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A REVIEW ON ANNONA RETICULATA

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ABSTRACT:

Indian literatures like Ayurveda and various ancient literatures have stated herbal remedies for a number of human ailments. Annona reticulata which is commonly known as bullock's-heart in English and Ramphal in Hindi and Marathi is having various pharmacological activities such as antioxidant, anticancer, analgesic and CNS depressant, antimalarial, anthelmintic, in syphilis and few more. Some compounds have been isolated and reported from the extract of various parts of the plant possessing good pharmacological activity. The studies performed on the seed and root extract also evidenced that the same compounds causes cell death in various cancer cell lines. This review article is a sincere effort to put forward the medicinal importance and botanical, phytochemical, pharmacological study, traditional uses of the plant.

INTRODUCTION:

Custard apple is tropical fruit which belongs to genus Annona and family Annonaceae and are collectively known as annonaceous fruits. There are over 120 species of genus Annona and are commonly found in India as a fruit consuming plant. This plant is commonly known as custard apple in English and Ramphal in Marathi and Gujarati [1]. having flavor sweet and pleasant, which is a very common name, shared with fruits of various other species belonging to same genus: A. cherimola, A. chrysophylla and A. squamosa or sometimes it is called bullock's-heart, wild- sweetsop, or ox-heart. The Custred apple roots are used in the treatment of acute dysentery, spinal marrow diseases and some cases of depression. The leaves of Custard apple are used in cases of prolapse of the anus, sores and swelling. The plant extractis used for the treatment of diarrhoea pediculosis[2].

Plants are recognized as aromatic as well as source of medicine. The extracts obtained from various plant parts possess medicinal properties and are used ascolouring agent, preservative, sweetening agent and as an additive in many

medicinal formulations. Plants restrain abundant amount of secondary metabolites, they are considered to be principal source of therapeutically active compounds. Along with medicinal formulations plants have been successfully utilised for the development of cosmetics and toiletry preparations. Herbal medicines cause lesser side effects. The regular

consumption of synthetic drugs may lead to addiction but such effects are not observed for plant based medicines and are relatively safer than synthetic compounds. Also in pharmaceutical companies commercially plants are used as a source for the synthesis of synthetic compounds.

Most of population of developing countries utilize plant based traditional medicine for their primary health care needs. Indian traditional system of

medicine; Ayurveda is also based on plant. Medicines derived from plants actas first line defence of body and help to restore the health. Extracts from different plant parts hold wide range of medicinal properties and also utilized as raw materials in herbal industry. Exploration of chemical constituents obtained from plants may provide new leads for the development of novel drug[3].

ECOLOGY AND DISTRIBUTION:

History of cultivation:

Plant is native of Caribbean region and has also been spread across Central and South America, Africa and Asia. Annona species is cultivated all over India for its edible fruit belonging to custard apple family. All parts of annona are used in natural medicine in the tropics. It is considered to be good source of natural antioxidants for various diseases. Therefore, attention in recent timeshas been focused on the isolation, characterization and utilization of natural antioxidants. In India the tree grows wild in many areas but is cultivated,

especially around Calcutta. It was found in tropical Africa in the 17th centuryand is grown there as a dooryard fruit tree.

It has long been naturalized and cultivated as far south as Peru and Brazil and isgrown mostly in the Bahamas and occasionally in southern Florida and Bermuda. It is very common on the east coast of Malaysia, and throughoutSoutheast Asia and the Philippines [1].

Geographic Distribution:

Exotic: Mexico Bahamas, Bermuda, United States of America, Guam, Philippines, Malaysia, Peru, Brazil, South Africa, India. Native: Guatemala, Belize[1].

