



A REVIEW ON WILD HERB : PHYLA NODIFLORA

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Abstract

Phyla nodiflora is perennial herb low-growing native, evergreen groundcover makes an excellent lawn substitute, also known as jalpapli. It is tolerant of wetness, dryness, compact soils, salt wind, and occasional salt flooding. It has been used medicinally for several causes as an antifungal, antimicrobial, larvicidal, anti-tumour, in swollen cervical glands, gonorrhoea and pain in joints. This plant also showed the anti-bacterial activity such as staphylococcus, E.coli, etc. In this review article mainly concentrated on its pharmacological, phytochemistry, anti-bacterial, anti-microbial activity.

Keywords

Pharmacological, phyla nodiflora, steroids, phytochemicals, verbenaceae.

Introduction

Medicinal plants are an important unit of the whole world. Various medicinal plants have been used from many decades for treatment of many diseases. Especially people living in villages and also people living in hilly areas. Hilly areas are the most common source of medicinal plants, herbs, trees. Medicinal plants have been offering in the development of Indian system of medicine. India with its mega-biodiversity and rich in knowledge of traditional medicine, i.e. ayurveda provide a powerful base for utilization of more no. of plants in general healthcare and alleviation of diseases. There are several drugs used in ayurveda but little-known to primary stakeholders. One of these known drugs called as jala pippali.

Jalapippali is also known as phyla nodiflora, local name is jalpapli, English name is frog fruit. It is found in warmer part of India, Sri Lanka, Central America etc. In India it is present in Kerala, Maharashtra, Karnataka, U.P., Tamil Nadu, Rajasthan, etc. It belongs to family Verbenaceae.

Family : Verbenaceae

Name : phyla nodiflora, lippia nodiflora , phyla nodiflora var. incisa, lippia nodiflora var .reptans.

Synonyms : nodiflora, lippia reptans ,phyla nodiflora var. nodiflora, phyla nodiflora var. rosea.
Texas frog- fruit , matchweed, creeping lip.

Common : plant , spatulate- leaved frog- fruit

Name : frog fruit , wedge- leaf , turkey-tangle , capeweed, matgrass

Classification and characteristics

Plant division : angiosperms [dicotyledon] ,

Plant growth form : creeper ,herbaceous plant perennial .

Plant shape : shrubby .

Maximum height : 0.1 m to 0.3 m

Biogeography

Native distribution : USA

Native habitat :terrestrial .

Preferred climate : temperate

Local conservation status : non- native .

Description and Ethnobotany

Growth form : a perennial herb with spreading growth form , growing to about 15^{cm} tall .

Foliage : leaves green , ovate or oblanceolate, with serrate leaf margin from the middle to the tip of the leaf . leaves have opposite arrangement .

Stems : the stem can be up 0.9 m long .it becomes woody at the base as it matures .the stem is strongly yellow-green , but reddish brown near the tip and leaf nodes .

Flowers : a ring of small ,white to pink ,bi-labiate flowers [having 2 lips , 3mm wide] surround a purple ovoid flowering head [1-3 cm long] near the top. The inflorescence occurs on a green to



red- brown floral stalk .

Fruits : produces capsules that break up into nutlets which are small ,indehiscent , dry fruits.

Habitat : occurs in wet lands , wet prairies and near rivers at altitudes of 0- 400 m . also becomes established in disturbed areas with moist soils [ponds , fields , ditches , paddy , brackish water] .

Cultivation : although this plant prefers moist soil , a mature plant can withstand short periods of drought . able to grow in poorly drained or nutrient poor soils , but not saline soils . however , it



can tolerate salt spray .

Etymology : the genus name “phyla” is Greek for calm or tribe . it refers to how species in this genus often have many flowers that occur in tight clusters . the species epithet “nodiflora “is latin for a term that means that flowers emerge from nodes . the common name “matchweed” come from the fact that the floral stalk and inflorescence together resemble a match .

