

EFFECT OF INDUSTRY EFFLUENT ON HISTO-PHARMACOGNOSY OF *BOERHAAVIA DIFFUSA* LINN. USED AS BLOOD PURIFIER

Kavita Tyagi and Saurabh Sharma

National Medicinal Plants Board, Ministry of AYUSH
Govt. of India, Red Cross Society, New Delhi, India

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ABSTRACT

Aims of the Study:

To carried out the effect of Atlas Cycles Industry effluent on pharmacognosy of *Boerhaavia diffusa* Linn. used as Blood Purifier

Method:

The effluent of Atlas Cycles Industry was analyzed by Trivedi & Goel, 1986 method. Metacalf and Chalk, 1950 was consulted for anatomical studies of selected plant; for chemical analysis Johanson, 1940, Cromwell, 1955 & Trease and Evans, 1983 were followed. TLC was investigated by WHO, 1998.

Results:

The physico-chemical parameters of Atlas cycle industry effluent were found greater values as compared to standard values. The morphological & anatomical parameters were showed decreasing trend in those plants which were collected near the vicinity of Atlas cycle industry. The colour reaction tests resulted only degrees of changes. The number of spots in observation of TLC, stomatal index, palisade ratio, water extractive and alcohol extractive values were reduced in those plants which were collected near the vicinity of Atlas cycle industry where as vein Islet & vein termination number, ash values were comparatively higher in same samples.

Conclusion:

The conclusion of this study is that the plants should not be collected form polluted areas(near the vicinity of any industry) for the preparation of medicines, since majority of parameters reflect decreasing data in those plants which were taken from polluted area.

Keywords: Pharmacognosy, *Boerhaavia diffusa*, Effluent analysis.

INTRODUCTION

After making a survey of Ghaziabad, it is found that most of the industries are situated near the agricultural land and populated areas. The industrial wastes are being discharged in the earthen and semi earthen areas (fields). In these areas many medicinally important plants are growing. *Boerhaavia diffusa* Linn. an important

medicinal plant is selected in this study which is found in the vicinity of Atlas Cycles Industry, Ghaziabad. The heavy metals and other pollutants enter into the roots of medicinally important plants through industrial effluent and agricultural wastes. Bio-monitors are of the view that the polluted water which is an intricate system of living and nonliving substances like acids, alkalis, chlorides, heavy

metals, dissolved solids, nitrates, sulfates, aquatic life bacteria, fungal forms etc. they are harmful to environment and plant species thus caused a numbers of changes in the morphology, anatomy, chemical constituents, behaviour and reproductive cycle, the flora and fauna of the region. The pollution in the region has affected the growth of various plant species having substantial medicinal value.

Pharmaco-botanical analysis plays a vital role in identification of plants and determination of their purity and quality of raw medicinal material plant. Therefore, an attempt has been made for a comparative study under the impact of industrial pollution on *B. diffusa*. It is a very important medicinal plants having anti-tumor property and commonly used as a blood purifier.

MATERIALS AND METHODS

The samples of *Boerhaavia diffusa* Linn. were collected from the area near to Atlas Cycle Industry,

Sahibabad, Ghaziabad, UP, India to investigate the effect of industrial pollution. The effluent was analyzed by using the standard methods of Trivedi & Goel (1986). Fresh and matured samples of both the plants are collected from polluted (Atlas Cycle Industry) and non-polluted areas (ALTT Centre, Ghaziabad) to their macro morphological characters. For anatomical studies Metacalf (1980) were consulted. For chemical analysis Johanson, 1940, Cromwell, 1955 & Trease and Evans, 1983 were followed. TLC was investigated by WHO, 1998.

RESULTS

Analysis of Effluent

The effluent contains data regarding Colour, Odour, BOD, COD, DO, pH, temperature, TS, TSS, TDS, oil and grease, heavy metals etc. The result is given in table -1.

Table 1: Physico-chemical Characteristics of industrial effluent of Atlas Cycle Industry.