TAXONOMY OF ANNONA RETICULATA LINN [4,5] -

Scientific Classification	Synonyms	Botanical, Common andVernicular Name	Local Name
Kingdom: Plantae	Annona excelsakunt.	Botanical Name: Annona Reticulata Linn.	Marathi:Ramphal
Order: Magnoliids	Annona LaevisKunth.	Common Name: Netted Custard	Tamil: Ramachita
Family: Annonaceae	Aannona Longifolia Moc.	Apple	Telegu: Ramasitapalam
Genus: Annona	Annona Longifolia sesse.	English: Bullock'sHeart, Corazon	Malayalan: Manilanilam
Species: AnnonaReticulata	Annona RipariaKunth	Portuguese: Frutoda condessa	Kannada: Ramaphala
		Indonesian: BuahNona	
		India: Ramphal	

MORPHOLOGY -

The height of A. reticulata is near about 6.0 - 7.5 m. It contains numerouslateral branches. It is a small tree with glabrous branches. The stems are cylindrical having lenticels and very short cof- fee coloured hairs[5]. Leaves areoblong, lanceolate, membranous, acute, and rounded or curate at the base. The upper surface of leaves is glabrous and on lower surface it contains few

spreading hairs. Two to four flowers may present on lateral pedicel. Fruits are edible, some- what heart shaped, rough and yellow in colour which change toyellowish red on ripening[4]. Fruits are sweet, astringent and useful in blood compliments[6]. Seeds are smooth and blackish in colour[4].



FIGURE 1 WHOLE PLANT







FIGURE 3 STEAM BARK



PHYTOCONSTITUENTS -

Annona reticulata L. are known to possess various primary and secondary metabolites, primary metabolites are directly involved in plant growth and development whereas secondary metabolites help indirectly by providing defense mechanism against herbivory, insects and pathogen attack and also help in withstanding adverse stressful climatic conditions. Leaf extract of plant are known to have following phytochemicals alkaloids, amino acids, flavonoids, glycosides, phenolic compound, proteins, steroids, triterpenoids, tannins, starch, saponins, anthraquinones, aleurone grains and inulin [7,8]. Stem bark extract consist of following phytochemicals like alkaloids, carbohydrates, terpenoids, proteins, steroids, and phenols [9]. Fruits consist of following phytochemicals like alkaloids, tannins and phenols [9].

Following compounds were isolated from leaf extracts of Annona reticulata L.; Annonaretin A, kaurenoic acid, taraxerol, βsitosterol, 16α-hydro-19-alent- kauran-17-oic acid, 6βhydroxystigmast-4-en-3-one, 17-acetoxy-16β-ent-kauran- 19-oic acid, 16α-hydro-ent-kauran-17,19-dioic acid and (2S)-di-Omethylquiritigenin [9] and GC-MS analysis gave following compounds

Piperidine, 2-propyl-, Piracetam, Benzene, (1-methyl butyl), Palmitic acid, Mitoflaxone, Oleic acid, (1,1'bicylopropyl)-2-octanoic acid, 2 hexyl,-methyl ester, 3,4-dihydroxy-1,6-bis (3-methoxy-phenyl)-hexa-2,4-diene-1,6- dione, Cholesta-7,14-diene, 4H-1-Benzopyran-4-one, 2-(3,4 dimethoxyphenyl)-5-hydroxy-3,6,7-trimethoxy, 4-(4- nitrophenylazo)-benzoicacid,

methoxycarbonylmethyl ester, 2,6,10,14-Hexadecatrienoic acid, and N-(4- Hydroxyphenyl)acetamide. Acetogenins is a type of secondary metabolite exclusively found in family Annonaceae. They are characterised by C32 or C34 fatty acid chain with a terminal γ -lactone. Acetogenins shows some pharmacological activities antifeedant, antimicrobial, antiparasitic, antitumor, immunosuppressant, and pesticidal activities. Reticulatacin is a bioactive acetogenin isolated from Annona reticulata L. which shows prominent anti- tumour and anti-cancer activity [10]. Stem consists of compounds are N-trans- feruloyltyramine, N-pcpoumaroyltyramine and N-trans-caffeoyltramine, lignans, β sterol [11] GC-MS analysis of stem showed following compounds- 2,3- Dihydrobenzofuran (7.910%), Deconoin acid ethyl ester (14.730%), 2,3-

Dimethoxysuccinicaciddimethyl ester (4.021%), 3-Hexadecyne (13.035%), Allo-

Aromadendrene (1.970%), AlloAromadendrene (6.739%), Megastigmatrienone(1.901%), Arturmerone (3.952%), Oleicacid (10.028%), Gentisic acid (8.496%),

and 13-Docosenamide (23.190%) [12]

