

Phytotoxic effect of *Momordica charantia* on common weeds (*Commelina* & *Aerva*)

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ABSTRACT

Momordica charantia Linn. belongs to the family cucurbitaceae. It is a medicinal plant used for many diseases. It is a climbing annual or perennial herb is used as vegetable. I have studied its phytotoxic effect in both in vitro and in vivo analyses. It was studied by using the ethanolic extract of leaf and fruit of *Momordica charantia* on common weeds like *Commelina* and *Aerva* by leaf disc assay. Leaf discs of *Commelina* and *Aerva* were incubated for 24 and 48 hrs in the ethanolic extract. The result shown remarkable reduction in the chlorophyll content. These result suggest that the fruit and leaf extract of *Momordica charantia* possesses the phytotoxic effect.

Key words: Phytotoxicity, Ethanolic extract, phytochemical analysis, secondary metabolites.

INTRODUCTION

Medicinal plants are the local heritage with global importance, world is endowed with a rich wealth of medicinal plants. Herbs have always been the principal form of medicine in India and presently they are becoming popular throughout the developed world, as people strive to stay healthy in the face of chronic stress and pollution and to treat illness with medicine that work in concert with the body's own defense. People in Eroupe, North America and Australia are consulting trained herbal professionals and are using the plant medicines. Medicinal plants also play an important role in the lives of rural people, particularly in remote parts of developing countries with few health facilities.

In India medicinal plants have a good contribution to the development of ancient Indian *Material medica*. One of the earliest treaties on Indian medicine, the charka smite(1000 B.C.), records the use of over 340 drugs of vegetable origin, most of these continue to be gathered from wild plants to meet the demand of the medical profession.

The subcontinent, India is blessed with varieties of aromatic and medicinal plants, the agro climatic conditions and rainfall favoring this bio-availability. More than 7,500sp of medicinal plants are grown in India. Owing to India is considered as the botanical garden of the world and treasure house of the biodiversity. Ayurveda, our indigenous system of health care is accepted everywhere especially abroad. Vedas and other ancient scriptures give clean out evidence of using herbs and medicinal plants. Ayurveda alone describes about 2000sp of plants, which contribute more than 10000 formulations. (Orient Longman, 1997)

Momordica charantia Linn. belongs to the family cucurbitaceae. It is a medicinal plant used for many diseases. It has been extensively studied as a traditional treatment for diabetes. It is a climbing annual or perennial herb is used as vegetable indigenous to tropical areas including India, Asia, South America and Africa. Various preparation of *Momordica charantia* from extracts of fruit juices and dried fruits have been used world wide particularly for blood sugar lowering effect (Raman & Lau 1996).

Momordica charantia is used in preparation of drug in Ayurveda, Unani system of medicine. The roots of *M.charantia* are used in ophthalmic and prolapsus vaginae. The fruit is bitter, cooling, digestible, laxative, antipyretic, anthelmintic, and appetizer. It is used in anaemia, urinary disorders, asthma, ulcers and bronchitis. The juice is useful in cholera. It also has various medicinal properties such as carminative, tonic, stomachic, aphrodisiac, anthelmintic, astringent to the bowels and expectorant. The leaves are given for bilious affection as an emetic and purgative. It also useful in piles, leprosy, jaundice and as a vermifuge. It also used as emmenagogue in dysmenorrhoea. The fruit is much value in stomachic (Natkarni 1991).

In addition it has been reported to exhibit diverse biological activities such as antioxidant, antimicrobial, antiviral, antihepatotoxic, antiulcerogenic activity which is attributed to an array of biologically active plant chemical including triterpenes, saponins and steroid (Grover&Yadav 2004). It also consists of many chemical constituents such as alkaloid, alkaline, ascorbic acid, asparagines, aspartic acid, citrulline, cucurbitane, and momordicine etc., *Momordica charantia* are frequently used in folk medicine. *M.charantia* has insecticidal activity and also has antiplasmodial property. Hence *M.charantia* is tested for their phytotoxic effect on common weeds like *Commelina* and *Aerva*.

