

Review on *Caesalpinia bonducella* [Linn]

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ABSTRACT

The focus on medicinal plant research has been increased worldwide because of the belief that “green medicine” is safe and cheaper than synthetic drugs. Many herbal remedies have been employed in various medical systems for the treatment and management of different diseases. '*Caesalpinia bonducella*' is a prickly shrub belonging to the family 'Caesalpinaceae' which is used to cure number of diseases in ayurveda. It is distributed all over the world specially found in India, Sri Lanka and Andaman and Nicobar Islands. In India, specially found in tropical regions. It is popular in indigenous system of medicine like Ayurveda, Siddha, Unani and Homoeopathy. The phytochemical screening conducted on various parts of *Caesalpinia bonducella* revealed the presence of several bioactive molecules that include oils, steroids, saponins, alkaloids, glycosides, carbohydrates, phenols, tannins, flavonoids and resins. This review attempts to encompass the available literature of *Caesalpinia bonducella* with respect to its traditional uses, phytochemical constituents, GC-MS analysis of various extracts and pharmacological activities. The evaluation of various pharmacological activities justifies the folkloric claim of *Caesalpinia bonducella*. Therefore, this information may be helpful in developing new formulations.

Keywords: *Caesalpinia bonducella*; GC-MS; Pharmacological activities; Phytochemical constituents.

1. INTRODUCTION

Medicinal plant has attained a significant role in health system all over the world for both humans and animals not only in diseased condition but also as potential material for maintaining proper health. *Caesalpinia bonducella* L. is an herb reported in ayurveda, an ancient traditional system of medicine in India. “Bonducella” the name of the species is derived from the Arabic word “Bonduce” meaning a “little ball” which indicates the globular shape of the seed. The seeds contain an alkaloid caesalpinine, bitter principles such as bonducin, saponins and other oils. These compounds render the herb its therapeutic properties.

1.1. Plant description

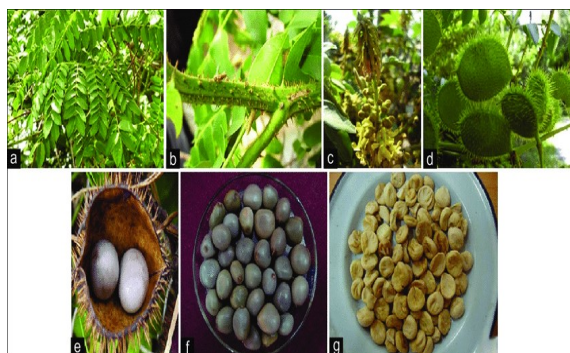


Figure -1: *Caesalpinia bonducella* (a) leaves (b) stem (c) flower (d) fruits (e) fruit with seed (f) seeds (g) seed kernels

Kingdom : Plantae
 Phylum : Magnoliophyta
 Division : Magnoliopsida
 Class : Angiospermae
 Order : Fabales
 Family : Caesalpiniaceae
 Genus : Caesalpinia
 Species : Bonducella

1.2. Vernacular name

Tamil : Kalarcip paruppu, Kazharchikkaai, Kalachikai, Kalichikai, Kazarci

English : Fever nut, bonduc nut, nicker nut, nicker seed

Hindi : Kantkarej, Kantikaranja, Sagar Gota

Sanskrit : Kakachika, Kantakikaranja, Kantakini, Latakaranja, karanja, Krakachika

Urdu : Akitmakit

Persian : Khayahe-i-iblas

Kannada : Gajjiga, Kiri gejjuga, Gajikekayi

Malayalam : Ban-karetti, Kaka-moullou, Kazhanji, Kalanci, Kajanchikkur

Telugu : Mulluthige, Gaccakayai

1.3. Habit and Habitat

C.bonducella is growing in shade as well as in open condition. Generally found up to an altitude of 1,000 m in Himalaya and wild throughout the plains on waste lands or coastal areas of India. It is also found in deltaic region of western, eastern and southern India. Found particularly in the seacoast throughout the hotter parts of India, Burma and Sri Lanka.

