

Chemical and Antimicrobial Evaluation of the Leaves of *Talinum triangulare* (Jacq) Willd

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The methanolic extracts of *Talinum triangulare* on chromatography yielded five compounds, which were identified as β -sitosterol, oleanolic acid, oleanolic acid glycoside, oleanolic acid rhamno glucoside and β -sitosterol-3- β -D-glucoside. These were characterized by chemical tests and spectral means (UV, IR, MS, ^1H NMR). The methanolic extract of *Talinum triangulare* was also screened for antimicrobial studies. A moderate activity was observed on tested organisms.

Key Words: *Talinum triangulare*, Methanolic extract, Antimicrobial activity.

INTRODUCTION

Talinum triangulare (Jacq) Willd. (Portulacaceae) is a green leafy vegetable¹⁻³ commonly grown in south India. It is known as Ceylon spinach in western countries. *Talinum* is one of the largest genus of portulacaceae family and consists of 25 species world wide. Out of these only four species are available in India. The herb is medicinally used by local tribes to cure inflammations, ulcers, diarrhea and dysentery. It is reported to have antioxidant and cytoprotective activity. The herb is reported to contain saponin glycosides⁴⁻⁶.

EXPERIMENTAL

UV Spectra were obtained on Systronics UV Spectrophotometer, IR Spectra were recorded on BUCK Scientific-500 spectrophotometer using KBr pellets. Melting points were determined using Boeitus micro melting point apparatus and are uncorrected. The ^1H NMR spectra were taken on Bruker AM400 spectrophotometer with TMS as an internal standard. The mass spectra were taken on MAT-95 mass spectrophotometer. Column chromatography (CC) and TLC were carried out on silica gel (60-120 mesh, Acme) and silica gel G (Acme), respectively. The visualization of TLC was done by spraying 5 % sulphuric acid reagent in methanol. All the solvents (Merck) used were distilled prior to use.