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Review article



Herbal seeds used for anthelmintic activity in siddha medicine- a review

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Abstract

When we go through the Siddha Literatures we will be able to understand the greatness of the Siddhars' vision in documenting the Prophylactic and Therapeutic properties of single Herbs and compound preparations.

Worm infection occur in the one third of the world population. Vermifuge causes worms to be paralyzed and then eliminated in the stool. In Siddha Vermifuge is mentioned in the name of *Pulukolli* and *Kirumikolli*, defined as drugs which kill such parasitic worms as infest alimentary canal.

In siddha system lots of herbs are indicated and practiced for anthelmintic action. Hence this review particularly focuses on seeds used for anthelmintic action. Here, Seeds are tabulated with their families and chemical constituents.

Keywords

Worms, Herbal seeds, Anthelmintic activity, Pulukolli, Kirumikolli, Siddha medicine

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Introduction

Siddha system of medicine is an Indian classical medicine system, continued from our ancient days to treat and heal the diseases. Parasitic infections are most wide spread among humans. The worm infections are especially prevalent in developing countries in association with poor management. Anthelmintic is used against Nematoda, Cestoda and Trematoda. Infection of these worms causes significant problems like frequently profuse diarrhea, anemia, liver, lungs damages etc. Here, this review plant seeds which have been used in anthelmintic activity are listed out. Intestinal worm infestations are widely prevalent in tropical and sub – tropical countries and occur where there is poverty and poor sanitation. Soil transmitted helminth(STH) infections form the most important group of intestinal worms affecting two billion people worldwide and the main species which infect are Ascaris lumbricoides (Round worm), Trichuris trichiura (Whip worm) and Necator americanus/ Ancylostomaduo denale(Hook worm).

According to World Health Organisation (WHO), globally there are 1221 - 1472 million cases of Ascariasis, 750 - 1050 million cases of Trichuriasis and 740 - 1300 million cases of Hook worm infestations. These STHs are also considered Neglected Tropical Diseases (NTDs) as they inflict considerable morbidity and mortality, though entirely prevalentable.

Approximately 10,500 deaths each year are due to complications of Ascariasis and 65,000 deaths per year are due to anemia caused by Hook worm infection. In Siddha system worms or parasites are defined in the name of *"Kirumi"* generally. They are various in shapes which germinate or grow in a living organism in the different parts of the human body. The different kinds that have their origin in feces, phlegm, blood, etc. Particularly worms in the feces as termed as *kudarpuzhu, kudarkirumi, kudarpoochi, vayitrupulu, vayitrukirumi, vayitrupoochi.*

Classification:

The three common varieties of worms infesting the human intestines viz:-

1.Naadapoochi, tape - worm

2. Naakkulipoochi, round – worm

3.*Keeraipaambu*, thread – worm or maw – worm

TAMIL NAME	BOTANICAL NAME	FAMILY	CHEMICAL CONSTITUENTS
Akkurottu	Juglansregia	Juglandaceae	Flavanoids, Vitamine E, Phenolic acids, Folate
Aadutheendapaalai	Aristolochiabracteolate	Aristolochiaceae	Alkaloids, Essential oil
Karunjeeragam	Nigella sativa	Ranunculaceae	Thymol, Campesterol, tetradecanoic acid
Kaliyanamurukku	Erythrinavariegata	Fabaceae	Erythraline, Arginine, Ascorbic acid
Kazharchi	Caesalpiniabonduc	Fabaceae	Caesalpinianone, Vitamine C, Fla- vanoids
KaattuSeeragam	Vernoniaanthelmintica	Astraceae	Venoanthecicin, Butin, Tetra hydroxyl flavon
KaattuPeypudal	Trichosantheslobata	Cucurbitaceae	Amino acids
Kottaikarandhai	Sphaeranthusindicus	Astraceae	Sesquiterpene, tannin, amino acids
Kollukkaivelai	Tephrosiapurpurea	Fabaceae	Rutin, Purpurin, Quercetin
Neeradimuthu	Hydnocarpuslaurifolia	Flacourtiaceae	Hydnocarpin, Chaulmoogric acid, phe- nolic acid
Palaasu	Buteamonosperma	Fabaceae	Tannins, Palasunin, linoleic acid
Paagal	Momorticacharantia	Cucurbitaceae	Charantin, Momoridicosides, fatty acid
Punnai	Calophylluminophyllum	Gutiferae	Xanthones, tannins, steroids
Poovarasu	Thespesiapopulnea	Malvaceae	Kaempferol, β-sitosterol, Rutin
Manipungu	Sapinduslaurifolia	Sapindaceae	Saponins, Fatty acids, flavonoids
Maa	Mangiferaindica	Anacardiaceae	Mangiferin, tannin, Gallic acid
Madhulai	Punicagranatum	Punicaceae	Phenols,Oleanic acids, tannins
Vaaividangam	Emblicaribes	Primulaceae	Embelin, Volaile oil, tannin, resin
Vembu	Azadirachtaindica	Meliaceae	Nimbin, margosin, tannin
Velai(Nalvelai)	Cleome viscosa	Cleomaceae	Flavanoids, alkaloids, saponins

Table 1. Anthelmintic list mentioned in text.

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- Akkurottu Gives seed oil internally to remove intestinal worm.
- Aadutheendapaalai Give Seed powder 4gm with ½ 1palam castor oil internally.
- Karunjeeragam–Give seed powder internally with vinegar to remove intestinal worm.
- Kalyanamurukku Give 65 130 mg seed powder with sugar internally before going to bed and drink castor oil next morning for remove worms.
- KaattuSeeragam Gives 3gm seed powder internally with honey or ghee twice a day.
- Kottaikarandhai Gives seed powder with honey internally.
- Kollukkaaivelai Seed 1%, water 10% make decoction and gives one teaspoon internally, thrice a day for children.
- Palaasu Soak the seed in water and remove outer skin, powder the inner seeds. Give 260mg powder with honey, thrice a day for three days and take castor oil on fourth day morning to remove intestinal worms by diarrhea.
- Manipungu Scrubbing the seed with water and filter, give internally.



- Maa Gives seed powder internally.
- Vaaividangam Gives seed powder 4 16gm with honey internally 2-3 times per day and take castor oil next day to remove intestinal worms.
- Velai(Nalvelai) Gives 2-4gm seed powder internally with sugar, twice a day for two days and gives 17-34gm castor oil on third day to remove intestinal worms.

Conclusion

This review on the herbal seeds, which described as anthelmintics in siddha system, will helps to understand the importance of seeds used to deworming. The data collected will also leads to discover the new drugs from the traditional medicine and integrate them into clinical practices.

Conflict of Interest

None declared

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Nil References

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