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**EFFECTS OF PLANT *Chloroxylon switenia* LEAVES EXTRACTS ON PATHOGENIC
MICROORGANISMS**

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ABSTARCT

Plants are known to possess various secondary metabolites, which exhibit inhibitory effect against the growth of pathogens. To avoid the use of these harmful diseases causing synthetic chemicals, the plants and their products should be utilized to combat pathogens. This study is focused at testing the efficacy of plant leave extracts of *Chloroxylon switenia* for antibacterial activity on pathogens like *E. coli*, *P. aeruginosa* and *S. aureus*. The study exhibited good results for antimicrobial activity against *S. aureus* and *P. aeruginosa*.

Keywords: *Chloroxylon switenia*, Secondary Metabolites, Extracts, Antimicrobial Activity

INTRODUCTION

In order to maintain the productivity, more and more chemicals are being added in the natural environment, which enter the food chain through water, soil, and air resulting serious harmful affects on human health [1]. To avoid the use of these harmful diseases causing synthetic chemicals, the plants and their products should be utilized to combat pathogens. Plants are known to possess various secondary metabolites, which exhibit inhibitory effect against the growth of pathogens [2]. Coliforms are major problem

in drinking water contaminated with domestic sewage. Medicinal plants may be defined as any plant that can be put to culinary or medicinal use such as fox glove, opium poppy, and garlic. Ethno pharmacologists, botanists, microbiologists, and natural-products chemists are combing the Earth for phyto-chemical sources and "leads" which could be developed for treatment of infectious diseases. While 25 to 50% of current pharmaceuticals are derived from plants, a very few are used as antimicrobials.

Traditional healers have long used plants to prevent or cure infectious conditions; Western medicine is trying to duplicate their successes. Keeping these problems in view, efforts are underway to search economical and safe phytochemicals, which could be utilized for disease control. Therefore, the screening and testing the efficacy of *chloroxylon switenia* for antibacterial activity was undertaken to explore their bactericidal activity.

MATERIALS AND METHODS

Plant Collection

Fresh leaves were collected from the forest of Hoshangabad after proper identification. Plant material was air dried, homogenized to a fine powder and stored in air-tight bottles.

Sample Preparation and Extraction

Alcoholic and aqueous extract was used for this study. These crude extraction processes are done at room temperature for 48 hours by soxhlet extraction method. Muslin cloth was then used to filter the plant residues and the filtrates thus obtained were further purified by filtration through what man No 1 filter paper [3]. These stock solutions of extracts were sterilized by filtration through Millipore membrane filter of 0.45µm pore-size [4]. The sterile extract obtained is store in sterile capped bottles and refrigerated at 4°C until when required for use.

Test Organisms

The test organisms included in this study are *Escherichia coli* (NCIM No. 2065), *Pseudomonas aeruginosa* (NCIM No. 2200), and *Staphylococcus aureus* (NCIM No. 2079). The pure clinical isolates were obtained from National Collection of industrial microorganisms (NCIM) Pune. Clinical isolates were checked for purity and maintained on Nutrient agar at 4°C in the refrigerator until required for use.

Phytochemical Tests

Standard phytochemical tests for tannins, phlobatanins, flavinoids, cardiac glycosides and terpenoids were done.

Anti-Microbial Test by Disc Diffusion Method

The antimicrobial assay of aqueous and alcoholic extracts of leaves was performed by disc diffusion method [5, 6]. The disc (0.7 cm) (Hi-Media) was saturated with 100 µl of the dilution series of (100%, 50%, and 25%) test compound for 20 mins, allowed to dry and then placed on the upper layer of the seeded agar plate. The plates were incubated at 37°C. Antibacterial activity was determined by measuring the diameter of the zone of inhibition (mm) surrounding bacterial growth [7]. Clear zone around the discs shows inhibitory nature of the plant extracts. For bacterial strain, controls were included that

comprised pure solvents instead of the extract [8].

RESULTS

Plant Collection

Chloroxylon switenia

Fresh leaves were collected from the forest of Hoshangabad, pictures can be seen below in **Figure 1**.

Extracts

Alcoholic and aqueous extract were prepared by soxhlet-extraction procedure **Figure 2** below shows the dilution of extracts before disc diffusion assay.

