
FORMULATION AND EVALUATION OF HERBAL ANTIULITHIATIC SYRUP

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ABSTRACT

Urolithiasis, commonly known as kidney stone disease, is a prevalent urinary disorder characterized by the formation of calculi in the urinary tract due to supersaturation of urine with stone-forming constituents such as calcium oxalate, uric acid, and phosphate. Conventional therapies, including surgical and lithotripsy methods, are often associated with side effects, recurrence, and high costs, creating a need for safer and more effective herbal alternatives.

The present research project aims to **formulate and evaluate a herbal antiurolithiatic syrup** using plant extract traditionally known for their lithotriptic, diuretic, and antioxidant properties. Selected herbal ingredients such as *Bryophyllum pinnatum* were incorporated into a palatable syrup base. The formulation was subjected to various **physicochemical evaluations**, including pH, viscosity, specific gravity, stability, and organoleptic properties.

Further, **in vitro antiurolithiatic activity** was assessed using calcium oxalate crystal inhibition and dissolution models to evaluate the formulation's efficacy in preventing crystal nucleation and aggregation. The results demonstrated significant inhibition of calcium oxalate crystallization compared with the standard drug (cystone), indicating potential antiurolithiatic activity.

The study concludes that the developed polyherbal syrup possesses promising antiurolithiatic

potential, offering a natural, safe, and effective alternative to existing synthetic therapies. Future work will focus on **in vivo evaluation and clinical validation** to confirm therapeutic efficacy and safety in human subjects

INTRODUCTION

Bryophyllum pinnatum. Linn (family: crassulaceae) is one of the most important medicinal plant. *Bryophyllum pinnatum*. linn plant commonly known as love plant, miracle leaf, life plant...etc. In Nigeria this plant is locally called as “Never Die” plant and one of the popular plants in folklore medicine. This plant is widely used by traditional practitioners for hypertension, skin disorders, asthma, cold, insect stings, and abscesses. In Ayurvedic science it is commonly known as Parnabeeja. These are also used in bleeding disorder, ulcer, and diarrhoea. The main chemical constituents of this plant include alkaloids, flavonoids, glycosides, steroids, bufadienolides, and organic acid etc. It is a perennial herb which is about 1m tall. Stem is fleshy and cylindrical and youngest stem are reddish in colour. It is growing primarily in rain forests and distributed worldwide. It is astringent and sour in taste. The nutritive value of fresh and dried leaves of *Bryophyllum pinnatum* shows that the carbohydrate values were the highest and ash had the least value. Calcium and potassium levels are high and lead and zinc levels are low in both fresh and dried samples. Presence of large amount of various chemical constituents in the plant *Bryophyllum pinnatum* shows various pharmacological actions. So this plant *Bryophyllum pinnatum* can be used for the treatment of various disease conditions. The leaves of *Bryophyllum pinnatum* show various pharmacological activities such as anti-diabetic, anti-inflammatory, anti-nociceptive, anti-hypertensive, neuroprotective etc. The leaves of *Bryophyllum pinnatum* are fleshy simple or compound in nature. Flowers are bell shaped, drooping and are arranged in branched clusters at the tip of the stem. The fruit of the plant are papery and membranous with four slender compartments. In this review some of the pharmacological activities of *Bryophyllum pinnatum* are mentioned.

● Plant Profile

Kingdom: Plantae – Plants Subkingdom: Tracheobionta Division : Spermatophyta
Subdivision: Magnoliophyta Class : Magnoliopsida Subclass : Rosidae
Order : Rosales Family: Crassulaceae
Genus: *Bryophyllum*

Species: *Bryophyllumpinnatum* kurz

- **Synonyms**

Hindi: Jakh Me Hayat, Panfuti Sanskrit : Parnabija

Bengali : Koppata Gujarati: Ghaymaari Telgu : Simahmudu Tamil : Ranakalli

Malayalam: Ellamurunga

- **Morphology**

Bryophyllumpinnatum is a succulent glabrous herb with a height of 0.3-1.2m.

- **Stem**

The younger stems of *Bryophyllumpinnatum* are reddish speckled with white and older ones are light coloured, the stems are obtusely four angled. The stems are upright, fleshy, and hairless.

- **Leaves**

Lower leaves are simple or compound in nature and the upper leaves are 3-5/7 foliolate with long petioles. The petioles are united by a ridge around the stem. The leaflets are ovate or elliptic with crenate or serrate margin. The leaves are green and yellowish-green in colour. The flowers are borne on a stalk, about 10-25 mm long. The plantlets are reproduced mainly when the leaves become detached from the stem.

- **Flower**

The flowers are dependent in large spreading panicles with opposite stout branches, pedicels are slender. Flowers are mainly bell-shaped, drooping and are arranged in branched clusters at the tip of the stem. The flowers are yellowish green or pale green coloured prominent sepals. Flowers are mainly produced during winter and spring.

