PHARMACOGNOSTICAL STUDIES ON DOLICHANDRONE FALCATA LEAVES

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Article Received on: 16/09/11 Revised on: 23/10/11 Approved for publication: 14/11/11

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ABSTRACT

The plant Dolichandrone falcate has been used mainly for diabetics and other various disorders by tribals. Since there is no proper information regarding histological character of this plant our efforts were devoted to study the pharmacognostical properties of this plant

KEYWORDS: Dolichandrone falcate, Pharmacognostic characters.

INTRODUCTION

Common Name: Medshing, Medasinghi, Mersingi, Dolichandrone falcata (family-Bignoneaceae), is a small to medium-sized tree, 20-50 ft in height, distributed in Rajputana, Uttar Pradesh, Bihar and in the moist forests of Central and Southern India. Leaves simply pinnate, leaflets opposite, sub-orbicular or obovate, sometimes very shortly acuminate (the terminal leaflet rather larger than the lateral ones), pubescent or glabrous. MATERIALS AND METHODS

The leaves of Dolichandrone falcata were collected from near by area of Bhivapur region. The plant material was authenticated from Department of Botany, Nagpur University, Nagpur. The leaves were shade dried, pulverized into coarse powder and stored in well-stoppered container.

PHARMACOGNOSTIC STUDIES

 Morphological Studies were done to determine the colour, odour, taste, size, shape and special features, like touch, texture, apex, base and margin. Microscopical studies were done by preparing a thin section passing through midrib and lamina region of Dolichandrone falcata. The section was cleared with chloral hydrate solution and then stained with phloroglucinol followed by addition of hydrochloric acid and mounted in glycerin. A separate section was prepared and stained with iodine solution for the identification of starch grains. The powder of dried leaves was used for the observation of microscopic characters. The powder drug was separately treated with phloroglucinol- HCl solution, glycerin and iodine solution to determine the presence of lignified cells, calcium oxalate crystals and starch grains. As a part of quantitative microscopy, stomatal number, stomatal index, vein islet, and termination numbers were determined by using fresh leaves of the plant6,7.

RESULT AND DISCUSSION

The detailed pharmacognostical evaluation would give valuable information for further studies. The macroscopical and microscopical studies revealed as follows

Macrofeatures

Leaves of Dolichandrone falcate are simply pinnate. Leaflets-opposite. Colour… Green Odour… Characteristic Taste…. Characteristic Size…… 7 to 9 cm in length Shape….. Suborbicular Base… Cuneate Apex…. Acuminate Margin… Entire Surface… Pubescent Texture… Leathery

Vestiture…Hirsute Trichomes...Present Ridges……..Present Microscopy

The T.S. of the Dolichandrone falcata leaf showed the presence of polygonal epidermis, Palisade cells, Parenchymatous cells, Collenchymatous cells, lignified xylem, Phloem, anomocytic stomata on lower surface and trichomes.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

The authors are thankful to Principal Dr. A.M. Ittadwar Gurunaniak College of Pharmacy for providing all the facilities required for successful completion of this work

REFERENCES

Quantitative Microscopy Of Leaves Of Dolichandrone falcate

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<tr>
<th>Parameters</th>
<th>Details</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Epidermal cells</td>
<td>Polygonal</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Stomata</td>
<td>Upper Surface – absent, Lower: Anomocytic</td>
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<tr>
<td>Stomato Index</td>
<td>16.3 %</td>
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<tr>
<td>Trichomes</td>
<td>Non glandular multicellular and branched on lower surface.</td>
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<td>Venation</td>
<td>Pinnate reticulate</td>
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<tr>
<td>Vein islet no.</td>
<td>11</td>
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<tr>
<td>Vein termination no.</td>
<td>4</td>
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Source of support: Nil, Conflict of interest: None Declared