PHARMACOLOGICAL STUDIES

A. reticulata L.

A. reticulata leaf extract shows high activities in quenching 1,1-diphenyl2- picryl-hydrazil and superoxide radicals in plant [13]. Annonaceous acetogeninsare a group of phytoconstituents obtained from plants, have potent antineoplastic agents. Acetogenins are efficient cytotoxic inhibitors of the mitochondrial nicotinamide adenine dinucleotide: Ubiquinone oxidoreductase (complex I of the respiratory chain). Seeds of A. reticulata contains squamocin which has cytotoxic constituent for mostly all the cancer cell lines tested [14,15]. In ethanol extracts, in vitro inhibition toward the vero cell line proliferation was found to be lower when compared with cancer cell lines [16].

A. reticulata leaves show in vitro cytotoxic and human recombinant caspase inhibitory effect [17]. Hence, A. reticulata has potent chemopreventive agent incancer therapy. The aqueous leaf extract has anthelmintic activity [18]. Leaves of A. reticulata can be used in the treatment of inflammatory diseases, and potent new anti-inflammatory agents [19]. Leaves of A. reticulata possess potent glucose lowering effect. The glucose lowering activity is more of corrective in nature than disruptive [20]. By using roots, tea is prepared and used as a treatment for fevers and the bark is used as a powerful astringent forantidysenteric and vermifuge [21]

Pharmacological activities of Annona Reticulate

Name of the plant	Pharmacological Activities
Annona reticulata	Antipyretic activity, anthelminticactivity, antiulcer activity, antinociceptive activity, analgesic andanti-inflammatory, antiproliferative activity, antioxidant and antimicrobial activity

• Antipyretic Activity [22] – An examination was conducted on the pain- relieving properties of a crude aqueous leaf extract from A. reticulata, administered at doses of 200 mg/kg and 400 mg/kg. Hyperpyrexia was induced in rats by injecting a 20% aqueous suspension of Brewer's yeast subcutaneously. Rats exhibiting a temperature increase of 0.5 °C-1 °C or higher after 18 hours were chosen for the study. The effectiveness of the extract was compared to that of the standard drug, paracetamol, administered at a dose of 150 mg/kg. The findings suggest that the A.

reticulata leaf extract possesses significant antipyretic properties.

- Anthelmintic Activity [4] The effectiveness of A. reticulata leaves in treating worms was tested using Indian earthworms, Pherentima posthuma. The leaves were ground and soaked in ethanol to make an extract. Vacuum distillation was used to concentrate the extract, yielding 15.83 g. The extract was then separated into fractions using petroleumether, chloroform, ethyl acetate, and ethanol. Each fraction was concentrated, yielding 3.39 g, 0.15 g, 0.13 g, and 1.51 g respectively. Earthworms of specific dimensions were selected for the study, with Albendazole serving as the control. The ethanol fraction showed faster paralysis onset, indicating it had stronger anthelmintic activity compared to the other fractions.
- Antiulcer Activity [23] The potential of the aqueous extract from A. reticulata leaves to treat ulcers was explored using ethanol and indomethacin to induce ulcers in rats. The extract, obtained through Soxhlet extraction and vacuum concentration, was administered to different groups of rats alongside a vehicle-treated group and a grouptreated with famotidine as a reference drug. Significant reductions in ulcer index, acid volume, and total acidity were observed in rats treated with both the extract and famotidine. Additionally, the extract showed improvements in glutathione levels and pH compared to the vehicle- treated group. These findings suggest that the antiulcer activity of the extract may be attributed to its cytoprotective, antisecretory, and antioxidant properties.
- Antinociceptive Activity [24] A model using acetic acid-induced gastricpain was employed to evaluate the potential pain-relieving effects of methanolic extract from A. reticulata leaves in Swiss albino mice. The leaves were dried, powdered, and soaked in methanol for 48 hours. Swiss albino male mice weighing 20–25 g were divided into groups. The control group received a vehicle, while another group received aspirin at doses of 200 and 400 mg/kg. The remaining groups were given different doses of the extract (50, 100, 200, and 400 mg/kg). After 60 minutes, themice were injected intraperitoneally with 1% acetic acid to induce writhing, and the number of writhings was recorded for 10 minutes. The extract reduced the number of writhings by 47.0%, 55.1%, 67.3%, and 69.4% at doses of 50, 100, 200, and 400 mg/kg, respectively, indicating a significant dose-dependent effect and suggesting the presence of potentpain-relieving compounds in the leaves.
- Analgesic and Anti-inflammatory [25]- The sesquiterpene portion of A. reticulata bark underwent testing for its pain-relieving and antiinflammatory effects, both centrally and peripherally. The study utilized assequiterpene fraction extracted from unsaponified petroleum ether, containing a mix of three primary sesquiterpenes, constituting 71.66% of the fraction. Analysis via GC/MS revealed copaene (35.40%), patchoulane (13.49%), and 1H-cycloprop(e)azulene (22.77%) within the fraction. Central and peripheral pain relief was assessed using the Eddy's hot plate and acetic acid-induced writhing methods, while anti- inflammatory properties were evaluated through the carrageenaninduced paw edema method. Significant pain relief was observed with the sesquiterpene fraction at doses of 12.5 and 25 mg/kg, and with the unsaponified petroleum ether extract at 50 mg/kg. Pentazocin and aspirin served as standard analgesics. The inhibition of carrageenaninduced paw edema was dose-dependent in groups treated with the extract and fraction, comparable to aspirin's effects.

