



Physico-chemical, phytochemical, antioxidant and GC-MS analysis of methanolic extract of *Hemigraphis colorata* (Blume) H. G. Hallier and *Pimenta dioica* (L.) Merr.

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Abstract

The plant based bioactive compounds always played a significant role in controlling bacterial and fungal diseases in crop plants and animals. Suppression of microbial growth in plants, vegetables and fruits are also essential to reduce the health risk to man and animal. The present study was designed to evaluate physico-chemical, phytochemicals, antioxidant activity and GC - MS analysis of methanolic extracts of *Hemigraphis colorata* and *Pimenta dioica*. The results of the study showed higher ash values in *H. colorata* than in *P. dioica* but the extractive values were better in *P. dioica*. Phytochemicals such as total phenol, flavonoid and alkaloid contents were higher in *P. dioica* (771.183 ± 0.779 mg GAE/g, 64.266 ± 0.0185 mg QE/g, and 104.64 ± 0.308 mg/gm respectively). *H. colorata* showed high amount of tannin (162.18 ± 0.328 mg TAE/g). Total antioxidant activity was found high (432.333 ± 0.6466 mg/g) in *H. colorata* and low (424.49 ± 1.113 mg/g) in *P. dioica*. GC-MS analysis of *P. dioica* and *H. colorata* revealed the presence of 11 and 17 major peaks respectively. The present study showed that the selected medicinal plants are the potential source of bioactive compounds and the use of these plants for pharmaceutical purpose is very promising.

Keywords: antioxidant, GC-MS analysis, *Hemigraphis colorata*, *Pimenta dioica*

Introduction

The Western Ghats of Karnataka is the most extravagant wellspring of restorative plants. The health maintenance system of the traditional community in India are prominently depended on plants and plant extracts for medicinal use. *Hemigraphis colorata* is a non-native medicinal plant belonging to the family Acanthaceae. It shows prostrate growth and spreads on the ground with rooting stems. The leaf parts of *H. colorata* when applied to wounds promotes wound contraction and epithelization leads to wound healing [1]. It is used as a medicine for abdominal pain, glossitis, stomatitis, urolithiasis and diabetes [2]. This plant species has been used in folklore medicines for various skin diseases. The phenolic compound of *H. colorata* serves as pro-oxidants and have free radical scavenging properties [3]. The leaves of this plant accommodate flavonoids, polyphenols, tannins together with high amount of potassium and low amount of sodium. The stem of *H. colorata* is found to have saponins and tannins whereas the root is incorporated with flavonoids and polyphenols and these phytochemicals have restorative qualities [4].

Pimenta dioica belong to the family Myrtaceae commonly known as allspice. Its aromatic taste and flavour similar to a blend of cinnamon, cloves, and nutmeg. The leaves of *P. dioica* frequently used as a carminative to prevent the gas formation in the gastrointestinal tract. The extracted oil from allspice is an effective tonic to treat nervous exhaustion, chest infections, arthritis and muscle pains [5]. Allspice has been used as an herbal remedy for fever, cold, flu, diabetes, muscle cramp and heavy menstrual discharge. Extracts from

allspice hold antioxidant, antiseptic and anaesthetic properties and fight against yeast and fungal infections. It is a natural source of β -carotene, vitamins A, B1, B2, C, niacin, thiamine, and riboflavin along with the minerals iron, potassium, magnesium, selenium and manganese [6]. Leaves and fruits of *P. dioica* produce essential oils, which employs a crucial role in the meat industry and for the production of beauty products [7].

Materials and Methods

Collection of Plant materials

The healthy plants viz., *Hemigraphis colorata* (Blume) H.G. Hallier. and *Pimenta dioica* (L.) Merr. were collected in a polythene bag from Western Ghats of Karnataka during the month of August 2018. The plant leaves were separated and washed thoroughly with running tap water followed by distilled water to remove the dust and debris. The leaf materials were shade dried and milled in to a fine homogenous powder using a blender. The powdered samples were stored in air tight container for further study.

