

BIOCHEMICAL SCREENING OF DESMODIUM GANGETICUM LINN. ROOT BY GC-MS ANALYSIS

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Abstract: This study was carried out to analyse the active constituents from the roots of *Desmodium gangeticum* L. commonly called as Shalparni in Hindi and Orila in Malayalam using Gas-Chromatographic-Mass Spectrometric analysis and also to develop a specific TLC fingerprint for the plant root to authenticate the same quickly. The study revealed that the methanolic extract of *Desmodium gangeticum* root contains nine different chemical constituents. The major constituent is an ethanone derivative (10.55 %). A reference TLC fingerprint was developed which can be made useful to identify this plant root specifically from others. However, isolation of individual phytochemical constituents and testing it clinically for specific biological activity will be definitely giving fruitful results to support the medicinal properties of the plant root.

Keywords: *Desmodium gangeticum*, TLC, GC-MS analysis, Shalparni, Chemical components

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