• Antiproliferative Activity [26,27] - The research explored theantiproliferative abilities of aporphine alkaloids liriodenine,

norushinsunine, reticuline, and acetogenin neoannonin, sourced from A. reticulata roots, against various cancer cell lines (A-549, K-562, HeLa, MDA-MB) and normal Vero cells using MTT assay. The compounds were identified structurally through 1HNMR, 13CNMR, and mass spectroscopic techniques. Aporphine alkaloids were extracted via column chromatography (neutral alumina) from the root's ethanolic extract using a toluene:ethyl acetate:diethyl amine solvent system, while acetogenin was isolated via ethanol partitioning and column chromatography with n-hexane, ethyl acetate, and methanol. The activity was assessed using isolated compounds at concentrations of 5, 10, and 20 µg respectively. Neoannonin demonstrated significant cytotoxicity (IC50: 5.8 to 6.9 µg/ml) against all cancer cell lines, whereas norushinsunine showed moderate cytotoxicity (IC50: 7.4 to 8.8 µg/ml). The compounds exhibited lower cytotoxicity (IC50: 13.8 to 26.0 µg/ml) on normal Vero cells compared to cancer cell lines. The study concluded that the pronounced cytotoxicity of the isolated aporphine alkaloids is attributed to the isoquinoline moiety, the presence of a hydroxyl group, and the apoptosis-inducing ability of these compounds in

cancer cell lines.

• Antioxidant and Antimicrobial Activity [28] - The study focused on exploring the antioxidant and antimicrobial properties of A. reticulata root extract. Antioxidant screening involved DPPH free radical scavenging and hydrogen peroxide assays, while antimicrobial analysis utilized agar cup and poison plate methods for bacteria and fungi, respectively. The roots were processed, dried, powdered, and extracted using a Soxhlet apparatus. Antioxidant activity was assessed at various concentrations, and antibacterial efficacy was tested against both gram-negative and gram-positive bacteria. Similarly, antifungal activity was evaluated against several fungi strains. The extract demonstrated significant scavenging activity comparable to ascorbic acid, notably inhibiting B.

cereus and showing substantial effectiveness against all bacteria strains. It also exhibited notable antifungal activity, particularly against T. virideand C. albicans. These findings underscore the potent antimicrobial potential of A. reticulata root extract.

TRADITIONAL USES -

Traditionally the plant has been employed for the treatment of cardiacproblem, dysentery, epilepsy, parasite and worm infestations, constipation, haemorrhage, bacterial infection, dysuria, fever, ulcer and as insecticide. Bark is a powerful astringent and used as a tonic whereas leaves used for helminthiasis treatment.[29,4,31]

CONCLUSION -

Mother Nature has given us many plants and animals. Some plants havehealing powers, like the Annona reticulata. It's a common plant, but it's important for medicine. Scientists found that some chemicals in this plant can fight cancer, especially bladder cancer. It could be useful in cancer treatment. We still need to study more about this plant to understand its full potential forhelping people with illnesses.

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