Physico- chemical constituents of the plant materials

Ash Values

Powdered leaf samples of *H. colorata* and *P. dioica* were used to investigate the different ash values by the following methods [8, 9].

Total Ash Value

2 gm of leaf powder sample was transferred to a silica crucible and spread a fine layer on it. The crucible was incinerated in a muffle furnace at a temperature not

exceeding 600 °C until free from carbon. Then the crucible was cooled, weighed and the percentage of total ash content was calculated with reference to air-dried sample of the drug.

Acid- Insoluble Ash Value

Total ash obtained from the sample was allowed to boil in a 25 mL of 2N HCl for 5 min. The insoluble ash was gathered on an ashless filter paper and rinsed with hot water. Then the filter paper containing residue was positioned on a silica crucible and ignited in a muffle furnace at the temperature not exceeding 600 °C to obtain constant weight. Percentage of acid insoluble ash was computed in accordance with air-dried drug.

Water-Soluble Ash Value

Total ash obtained was diluted by adding 25 mL of distilled water and kept it for boiling for 5 min. Insoluble matter was collected on an ashless filter paper, washed with hot water and subsequently ignited and weighed. Water-soluble ash content was expressed in percentage with reference to the air-dried drug.

Sulphated Ash Value

The total ash obtained was dampened in 1 mL of conc. H₂SO₄, heated gently until no further white fumes, ignited and weighed. Then the sulphated ash value was figured out in percentage with reference to the air-dried drug.

Extractive Values

Water Soluble Extractive Value

5 gm of air-dried powdered plant sample was weighed and transferred to a conical flask containing 300 mL of water and shaken vigorously. The contents were boiled gently for 6 hrs followed by cooling and rapid filtration. The filtrate was evaporated to dryness and final weight was noted and calculated as % (w/w) with reference to air-dried drug.

Alcohol Soluble Extractive Value

5 gm of finely powdered air-dried plant sample was weighed in a glass-stopper conical flask. To this 100 mL of alcohol (90% v/v) was added and shaken intermediately for 24 hours and filtered. The filtrate was transferred to a pre weighed porcelain dish and evaporated to dryness by placing it on the boiling water bath and remeasured the weight of the flask ^[10]. The extractive value (%) was calculated using the following formula

Extractive value (%) = Weight of dried extract/ Weight of plant material X 100

Fluorescence analysis

The powdered leaf samples of *H. colorata* and *P. dioica* homogenized with various organic reagents such as 1N sodium hydroxide, 1N hydrochloric acid, distilled water, acetic acid, picric acid, sulphuric acid, FeCl₃ and alcohol and their extracts were observed under UV light (280 nm) and normal daylight ^[11].

Qualitative phytochemical analysis

Phytochemicals such as tannins, saponins, alkaloids, flavonoids, terpenoids, glycosides, steroids, phenols, carbohydrates, protein, phlobatanins and coumarins were

analysed with crude methanolic extract of dry powdered samples by following the standard methods ^[12].

Quantitative phytochemical analysis

Total Flavonoid

0.5 mL of each extract was taken in the test tubes and 1.5 mL methanol, 0.1 mL of 10% AlCl₃, 0.1 mL of 1M potassium acetate and 2.8 mL of distilled water were added to each test tubes. Then the tubes containing the reaction mixture was incubated at room temperature for 30 min and the absorbance was measured at 415 nm. The total flavonoid content was expressed as (µg) equivalents of quercetin/mg of the sample ^[13].

Total Tannin

Tannin content of the extracts was estimated by the following method with slight modifications. 20 µl of the sample was diluted with 980 µl of distilled water and to this, 500 µl of 1% potassium ferricyanide (K₃Fe (CN)₆) and 100 µl of 1% ferric chloride (FeCl₃) solutions were added. The content was mixed thoroughly and made up to 3mL by adding distilled water. Then the reaction mixture was incubated for 10 minutes at room temperature and the optical density was measured at 720 nm using UV spectrophotometer. Tannin content was calculated as µg of tannic acid equivalents/mg ^[14].

