

**A COMPREHENSIVE REVIEW:- BOUGAINVILLEA SPECTABILIS**<sup>1\*</sup>Harshika Singh and <sup>2</sup>Himanshu Singh

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**ABSTRACT**

*Bougainvillea spectabilis*, also known as paper flower, is said to possess a variety of health rewards, such as anti-cancer, antidiabetic, anti-inflammatory, antihyperlipidemic, antibacterial, antioxidant, antiulcer features. The ancient medicinal herb *Bougainvillea spectabilis* Willd. has a variety of bioactive chemicals. Alkaloids, quinones, saponins, tannins, phenolics, glycosides, phlobotannins and terpenoids are among the phytoconstituents that have been identified as the foundation of their medicinal qualities. The other significant ingredients that support the healing qualities are pinitol, quercetin, quercetagenin, bougainvinones, and terpinolene. Research has shown that medicinal plants are readily available and have less adverse effects than other pharmaceuticals, they are frequently used in the manufacturing of new remedies.

**KEYWORDS:** *Bougainvillea spectabilis*, Paper flower, Medicinal herb, Phytoconstituents, Remedies.

**INTRODUCTION**

The medicinal plants are of huge significance to human health. For thousand of years, standard medical procedures in the majority of the world have utilized medicines based on plants.<sup>[1,2]</sup> Over 80% of people globally rely on conventional medicine for their vital medicine needs, according to a World Health Organization (WHO).<sup>[3]</sup>

A greater percentage of individuals have grown passionate about reducing the use of synthetic preservatives and switching to natural alternatives in the more recent past due to public concern about potential side effects like diabetes, cancer and cardiovascular

diseases.<sup>[4,5]</sup> Known as “paper flower”, *Bougainvillea spectabilis* is a member of the **Nyctaginaceae** family, which is recognized as an essential medicine.<sup>[6]</sup>

*Bougainvillea spectabilis* is indigenous to South America’s tropical regions. In 1860, it was brought from Europe to India.

Dr. Philibert Commerson, a French naturalist who discovered the bougainvillea in Rio de Janeiro, was the first person to record it, Brazil (1727-1773). The name honours the famous French navigator Louis Antoine de Bougainville, who accompanied him on his round of the world in 1766-1769.<sup>[21]</sup> Twenty years later, Jussieu (1789) published it for the first time in his book “*Genera Plantarum*.”

*B. spectabilis* is known as the paper flower because of its thin, papery bracts. The most prevalent color of bougainvillea is purple or magenta, though it can also be white or orange.

The local Indian names for *Bougainvillea spectabilis* Willd are Booganbel, Cherei, Baganbilas, Booganvel, Bouganvila and Kagithala Puvvu. It is also generally known as *Bougainvillea*, Great *Bougainvillea*.<sup>[19]</sup> In tropical and subtropical regions of India, the prickly, woody vine known as *bougainvillea spectabilis* is grown.

It has been shown that certain varieties of bougainvillea contain phenolics, flavonoids, alkaloids, anthocyanins, tannins, saponins, phytate and oxalate.<sup>[7]</sup>

Various volatile chemicals, including methyl salicylate terpinolene, 2-furfural cadina-1, 4-diene, methyl salicylate terpinolene and n-octacos-9-enoic, are found in the leaves, roots and branches of the plant and are useful in the treatment of inflammation and diabetes.<sup>[9,10]</sup>

Different components of *B. spectabilis* Willd., like leaves and bracts, are traditionally utilized in Mandsaur, Mexico, India, Peru and Brazil to treat a variety of health issues.<sup>[12]</sup>

Additionally, flower has curative use in dealing with the symptoms of hypotension.<sup>[11]</sup> In Mexico, to making tea, the plant’s blooms are soaked in hot water. The plant’s flowers, either by alone or in combination with other medicinal plants, have long been used in Mexican traditional medicine for the treatment of coughs and respiratory problems. Parkinson’s disease and leucorrhea are also cured by it.<sup>[13]</sup>

A wide range of remarkable secondary metabolites with a variety of pharmacological characteristics, including antibacterial, antioxidant, anticancer, antidiabetic, anti-inflammatory and antihyperlipidemic effects, may be found in *bougainvillea spectabilis*.<sup>[8,18]</sup> It is used as traditional medicine as appetizer, stomachic, alexiteric, seed-tonic and carminative.<sup>[20]</sup>

The alcoholic leaf extract has been used to treat diabetes mellitus (DM) due to reports that it has a hypoglycemic effect.<sup>[14,15]</sup> Pinitol is the term given to the leaf extract's hypoglycemic principle that has been identified.<sup>[16]</sup>

We tried to establish the impact of ethanolic *B. spectabilis* leaf extract ingestion on several haematological measures that may be used as indicators of bone marrow function and anaemia.