Test Organisms

Escherichia coli (NCIM No. 2065),
Pseudomonas aeruginosa (NCIM No. 2200),

and *Staphylococcus aureus* (NCIM No. 2079) were used throughout the study, broth cultures of the three can be seen below in **Figure 3**.

Phytochemical Tests

Standard phytochemical tests for tannins, phlobatanins, flavinoids, cardiac glycosides and terpenoids were performed results can be seen below in **Table 2** and **Figure 4**.

Anti-Microbial Test by Disc Diffusion Method

After 24 hours of incubation on nutrient agar medium the zone of inhibition was calculated and the mean value thus obtained after three repeats are presented below in **Figure 5** (alcoholic extracts), **Figure 6** (aqueous extracts) and **Table 1**.



Figure 1: *Chloroxylon switenia*



Figure 2: Cultures of Microorganisms

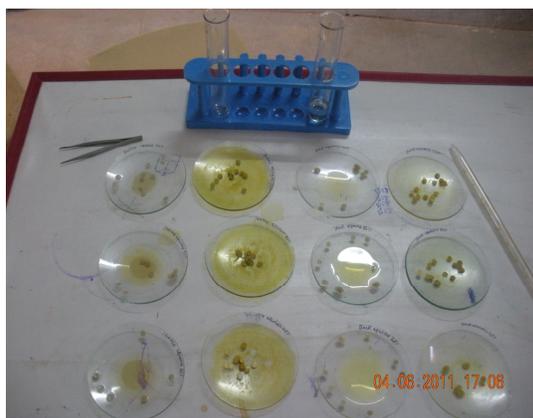


Figure 3: Dilution of Extracts



Figure 4: Phytochemical Test



S. aureus



P. aeruginosa



E. coli

Figure 5: Zone of Inhibition on Target Organism In Alcoholic Leaves Extracts



S. aureus



P. aeruginosa



E. coli

Figure 6: Zone of Inhibition on Target Organism In Aqueous Leaves Extracts

Table 1: Anti-Microbial Test by Disc Diffusion Method

S. NO	TEST MICROORGANISM	PLANT EXTRACT	CONCENTRATION	ZONE OF INHIBITION (IN mm)
1	<i>S. aureus</i>	Alcoholic leaves	0,1,2,3	0.6,1.3cm,1cm,1cm
2	<i>P. aeruginosa</i>	Alcoholic leaves	0,1,2,3	0.6,1cm,0.9,0.8
3	<i>E. coli</i>	Alcoholic leaves	0,1,2,3	0.6,0.8,0.8,0.7
4	<i>S. aureus</i>	Aqueous leaves	0,1,2,3	0.7,1.5cm,1.2cm,1.2cm
5	<i>P. aeruginosa</i>	Aqueous leaves	0,1,2,3	0.6, 0.7, 0.7, 0.6 after 48hrs zone of inhibition is 5.5cm.
6	<i>E. coli</i>	Aqueous leaves	0,1,2,3	0,0.8,0.7,0

Used Keys: 0= control (Pure solvent), 1 = 100% Solvent, 2 =50% Solvent, and 3 = 25% Solvent

Table 2: Phytochemical Results

S. No	PLANT MATERIAL	Tanins	Phobatanins	Flavonoid	Terpenoid	Cardiac glycosoides
1	Leaves alcoholic	+	-	+	+	-
2	Leaves aqueous	-	-	+	+	+

DISCUSSION

Plant derived medicine have made significant contribution towards human health. Phytochemistry can be used for the treatment of diseases. In the present study *E. coli*, *P. aeruginosa* & *S. aureus* have been used to study the antibacterial activity of *chloroxylon switenia*. Leaves extracts was used. The result showed the maximum antibacterial activity against aqueous extracts of leaves. This investigation revealed that the aqueous and alcoholic extract of leaves of *chloroxylon*

switenia produced good inhibitory zones against *S. aureus* and *P. aeruginosa* then *E. coli*. So it is expected that *chloroxylon switenia* may be further studied for its active ingredients for its therapeutic principles, as it shows significant antibacterial effect against *S.aureus* and *P.aeruginosa*.

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