The objective of the present study

- ' Extraction of dried leaf and fruit of *M. charantia*
- ' Study of phytotoxic effect on *Commelina* sp and *Aerva* sp
- ' Phytochemical analysis of ethanolic extract

Three new cucurbitane type triterpene called karavilagenis A, B, C and five new cucurbitane type triterpene glycosides called karavilosides were isolated from dried fruit of *M.charantia* together with two cucurbitane type triterpene 19,5,19-epoxycucurbita goyaglycosides-b,c&d, momordicosides (Nakumara *et al.*, 2007)

Investigation of the traditional uses of *Momordica charantia* (cucurbitaceae) in Togo (West

Africa) showed that it is one of the most important local medicinal plants both for ritual and ethnomedical practices. There was a high degree of consensus (>50%) for use in the treatment of gastrointestinal and viral diseases among general population. *M.charantia* extract prepared from accessions collected in Togo showed high antiviral activity (<5µg/ml) against sindbis and herper simplex type 1 viruses and anthelmintic activity against caenorhabditis elegans. Momordicins were found. To be anthelmintic but not antiviral (Nadine belonin *et al.*, 2005).

The phytochemical screening was performed by Standard methods. Estimation of proteins was done by Lowry's method. Amino acid were separated and identified by chromatographic method. Among the species studied the highest protein content was found in the pollen grains. 16 Amino acid were identified in the pollen grains of cucurbitaceae plant investigated (Kalkal *et al.*, 2005).

Scanning electron microscopic studies on the effect of treatment with alcohol extract of *M.charantia* seeds to male albino rat at a dose of 25mg / 100g body weight orally for 35 days on the cauda epididymal sperms indicated that plasma membrane and acrosomal membrane are distributed with serration in the sperm head region. Considerable change in the shape and size of sperm exhibited abnormality. There was appearance of cytoplasmic droplets in the mid tail region (Girni *et al.*, 2005).

The protein provides along with other ingredient suitable formulation in the tablet form in the treatment of diabetes mellitus (Khanna *et al.*, 2006).

A significant decrease in malondialdehyde (MDA) level and a significant increase in antioxidant activity were observed when *M. charantia*, *Allium sativum*, *Azadiracta indica* and *Ocimum sanctum* were administered to diabetic rats. Changes in metal ion status were also observed following administration of herbal hypoglycemic agents. It is concluded that these herbal drug also decreases the oxidative load and strength the antioxidant potential (Chandra, Mahdi 2004).

M. charantia with exercise reduced the blood glucose of KK-Ay mice 5 weeks after administration and also significantly lowered the plasma insulin of KK-Ay mice under similar condition. The blood glucose of *M. charantia* with exercise is lower than that of *M. charantia* exercise only 5 weeks after the administration. *M. charantia* with exercise decreased blood glucose in a glucose tolerance test. These results suggest that *M. charantia* with exercise is useful for type 2 diabetic cures.

An HPTLC method was developed for quantitative estimation of charantin in small fig. Dried fruits of *M. charantia* used in formulation and different marketed antidiabetic poly herbal formulation. This HPTLC method was found to be reproducible, accurate and precise and charantin concentration at nanogram. The developed HPTLC method would be an important tool in the quality control method of polyherbal formulation (Patel, Goyal 2007).

Macrocyclic trichothene toxin produced by *Verrucaria* (a phytopathogen of interest in biological weed control) and the non trichothene toxin atronone from stachybotrys atra were tested for phytotoxicity in duck weed (*Lemna paucicostata*.L) Plant let culture and Kudzu (*Pueraria labata*.L). Leaf disc assay for mammalian cytotoxicity in four cultured cell lines. Roridine E and H, epiisororidine E, and Verrucarins A and J were phytotoxic (half maximal effect in the concentration range 0.1-9.7 µM on duck weed and 1.5->80 µM on kudzu) and cytotoxic to mammalian cell lines (half maximal inhibition of proliferation in the concentration range 1-30 µM). Trichoverins A and B and atronone B were moderately phytotoxic half maximal effect in the concentration range 19-69 µM on duck weed and 13 - >80 µM on kudzu.

MATERIAL AND METHODS

Preparation Of Plant Materials

Momordica charantia L. Known as a bitter melon. It is a climbing annual or perennial herb and it is a vegetable crop. It was collected in the month of October –November. Leaves and fruits were dried in a shady place and powdered.