Total Alkaloid

Alkaloid content of the crude extracts was estimated by the standard procedure ^[15]. 2.5 g of the sample was mixed with 200 mL of 10% acetic acid (prepared in ethanol) and allowed to stand for 4 hrs. The filtered reaction mixture was concentrated on a water bath to get one-quarter of the original volume. To this, conc. ammonium hydroxide (NH₄OH) was added dropwise until the precipitation was completed. The precipitate was collected, washed using dilute ammonium hydroxide and filtered. The filtered residue was dried and weighed. Percentage of the total alkaloid content was calculated using the formula:

Percentage of alkaloid = (final weight of the sample/initial weight of the extract) × 100

Total Phenol

0.1 mL of the extract was made up to 0.25 mL with distilled water, stirred thoroughly. To this mixture, 0.25 mL of FC reagent (Folin-Ciocalteu) and 0.5mL of 20% Na₂CO₃ was added and made up to 5 mL with distilled water. Then the reaction mixture was incubated at room temperature for 30 minutes. Optical density of the sample was measured spectrophotometrically at 760 nm and the results were expressed as µg of gallic acid equivalents/mg of extract ^[16].

Antioxidant Activity

Total Antioxidant Activity

Total antioxidant activity of the selected plant extracts was assessed according to the method described ^[17]. To 0.3 mL extract, 3 mL of phosphomolybdenum reagent was added and mixed thoroughly and the reaction mixture was incubated at 95°C for 90 min. Then it was cooled to room temperature and the optical density was measured at 695 nm using UV-VIS spectrophotometer against a blank (0.3 mL methanol). Total antioxidant activity of the sample was calculated as the number of gram equivalent of ascorbic acid.

DPPH Radical Scavenging Assay

DPPH free radical scavenging assay was performed by the following method [18] with slight modifications. Methanolic leaf extracts of selected plants were prepared in different concentrations (20-100 µg/ml). To each test tube, 3 mL of 0.1 mM DPPH solution was added, gently shaken and incubated in dark for 30 minutes at room temperature. Optical density was measured at 517 nm against a reagent blank and ascorbic acid was used as the control. DPPH radical scavenging activity was calculated using the formula:

$$\text{Percentage of inhibition (\%)} = (\text{Ac} - \text{As}) / \text{As} \times 100$$

Where Ac = Absorbance of control, As = Absorbance of sample

Reducing Power Assay

To different concentration of extracts, 2.5 mL of 0.2 M phosphate and 2.5 mL of 1% of freshly prepared potassium ferricyanide ($\text{K}_3\text{Fe}(\text{CN})_6$) solutions were added mixed. Then the reaction mixture was incubated for 20 minutes at 50 °C. After incubation, 2.5 mL of 10% trichloroacetic acid (TCA) solution was added and centrifuged at 3000 rpm for 30 min. To 2.5 mL supernatant, 2.5 mL of methanol and 0.5 mL of 0.1% FeCl_3 solutions were added and mixed thoroughly. The optical density was measured at 700 nm. Reducing power value of the extracts was calculated in mg/g equivalents of ascorbic acid [19].

GC-MS Analysis

Methanolic extract of plant samples was subjected to GC-MS analysis [(GC-MS model (GCMS-TQ8040NX, Japan, 30 m long, 0.25 mm thick SH-Rxi-5Sil MS column and internal diameter of 0.25 mm (5% diphenyl / 95% dimethylpolysiloxane)]. The column oven temperature was set to 60.0 °C and the injector temperature was 260.00 °C and helium (99.999%) was acted as carrier gas at a flow rate of 1.20 mL/min. 1.0 µL of each extract was injected by the split less injection technique and split ratio of 10.0 was used for the analysis. Mass ranges were scanned at a rate of 3333 scans / 0.200 seconds from 40 to 650 m / z and the total GC run time was maintained to 40 min. Software of the GCMS solution was used to manage the data. The mass spectra of the compounds found in the extracts were matched with the National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST)17 libraries [20].