Ethnobotanical uses: food [herb and spice]

Medicinal [traditionally , the plant has been used to treat constipation and knee pain . leaves and immature stalks are used to make infusions that are administered to children with indigestion or women that have recently delivered a baby . a paste produced from the plant is also applied to boils and ulcers . freshly pressed juice from leaves is used on gums to stop bleeding] .

[others ; leaves can fed to cattle] .

Landscaping features

Landscaping : excellent ground that can withstand both drought and flooding . however , care must be taken to restrain its growth , because it can overtake lawns and gardens due to its fast growth rate. Also good for hanging baskets .may be planted next to water gardens .

Desirable plant features : ornamental flowers .

Plants and rootzone : easy to grow , waterlogged soils .

Landscape uses : general , turf /lawn/ spots field, groundcover, container plants , hanging basket .

Fauna dispersal, pollution and

Fauna pollution : butterfly food plant .

Pollution methods : biotic [fauna] [insects] [butterfly] [moth].

Plant care and propagation

Light preference : semi- shade , full sun .

Water preference :lots of water , moderate water.

Plant growth rate : fast .

Maintenance requirements : moderate .

Propagation methods : stem cutting .

Foliar

Foliage retention : evergreen

Mature foliage colour : green

Mature foliage texture : smooth.

Foliar type : simple / unifoliate

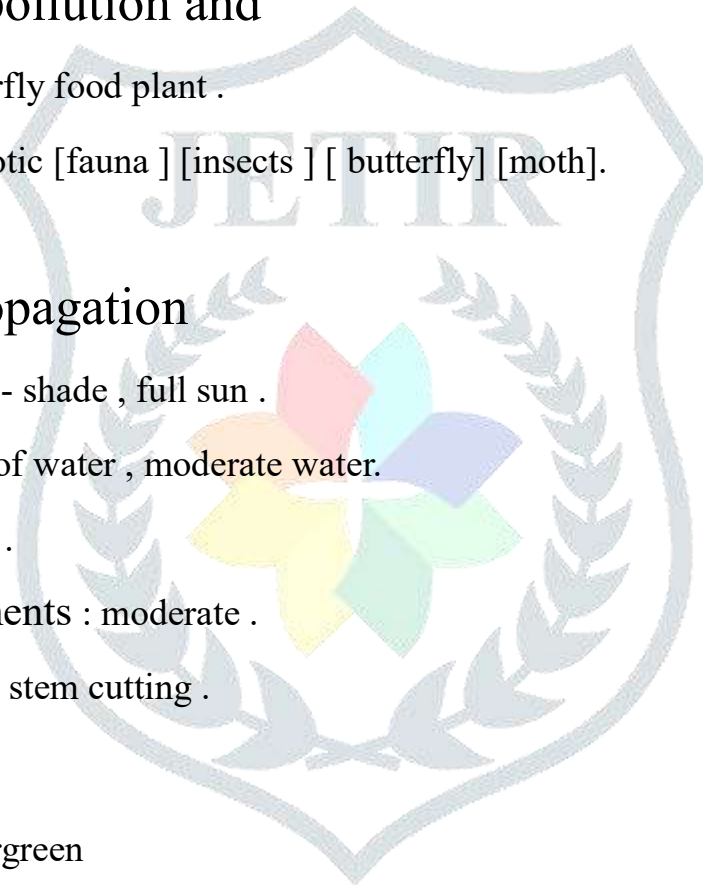
Foliar arrangement along stem : opposite

Foliar shape : non plam foliage

Foliar venation : pinnate / net .

Foliar margin : seerate / toothed

Foliar apex- tip : rounded



Foliar base : cuneate

Typical foliar area : microphyll [2.25cm -20. 25 cm²]

Non – foliar and storage

Stem type and modification : herbaceous

Root type : underground . [tap root].

fruits, seed and spore

Fruit classification : simple fruit

Fruit type 1 : dehiscent dry fruit

Fruit type 2 : capsule

Phytochemistry

The plant is full of highly medicinal used components . the plant have a different type of constituents such as fructose, glucose , lactose, linoleic , phenols, triterpenoids ,phenols, steroids, xylose. In leaves contains nodiflorines-Aand B , NEPETIN, LIPPIFLORIN-A, nodifloretin , glycosides of beta- sterol and stigma – sterol. From the flowers of phlya nodiflora, two flavons glycoside*s lippiflorin B along with the known compound nepatin and batalifolin from the ethanol extract of phyla nodiflora were isolated.

