonoids, highlighting that the pulp is the best source of phenolic compounds. Thus, the obtained values indicate that seeds and peels, which are commonly discarded also have these important compounds, antioxidants.

Keywords: Solanum nigrum L, Maria Preta, Antioxidant Capacity, Total Phenolics, Total Flavonoids.