FLORAL PHENOLOGY OF TRICHOSANTHES CUCUMERINA L. – A MEDICINALLY IMPORTANT CUCURBIT

Mamata Jamwal and Namrata Sharma*

Department of Botany, University of Jammu, Jammu – 180006, J&K, India *Email: phyllanthus@rediffmail.com

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Abstracts: *Trichosanthes cucumerina* L. is an annual cucurbit popularly known as "Jangali Chachinda" in hindi. It is widely distributed in tropical regions of Bangladesh, India, Nepal, Pakistan, Srilanka, Myanmar, Vietnam, Indonesia, Malaysia and Philippine (Sandhya *et al.*, 2012). The fruits of the species are relished as a vegetable and are known to have good nutritional value. The plant is also rich in flavonoids, carotenoids and phenolic compounds. It holds promising place in the Ayurvedic and Siddha system of medicine due to its various medicinal values like antidiabetic, hepatoprotective and cytotoxic effects (Sandhya *et al.*, 2010).

Keywords: Trichosanthes cucumerina, Monoecious, Nocturnal, Reproductive efficiency

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*Corresponding Author