S.No.	Parameters	Characteristic of Effluents	Maximum Recommended Concentration	Authority/ Reference
1.	Colour	Yellowish	Should be absent	I.S.I. : 2490
2.	Odour	--	Odourless	I.S.I. : 2490
3.	pH	4-6	5.5-9.0	I.S.I. : 2296
4.	Suspended Solids	200 mg/l	-----	-----
5.	Total Dissolved Solids (mg/l)	810 mg/l	2100.0	I.S.I. : 3307
6.	Total Suspended Solids (mg/l)	1010 mg/l	600.0	I.S.I. : 3306
7.	Dissolved Solids	720 mg/l	-----	-----
8.	Total Solids (mg/l)	840 mg/l	2700.0	-----
9.	BOD (mg/l)	16.0 mg/l	30.0	I.S.I. : 2490
10.	COD (mg/l)	200 mg/l	250.0	I.S.I. : 2490,1982
11.	Oil and Grease (mg/l)	Nil	10.0	I.S.I. : 2490
12.	Chloride (mg/l)	Nil	600	I.S.I. : 2490
14.	Chromium (Cr)	5 mg/l	-----	-----
15.	Nickel (Ni)	12 mg/l	-----	-----
16.	Zinc (Zn)	15 mg/l	-----	-----
17.	Cadmium (Cd)	4 mg/l	-----	-----
18.	Copper (Cu)	4 mg/l	-----	-----
19.	Temperature	500C	-----	-----

Pharmacognostic Studies:

Organoleptic Studies: Macroscopical: Stem is prostrate, ascending, reaching 0.6 – 0.9 m long, often purplish, swollen at the nodes, divaricately branched, slender, cylindrical, minutely pubescent or nearly glabrous. Leaves are arranged in unequal pairs at each node, 1.0-5.0 cm long and 2.5-3.0 cm broad, dark green in colour, ovate, oblong, rounded at apex, glabrous, usually containing white minute scales beneath, base rounded, margin entire, often pink; petiole nearly as long as the blade i.e. 2.0-2.6 cm long and solid in non polluted (fig. a) sites whereas in polluted sites leaves are light green in colour with some white brown patches; petiole solid 1.5-2.0 cm long (fig. b).

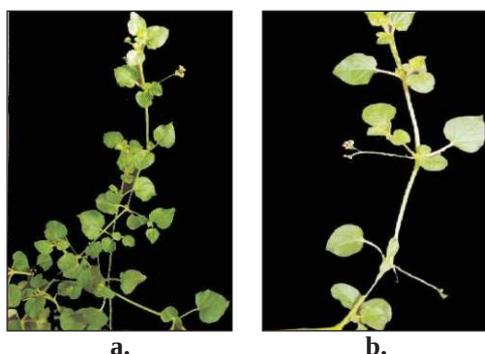


Fig. 1: Morphological differences of *Boerhaavia diffusa* Linn. growing in non polluted (a) and polluted (b) areas. Flowers red, pink or white, in small umbels arranged in axillary and terminal panicles; fruits ovate oblong, pubescent, five-ribbed, viscid glandular anthocarps in both the cases. The main differences are in Plate-1(a&b).

Microscopical: Anatomy / Histology: Stem: Single layer circular epidermis covered by thin cuticle with glandular and nonglandular trichomes; hypodermis 3-4 layered collenchymatous followed by 3-5 layers of chlorenchymatous cortex; endodermis well distinct, single layered made up of barrel shaped cells; pericycle represented by few patches of fibers. Vascular bundles arranged in three rings. There are 15-20 vascular bundles in outer ring, 6-14 in middle ring and two large vascular bundles present in inner ring. Pith is large and parenchymatous cell containing micro, rosette and prismatic crystals of calcium oxalate in case of non polluted plants. In case of polluted plants thick cuticle, 5-6 layers of parenchyma, cambium discontinuous and absence of chlorenchyma were observed. The main differences are in Plate 2 (a & b).

