

## PHYTOCHEMICAL INVESTIGATION ON BOUGAINVILLE GLABRA LEAVES

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### ABSTRACT

*Bougainvillea glabra* grows 1 to 12 tall, scrambling over other plants with their spiky thorns. They are evergreen where rainfall occurs all year, or deciduous if there is a dry season. The leaves are alternate, simple ovate-acuminate, 4-13 cm long and 2-6 cm broad. Its leaves are collected and dried. Authenticated leaves. Dried leaves are extracted with alcohol and water in Soxhlet extractor. The extract subjected to various phytochemical tests. Carbohydrates, Glycosides, Flavonoids, Alkaloids, and Terpenoids are found to be in *Bougainvillea glabra* leaves.

**KEYWORDS:** *Bougainvillea glabra* leaves, phytochemical analysis, organoleptic character.

### INTRODUCTION

*Bougainvillea glabra* is a genus of thorny ornamental vines, bushes, and trees belonging to the four o'clock family, Nyctaginaceae.<sup>[1]</sup> *Bougainvillea glabra* is sometimes called "paper flower" because its bracts are thin papery.<sup>[2]</sup>

It is a valuable ornamental plant with culinary uses and utilized in traditional medicine for treating common ailments.<sup>[3]</sup> It is traditionally employed against several diseases such as diarrhoea, hypotension, intestinal disorders, stomach-ache, nausea, inflammation-related ailments, and in pain management.<sup>[4]</sup> Though widely validated via in vitro and in vivo models, to date no endeavour has been made to compile in a single review the traditional, phytochemistry and pharmacological properties of *Bougainvillea glabra*.<sup>[5]</sup>

Previous phytochemical analysis of methanolic extract of *Bougainvillea glabra* leaves has indicated the presence of steroids, flavonoids, glycosides, and terpenoids types of compounds.<sup>[6]</sup> Since these compounds are of pharmacological interest, coupled with the use of this plant in traditional medicine, prompted us to check *Bougainvillea glabra* leaves for possible analgesic, anti-inflammatory and anti-pyretic activities.<sup>[7]</sup>

## AIM

The aim of study was to collect the *Bougainvillea glabra* and to perform systematic phytochemical analysis on the aqueous-alcoholic extract of dried leaves.

## MATERIALS AND METHODS

Green leaves plucked from our campus garden and authenticated at State Medicinal plant board-Kerala by Senior scientist. Organoleptic characters are observed and noted. The leaves picture is incorporated in figure-1. The collected leaves washed in running water to remove any organic foreign particle if present. Dried in shade and pulverized in pulveriser of the laboratory. The coarse powder is 7.0gm subjected to Soxhlet extraction using aqueous alcoholic solvent at 40°C for six hrs. The obtained extract concentrated by simple evaporation at 40°C for 6 hours. The obtained extract concentrated by simple evaporation at 40°C. % yield = (weight of dry extract / weight of plant powder)  $\times$  100 determined. Various phytochemical tests performed on the extract as follows;



**Fig-1: *Bougainvillea glabra*.**



**Fig-2: Soxhlet Extraction.**



**Fig-3 Chemical Tests.**

## Test for Carbohydrates

**Molisch's Test:** 2-3 drops of Molisch's reagent was added to 2 mL of plant extract. Violet ring formation indicates the presence of the carbohydrates.

**Fehling's Test:** Mix equal volume of Fehling's solution A and B, boil for 1 minute and add equal volume of extract. Heat in a boiling water bath for 5-10 minutes. Brick red precipitate formation is the indication of presence of carbohydrates.

**Benedict's Test:** To 5 ml of Benedict's reagent, 1 ml of extract solution was added and boiled for two minutes and cooled. Red precipitate indicates the presence of carbohydrates.

#### Test for Proteins

**Millon's Test:** Few drops of Millon's reagent were added to 2 mL of the plant extract. Appearance of white precipitate reports the presence of the proteins.

**Biuret Test:** To 3 ml of extract solution add 4% sodium hydroxide and few drops of 1% copper sulphate solution. Violet colour indicates the presence of proteins.