Extraction of Plant Material

The finely powdered plant material was soaked in ethanol. This was carried out for about three to four days and the solvent is extracted using Soxhlet extraction apparatus. At the end of the extraction process the solvent was evaporated and the remaining residue was measured using the formula,

$$\text{Percentage of yield} = \frac{\text{weight of dried extract}}{\text{weight of dry powder}} \times 100$$

Analysis of phytotoxic effect (leaf disc method) invitro

Leaves of both the plants (*Commelina* and *Aerva*) were collected freshly and washed with distilled water. Leaf discs are prepared using a sterile cork borer. The five leaf discs were dropped uniformly in all different concentrations. The leaf discs weighed (0.076 mg) and size (5-10 mm) diameters were taken approximately. The leaf extract concentrations were ranging from (1000 µg, 1200 µg, 1400 µg, 1600 µg, 1800 µg, 2000 µg). Leaf disc assay also tried in lower concentrations of (100 µg - 1000 µg)

To reduce the phytotoxic effect of the solvent, the extract dilution was prepared in a 9:1 ratio with sterile distilled water: ethanol. The two sets of leaf discs were incubated in room temperature for about 24 hrs and 48 hrs duration. One was maintained as control. The incubation was done for both the plants. Total chlorophyll concentration (Arnon's method) was checked after 24 hrs incubation and 48 hrs incubation in both the plants. (Plate 2, 3) The leaves were removed and gently rinsed in distilled water. The same procedure was repeated for fruit extract also.

After the incubation of 24 hrs and 48 hrs the leaf discs were taken out and blotted with filter paper. The leaf discs were weighed and ground using ethanolic solvent and made up to known volume (10 ml). This was read at 645 nm and 663 nm using a spectrophotometer.

The R_f value was calculated using the formula,

Total chlorophyll (mg/ml) =

$$\frac{[(20.2 \cdot OD_{645}) + (8.02 \cdot OD_{663})] \times V/a \times 1000}{W}$$

where,

a = length of the light path in the cuvette (1cm)

V = volume of the extract in ml (10ml)

W = weight of the leaf disc in mg

In vivo method

Similar type of tests was conducted on the same plants (*Commelina* and *Aerva*) by spray method. The plants were grown in pots. Various concentration of leaf extracts ranging from (1200 µg, 1400 µg, 1600 µg, 1800 µg, 2000 µg) were sprayed periodically in sterile condition. These plants were tested for total chlorophyll concentration by Arnon's method. The same procedure was repeated with the fruit extract also. (Plate 4&5)

Thin layer chromatography

A crude ethanolic extract was spotted on a precoated silica gel TLC plate. The spot were allowed to dry. The plates were developed in a developing tank containing Toluene: Hexane: Ethanol in 3:3:1 ratio. The chromatogram was developed for about 15mins. The Rf values of different coloured spots were calculated.

The Rf value were calculated using the formula,

$$R_f = \frac{\text{solute front}}{\text{solvent front}}$$

Phytochemical tests

The ethanolic extract of leaf and fruit was tested for the metabolites by the following phytochemical tests. It also tested with eluted bands.

Alkaloid

Potassium iodide and Iodine was added to the 1 µg of extract and observed red precipitate or pink layer at the top

Cardiac glycoside

To 1 µg of extract 2ml of glacial acetic acid, 1 drop of ferric chloride, 1ml of concentrated sulphuric acid was added and observed for brown colour formation between 2 layers or violet ring or green ring may be present.

Flavanoid

To 1 µg of extract, 5ml of dilute Ammonium solution and concentrated sulphuric acid was added and observed for yellow colour or observed for the disappearance of yellow colour.

Phlobatannin

To 1 µg of the extract, 1% Hcl was added and observed for red precipitation.

Saponin

To 1 µg of the extract, 2ml of H₂O was added and shaken vigorously till persistent froth was observed.

Steroid

To 1 µg of the extract, 2ml of Acetic anhydride and 2ml of concentrated sulphuric acid was added and observed for violet or blue or green colour.

Tannin

To 1 µg of the extract few drops of 1% ferric chloride was added and observed for brownish green or blue black colour.

Terpenoid

To 1 µg of the extract, 2ml of chloroform and concentrated sulphuric acid was added and observed for reddish brown interference.

Leaf disc assay in eluted bands

The leaf discs of *Commelina* was incubated in eluted bands for 24 hrs and observed for its chlorophyll content.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

The leaf and fruit ethanolic extract of the plant sample was weighed. The crude extract of the sample of leaf was 1.17 mg and fruit was 1.20 mg was collected and stored in an air tight container separately.