Results

Physico - chemical parameters

Ash Values

Ash values are used to determine the authenticity and purity of the sample. Ash values such as total ash, acid insoluble ash, water soluble ash and sulphated ash values of *H. colorata* were found to be 26.025%, 11.05%, 16.89%, 31.14% respectively. *P. dioica* showed higher total ash value (15.43 %) followed by sulphated ash (19.71%), water soluble ash (8.64 %) and acid insoluble ash (7.38%) (Table 1). This percentage values indicates that the leaves of *H. colorata* and *P. dioica* are the best sources for drug action and effects.

Extractive Values

The quality and purity of the drug are determined based on the extractive value of the crude drug. Alcohol soluble extracts of both plants showed higher values than the water-

soluble extracts. The results showed that more compounds from the samples can be extracted with alcohol than water (Table 1).

Table 1: Physico-chemical study of *H. colorata* and *P. dioica*

| Parameters | <i>H. colorata</i> | <i>P. dioica</i> |
|----------------------------------|--------------------|------------------|
| Total ash value | 26.025 % | 15.43 % |
| Acid insoluble ash value | 11.05 % | 7.38 % |
| Water soluble ash value | 16.89 % | 8.64 % |
| Sulphated ash value | 31.14 % | 19.71 % |
| Alcohol soluble extractive value | 4 % | 10.5 % |
| Water soluble extractive value | 3.5 % | 7 % |

Fluorescence analysis

The usage of powdered herbal drug is very easy and the adulteration of the drug can be detected by observing the herbal powder under UV light. Table 2 represents the fluorescence analysis of the powdered form of leaves of *H. colorata* and *P. dioica*.

Table 2: Fluorescence analysis of *H. colorata* and *P. dioica*

| Solvents used | <i>H. colorata</i> | <i>P. dioica</i> |
|--|-------------------------|----------------------|
| | Under UV light (280 nm) | |
| Powder + Distilled water | Slightly fluorescent | No fluorescence |
| Powder + 1N HCL | No fluorescence | No fluorescence |
| Powder + Alcohol | Pale orange colour | Slightly fluorescent |
| Powder + Picric acid | Yellow colour | Yellow colour |
| Powder + Conc. H_2SO_4 | Greenish yellow | Dark green |
| Powder + FeCl_3 | Dark green | Dark brown |
| Powder + 1N Na_2CO_3 | Greenish colour | Brownish green |

Phytochemical analysis

H. colorata extracts revealed the existence of all the analysed phytochemicals. But terpenoids, phlobatannins and coumarins were absent in *P. dioica* extract (Table 3).

Table 3: Phytochemical screening of *H. colorata* and *P. dioica*

| Phytochemicals | <i>H. colorata</i> | <i>P. dioica</i> |
|----------------|--------------------|------------------|
| Tannins | + | + |
| Flavonoids | + | + |
| Terpenoids | + | - |
| Saponins | + | + |
| Steroids | + | + |
| Phlobatannins | + | - |
| Carbohydrates | + | + |
| Glycosides | + | + |
| Coumarins | + | - |
| Alkaloids | + | + |
| Proteins | + | + |
| Phenol | + | + |

(+) = Present, (-) = Absent

Quantitative analysis

Total Phenol, Flavonoid, Tannin and Alkaloid

High number of total phenols (771.183 ± 0.779 mg GAE/g) and low alkaloid (104.64 ± 0.308 mg/gm), tannin (128.633 ± 0.0166 mg TAE/g) and flavonoid (64.266 ± 0.0185 mg QE/g) content was found in *P. dioica*. *H. colorata* showed a higher amount of tannin (162.18 ± 0.328 mg TAE/g) followed by total phenol (53.59 ± 0.7937 mg GAE/g), flavonoid (15.463 ± 0.0033 mg QE/g) and alkaloid (15.3533 ± 0.1510 mg/g) content (Fig 1).