**Ninhydrin Test:** 3 ml of extract solution was heated with 3 drops of 5% ninhydrin solution in a boiling water bath for 10 minutes. Purple colour indicates the presence of proteins.

#### Test for Glycosides

**Legal Test:** The extract was dissolved in pyridine and sodium nitroprusside was added to make it alkaline. Pink red to red colour indicates the presence of glycosides.

**Killer–killiani Test:** To 2 ml of extract, glacial acetic acid, one drop of 5% ferric chloride were added. Reddish brown at the junction of two liquid layers. Bluish green colour in the upper layer shows the presence of glycosides.

**Borntrager's Test:** A few ml of dilute sulphuric acid was added to 3 ml of extract solution. It was then heated, filtered. To the solid filtrate, added equal volume of benzene and chloroform. The chloroform layer was then treated with 1 ml of ammonia. Red colour indicates the presence of anthraquinone glycosides.

#### Test for Saponins

**Foam Test:** The extract was vigorously shaken with water. Persistent foam indicates the presence of saponins.

#### Test for Flavonoids

**Sodium hydroxide Test:** To 1 mL of plant extract 3 mL of 2% of NaOH was added, a yellow color appears. Then add few drops of dilute H<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub> solution to it. It turns colorless showing the presence of the flavonoids.

**Lead acetate Test:** A fraction of extract was treated few drops of 10% of lead acetate.

Yellow precipitate indicates the presence of the flavonoids.

#### **Test for Alkaloids**

**Dragendroff's Test:** A fraction of extract was treated with Dragendroff's reagent and observed for formation of yellow coloured precipitate.

**Mayer's Test:** 2-3 drops of Mayer's reagent was added to 1 mL of plant extract. White creamy precipitates show the presence of the alkaloids.

**Wagner's Test:** A fraction of extract was treated with Wagner's reagent. Reddish brown precipitate indicates presence of alkaloids.

**Hager's Test:** Add few drops of Hager's reagent into 1mL extract of plant. Yellow precipitates indicate presence of alkaloids.

#### **Test for Tannin**

**Lead acetate Test:** A fraction of extract was treated with few drops of lead acetate solution. White precipitate shows presence of tannins.

#### **Test for Phenolic Compounds**

**Ferric chloride Test:** To extract solution add few ml of 5% ferric chloride solution was added. Formation of black colour indicates the presence of phenolic compounds.

**Folin Ciocalteu Test:** Add 2mL of plant extract and 1 mL of Folin Ciocalteu reagent, if blue green color appears then the extract reports the presence of phenols in it.

#### **Test for Steroids**

**Libermann Burchard's Test:** 1mL of plant extract, mixed with 2-3 mL acetic anhydride and conc. sulfuric acid (side by side of the test tube) were added. Violet or green coloration shows the presence of steroids.

**Salkowaski's Test:** Take 2 mL of the plant extract and shake with the chloroform, then add conc. sulfuric acid from the side wall of the test tube. Red color indicates the presence of steroids.

#### **Test for Terpenoids**

**Copper acetate Test:** To 2mL of the plant extract, 1-2 drops of copper acetate were added in the test tube. Green precipitates suggest the presence of the terpenoids.

## RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Organoleptic characteristics: Colour-Green, Odour-Odourless,

% yield of crude extract =  $5.2 / 7.0 \times 100 = 74\% \text{w/w}$

**Table no: 01.**

SL.No	Chemical Tests	+/-
01	Test for carbohydrates	+
02	Test for proteins	—
03	Test for glycosides	++
04	Test for saponins	—
05	Test for flavonoids	+
06	Test for alkaloids	++
07	Test for tannin	—
08	Test for phenolic compounds	—
09	Test for Steroids	—
10	Test for Terpenoids	+++

## CONCLUSION

The yield was good. The important phytoconstituents present in *Bougainvillea glabra* leaves are; Carbohydrates, Glycosides, Flavonoids, Alkaloids, and Terpenoids (Table-1). Abundant presence of Glycosides, Alkaloids and Terpenoids shown.

The result showed the active constituents abundantly present may exhibit certain medicinal properties. Total quantity of the active constituents have to determine and active constituents should be isolated and should subject for screening of various medicinal properties may lead to medicinally significant led molecule.

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