1.4. Traditional uses

- It is used in vast range of diseases. The seed powder given with milk controls the diarrhea.

- The skin of the seed being astringent is beneficial as a medicament for diarrhea, dysentery and colitis.
- The seed is claimed to be styptic, purgative, anthelmintic and controls inflammations, useful in colic, malaria, hydrocele, skin diseases and leprosy.
- The seeds are considered as tonic, febrifuge, anthelmintic, antibleorrhagic and specific in the treatment of hydrocele.
- The powdered seeds were mixed with equal part of pepper powder and given to malarial patients and was found to possess feeble antiperiodic properties.
- The seeds are ground in water and given internally in snakebite.
- *C. bonducella* seed along with long pepper powder act as a good expectorant.
- Burnt seeds with alum and burnt areca nut are used as a good dentifrice and useful in spongy gums, gum boils, etc.
- The oil prepared from the leaves, is a valuable nerve tonic.
- Leaves and twigs are traditionally used for the treatment of tumors, inflammation and liver disorder.
- They have also been applied for treatment of toothache.
- Leaves and juices have been used traditionally for elephantiasis and smallpox.

1.5. Phytochemical investigation

Various parts of *Caesalpinia bonducella* extracts reveals the presence of phytochemical substances such as alkaloids, carbohydrates, glycosides, flavonoids, steroids, saponins, tannins and phenols depending on the solubility of the compound and the solvent used.

Table - 1: Phytochemical investigation of various solvent extracts from *C.bonducella* seeds

Constituents	Hexane	Pet.ether	Chloroform	Ethyl acetate	Ethanol	Aqueous
Alkaloids	-	-	-	+	+	+
Carbohydrates	+	-	+	+	+	+
Glycosides	-	-	-	+	+	+
Flavonoids	-	-	+	-	+	+
Steroids	-	+	-	-	-	-
Saponins	+	+	+	+	-	+
Tannins	-	-	-	-	+	+
Phenolic compounds	+	-	-	-	-	-
Proteins	-	-	-	-	+	-

Table - 2: Phytochemical investigation of various solvent extracts from *C.bonducella* seed kernels

Constituents	Pet. Ether	Ethanol
Alkaloids	-	+
Carbohydrates	+	+
Glycosides	+	+
Steroids	+	-
Saponins	+	+
Tannins	+	+
Phenolic compounds	+	+
Proteins	+	+
Phytosterol	+	+

Table - 3: Phytochemical investigation of various solvent extracts from *C.bonducella* leaves

Constituents	Ethanol	Aqueous
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Alkaloids	+	+
Carbohydrates	+	+
Saponins	-	+
Tannins	+	+
Phenolic compounds	+	+
Proteins	+	+
Flavonoids	+	+
Quinine	+	+

1.6. GC-MS Analysis

Gas Chromatography-Mass Spectroscopy analysis of various solvent extracts were identified whereas hydroethanolic extract of *C.bonducella* seeds showed 31 active compounds and ethyl acetate fraction of *C.bonducella* seeds revealed 2 active compounds. GC-MS analysis of ethanolic extract of *C.bonducella* seed kernel showed 7 bioactive compounds and methanolic extract of *C.bonducella* seed kernel revealed the existence of 11 bioactive compounds.

