

A REVIEW ON MEDICINAL VALUE OF PINK FORKED FANWORT FLOWERS

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ABSTRACT

Reportedly, these plants grow in the presence of sunlight, more so, after 11 AM, and they wilt away after sunset. The plant belongs to the family of Cabomba furcata and is locally as 'Mullan payal'. It is native to South America and as far north as Cuba and the tip of Florida. It reaches a maximum height between 30 and 80 cm and is up to 8 cm wide. It bears purple flowers. Every morning, crowds gather at the streams and inland waters at Avala Pandi village near Perambra of Kozhikode district. They show up to witness the beautiful site of a blanket of pink flowers that cover the surface of the water; these flowers bloom at around 11 am, and transform the place into a feast for the eyes. Due to the inspiration of these presence the study of its medicinal value has been done.

KEYWORDS: Pink Forked Fanwort Flowers, mullan payal.**INTRODUCTION**

Cabomba furcata, or the pink forked fanwort, is originally found in South America, Cuba and some parts of Florida in the USA. It has pink-coloured petals and a yellow pistil; its narrow leaves are mainly submerged. And though the blossoms provide a mesmerising view, environmental experts are not happy about the presence of this plant. They say that it is an invasive species that can easily destroy the native aquatic plants, which are endemic to Kerala. "This plant was grown here as an aquarium plant, which later got spread in to the inland waters. Any aquatic weeds can destroy our native aquatic fauna. It is okay to grow them in a controlled water bodies like aquariums or a pond inside a park. But is harmful in natural flowing waters," "These plants are rooted in the mud below the water. They grow rigorously in flowing water and spread very fast,"

1) Antioxidant antibacterial antidiabetic and prophylactic activities

The compounds are glycerol trilaurate –sitosterol, hexadecanoic acid, α -linoleic acid 9,12-octadecadienoic acid-benzenedicarboxylic 1,2,3-benzenetriol, nitro iso butyl glycerol (do decanoic, azelaic acid, tetra decanal\ tetra decanoic acid, phytol acetate, docosanoic acid, 1-(phenethylthio)-2-phenylethylenepinostrobin chalcone, glycerol tri laurate, α sitosterol, have been reported as antioxidant, γ methyltetralosane, squalene(0, vitaminE,

2) Antimicrobial, Bacteriostatic, Antiacne, Comedolytic

Azelaic acid which is a non toxic drug is present and has Antimicrobial, Bacteriostatic, Antiacne, Comedolytic effects. Phytol is used as a precursor for the manufacture of synthetic form of vitamin-E and vitamin-K and have antibacterial effect.

3) Anticancer activity

Squalene is a precursor of various hormones in humans and sterols in plants, antitumor, anti cancer effect against ovarian, breast lung and colon cancer, lowers cholesterol in blood, protects skin from UV damage. Vitamin-E is an important anti oxidant, it has been proven that vitamin e can be used to prevent liver fibrosis and cirrhosis in rabbits and vitamin is an adjuvant for cancer treatment, α -linoleic acid in the treatment of prostate cancer and also have antiinflammatory activity

CONCLUSION

This plant is seen as alien aquatic plant in many parts of India. It acts as a water pollutant. The vast growth of this plant can be controlled if it is utilized in this way. There is also significant pharmacological values shown.

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