One of the key underlying mechanisms of *B. spectabilis*'s antidiabetogenic effect is thought to be its inhibition of glucosidase against intestinal and pancreatic glucosidase in mice.<sup>[17]</sup>



#### PLANT BOTANY

**Common Name:-** Paper flower and Great bougainvillea

**Vernacular Name**<sup>[22]</sup>

- Bougainvillea and Purple bougainvillea in English
- Bougainvilla and Veranera in Spanish
- Bougainvillier in French
- Bougainvillie in Germany
- Bouganvel and Boganvilla in India
- Papelillo in Peru
- Baganbilas, as in Bengali
- Mao bao jin and Ye zi hua in Chinese
- Bugarvillea in Italian
- Bunga kertas in Indonesian
- Felila in Japanese
- Bouganvila in Konkani
- Buginvila in Malay
- Kagithala puvvu in Telugu
- Fuang fah in Thai
- Bong giay in Vietnamese

**Taxonomy of b. Spectabilis**<sup>[23]</sup>

- Plantae is the kingdom in question.
- Division: Tracheophyta.
- Subkingdom: Viridiplantae.
- Infrakingdom: Streptophyta.
- Superdivision: Embryophyta.
- Subdivision: Spermatophytina.
- Class: Magnoliopsida.
- Caryophyllanae superorder.
- Caryophyllales order.
- The Nyctaginaceae family.
- Species: B. spectabilis.
- Genus: Bougainvillea.

### Morphology of Bougainvillea Spectabilis

- B. spectabilis has papery, thin bracts.
- The most prevalent color of bougainvillea is purple or magenta, though it can also be white or orange.<sup>[22]</sup>
- The woody perennial vine is enormous, clumping stems which may reach upto 2-4 meters, and it has multiple stems. It climbs by publishing thin, arcing canes with sharp, curved thorns on them. The stem color changes from mid-green to a dismal green-brown as they grow.
- The bark has a mild corky texture.
- The leaf has ovate to rounded kinds and is 5-10cm in length and 2-6cm in width. The leaves have a deep green color, a leathery texture and hair on the underside.
- The fruit is a longer than 1-2 cm, elongated, five-lobed achene. It has a stiff, dry fruit cover and is not very noticeable.<sup>[24]</sup>

### EXTRACTION METHOD

#### MACERATION METHOD

- Bougainvillea spectabilis flowers were dried.
- Using an electronic blender, grind the dry leaves.
- 5g of the blended material was placed into a beaker and 100ml of water, ethanol, chloroform and ethyl acetate were added one at a time.



- Then, filtered using filter paper after 48 hours of standing.



- Following reduced pressure evaporation, the filtrates were dried at 55° C in a rotary evaporator.

#### **Extraction using Soxhlet apparatus**

- Following a water wash & 168 hours of shade drying at 30° C, the flowers were pulverized successive solvent using ethanol and water.
- About 10 grams of dried flower were thoroughly extracted using a Soxhlet apparatus by hot continuing extraction, 500ml of ethanol & conducted for different duration (2, 5, 8, 10 and 12 hours).
- Aqueous extraction was carried out using the decoction method, which involved placing 10 grams at 40-45° C for 2 hours, respectively, in 500ml of distilled water.
- For the concentration mass to have a constant weight, vacuum drying was used.



#### **IDENTIFICATION TEST OF CHEMICAL COMPOUNDS**

**Steroids test:-** 2 ml acetic acid + 0.5 ml of ethanolic extract



Then 2 ml of concentrated H<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub> Were added



Color that was either blue or green or a combination of these two hues.

