HYPOGLYCEMIC ACTIVITY OF Caralluma Tuberculata

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ABSTRACT

Caralluma tuberculata stem crude ethanolic extract, carbon-tetrachloride, chloromform, ethyl-acetate and n-butanol fractions showed significant hypoglycemic activities in allaxonized rabbits. While its aqueous fraction did not show any significant activity.

INTRODUCTION

Caralluma tuberculata is found in all parts of Pakistan. It is abundantly found in hilly area of D.I.Khan, Kohat and Peshawar division. This well known herb is commonly called chung, Chungon and Pawankay in Pashto. This plant belongs to family Asclepiadaceae[1]. *Caralluma tuberculata* is used as vegetable and is reported to be a care for diabetes and is effective in rheumatism[2]. Saudi folk medicine partitioners have been using this plant for the treatment of snake bite, Scorpion bite, as a blood purifier and known to have effective hypertensive effect[3].

The publications appeared in the recent years about the hypoglycemic activity of this plant Akhtar *et al.*,[4] reported that the roots of *Caralluma tuberculata* has no effect on alaxonized rabbits. While other report shows[5] that its stem ethanolic extract decreases the sugar level in diabetic rabbits, while its fresh juice have no significant effect.

The aim of the present study is hypoglycemic directed fractionation and isolation of the pure chemicals from the crude ethanolic extract of the plant.

MATERIAL AND METHOD

Caralluma tuberculata lokg, ws purchased from the local market. Plant was washed, ground and extracted with ethanol at room temperature for seven days. The crude ethanolic extract was evaporated on rotary evaporater under reduced presure, producing a syrupy residue.

A part of this syrupy residue was used for evaluation of antidiabetic activity in rabbits (50 mg, 100 mg and 200 mg/kg body weight), and another part was subjected to

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