

Anthelmintic Activity of *Flemingia strobilifera* (R.Br)

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ABSTRACT

Petroleum Ether, chloroform, alcoholic and aqueous extracts of leaves of *Flemingia strobilifera* was evaluated for anthelmintic activity. The results revealed that the alcoholic extract produced significant anthelmintic activity, both alcoholic and chloroform extracts showed significant anthelmintic activity as compared to other extracts. Piperazine citrate was used as standard drug.

Key Words: *Flemingia strobilifera*, anthelmintic activity.

INTRODUCTION

Flemingia strobilifera (R.Br) belonging to family Fabaceae, commonly known as Kusruni is widely distributed in Sind, Rajputana, Bengal, South India and Andamans. The roots of this plant have been indigenously used in epilepsy and hysteria and the leaves were reported to be used as vermifuge. Arabian it is employed in cosmetic, anthelmintic and a remedy coughs and chills.

The vast ethno medical uses insisted us to investigate anthelmintic activity of the leaves of *Flemingia strobilifera*.

MATERIALS AND METHODS

Plant Material

The leaves of *Flemingia strobilifera* were collected from Tadikhet, Ranikhet, Utrakhand, during November to December and authenticated through Govt Ayurvedic Research Institute Tadikhet, Utrakhand, India. A voucher specimen has been deposited at the department of pharmaceutical sciences in the Pharmacognosy department of pharmacy college Azamgarh U.P., India. The leaves were dried under shade and coarsely powdered.

Preparation of Extract

The powdered plant material was successively extracted with petroleum ether, chloroform and alcohol using Soxhlet apparatus. Finally the aqueous extract was prepared by decoction. The yield of

petroleum ether, chloroform, alcoholic and aqueous extracts were 2.1, 2.3, 12.2 and 4.2 % respectively. The prepared extracts were tested for anthelmintic activity.

Study of Anthelmintic Activity

The anthelmintic activity of the extracts of leaf of *Flemingia strobilifera* was determined by using the method of Rao *et al.* The activity was evaluated on adult Indian earthworm (*Pheretima posthuma*) due to its anatomical and physiological similarity with the intestinal roundworm parasites of human being. Fifty milliliters of the extract solution containing three different concentrations, each of petroleum ether, chloroform, alcoholic and aqueous extract (25, 50, 100mg/ml in 1% Tween 80 in normal saline) were prepared and six worms were placed in it. Piperazine citrate (15 mg/ml) was used as reference standard while 1% Tween 80 in normal saline as control. The time taken to paralyze and kill individual worms was observed. Paralysis was noted when the worms became immobile even in the normal saline solution. Death was concluded when the worms lost their motility followed by fading away of their body color.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Table 1 shows that the alcoholic extract at a dose of 100mg/ml has significant anthelmintic activity, whereas chloroform and aqueous extract showed moderate activity and petroleum ether extract is having least anthelmintic activity.

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Table 1: Anthelmintic Activity of Leaves of *Flemingia strobilifera*

Treatment	Time taken in minutes for	
	Paralysis	Death
vehicle	--	--
Piperazine citrate	20.2 ± 0.5	24.6 ± 0.6
Petroleum ether extract	--	
25mg/ml		
50mg/ml	162 ± 5.7	161.1 ± 11.4
100mg/ml	112 ± 3.5	
Chloroform extract		
25mg/ml	116.3 ± 2.5	143.0 ± 5.6
50mg/ml	102.5 ± 5.0	125.5 ± 2.7
100mg/ml	76.9 ± 2.3	92.9 ± 3.4
Alcoholic extract		
25mg/ml	91.1 ± 4.1	116.3 ± 2.5
50mg/ml	64.8 ± 2.6	79.3 ± 2.7
100mg/ml	49.2 ± 1.5	61.5 ± 3.1
Aqueous extract		
25mg/ml	167.0 ± 6.3	
50mg/ml	123.3 ± 4.2	137.5 ± 2.2
100mg/ml	67.7 ± 2.5	75.5 ± 2.2

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