Phytotoxic effect – Invitro Analyses

The leaf and fruit extract was tested on two different plants (*Commelina* and *Aerva*) showed the following results. The leaf disc assay of *Commelina sp* showed remarkable difference

between 24hrs and 48hrs of incubation. The results were tabulated (table 1 & 2).

The total chlorophyll content was expressed in percentage. The percentage of the chlorophyll content was calculated using chlorophyll concentration of control as standard value. There was a marked reduction in the chlorophyll content where the concentrations of the plant extract were increase.

The concentration of the leaf extract on *Commelina* sp showed remarkable reduction in chlorophyll content (1200 µg –22.59%, 1400 µg – 29.04% , 1600 µg – 33.34%, 1800 µg –35.49% , 2000 µg –37.64%) . were recorded after 24hrs(table– 1) and (1200 µg – 13.68 % , 1400 µg– 15.78% , 1600 µg–20.00%, 1800 µg–24.21%, 2000 µg– 28.42%) were recorded for 48hrs (table–3).

The concentration of the fruit extract also showed remarkable reduction in chlorophyll content. It was (1200 µg–26.32%, 1400 µg– 33.67%, 1600 µg– 38.96%, 1800 µg–42.11%, 2000 µg– 49.48%) after 24hrs(table 1) and (1200 µg– 27.64%, 1400 µg– 37.70%, 1600 µg– 50.81%,1800 µg–51.63%, 2000 µg–55.74%) after 48hrs (table 2).

Therefore fruit extract of *M.charantia* showed distinct change in chlorophyll content than leaf extract. The tabulated result on the whole showed that fruit extract was more phytotoxic than that of leaf extract on the tested plant *Commelina* sp. (fig 1 & 2).

The leaf disc assay of *Aerva* sp also showed some difference in chlorophyll between 24hrs and 48hrs of incubation. The results were tabulated. The leaf extract showed (1200 µg–

Table 1: Phytotoxic Effect of *Momordica charantia* on *Commelina* sp (in vitro)

| Concentration | Leaf | | Fruit | |
|---------------|------------------------|----------------------------------|---------------------|----------------------------------|
| | % of total chlorophyll | Reduction in content chlorophyll | % total chlorophyll | Reduction in content chlorophyll |
| Control | 100 | 0 | 100 | 0 |
| 1200 | 77.4 | 22.59 | 73.68 | 26.32 |
| 1400 | 70.96 | 29.04 | 66.31 | 33.69 |
| 1600 | 66.66 | 33.34 | 61.05 | 38.96 |
| 1800 | 64.51 | 35.49 | 57.89 | 42.11 |
| 2000 | 62.36 | 37.64 | 50.52 | 49.48 |

Table 2: Phytotoxic effect of *Momordica charantia* of *Aerva* sp (in vitro)

| Concentration | Leaf | | Fruit | |
|---------------|------------------------|----------------------------------|---------------------|----------------------------------|
| | % of total chlorophyll | Reduction in content chlorophyll | % total chlorophyll | Reduction in content chlorophyll |
| Control | 100 | 0 | 100 | 0 |
| 1200 | 86.31 | 13.68 | 72.95 | 27.04 |
| 1400 | 84.21 | 15.78 | 62.30 | 37.70 |
| 1600 | 80.00 | 20.00 | 49.18 | 50.81 |
| 1800 | 75.78 | 24.21 | 48.36 | 51.63 |
| 2000 | 71.57 | 28.42 | 44.26 | 55.74 |

47.62%, 1400 µg– 26.20%, 1600 µg– 23.81%, 1800 µg– 26.20%, 2000 µg– 26.20%) for 24hrs respectively, and for 48hrs (1200 µg–25.00%, 1400 µg– 27.00% , 1600 µg–29.50%, 1800 µg– 25%, 2000 µg– 25%) respectively (table 3 &4).

The concentration of the fruit extract showed reduction in chlorophyll content was higher in 48hrs than 24hrs incubation (table 3&4).the fruit extract showed remarkable reduction than leaf extract (fig 3&4).

However the plan extract showed lower inhibitory effect on *Aerva* than *Commelina*. The reduction percentage of chlorophyll content in *Aerva* reasonably lower with that of *Commelina* sp.

In vivo analysis

The phytotoxic effect of plant extract on

Commelina sp and *Aerva* sp was confirmed using spray method and the respective concentration were recorded by leaf disc assay. The leaf disc assay of *Commelina* sp showed remarkable difference between 24hrs and 48hrs incubation. The results were tabulated.

