

**ANTIMICROBIAL ACTIVITY NUTRITIONAL PROFILE AND QUANTITATIVE STUDY  
OF DIFFERENT FRACTIONS OF *SENECIO CHRYSANTHEMOIDES***

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**ABSTRACT**

The in vitro antibacterial and antifungal activities of petroleum ether, chloroform, ethyl acetate, acetone, methanolic, ethanolic and water extracts of *S. chrysanthemoides* were tested against ten bacterial strains and three fungal strains by disc diffusion method. The methanolic extracts of *S. chrysanthemoides* showed significant activity (18 mm) against *Klebsiella pneumoniae*. The medicinal plant contain ash value, (total ash) moisture; crude fat and crude fiber, extractive values were studied fresh part weight.

**KEYWORDS:** Antibacterial, antifungal, nutritional value.**INTRODUCTION**

The side effects and resistance pathogenic micro-organisms build against the antibiotics, much attention has been paid to extracts and biologically active compounds isolated from plant species used in herbal medicine. Medicinal plants may offer a natural and new source of antibacterial agents for use.<sup>[1]</sup> *Senecio* species are used in folk medicine for the treatment of wounds and as antiemetic, anti-inflammatory, antimicrobial and vasodilator. The parts mostly used are leaves, stems, flowers,<sup>[2]</sup> The pyrrolizidine alkaloids (Pas) and the furanoterpenoids are the most important constituents of this genus and thought to be responsible for all of pharmacological activities.<sup>[5]</sup>

The genus *Senecio*, which belongs to the tribe Senecioneae, is the largest and most complex genus in the family of the Asteraceae (Compositae) and includes more than 1500 species with a worldwide distribution.<sup>[6]</sup> The chemical constituents of the genus *Senecio* include notably sesquiterpenoids, monoterpenoids,<sup>[7,8]</sup> diterpenoids,<sup>[9]</sup> triterpenoids,<sup>[10]</sup> phenolic and flavonoid compounds,<sup>[11-16]</sup> essential oils<sup>[17]</sup> and pyrrolizidine alkaloids.<sup>[5]</sup>

The genus *Senecio* is represented in India by 43 species including *S. chrysanthemoides* which grows endemically in all over India.<sup>[18]</sup>

In continuation of our phytochemical and antibacterial studies of the Himalayan medicinal plants,<sup>[19-21]</sup> we report here the findings of our studies on the characterization of secondary metabolites and evaluation of antimicrobial activity of *S. chrysanthemoides*. To the

best of our knowledge, there are no reports about the chemical content and biological activity of this species

**MATERIAL AND METHODS****Plant Material**

The aerial parts of *S. chrysanthemoides* were collected in May 2014 (flowering stage) in Chopta Rudrapur. The plant was identified by Department of Botany, HNB Garhwal University. A voucher specimen was deposited at the Botany Department, HNB Garhwal University Srinagar, under the code number 24446.

**Preparation of plant Extract**

The plant material was separated into its selected parts (bark, leaf, root and fruit) air dried ground to moderately fine powder and Soxhlet extracted with increasing polarity solvent (Petroleum ether, chloroform, ethyl acetate, acetone, methanolic, ethanolic and water).<sup>[22]</sup> Each extract was evaporated to dryness under reduced pressure using rotary evaporator. The coarse powder of fruit bark and root was subjected to successive hot continuous extraction with various solvents each time before extracting with next solvent the powdered material will be air dried (weight of crude extract 100g). The various concentrated extracts were stored in air tight container for further studies.

**Media**

Nutrient broth, Nutrient agar, Muller Hinton agar, Malt extract broth and Sabouraud dextrose agar, Alcohol, Hydrochloric acid, alcohol, and sulphuric acid, Distilled water etc all products of Himedia Laboratories Mumbai (India) were used in this study.

### Bacterial Strains

Ten bacterial strains were used namely *Escherichia coli*, *Klebsiella pneumoniae*, *Enterobacter gergoviae*, *salmonella entericatyphim*, *shigella flexneri*, *Staphylococcus aureus*, *staphylococcus epidermidis*, *streptococcus pyogenes* and *Bacillus cereus*. The bacterial strains were supplied by the Microbial Type Culture Collection and Gene Bank, Institute of Microbial Technology, Chandigarh, India. (Customer no. 5671).

### Fungal Strains

Three fungal strains were used namely *Candida albicans*, *Aspergillus flavus* and *Aspergillus parasiticus*. The fungal strains were supplied by the Microbial Type Culture Collection and Gene Bank, Institute of Microbial Technology, Chandigarh, India.

### Antibacterial assay

The disc diffusion assay methods were used to determine the growth inhibition of bacteria by plant extracts.<sup>[2,3]</sup> Diluted bacterial culture (100 µl) was spread over nutrient agar plates with a sterile glass L-rod. 10 mg/ml and 50 mg/ml of the each extracts were applied to each filter paper disc (Whatman No. 1, 5 mm diam.) and allowed to dry before being placed on the agar plate. Each extract was tested in triplicate (3 discs/ plate) and the plates were inoculated at 37°C for 24 h. After incubation, the diameter of inhibition zones was measured with a caliper.