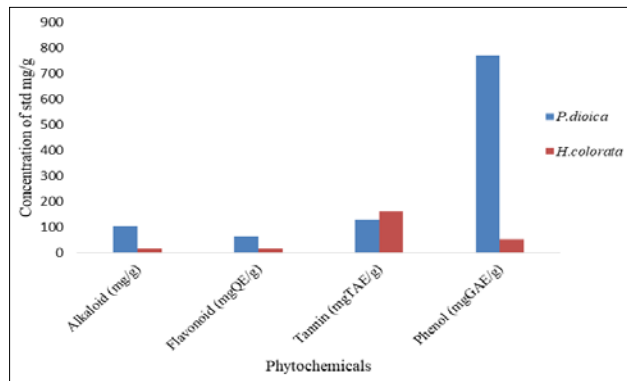


Fig.1: Quantitative analysis of phytochemicals

Total Antioxidant activity

The total antioxidant activity was found high (432.333 ± 0.6466 mg/g) in *H. colorata* and low (424.49 ± 1.113 mg/g) in *P. dioica*. Reducing power assay of leaf extracts of *H. colorata* was 75.9100 ± 0.005 mg/g and 88.1533 ± 0.033 mg/g in *P. dioica*. Results of DPPH free radical scavenging activity was represented as percentage of inhibition. High percentage (90.036%) inhibition of DPPH radical scavenging activity was observed in *P. dioica* leaf extract and it was low (78.620%) in the leaf extract of *H. colorata* (Table 4). The values of quantitative analysis were expressed as mean \pm Standard Error Means (SEM) of triplicates and $p < 0.05$ was considered as statistically significant.

Table 4: Total antioxidant, DPPH and reducing power assay

| Method used | <i>H. colorata</i> | <i>P. dioica</i> |
|--------------------------|----------------------|---------------------|
| Total antioxidant (mg/g) | 432.333 ± 0.6466 | 424.49 ± 1.113 |
| Reducing power (mg/g) | 75.9100 ± 0.005 | 88.1533 ± 0.033 |
| DPPH (%) | 78.620 ± 0.2010 | 90.036 ± 0.5385 |

Results are expressed as Mean \pm SEM, n=3, $p < 0.05$ considered as significant

GC MS Analysis

The GC-MS chromatogram of *P. dioica* showed 11 major peaks (Fig. 2). Among them Eugenol (22.97%) Phenol, 4-(2-propenyl) (16.97%) and Lupeol (12.36%) showed a higher peak area. *H. colorata* extracts showed 17 major peaks (Fig. 3) with different retention time. Eugenol (17.28%), stigmasterol (7.13%), gamma. Sitosterol (6.01%) and phenol, 4-(2-propenyl) - (6.08%) were obtained in *H. colorata* with higher peak area percentage. The identified bioactive compounds were presented in table 5 and 6 with their peak area percentage, retention time, molecular formula, molecular weight and biological activity.

Discussion

Majority of the crude drugs utilized by Indian systems of medicine are of plant origin. According to the World Health Organization [WHO], a detailed study of bioactive components should be performed before considering the plant for medicinal purposes [21]. *P. dioica* and *H. colorata* are the two important medicinal plants extensively utilized in conventional medicines by virtue of its several biological activities. The powdered form of the drug has been used for physicochemical studies which help to evaluate the purity and quality of the drug from plant origin. Ash value of a drug helps to determine numerous impurities like oxalate,