The total chlorophyll content was expressed in percentage. The percentage of the chlorophyll content was calculated using chlorophyll concentration of control as standard value. There was a marked reduction in chlorophyll content were the concentration of the plant extract were increased.

The concentration of the leaf extract on *Commelina* sp showed (1200µg– 22.22%, 1400µg– 24.44%, 1600µg– 33.30%, 1800µg– 40.00%, 2000µg– 46.60%) for 24hrs and (1200µg– 20.45%,

Table 3: 24 Hours

| Concentration | Leaf | | Fruit | |
|---------------|------------------------|----------------------------------|---------------------|----------------------------------|
| | % of total chlorophyll | Reduction in content chlorophyll | % total chlorophyll | Reduction in content chlorophyll |
| Control | 100 | 0 | 100 | 0 |
| 1200 | 73.80 | 26.20 | 70.45 | 29.54 |
| 1400 | 73.80 | 26.20 | 68.18 | 31.82 |
| 1600 | 76.19 | 23.81 | 68.18 | 31.82 |
| 1800 | 73.80 | 26.20 | 69.31 | 30.68 |
| 2000 | 52.38 | 31.82 | 68.18 | 47.62 |

Table 4: 48 Hours

| Concentration | Leaf | | Fruit | |
|---------------|------------------------|----------------------------------|---------------------|----------------------------------|
| | % of total chlorophyll | Reduction in content chlorophyll | % total chlorophyll | Reduction in content chlorophyll |
| Control | 100 | 0 | 100 | 0 |
| 1200 | 73.80 | 26.20 | 70.45 | 29.54 |
| 1400 | 73.80 | 26.20 | 68.18 | 31.82 |
| 1600 | 76.19 | 23.81 | 68.18 | 31.82 |
| 1800 | 73.80 | 26.20 | 69.31 | 30.68 |
| 2000 | 52.38 | 31.82 | 68.18 | 47.62 |

1400µg– 29.54%, 1600µg– 34.09%, 1800µg– 40.90%, 2000µg–50%) for 48hrs reading.

The concentration of fruit extract also showed reduction in chlorophyll content (1200 µg– 24.21% , 1400µg– 31.57%, 1600µg–36.84%, 1800µg– 43.15%, 2000µg– 49.47%) for 24hrs and (1200µg– 22.58%, 1400µg– 41.93%, 1600µg– 51.61,1800µg– 63.44%,2000µg–68.81%) for 48hrs observation.(table 5&6)

Thus the fruit showed remarkable chlorophyll reduction than leaf extract. (fig 5&6)

The similar type of work was conducted in *Aerva* sp also. The results for 24hrs showed (1200µg–18.18%, 1400µg– 15.9%, 1600µg– 10.00%, 1800µg– 15.9%, 2000µg–18.18%) and for

48 hrs (1200µg–17.64%, 1400µg– 16.47%, 1600µg–17.64%, 1800µg–17.64%, 2000µg– 25.68%) respectively. The concentration of fruit extract also showed remarkable reduction in chlorophyll content (table 7&8). The fruit extract showed higher phytotoxic effect than leaf extract (fig 7&8)

However the plant extracts lower inhibitory effect on *Aerva* sp than on *Commelina*. The reduction % of the chlorophyll content of *Aerva* sp relatively lower than that of *Commelina* sp.

Phytochemical analysis

The phytochemical analysis of aqueous fruit and leaf extract showed the presence of flavanoid, alkaloid, cardiac glycoside, steroid and terpenoids (table 9)

Table 5: Phytotoxic Effect of *Momordica charantia* on *Commelina* sp (*in vivo*)

| Concentration | Leaf | | Fruit | |
|---------------|------------------------|----------------------------------|---------------------|----------------------------------|
| | % of total chlorophyll | Reduction in content chlorophyll | % total chlorophyll | Reduction in content chlorophyll |
| Control | 100 | 0 | 100 | 0 |
| 1200 | 77.77 | 22.22 | 75.78 | 24.21 |
| 1400 | 75.55 | 24.44 | 68.42 | 31.57 |
| 1600 | 66.66 | 33.33 | 58.02 | 41.98 |
| 1800 | 60.00 | 40.00 | 56.84 | 43.15 |
| 2000 | 53.33 | 46.60 | 50.52 | 49.47 |