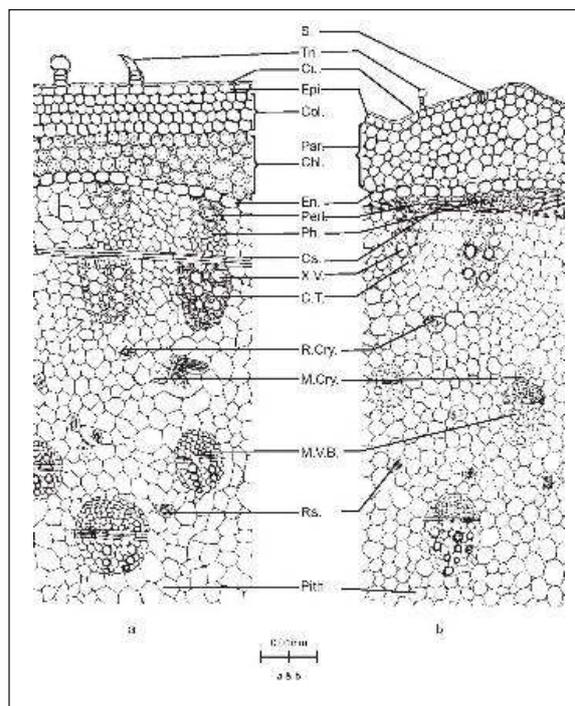


Plate-2: Anatomical differences in stem of *Boerhaavia diffusa* Linn. growing in non polluted (a) and polluted (b) areas.

Leaf :- Single layer of epidermis with glandular and non-glandular trichomes; stomata anisocytic and anomocytic found on both the surfaces. Mesophyll differentiated into two regions; 2 layers of palisade and 4-5 layers of spongy parenchyma. Midrib having 4-5 vascular bundles, arranged in arc, raphide (acicular crystal) and microcrystal present in parenchyma of ground tissue in leaf collected from non polluted areas (a&b). The leaf collected from polluted sites shows 2 layered epidermis, 2 layers of collenchyma below the upper epidermis, mesophyll with single layer of palisade and 3-4 layers of spongy parenchyma; one vascular bundle in midrib (c&d). Rosette, micro and idioblasts containing raphides are present in parenchymatous cells. The stomatal index is 16.12 – 20.00 on upper epidermis and 13.93 – 17.64 on lower surfaces in non-polluted leaf. But in case of polluted leaf the stomatal index is 12.70 – 16.27 on upper epidermis and 9.09– 14.81 in lower epidermis. The Palisade ratio is 10.75 – 11.50 in non polluted leaf and 6.25 – 6.95 in polluted leaf. The vein islet number are 12 – 16 in non-polluted and 8 – 10 in polluted samples. The vein termination number values are 14 - 24 in non polluted and 18- 36 in polluted samples (table 2). The main differences are in Plate- 3.

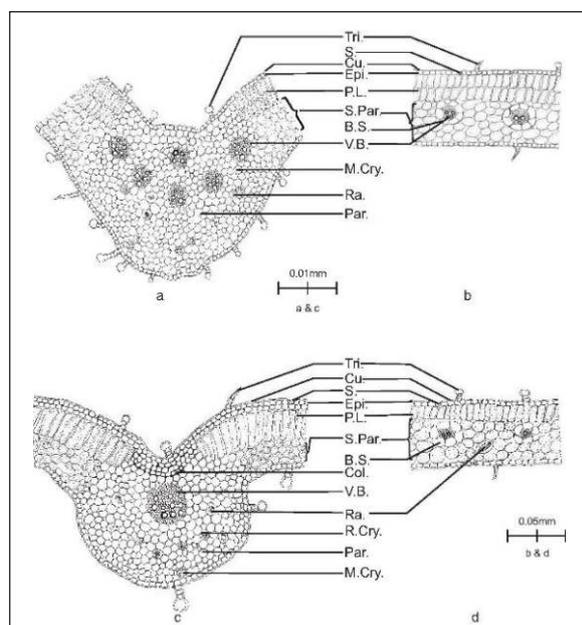


Plate 3: Anatomical differences in the leaves of *Boerhaavia diffusa* Linn. growing in non polluted (a through midrib) & (b through lamina) and polluted areas (c through midrib) & (through lamina d).

Powder Analysis:- The colour of powder is green in non polluted plant samples and brown green in

Table 2: Powder analysis of *Boerhaavia diffusa* Linn. growing in non-polluted and polluted areas.