### Antifungal assay

The antifungal activity was tested by disc diffusion method.<sup>[24,25]</sup> The Sabouraud dextrose agar plates were each similarly seeded with each fungal strain. The 24 hrs. broth culture of each bacterium and 7 days inoculated fungus culture were used to seed sterile Sabouraud dextrose agar at 45°C respectively and fungal plates were incubated at 25-28°C for 7 days after which diameter of zones of inhibition were measured. Each disc filled with extract

### Nutritional and Mineral assay

The number of water molecule is contain % of moisture, Pt. ether and hexane soluble part is called crude fat and the non soluble part of acid- base medium is called crude fibre (cellulose and lignin) and mineral estimated by flame photometry.<sup>[26,27]</sup>

### RESULT AND DISCUSSION

Plants are important source of potentially useful structures for the development of new chemotherapeutic agents. The first step towards this goal is the in vitro antimicrobial activity assay.<sup>[28]</sup> The results of antibacterial, antifungal, nutritional value and phytochemical screening activity, table 1, 2 and 3 reveals that antibacterial, antifungal, nutritional and phytochemical screening activity of bark and fruit explants of *S. chrysanthemoides* was evaluated against ten bacterial and three fungal pathogenic strains.

**Table 1: Antibacterial activity of ten bacterial strains against *S. chrysanthemoides* plant extract. Disc size, 5 mm, Inhibitory zone size  $\pm 1$  mm, mm means (millimetres) and – indicate (NIZ) No inhibitory zone.**

Bacterial Name	Petroleum ether Extract		Chloroform Extract		Ethyl acetate Extract		Acetone Extract		Methanol Extract		Ethanol Extract		Water extract	
	10 Mg/ml	50 Mg/ml	10 Mg/ml	50 Mg/ml	10 Mg/ml	50 Mg/ml	10 Mg/ml	50 Mg/ml	10 Mg/ml	50 Mg/ml	10 Mg/ml	50 Mg/ml	10 Mg/ml	50 Mg/ml
Bacillus cereus	-	-	-	-	-	02	-	06	03	12	-	07	06	15
Escherichia coli	-	-	-	-	-	05	-	-	-	15	-	06	05	12
Klebsiella pneumonia	-	-	-	-	-	03	07	07	-	18	-	09	10	11
Salmonella entericatyphim	-	-	-	-	-	07	07	-	05	13	-	10	11	10
Staphylococcus aureus	-	-	-	-	-	05	-	02	-	15	-	11	05	08
Staphylococcus epidermidis	-	-	-	-	-	10	-	-	06	11	-	06	-	09
Streptococcus pyogenes	-	-	-	-	-	09	05	04	-	16	-	09	07	11

**Table 2: Fungal activity of three fungal strains against *S. chrysanthemoides* plant extract. Disc size, 5 Mm, Inhibitory zone size  $\pm 1$  Mm, Mm means (millimetres) and – indicate (NIZ) No inhibitory zone.**

Fungal	Petroleum ether extract		Chloroform extract		Ethyl acetate		Acetone extract		Methanol extract		Ethanol extract		Water extract	
	10 Mg/ml	50 Mg/ml	10 Mg/ml	50 Mg/ml	10 Mg/ml	50 Mg/ml	10 Mg/ml	50 Mg/ml	10 Mg/ml	50 Mg/ml	10 Mg/ml	50 Mg/ml	10 Mg/ml	50 Mg/ml
Candida albicans	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	07	-	08	-	-
Aspergillus flavus	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	08	-	06	-	-
Aspergillus parasiticus	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	07	-	07	-	-

**Table 3: Nutritional value of *S. chrysanthemoides*.**

Nutrients	Value
Moisture (%)	43.20 ± 0.15
Ash (%)	5.06 ± 0.08
Total nitrogen (%)	0.73 ± 0.07
Total protein (%)	3.06 ± 0.04
Crude fat (%)	3.71 ± 0.25
N (Mg/100gm)	0.73± 0.12
Ca (Mg/100gm)	2.54 ± 0.13
Mg (Mg/100gm)	1.92± 0.15
K (Mg/100gm)	0.58± 0.25
P (Mg/100gm)	0.88 ± 0.20
Crude fibre (%)	21.65 ± 0.09
Carbohydrate	17.78± 0.16
Organic matter	53.90± 0.22
Ascorbic acid	1.83± 0.15
Energy value K Cal	97.37± 0.15

### CONCLUSION

In conclusion, the results of this investigation revealed that antimicrobial and antifungal activity against selected bacterial and fungal strains. The differentiating activities against variety of microorganisms of these five fraction encourage developing a novel broad spectrum antimicrobial formulation in future. Now our research will be directed to develop a broad spectrum antimicrobial herbal formulation with this plant. Even at low concentrations, these species showed high antimicrobial and antifungal activity nearly equal to that of the commercial fungicide used as a positive control. Further studies are needed to determine the chemical identity of the bioactive compounds responsible for the observed antimicrobial and antifungal activity. Natural plant-derived fungicides may be a source of new alternative active compounds, they can be used in the treatment of infectious diseases caused by resistant microbes.

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