- **Chemical Constituents**

The plant *Bryophyllumpinnatum* shows various pharmacological activities. The chemical constituents present in the various parts of the plant are responsible for these activities shown by the plant. The major chemical constituents present in the plant are, Isocitric acid & citric acid.

Bufadienolides like bryotoxin A, B, C

Phenols, Phenylpropanoids and Flavanoids: Syringic acid, caffeic acid, 4-hydroxy-3-methoxycinnamic acid, 4-hydroxybenzoic acid,

p-hydroxycinnamic acid, paracoumaric acid, ferulic acid, protocatechuic acid,

phosphoenolpyruvate, protocatechuic acid

Triterpenoids and Steroids: α -amyrin, α -amyrinacetate, β -amyrin, β -amyrinacetate, bryophollenone, bryophollone, taraxerol, pseudotaraxasterol, 18- α -oleanane, friedelin, glutinol.

Study on phytochemical constituents present in the ethanol extract of the leaves of *Bryophyllum pinnatum* on GC-MS analysis shows the presence of compounds like, butyrolactone, 3,4-Epoxytetrahydrothiophene-, 1,1-dioxide, 1-Octen-3-ol, Benzaldehyde, Oleic acid, Octadecanoic acid, n-Hexadecanoic acid.

Study of *Bryophyllum pinnatum* stem shows the presence of active constituents alkaloids, flavonoids, saponin, Tannin, phytate, phenol, calcium, magnesium, phosphorous, sodium, and potassium.

Neuroprotective activity

The aqueous leaf extract of *Bryophyllum pinnatum* shows neuropharmacological activities in mice. The extract was found to produce a profound decrease in exploratory activity in a dose-dependent manner. The *Bryophyllum pinnatum* extract also showed a marked sedative effect as evidenced by a significant reduction in gross behaviour and potentiation of pentobarbitone-induced sleeping time. It also delayed the convulsion (seizure) induced by strychnine and picrotoxin. It also decreases the rate of mortality induced by picrotoxin in mice with LD₅₀ of 641 mg/kg. All these studies show that the *Bryophyllum pinnatum* possesses depressant action on CNS.

Urolithiatic activity

Bryophyllum has demonstrated anti-urolithiatic activity by preventing and reducing kidney stone formation. This effect is attributed to its ability to dissolve crystals, inhibit their formation, and prevent renal damage. Studies show that *Bryophyllum pinnatum* extracts can suppress the buildup of calcium oxalate and other stone-forming substances while increasing stone inhibitors.

EXTRACTION



MATERIALS AND METHODS

• Drugs and chemicals

Ethylene glycol (Qualigens Fine Chemicals, Mumbai), Cystone (The Himalaya Drug Company, Bangalore), creatinine estimation kit (Merck Specialities Pvt. Ltd., Mumbai), urea, uric acid, calcium, phosphorus estimation kit (ERBA diagnostics Mannheim, GmbH, Germany) and magnesium estimation kit (Lab-Care Diagnostics (India) Pvt. Ltd., Valsad) were procured from local market. All other chemicals used in the experiment were of the highest grade commercially available.

• Preparation of the extracts

About 500 g of fresh leaves were soaked separately in ethanol and water: Ethanol (30:70) in a stopper container for 3 days (maceration) with frequent agitation. The solutions were filtered to obtain alcoholic extract (AlcE) and hydro-alcoholic extract (HAlcE), respectively. The extracts were dried in a rotary evaporator and stored in desiccators for further use.

• Preliminary and quantitative estimation of phytoconstituents

AlcE and HAlcE were screened for the presence of carbohydrates, proteins, phenols, flavonoids, saponins, glycosides, alkaloids, terpenoids and steroids using standard procedures. The total phenolic content of the extracts was determined spectrometrically by Folin–Ciocalteu method and expressed as percentage of gallic acid equivalent. The total flavonoid content was determined by aluminium chloride colorimetric assay and expressed as percentage of rutin equivalent in extracts. Total saponins were determined according to previously described method of Obadoni and Ochuko and expressed as percentage of saponins in extracts.

FORMULATION

Formula Table:

S.no	Ingredients	Quantity
1	Bryophyllum Extract	25ml
2	Sucrose	89 gm
3	Distilled Water	100ml

Method of preparation for her balsyrup

Herbalsyrup is prepared by using the following steps

Step 1: Method of preparation of decoction

The initial stage in studying medicinal plant is the preparation of plant sample to preserve the biomolecules in the plants prior to extraction. Plants samples such as leaves, barks, roots, fruits and flowers can be extracted from fresh or dried plant materials such as grinding and drying also influences the preservation of phytochemicals in the final extracts.