Powder Analysis			
S.No.	Characters	Non-polluted	Polluted
1.	Xylem Vessel (mm)	L = 0.62+ 0.08;CV=12.90 W=0.07+ 0.009;CV=12.90	L=0.28 + 0.03*;CV=14.06 W = 0.06 + 0.01*;CV=28.78
2.	Diameter of Xylem Pore (mm)	D = 0.13 + 0.02;CV=10.89	D=0.08+0.009*;CV=10.69
3.	Xylem Tracheid (mm)	L=1.37+0.05; CV=3.65 W=0.15 +0.05; CV=38.16	L=0.14 + 0.007; CV=5.00 W=0.07+0.01*; CV=23.07
4.	Xylem Fibre (mm)	L = 1.07 + 0.12; CV=11.81 W = 0.06 + 0.09; CV=14.39	L=0.80+0.15**; CV=19.26 W=0.06+0.006; CV=10.20
5.	Palisade Cell (mm)	L=0.087+0.009;CV=10.34 W=0.04 + 0.003;CV=7.14	L=0.15+0.012*;CV= 7.89 W=0.05 + 0.006*;CV=11.53
6.	Palisade Ratio	R = 10.75 – 11.50 SD=11.06+0.32;CV=2.89	R = 6.25–6.95 SD=6.675+0.26*;CV=3.86
7.	Spongy Parenchyma (mm)	L=0.06+0.003; CV=4.83 W=0.042 + 0.009; CV=21.42	L = 0.140 + 0.007; CV=5.00 W=0.07 + 0.004*; CV=5.63
8.	Guard Cell (mm)	L=0.15+0.003; CV=2.04 W=0.04 + 0.003; CV= .14	L=0.095 + 0.002*; CV=2.10 W=0.03+0.004*; CV=12.50
9.	Stomatal Pore (mm)	L = 0.127 + 0.006; CV=4.72 W=0.042 + 0.006; CV=10.90	L=0.076+0.008*; CV=10.56 W=0.03+ 0.003*; CV=9.09
10.	Stomatal Index (Upper Surface)	R= 16.13 – 20.00 SD=17.68+1.33;CV=7.52	R= 12.724 – 16.279 SD=14.11+1.36;CV=15.52

11.	Stomatal Index (Lower Surface)	R= 13.93 – 17.65 SD = 15.41 + 1.56;CV = 10.17	R= 9.09 – 14.81 SD=13.84+1.052;CV=7.60
12.	Raphide (mm)	L = 0.090 + 0.03;CV = 31.63 W = 0.075 + 0.02;CV = 31.33	L = 0.10 + 0.01*;CV=14.67 W=0.09 + 0.01*;CV=17.58
13.	Rosette Crystal (mm)	L = 0.09 + 0.02;CV = 22.82 W = 0.048 + 0.01;CV = 25.00	L = 0.099 + 0.012; CV =12.12 W = 0.06 + 0.03**;CV=50.00
14.	Glandular (mm)	L=0.069 + 0.003;CV = 4.34 W = 0.035 + 0.02;CV = 60.00	L=0.051 + 0.004*;CV=7.84 W=0.03 + 0.01***;CV=31.25
15.	Unicellular and Warty (mm)	L = 0.100 + 0.01;CV = 12.00 W = 0.028 + 0.006;CV = 0.49	Absent
16.	Multicellular (mm)	L= 0.61 + 0.003;CV = 36.33 W = 0.022 + 0.008;CV=18.42	L=0.035 + 0.005;CV = 14.28 W=0.038+0.007*;CV = 18.42
17.	Vein Islets Number	R= 12 –16 SD = 14.00 1.62;CV = 11.65	R= 8 – 10 SD=8.66 +0.94***; CV=10.88
18.	Vein Termination Number	R= 14 – 24 SD = 18.00 + 4.32;CV = 24.00	R= 18– 36 SD=24.66 + 6.06;CV = 24.55

Significant at 0.1%--*, 1.0% --**, 5.0%--***

Chemical Analysis:

carbohydrates, proteins, sugar, suberin, glucosides, saponin, flavin, steroids and oils in both the cases. Degree of change in colour reaction tests are tabulated in table-3.

Preliminary Colour Reaction Tests:- The result shows the presence of alkaloids, lignin, tannins,

Table 3: Colour reaction tests of *Boerhaavia diffusa* Linn. growing in non-polluted and polluted areas.