Table 6: 48 Hours

| Concentration | Leaf | | Fruit | |
|---------------|------------------------|----------------------------------|---------------------|----------------------------------|
| | % of total chlorophyll | Reduction in content chlorophyll | % total chlorophyll | Reduction in content chlorophyll |
| Control | 100 | 0 | 100 | 0 |
| 1200 | 79.54 | 20.45 | 77.41 | 22.58 |
| 1400 | 70.45 | 29.54 | 58.06 | 41.93 |
| 1600 | 65.90 | 34.09 | 48.38 | 51.61 |
| 1800 | 59.09 | 40.90 | 36.55 | 63.44 |
| 2000 | 50.00 | 50.00 | 31.18 | 68.81 |

Table 7: 24 Hours

| Concentration | Leaf | | Fruit | |
|---------------|------------------------|----------------------------------|---------------------|----------------------------------|
| | % of total chlorophyll | Reduction in content chlorophyll | % total chlorophyll | Reduction in content chlorophyll |
| Control | 100 | 0 | 100 | 0 |
| 1200 | 81.81 | 18.18 | 81.52 | 18.47 |
| 1400 | 84.09 | 15.90 | 73.91 | 26.08 |
| 1600 | 90.00 | 10.00 | 73.91 | 26.08 |
| 1800 | 84.09 | 15.90 | 78.26 | 21.73 |
| 2000 | 81.81 | 18.18 | 79.34 | 20.65 |

Table 8: 48 Hours

| Concentration | Leaf | | Fruit | |
|---------------|------------------------|----------------------------------|---------------------|----------------------------------|
| | % of total chlorophyll | Reduction in content chlorophyll | % total chlorophyll | Reduction in content chlorophyll |
| Control | 100 | 0 | 100 | 0 |
| 1200 | 82.35 | 17.64 | 80.00 | 20.00 |
| 1400 | 83.52 | 16.47 | 75.55 | 24.44 |
| 1600 | 82.35 | 17.64 | 68.88 | 31.11 |
| 1800 | 82.35 | 17.64 | 75.55 | 24.44 |
| 2000 | 75.55 | 24.44 | 74.11 | 25.89 |

Chromatographic analysis

The developed chromatogram showed different bands. The Rf values for different bands were tabulated (Table 10).

Phytochemical analysis of eluted bands

The bands which are eluted from chromatogram showed some positive result in phytochemical analysis. It shows the presence of alkaloid, flavanoid, steroid and terpenoid (Table 11).

Leaf disc assay in eluted bands

Leaf disc assay in eluted bands showed remarkable reduction in the chlorophyll content in various bands (table 12).

Table 9: Phytochemical analysis on plant extract

| S. No | Secondary metabolite | Results |
|-------|----------------------|---------|
| 1. | Alkaloid | + |
| 2. | Anthraquinone | - |
| 3. | Cardiac glycoside | + |
| 4. | Flavanoid | + |
| 5. | Phenol | - |
| 6. | Phytosterol | - |
| 7. | Phlobatannins | - |
| 8. | Sapponin | - |
| 9. | Steroid | + |
| 10. | Tannin | - |
| 11. | Terpenoids | + |

Table 10: Rf values of different bands

| S. No. | Bands | Solute front | Solvent front | Rf value |
|--------|--------|--------------|---------------|----------|
| 1. | Band 1 | 2. | 9.8 | 0.20 |
| 2. | Band 2 | 3.5 | 9.8 | 0.35 |
| 3. | Band 3 | 4.1 | 9.8 | 0.41 |
| 4. | Band 4 | 6.8 | 9.8 | 0.69 |
| 5. | Band 5 | 9.4 | 9.8 | 0.95 |

Table 11: Phytochemical test in Eluted bands

| S. No. | Secondary | Bands | | | | |
|--------|-----------|-------|---|---|---|---|
| | | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| 1. | Tanin | - | - | - | - | - |
| 2. | Steroid | - | - | - | + | - |
| 3. | Alkaloid | - | + | - | - | - |
| 4. | Flavanoid | - | - | + | - | - |
| 5. | Terpenoid | + | - | + | - | - |