carbonate and silicate. Evaluation of various inorganic substances present in the drugs was employed by the help of water-soluble ash, which is a water-soluble part of the total ash. The acid insoluble ash mainly involves silica which designate the deterioration with earthy matter [22]. The extractive values of the sample help to determine the chemical constituents of the crude drug and also assists to evaluate the specific constituents soluble in a particular solvent [23]. Alcohol and water extractive values were calculated in each of the chosen plants and better values were obtained using alcohol. Variability in extractive values may be due to specific compound, condition of soil, change in atmosphere and water content present in the sample [24]. Alkaloids, flavonoids and tannins were reported in the phytochemical analysis of aqueous and alcoholic extracts of *H. colorata* [25]. Such compounds from plants are mainly applicable for drug formulation because of their low toxicity to the host cell [26, 27]. Flavonoids are group of secondary metabolites naturally occurring in plants which are effective in scavenging oxidizing molecules. Derivatives of flavonoid compounds shows antimicrobial, anticancer, anti-allergic properties hence purified compounds can be used for the treatment of several diseases [28, 29]. Alkaloids have been held with medicinal practices for decades and one of their frequent features is their cytotoxicity [30]. Tannins are the class of astringent; polyphenolic biomolecules possess anti-diarrhoeal and antimicrobial activities [31, 32]. Phenolic compound deals with modifying colour, taste, aroma and flavour thus improve the quality and nutritional value. Phenols act as repelling and attracting agents to organisms and also shows defence mechanism against reactive oxygen species (ROS) so a high concentration act as protective agents against fungal and bacterial pathogens. Surplus production of ROS accelerates to oxidative stress and diseases [33]. Intake of rich antioxidant containing diet is necessary to neutralize the free radicals from the body. Plant based antioxidant compounds helps to replace the use of synthetic antioxidants [34, 35]. *In vitro* experiments were used to determine the antioxidant activity; however, investigators have reported that there is no uniform approach to estimate the antioxidant activity quantitatively and precisely [36]. Hence three different methods are used to evaluate antioxidant activity. *H. colorata* and *P. dioica* showed high antioxidant activity and other secondary metabolites quantified during this study may be responsible for antioxidant properties. GC-MS is an excellent tool for the extraction, separation and identification of compounds in pure form. Eugenol is a common compound identified in both the selected plants. Eugenol essential oil extracted from plant source possess antifungal activity against *Fusarium oxysporum* [37] and synergistic effect on *Candida albicans* and *Laetiporus sulphureus* [38]. Eugenol contribute a wide range of application in food industry such as enhance the shelf life of food [39] suppress the growth of bacteria and virus [40, 41]. Lupeol has been reported to have anti-inflammatory, anti-protozoal and anti-tumour activity [42]. Phytol was found to be present in *H. colorata*. The effectiveness of phytol in different stages of arthritis has been reported [43]. All the other bioactive compounds revealed through this study justifies the use of *H. colorata* and *P. dioica* for various ailments.

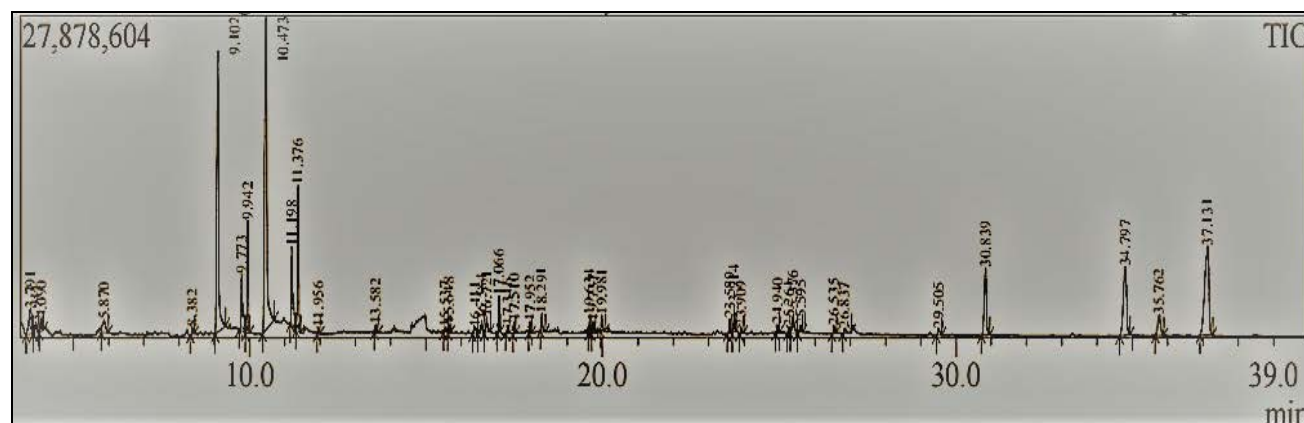


Fig. 2: GC–MS chromatogram of methanolic extract of *P. dioica* leaves

Table 5: Phytoconstituents identified from the methanolic extract of *P. dioica* leaves by GC–MS analysis.