Table - 4: Hydroethanolic extract of *C.bonducella* seeds

Retention time (min)	Compound Name	Chemical formula	Molecular weight (gm/mol)
4.54	2,3, dihydro-3, 5-dihydroxy-6-methyl-4H-Pyran-4-one	C ₆ H ₈ O ₄	144.12
4.90	Pentanoic acid	C ₅ H ₁₀ O ₂	102.13
5.08	2-Pyrazoline	C ₃ H ₆ N ₂	70.09
6.23	2-Propanol	C ₃ H ₈ O	60.1
6.96	1-Piperidineethanol 2-Propenoic acid	C ₁₀ H ₁₇ O ₂ N	183
7.5	1-Propanamine	C ₃ H ₉ N	59.11
10.59	Ethyl. beta -d-ribose	C ₇ H ₁₄ O ₅	178.18
12.76	3-O-Methyl-d-glucose.alpha.-D-Xylofuranoside	C ₁₅ H ₁₀ O ₅	150.13
13.09	2-[2-(2-Ethoxyethoxy)ethoxy]ethyl acetate	C ₁₀ H ₂₀ O ₅	220.26
13.20	Hydrazine	N ₂ H ₄	32.04
25.51	n-Hexadecanoic acid	C ₁₆ H ₃₂ O ₂	256.43
26.91	Hexadecanoic acid ethyl ester	C ₁₈ H ₃₆ O ₂	284.5
34.85	9,12-Octadecadienoic acid (Z,Z)	C ₁₈ H ₃₂ O ₂	280.44
66.86	Trimethylsilyl ether	C ₁₀ H ₂₄ OSi	188.38
69.68	9-Octadecene	C ₁₈ H ₃₆	252.5
70.83	1-(4-Nitrophenyl)-3-phenyl-3,4-di(carboxyethyl)-pyrazolin Acetic acid	-	-
71.15	2,3-Dihydroinden-2-one	C ₉ H ₈ O	132.16
71.86	1H-Imidazole	C ₃ H ₄ N ₂	68.07
72.45	Dichotine	C ₂₂ H ₂₄ N ₂ O ₆	412.4
72.92	Ethanone	C ₂ H ₃ O	47.03

73.16	2,2'-(Alpha-methylbenzylidene) methoxy-3-methylbenzofuran)	bis(6-	C ₂₈ H ₂₆ O ₄	426.5
73.37	1,1-dimethoxy Ethanone		C ₅ H ₁₀ O ₃	118.13
73.82	2,3-Dihydroinden-2-one		C ₉ H ₈ O	132.16
75.45	2-Furanmethanamine		C ₅ H ₇ NO	97.11
75.86	Tetrahydro-Nalmefene		C ₁₂ H ₂₅ N ₃ O	375.89
77.28	o-(3-methylbutyl)-9-octadecene		C ₂₃ H ₄₄ O ₂	352
77.95	Hydroxylamine		NH ₂ OH	33.03
79.45	Tetrahydro- Dichotine		-	-
79.84	1-(Trihexylsilyloxy) tetradecane Boron		C ₃₂ H ₆₈ OSiB	507
80.23	1,2,3-Thiadiazole		C ₂ H ₂ N ₂ S	86.12
82.55	Tetrahydro-Quinoline		C ₉ H ₁₁ N	133.19

Table - 5: Ethyl acetate fraction of *C.bonducella* seeds

Retention time (min)	Compound Name	Chemical formula	Molecular weight (gm/mol)
8.9	Carotene,3,3',4,4-tetrahydro-1,1,2,2-tetrahydro-1,1-dimethoxy-2,2-dioxo	C ₄₂ H ₅₆ O ₄	624.9
10.5	2-Hexadecanol	C ₁₆ H ₃₄ O	242.44

Table - 6: Ethanolic extract of *C.bonducella* seed kernel

Retention time (min)	Compound Name	Chemical formula	Molecular weight (gm/mol)
16.57	Flavone	C ₁₅ H ₁₀ O ₂	222.24
17.58	Estra-1,3,5(10)trien-17 a-ol	C ₂₀ H ₂₆ O ₃	314.42
19.1	Oleic Acid	C ₁₈ H ₃₄ O ₂	282.47
26.07	Coumarine,3[2-[1-methyl-2-imidazolylthio]-1-oxoethyl]	C ₁₅ H ₁₂ N ₂ O ₃ S	300.3323
26.88	Isopropyl stearate	C ₂₁ H ₄₂ O ₂	326.565
30.4	Benzoic acid, 4-hydroxy-3,5-dimethoxy-, octyl ester	C ₁₇ H ₂₆ O ₅	310.39
35	2-Secoandrosta-1,4,6-triene-17,19-diol,2-cyano-4,methyl- diacetate	C ₂₅ H ₃₃ NO ₄	411.542