A. Extraction of Bryophyllum pinnatum:

About 500 g of fresh leaves were soaked separately in ethanol and water: Ethanol (30:70) in a stopper container for 3 days (maceration) with frequent agitation. The solutions were filtered to obtain alcoholic extract (AlcE) and hydro-alcoholic extract (HAlcE), respectively. The extracts were dried in a rotary evaporator and stored in desiccators for further use.

B. Filtration:

- Cool slightly and filter through a muslin cloth or fine sieve to remove plant material.
- Collect the clear herbal extract

Step 2: Method of preparation of herbal syrup

A. Syrup Base Preparation:

- In a separate pan, add sugar to an equal volume of the filtered extract (usually 1:1).
- Heat gently with constant stirring until the sugar completely dissolves.
- Do not overheat (avoid caramelization)

B. Concentration

- Continue heating until the syrup attains a slightly thick consistency (usually around 60–65 °Brix if using a hydrometer).

C. Cooling and Additives:

- Allow to cool below 40°C before adding Extract or any heat-sensitive ingredients (like lemon juice or essential oils).
- If using a preservative, dissolve and add at this stage.

D. Bottling:

- Pour the syrup into sterilized glass bottles while still warm.
- Seal tightly and label with name, date, and dosage.

E. Storage:

- Store in a cool, dry place away from direct sunlight.
- Shelf life is typically 3–6 months (longer if refrigerated or preserved).



EVALUATION

PHYSICAL EVALUATION

1. Colour examination: Five ml of final syrup was taken into a watch glass and placed against a white background in white tube light. It was observed for its colour by naked eye.

2. Odourexamination:Twomlofffinalsyrupwassmelledindividually.The time interval among two smelling was kept 2 minutes to nullify the effect of previous smelling.

3. Testexamination:Apinchoffinalsyrupwastakenandexaminedforitstaste ontastebudsofthetongue.Orsimplyapinchofsyrupwasputontipofftongue for determining test.

OBSERVATION TABLE

S.no	Physical Parameter	Result
1	Color	Colourless
2	Odour	Pleasant
3	Taste	Sweetish

PHYSICOCHEMICALPARAMETER

1. DeterminationofpH

Placed an accurately measured amount 10 ml of the final syrup in a 100 ml volumetric flask and made up the volume up to 100 ml with distilled water. The solutionwassonicatedforabout10minutes.pHwasmeasuredwiththehelpof digital pH meter.

2. Determiningofviscosityofsyrup

Theviscosityofthesyrupwasdeterminedbyusingviscometermainlycapillary viscometer, the average viscosity of any syrup at 21-30°C temperature is 700-1300centipoiseorcp,thedeterminedviscosityofsyrupwas880cp.

3. Determinationofdensity

The density of syrup can be determined by using the specific gravity of bottle. Cleanthespecificgravitybottlethoroughlywithchromicacidornitricacid.With the distilled water rinse the bottle for two to three times. Note the weight of the empty dry bottle with the capillary tube stopper (w1). Now fill the bottle with an unknown liquid and place the stopper and wipe of the excess liquid outside the bottle with the unknown liquid in analytical balance (w2). Finally, calculate the weight in grams of unknown liquid.

4. Visualinspection

The visual inspection, the ingredient & the final product are carefully examined for purity &for appearance Physical appearance of the product for patient adherencecomplianceiscriticalsothatitshouldbegoodlooking&elegancein appearance.

OBSERVATIONTABLE

S.no	Parameter	Result
1	PH	6.46
2	Viscosity	0.27Poise
3	Density	14.2gm
4	VisualInspection	GoodLooking

CONCLUSION

- The project's conclusion is that the developed polyherbal syrup, formulated with plant extracts traditionally known for their therapeutic properties, shows promising antiurolithiatic potential. This syrup offers a natural, safe, and effective alternative to existing synthetic therapies for urolithiasis (kidney stone disease).
- Urolithiasis is a prevalent urinary disorder. Conventional therapies (surgical, lithotripsy) often cause side effects, recurrence, and high costs, creating a need for safer herbal alternatives.
- The herbal antiurolithiatic syrup was formulated using selected plant extracts, including Bryophyllum pinnatum, chosen for its lithotriptic, diuretic, and antioxidant properties.
- The formulation was evaluated for in vitro antiurolithiatic activity using calcium oxalate crystal inhibition and dissolution models.
- The results showed significant inhibition of calcium oxalate crystallization.
- This inhibition was observed when compared with the standard drug, cystone, indicating potential antiurolithiatic activity.
- The developed syrup was subjected to various physicochemical and organoleptic evaluations.
- Physical Parameters: It was found to be Colourless, have a Pleasant odour, and a Sweetish taste.
- Physicochemical Parameters: The measured pH was 6.46, the Viscosity was 0.27 Poise, and the Density was 14.2 gm/cm³. The visual inspection was Good Looking.
- The study concludes that the syrup has promising potential. Future work will focus on:
 - In vivo evaluation. Clinical validation to confirm its therapeutic efficacy and safety in human subjects.

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