| Sl. No. | R. time | Compound name | Peek area % | Molecular formula | Molecular weight | Biological activity |
|---------|---------|---|-------------|--|------------------|--|
| 1 | 3.791 | Acetic acid | 2.20 | C ₂ H ₄ O ₂ | 60.05 g/mol | Antibacterial |
| 2 | 5.870 | Beta-myrcene | 1.25 | C ₁₀ H ₁₆ | 136.23 g/mol | Antioxidant, antibacterial |
| 3 | 9.102 | Phenol, 4-(2-propenyl) | 16.97 | C ₉ H ₁₀ O | 134.17 g/mol | Antioxidant, Anti-microbial, Anti-inflammatory |
| 4 | 9.942 | Phenol,4-(2-propenyl)-acetate | 4.10 | C ₁₁ H ₁₂ O ₂ | 176.21 g/mol | Antimicrobial |
| 5 | 10.473 | Eugenol | 22.97 | C ₁₀ H ₁₂ O ₂ | 164.2 g/mol | Antiseptic, food flavouring agent |
| 6 | 11.198 | 3-Allyl-6-methoxyphenol | 3.82 | C ₁₂ H ₁₄ O ₃ | 164.20 g/mol | Antiseptic, Antioxidant |
| 7 | 25.376 | 9-Octadecenoic acid (Z)-, 2,3-dihydroxypropyl ester | 1.20 | C ₂₁ H ₄₀ O ₄ | 356.53 g/mol | Antimicrobial |
| 8 | 30.839 | Alpha-tocopherol-beta-d-mannoside | 4.92 | C ₃₅ H ₆₀ O ₇ | 592.8 g/mol | Enzyme inhibitory, anti-cancer |
| 9 | 34.797 | Gamma-sitosterol | 7.28 | C ₂₉ H ₅₀ O | 414.7 g/mol | Anti-cancer |
| 10 | 35.762 | Beta-amyrin | 2.03 | C ₃₀ H ₅₀ O | 426.7 g/mol | Anti-inflammatory |
| 11 | 37.131 | Lupeol | 12.36 | C ₃₀ H ₅₀ O | 426.7g/mol | Anti-inflammatory, anticancer |

Table 6: Phytoconstituents identified in the methanolic extract of *H. colorata* leaves by GC-MS analysis

