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Acute toxicity effect of Myrsine africana aqueous seed extract on some hematological parameters in male Wistar rats

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Natural medicinal products have gained recognition worldwide in the treatment and control of diseases. One of the major concerns is the lack of adequate pharmacological and toxicological data to support their use. *Myrsine africana* is traditionally used as veterinary and human anthelmintic. This study was carried out on the crude extracts of dry seeds of *M. africana* to evaluate the oral acute toxic effect on hematological parameters. Group 1 and 2 of Wistar rats were orally given 1000 and 5000 mg/kg body weight, respectively, alongside a control group which received distilled water. Eight blood parameters were measured after 48 hours and 14 days post extract administration using a semi-automatic hematological analyzer. The LD50 of the aqueous extracts *M. africana* seed *extracts* was estimated to be >5000 mg/kg body weight in albino Wistar rats. Red Blood Cells (RBC) and Packed Cell Volume (PCV) means of rats fed with 5000 mg/kg body weight were found to be significantly elevated than the control at 48 hours testing. At day 14, thrombocytes (platelets) count was significantly high. The study concluded that *Myrsine africana* seed extract has a big safe margin validating its wide use as anthelmintic. However, consumption of *M. africana* at 5000 mg/kg body weight induced hematopoietic imbalance indicated by the elevated red blood cells and platelets (thrombocytes). Hence, lower doses are recommended as was indicated by the non-significant difference of 1000 mg/kg body weight. Sub-acute, chronic toxicity studies and isolation to identify the biologically active ingredients of *Myrsine africana* seeds that were responsible for the above effects will follow.

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Chemical constituents of *Carissa edulis* Vahl

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Reinvestigation of the biologically active ethyl acetate and butanol extracts of the aerial. Parts of *Carissa edulis* afforded 3-O-acetyl chlorogenic acid (I) along with four known flavonol glucosides including, kaempferol 3-O-b-D glucopyranoside (II), quercetin-3-O-b-D glucopyranoside (III), rhamnetin-3-O-b-D glucopyranoside (IV) and isorhamnetin-3-O-b-D-glucopyranoside (V) from ethyl acetate fraction. Isorhamnetin-3-O-b-D-glucopyranoside-(200fi100 0)-rhamnopyranoside (VI), Caredulis, 1-{1-[2-(2 hydroxypropoxy) propoxy] propan-2-yloxy} propan-2-ol (VII) and (+) butyl-O-a-L-rhamnoside (VIII) were isolated from butanol fraction. Characterization of these compounds was achieved by various spectroscopic methods (UV, MS, 1H NMR, 13C NMR, COSY, HSQC and HMBC) and through comparison with published data. Compounds I-VIII was isolated from *C. edulis* for the first time, while compounds VII and VIII were isolated for the first time from Nature.

Biography

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