Table - 7: Methanol extract of *Caesalpinia bonducella* seed kernel

Retention time (mins)	Compound Name	Chemical formula	Molecular weight (gm/mol)
12.68	2,4{1H,3H}-pyrimidinedione, dihydro-3-methyl	C ₅ H ₈ N ₂ O ₂	128
14.17	Benzene { 1- methylenebutyl}	C ₁₁ H ₁₄	146
15.82	Benzidine	C ₁₂ H ₁₂ N ₂	184
17.02	á-neoclovene	C ₁₅ H ₂₄	204
17.75	Flavone	C ₁₅ H ₁₀ O ₂	222
18.7	3,6-Non-adienedioic acid,5,5-dimethyl dimethyl ester	C ₁₄ H ₂₂ O ₃	238
19.67	9,12-octadecadienoic acid {Z, Z}	C ₁₈ H ₃₂ O ₂	280

21.28	Octadecanoic acid, 3-oxo, methyl ester	C ₁₉ H ₃₆ O ₃	312
22.92	Isopropyl stearate	C ₂₁ H ₄₂ O ₂	324
24.35	9,12-octadecadienoic acid {Z, Z}-, 2,3-dihydroxypropyl ester	C ₂₁ H ₃₈ O ₂	354
25.3	9,12,15-octadecatrienoic acid, 2,3-dihydroxypropyl ester {Z, Z, Z}	C ₂₁ H ₃₆ O ₄	352

1.7. Pharmacological activities

Table - 8: Pharmacological activities of various parts of *C.bonducella*

Parts of <i>Caesalpinia bonducella</i>	Solvent used for extraction	Pharmacological activity	Author name
Seed	Ethanol	Anticancer	Deepika KSN et al.
	Ethanol	Immunomodulatory	Shukla S et al.
	Aqueous	Antispermatogetic	Kanerkar UR et al.
	Ethanol	Abortifacient	Liliram et al.
	Hydro-ethanolic	Anti-inflammatory	Jagdale RA et al.
	Chloroform	Antioxidant	Nikhil kumar sachan et al.
	Ethanol	Analgesic and anti-inflammatory	Manoj Kumar Sagar et al.
	Aqueous and methanol	Diuretic	Ajay Khedkar et al.
	Petroleum ether and ethanol	Antiasthmatic	Prakash D. Khandagale et al.
	Hydro-methanolic	Antihyperglycemic and Antihyperlipidemic	Debidas Ghosh et al.
Seed coat	Ethanol	Anti-inflammatory and analgesic	Kannur et al.
	Aqueous and ethanol	Antimycobacterial	Sonvane SM et al.
Seed kernel	Alcohol	Antifilarial	Gaur et al.
	Petroleum ether	Anticonvulsant	Altaf et al.
	Methanol	Antimicrobial	Alrabie et al.
	Ethanol	Antihyperlipidemic	Gayatri Sarma et al.
Leaves	Aqueous and ethanol	Antimicrobial	Shirish S. Pingale et al.
	Methanol	Antidiarrhoeal	Billah MM et al.
	Methanol, ethanol, hexane and aqueous	Anthelmintic	Wadkar GH et al.
	Hydro- alcoholic	Antipsoriasis	Muruganantham N et al.
	Methanol	Antiulcer	Ansari JA et al.
Root-bark	Ethanol	Antifertility	Khedkar AS et al.
Stem-bark	Ethanol	Anti-inflammatory and Anticancer	Sandhia KG et al.

2. CONCLUSION

Ethno botanical and traditional uses of natural compounds, especially of plant origin received much attention in recent years as they are well tested for their efficacy and general believed to be safe for human use. Traditionally, plants are used in the treatment of many infections and systemic disorders. *Caesalpinia bonducella* are widely distributed and easily available in India. Thorough screening of literature available on *Caesalpinia bonducella* will hopefully help the researchers working in this area.

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