**Flavonoids test:-** 2 ml Sodium hydroxide + 2 ml of solvent extract



Yellow color indicates the presence of flavonoid

**Alkaloids test:-** Picric acid solution + 2 ml solvent extract



Orange color indicates presence of alkaloids

**Phenols test:-** 2 ml ferric chloride solution + 2 ml of solvent extract



Form of deep bluish green solution

**Cardenolides test:-** 2 ml benzene + 1 ml solvent extract



Turbid brown color was observed

**Tannins test:-** 0.5 g leaf powder + 20 ml of water



Boil for 5 minutes

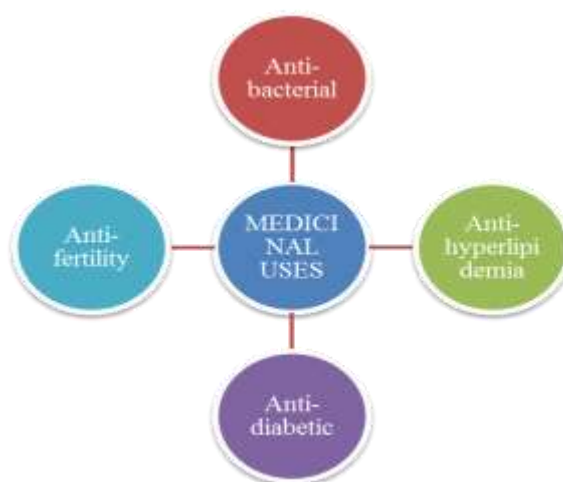


Then add 2 drops of 5% FeCl<sub>3</sub>



Formation of greenish precipitate

## MEDICINAL USES OF BOUGAINVILLEA SPECTABILIS



**Antibacterial Activity:-** The antibacterial activity of leaf extracts (ethanol, chloroform, ethyl acetate and water) from *B. spectabilis* Willd. was assessed against *Pseudomonas aeruginosa*, *Proteus vulgaris*, *Klebsilla pneumoniae* and *Bacillus subtilis*.<sup>[25]</sup>

In comparison to ethyl acetate and chloroform extracts, ethanol and water extracts were reported to demonstrate the strongest antibacterial potential against these microorganisms.

**Antihyperlipidemic Activity:-** Lowering serum cholesterol levels was one of the benefits of *B. spectabilis* leaf consumption.<sup>[26]</sup>

Significant reductions in the levels of low density lipoprotein, very low density lipoprotein, cholesterol and total cholesterol were observed in the plant extract. In addition, there has been an apparent increase in high density lipoprotein.

**Antidiabetic Activity:-** By studying diabetic mice, the leaf of *B. spectabilis* exhibited a high oral glucose tolerance and a significant decrease in intestinal glucosidase activity.<sup>[27]</sup>

Another study using diabetic rats given alloxan indicated that *B. spectabilis* stem bark demonstrated a potent hypoglycemic effect.<sup>[28]</sup>

**Anti-fertility Activity:-** Evaluated the effect of oral *B. spectabilis* leaf administration on male and female fertility and reproductive organs.<sup>[29]</sup>

This plant treatment revealed the Leydig interstitial cell hypertrophy, the germinal epithelial cells' thickness, and the reduction of seminiferous tubule size.



**Anti-oxidant Activity:-** Evaluated the antioxidant potential of *B. spectabilis* leaf and stem aqueous and hydroalcoholic extracts.<sup>[30]</sup>

Compared to the aqueous extract, the methanolic extract had higher antioxidant activity and a larger concentration of phytochemicals.<sup>[31]</sup>

**Anti-inflammatory Activity:-** Used carrageenan and dextran to assess the *B. spectabilis* leaf methanolic extract acute anti-inflammatory properties, the extract's long-term anti-inflammatory qualities were evaluated using Freud's adjuvant-induced arthritis model.<sup>[32]</sup>

**Anti-ulcer Activity:-** The ethanolic extract of *B. spectabilis* demonstrated a 100% ulcer inhibition rate along with a decrease in gastric volume, free acidity and total acidity.

## CONCLUSION

This paper demonstrates *Bougainvillea glabra*'s entire range of activities as well as its pharmacological properties, including antibacterial and anticancer properties. More bioactive components found in *Bougainvillea* leaf extracts like saponins, tannins, flavonoids etc. work against common human diseases. Additionally, the examined article demonstrated other pharmacological applications and contributed to the development of conventional and allopathy.

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