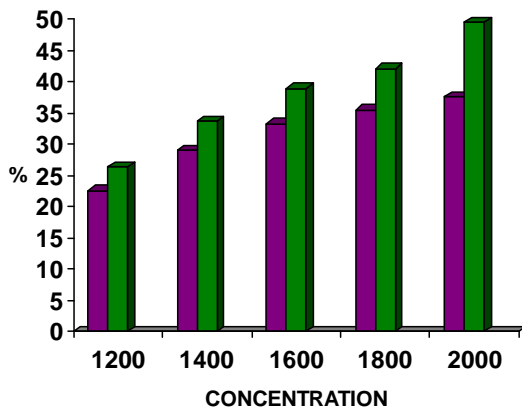


Fig. 1: Phytotoxic effect of *M. carantia* on *Commelina* showed reduction in chlorophyll content In 24 Hrs (*in vitro*)

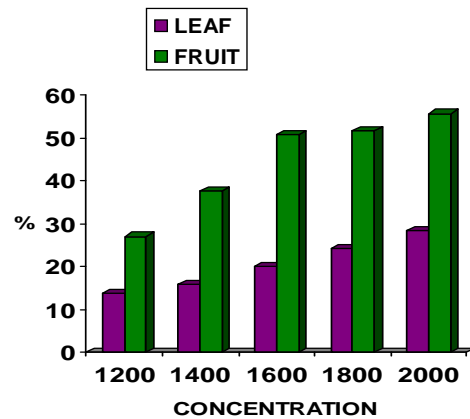


Fig. 2: Phytotoxic Effect of *M.carantia* on *Commelina* Showed Reduction in Chlorophyll Content In 48 Hrs (*in vitro*)

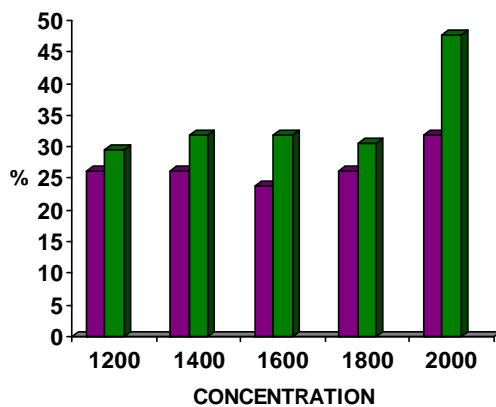


Fig. 3: Phytotoxic effect of *M. carantia* on *Commelina* showed reduction in chlorophyll content In 24 Hrs (*in vitro*)

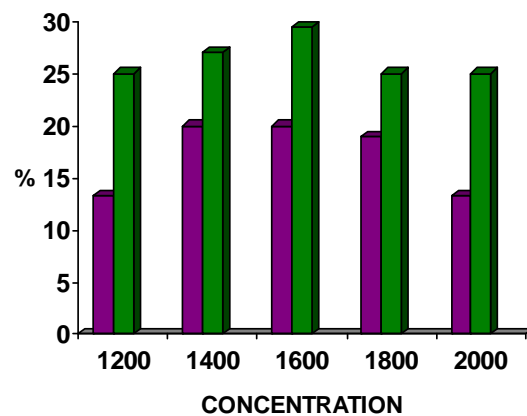


Fig. 4: Phytotoxic effect of *M. carantia* on *Aerva* sp showed reduction in chlorophyll content 48 hrs (*in vitro*)

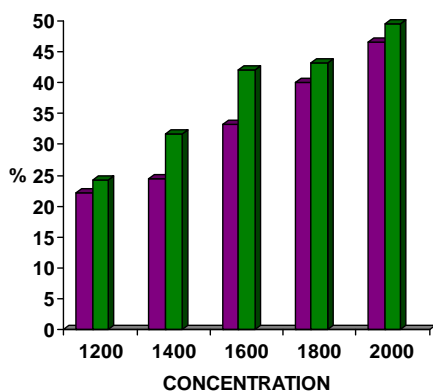


Fig. 5: Phytotoxic effect of *M. carantia* on *Commelina* showed reduction in chlorophyll content in 24 hrs (*in vivo*)

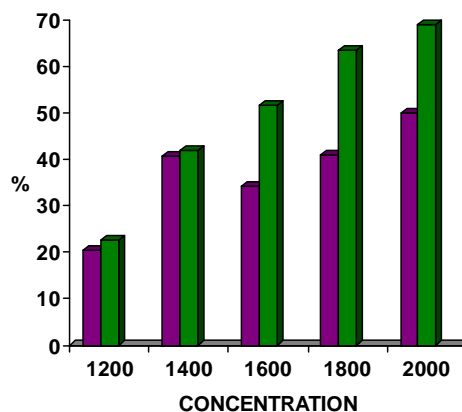


Fig. 6: Phytotoxic effect of *M. carantia* on *Commelina* showed reduction in chlorophyll content In 48 Hrs (*in vitro*)