S. No.	Reagents	Test for	Nature of Colour	Degree of Changes	
				Non-polluted	Polluted
1.	Dragendorff's Reagent {Cromwell (1955)}	Alkaloid	Orange ppt	+++	++
2.	Mayer's Reagent	Alkaloid	Brown	+++	+
3.	Wagner's Reagent (Trease and Evans (1983))	Alkaloid	Brown	++++	++
4.	Tannic Acid	Alkaloid	Turbidity	+++	++
5.	Hager's Reagent	Alkaloid	Yellow	++	++
6.	Phloroglucinol + HCl	Lignin	Dark Red	+++	++
7.	FeCl ₃	Tannin	Black	+++	++
8.	Molisch Test	Carbohydrates	Red	++++	++
9.	Millon's Reagent	Protein	Red ppt	++++	++
10.	Xanthoproteic Test	Protein	Yellow	++++	+++
11.	Benedict's Reagent after Heating	Sugars	Red Violet	+++	+
12.	Sample + Heating with Strong KOH + H ₂ SO ₄	Suberin	Red Black	++++	++
13.	Molisch Test after Hydrolysis	Glucoside	Yellow	++++	++
14.	Plant Powder + H ₂ O + Shake	Saponin	Froth (W)	++++	++
15.	Mg Powder + Conc. HCl	Flavin	Red	++	+
16.	Liebermann's Buchard Reagent	Steroids	Violet	+++	+
17.	Sudan IV	Oils	Violet	++++	++

TLC:- The number of spots are 4-8 in non-polluted and 2 in polluted samples (**Plate-4**). There Rf values are tabulated in **table-4**.

Table 4: The Rf values of *Boerhaavia diffusa* Linn. growing in non-polluted and polluted areas.

S. No.	Wavelengths	Non – Polluted	Polluted
		Rf – values	Rf – values
1.	Sunlight (visible)	0.30,0.34,0.80,0.88	0.80, 0.88
2.	UV Light (354 nm)	0.26,0.30,0.34,0.36,0.40,0.80,0.88,0.93	0.80, 0.88
3.	UV Light (365nm)	0.30,0.34,0.36,0.40, 0.80,0.88,0.93	0.80, 0.88

PHYSICAL EVALUATION

Fluorescence Behaviour of Plants:- There were no significant results observed with fluorescence behaviour of plant powder and its extracts except some difference in colour only.

Extractive Values and Ash Values:- The percentage of water and alcoholic soluble extractives are lower in those plants collected from polluted sites, but LOD is higher in polluted samples. Total ash, acid insoluble and sulphated ash are higher in those samples which are collected from the polluted areas. The mean values are tabulated in **table-5**.

PHYSICAL EVALUATION

Fluorescence Behaviour of Plants: There were no significant results observed with fluorescence behaviour of plant powder and its extracts except some difference in colour only.



Plate 5: The Rf values of *Boerhaavia diffusa* Linn. growing in non-polluted and polluted areas.

Extractive Values and Ash Values: The percentage of water and alcoholic soluble extractives are lower in those plants collected from polluted sites, but LOD is higher in polluted samples. Total ash, acid insoluble and sulphated ash are higher in those samples which are collected from the polluted areas. The mean values are tabulated in table-5.

Table 5: Extractive and Ash values of *Boerhaavia diffusa* Linn. growing in non-polluted and polluted areas.

Extractive Values and Ash values (%)			
S. No.	Parameters	Non-polluted	Polluted
1.	Water Soluble	30.250 + 1.400; CV = 4.620	27.090 + 0.960***; CV = 3.543
2.	Alcohol Soluble	49.730 + 0.820; CV = 1.650	31.880 + 0.210* ; CV = 0.660
3.	LOD	15.060 + 0.910; CV = 6.042	25.600 + 1.960***; CV = 7.650
4.	Tota Ash Value	9.150 + 1.070 ; CV = 11.780	14.010 + 0.800** ; CV = 5.600
5.	Acid Insoluble	1.39 + 0.140 ; CV = 10.066	6.560 + 0.390* ; CV = 5.950
6.	Sulphated Ash	18.650 + 1.870 ; CV = 10.030	25.830 + 1.290*** ; CV = 5.00