| Sl. no. | R. time | Compound name | Peek area % | Molecular formula | Molecular weight | Biological activity |
|---------|---------|---|-------------|--|------------------|---|
| 1 | 3.771 | Glycerin | 3.88 | C ₃ H ₈ O ₃ | 92 g/mol | Antimicrobial, flavoring agent |
| 2 | 3.886 | Benzylmethyl ketone | 1.52 | C ₉ H ₁₀ O | 134.17 g/mol | Precursor, manufacture of amphetamine |
| 3 | 9.083 | Phenol,4-(2-propenyl)- | 6.08 | C ₉ H ₁₀ O | 134.17 g/mol | Antioxidant, anti-microbial and anti-inflammatory |
| 4 | 10.452 | Eugenol | 17.28 | C ₁₀ H ₁₂ O ₂ | 164.2 g/mol | Antiseptic, food flavoring agent |
| 5 | 11.214 | 3-Allyl-6-methoxyphenol | 4.81 | C ₁₀ H ₁₂ O | 164.2 g/mol | Anticancer activity |
| 6 | 17.077 | Neophytadiene | 3.18 | C ₂₀ H ₃₈ | 278.5 g/mol | Anti-inflammatory, antimicrobial |
| 7 | 17.965 | Hexadecanoic acid, methyl ester | 1.55 | C ₁₇ H ₃₄ O | 270.45 g/mol | Antifungal |
| 8 | 18.314 | n-Hexadecanoic acid | 2.67 | C ₁₆ H ₃₂ O ₂ | 256.4 g/mol | Anti-inflammatory, antioxidant, insecticidal, cytotoxic |
| 9 | 19.594 | (Z)-18-Octadec-9-enolide | 2.10 | C ₁₈ H ₃₂ O | 280.44 g/mol | Insecticidal |
| 10 | 19.650 | 9,12,15-Octadecatrienoic acid, methyl ester | 2.91 | C ₁₉ H ₃₂ O | 292.45 g/mol | Antimicrobial |
| 11 | 19.756 | Phytol | 3.71 | C ₂₀ H ₄₀ O | 296.53 g/mol | Precursor for synthetic vitamin E and K1 |
| 12 | 20.017 | 9,12,15-Octadecatrienoic acid, (Z, Z, Z)- | 5.81 | C ₁₈ H ₃₀ O ₂ | 278.42g/mol | Antibacterial, Antifungal |
| 13 | 26.563 | Squalene | 3.14 | C ₃₀ H ₅₀ | 410.73 g/mol | Antioxidant, antitumor, pesticide |
| 14 | 28.115 | Desmosterol | 1.44 | C ₂₇ H ₄₄ O | 384.64 g/mol | Phagocytotic activity |
| 15 | 32.786 | Campesterol | 2.59 | C ₂₈ H ₄₈ O | 400.68 g/mol | Food additive |
| 16 | 33.396 | Stigmasterol | 7.13 | C ₂₉ H ₄₈ O | 412.69 g/mol | Hypoglycemic, Anti ostioarthritis, antioxidant |
| 17 | 34.858 | Gamma. Sitosterol | 6.01 | C ₂₉ H ₅₀ O | 414.7 g/mol | Anticancer |

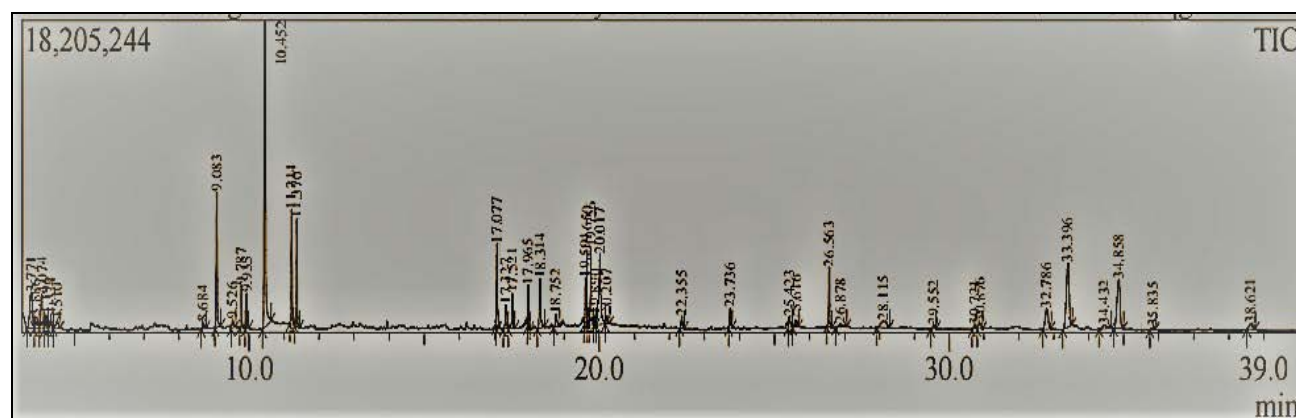


Fig 3: GC-MS chromatogram of the methanolic extract of *H. colorata* leaves

Conclusion

The present study concluded that the selected plants *H. colorata* and *P. dioica* are the source of secondary metabolites such as alkaloids, flavonoids, tannins, phenols and antioxidants. The biomolecules of these plants need to be characterized and encouraged to use against various diseases because plant natural products help to reduce the side effects. This study holds prominence in exploiting these medicinal plants as an alternative source to cure many diseases and various processing operations are urged in future. Hence, isolation, purification and characterization of active compounds of these plants need to be investigated.

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Conflict of interest

We declare that we have no conflict of interest.

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