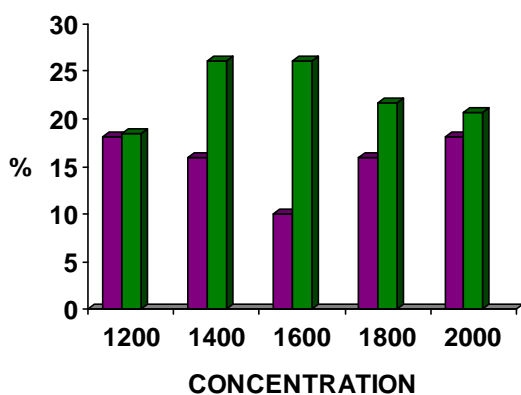


Fig. 7: Phytotoxic effect of *M. carantia* on *Aerva sp* showed reduction in chlorophyll content 24 hrs (*in vivo*)

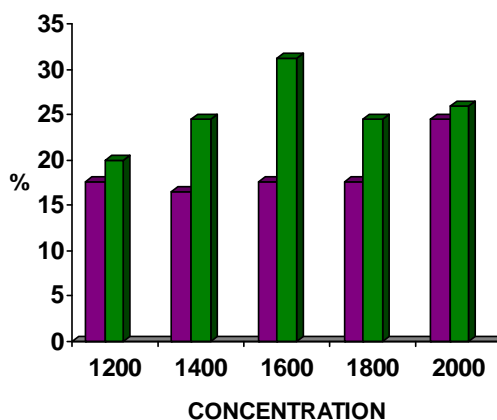


Fig. 8: Phytotoxic effect of *M. carantia* on *Aerva sp* showed reduction in chlorophyll content In 48 Hrs (*in vitro*)

Table 12: Leaf disc assay in eluted bands

| S. No. | Bands | Leaf | | Fruit | |
|--------|--------|------------------------|----------------------------------|---------------------|----------------------------------|
| | | % of total chlorophyll | Reduction in content chlorophyll | % total chlorophyll | Reduction in content chlorophyll |
| 1. | Band 1 | 60.86 | 39.14 | 56.52 | 43.47 |
| 2. | Band 2 | 54.34 | 45.65 | 52.17 | 47.82 |
| 3. | Band 3 | 65.21 | 34.78 | 58.69 | 41.30 |
| 4. | Band 4 | 63.04 | 36.99 | 59.78 | 40.21 |
| 5. | Band 5 | 67.39 | 32.60 | 60.86 | 39.13 |

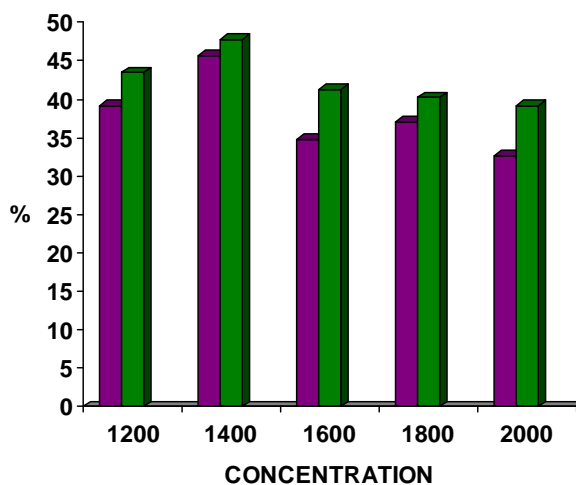


Fig. 9. Reduction of Chlorophyll In Eluted bands

CONCLUSION

During the course of this study the phytotoxic effect of crude extract of *Momordica charantia* was high in fruit extract than that of leaf extract sample. The effect of fruit and leaf extract on *Commelina* sp was high when compared to that of *Aerva* sp.

It was also noted that secondary metabolites like flavanoids, steroid and terpenoid

content were high in both leaf and fruit extract. It was also understood that these secondary metabolites distinctly showed specific phytotoxic effect.

Finally, the analysis brings out certain substances present in crude extract sample like saponin, alkaloid show principle naturally stored in plant organ. Further quantification and identification could impart more information.

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