Volatile constituents

The extracts of phyla nodiflora were were steam - distilled . a mixture of hydrocarbons and a mixture of oxygenates in the hydrocarbon fraction , among the 14 constituents the main constituent was beta- caryophyllene, 12 constituents were found to be in less than 7% while 5 compounds [1-octane-3-ol, phenethyl alcohol].and oxygenated fraction to be in amounts less than 7%, p-cymen - 8-ol ,and methyl salicylate] were found to be in amounts between 10 -20 percent of total.

Actions : diuretic, demulcent , astringent ,febrifuge, cooling , heart tonic , spermopoietic, blood purifier, appetizer, stomachic , anthelmintic , ophthalmic.

Used in : whole plant : is febrifuge , spermopoietic :plant made in to poultice used as maturant for boils , infusion of tender leaves and stalks : given to children , indigestion, and diarrhoea , ordinary cold and given to women after delivery in fever , also useful in polyuria dysentery , arthritis.

Pharmacological uses

1. **Anti- diuretic activity :** the diuretic activity of methanol and with water extract of whole plants were assessed in albino rats using in-vivo Lipschitz test modal . furosemide was used as a standard. the volumes of urine , urinary concentration of Na and k ions were the parameters of the study. The results indicates that methanol and water extract at 500mg/ kg body weight shows a significant increase in urine volume and electrolyte excretion when compared to control . both the extracts show significant diuretic activity.
2. **Anti-microbial activity :** phyla nodiflora activity was also be calculated the antibacterial , anti microbial and phytochemical studies were also done. The Indian medicinal plants were studied for their anti-microbial activity.
3. **Larvicidal activity:** phyla nodiflora , lippia nodiflora , lippia gracilis , lippia microphylla of leaves essential oil used to studied the larvicidal activity against the instar larvae of aedes aegypti. Only in leaves essential oil larvicidal effect showed . larvicidal activity is 26.3 mg/ml.
4. **Skin problems :** phyla nodiflora is traditional medicine for the treatment of different dermo problems and used as folk cosmetics among the tribal communities of west-north frontier province , Pakistan .
5. **Anti -cancer activity :**the phyla nodiflora has been evaluated from methanolic extract for the anti – cancer activity by using swiss albino mice .the mice weight is 400mg/ kg by administrated methanol extract at 200 for 9 days after 24 hours of cancer inoculation . the methanolic extract indicated significant decreases in cancer volume, viable cell count and packed cell volume, the life spam of mice was also found to be increased . for the mice treated with the methanol extract the hematological profiles reverted to more/ less normal

levels, while the serum enzymes, total proteins and bilirubin were altered narrowly. The methanol extract increased the level of reduced glutathione, catalase and superoxide dismutase and reduced the levels of lipid per oxidation. The plants was found to bear good anti cancer activity, which was supposed to be due to be increased anti oxidant activity.

6. **Miscellaneous activity** : phylanodiflora contains nodifloretin, beta- sitosterol glucoside, stigmasterol, nodifloridin A, etc, it could be used in proper doses for the treatment of hepatitis. Zheng et al suggested that the plants extract of any of two plants *L.nodiflora*, *datura metel*, *wrightia tinctoria* possess anti dandruff application.

A pilot study was done on simple siddha remedy for alopecia area.

The anti- inflammatory and anti- pyretic activity in rodents of plants extract was used in African medicine.

Conclusion

Phyla nodiflora is worldwide all over the world. It has been used by the unlikely people as traditional medicinal. Different compounds have been isolated. Presence of large number of phytochemicals indicates towards its future perspective to use it as an indigenous medicine in the pharmaceutical industry. Certain compound has been isolated. However more investigations are to be done on the biological active compounds.

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