DISCUSSION

The effluent samples collected from the selected industry was analysed for different physico-chemical parameters and has higher values than the recommended values by I.S.I. Similar results were also obtained by Kumar, *et al.*(1991). The critical observations on the data clearly indicate that the plants growing in polluted sites were badly affected and there were a significant reduction in number of parameters studied as compared to the control plants. Morphological characters were found to be decreased in the selected plant collected from polluted area. Similar observations are reported by Palaniswamy *et al.* (1995). Angadi and Mathad (1998) have studied the effect of copper, cadmium and mercury on the morphological, physiological and biochemical characteristics of *Scenedesmus quadricauda* (Turp) de Breb. and found the maximum inhibition in the growth, chlorophylls, total DNA, total RNA and protein contents of cells at the higher metal concentrations. Therefore it is observed from various studies that the same species respond differently under different conditions.

Thick cuticle observed in the transverse sections of the stem collected from the polluted area also matched with the findings of Percy *et al* (1992). Cuticle is the first point of attack of pollutants; our results indicated an increase in the thickness in cuticle at the polluted sites which indicates that the plants have an effective barrier for the pollutants entry. Trivedi & Singh (1989 &1990) studied the epidermal features (stomatal density and index) of different plants (*Boerhaavia diffusa* Linn. and *Amaranthus viridis* Linn.) under the impact of air pollution. Significant reduction in cell size of the pollution effected plants was also reported by Ansari and Iqbal (1992). The reduced length of vessel elements coupled with their augmented frequency appears to be the significant adaptations to the stress of pollution. In contrast to the above workers more number of parameters (xylem vessels) observed in the plant

samples collected from polluted area over to control population in *Datura inoxia* by Iqbalet *al.*(1986). Chaudhari and Patil (2001) also observed the inhibition and stimulation in xylem and phloem in pith region under the stress conditions of polluted water. In present findings there is less secondary growth observed in most of the selected plants collected from polluted area. Jabeen and Abraham (1998) also showed less secondary tissue in *Largerstroemia reginae* and *Alstonia scholaris* trees exposed to air pollutants.

Our result indicates that less trichomes frequency, more stomata, presences of collenchyma layers, less layered spongy parenchyma with smaller cell size, less layered ground tissue, decreased ratio of stomatal index and palisade; more numbers of crystals with bigger size in leaves of polluted plant samples. Similar observations were noted by Farouqi & Singh (1990). Low stomatal frequency were observed in the plants grown in polluted areas, which may be an adaptation of ecotypic significance in regulating the limited and controlled entry of harmful gaseous pollutants into the plants tissues, especially when the plant grown in polluted area. Physical evaluation included fluorescence behaviour, extractive and total ash values. The plant samples collected from polluted areas showed quick differentiations to fluorescence behaviour. Water and alcohol extractive values were lowered collected from polluted areas. Ash values were higher comparatively in polluted plant samples. Same observations were made by Sharma and Habib(1995). The percentage of ash content was higher in the plant samples collected from polluted areas as compared to control because ash content of the plants is the direct manifestation of bioaccumulation of minerals observed as macronutrient and micronutrients which take up different functions.

From the observation of TLC, it was seen that the number of spots were decreased in the samples of

plant collected from the polluted areas. Similar observations were studied by Mashaly (1988).

In order to determine the quality of medicinal plants with regard to authenticity pharmacognostical characters *viz.* macroscopical, anatomical, powder analysis, chemical analysis, TLC, fluorescence behaviour, extractive values and ash values are very important. Anatomy often proves very useful for individual identification of plants so microscopical methods are of great value towards their identification and differentiation of the authenticity of the plant drugs. They provide evidences concerning relationship of groups such as families or help to establish the affinities of genera of uncertain taxonomic status. The number of stomata and epidermal cells, vein-islets and vein termination number per unit area, palisade ratio, stomatal index *etc.* give constant structure of different species of plants. Moreover, different types of stomata, crystals, fibers, trichomes *etc.* present in powdered drug help in the identification of plants or differentiation in comparison of same plant, which are collected from the industrial area.

CONCLUSION

It is concluded that the plant under the pollution stress must have suffered in its drug quality. These changes might be due to the presence of heavy metals in effluent.

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