

A REVIEW ON BIODIVERSITY OF SOME MEDICINAL AND WILD PLANTS AND THEIR POSSIBLE ROLE IN VECTOR- BORNE DISEASES AND VECTOR CONTROL

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Article Information

Editor(s):

(1) Dr. Afroz Alam, Banasthali University, India.

Reviewers:

(1) Misganaw Meragiaw, Addis Ababa University, Ethiopia.

(2) Tahany Ramzy Elias, National Research Centre, Egypt.

Received: 15 July 2020

Accepted: 21 September 2020

Published: 13 October 2020

Review Article

ABSTRACT

In the search for alternatives to conventional insecticides, plants have been widely investigated. Their toxic activities toward insects have drawn special interest during the last decade. Mosquitoes are nuisance pests and a major vector for the transmission of several life-threatening diseases. Vector and vector-borne diseases like Malaria, Chikungunya, Dengue and many more are becoming a big problem to public health these days as they have social and economic impact especially in subtropical and tropical countries. The present proliferation of these diseases is basically due to the increasing resistance of mosquitoes to current insecticides. In many parts of the world, plant-derived products have been used to repel or kill mosquitoes and other domestic insect pests. Plants may be a source of alternative agents for control of insects and parasites because they are rich in bioactive chemicals, active against a limited number of species including specific target insects or parasites, and are biodegradable. Whereas synthetic drugs and insecticides often cause widespread toxicity and harmful side effects to the end user other than targeted pathogen carrier. Therefore, After completed literature survey conclude that the uses of environment-friendly and biodegradable natural insecticides of plant origin have received renewed attention as agents for insect control and plant products are good source for provide the medicinal aspects and also for insecticides that are essential for elimination of vector and vector-borne diseases.

The present review is mainly focused on the potential of some commonly grown plants for their anti-plasmodial or insecticidal properties. These plants can be a good alternate for many vector-borne diseases if their products are properly formulated.

Keywords: Insecticidal; anti-malarial; plants; mosquitoes; plasmodium; vector -borne diseases.

INTRODUCTION

Insects can be the cause of major ecological problems. They can transmit microbes and parasites that affect humans, and damage food crops, trees, and homes. The total economic cost of insect-related damage and disease is immeasurable. Synthetic pesticides though are more effective and fast acting, repeated and indiscriminate application often leads to resistance, resulting in rebound of the vector population and its disease potential. To prevent the resistance phenomenon, there is a need for alternate compounds having different modes of action [1]. Ideally, the insecticides having different modes of action could be mixed on the assumption that they would complement the action each other for killing the target pest [2]. These new generation botanical insecticides have several ecological advantages compared to the organically synthesized insecticides. It is well known that the plant kingdom is the most efficient producer of chemical compounds (primary and secondary metabolites) having wide array of functions that are used in defence against insects and suitable for control of vector and vector-borne diseases [3].

The secondary metabolites and their constituents have received considerable attention in the search for new molecules having insecticidal activities, repellence, feeding deterrence, retardation of reproduction, growth regulation against various insect species etc [4,5]. Toxicity has also been reported against nematodes, mites, agricultural pests, fungi, virus and bacteria [6,7,8]. Plant chemicals have been demonstrated to be selective and biodegradable, which suggests environmental acceptability and compatibility in integrated pest management (IPM) programs as well as being effective in resistance management.

Worldwide, an estimated number of 3.4 billion people are still at risk of malaria. In 2012 approximately 207 million cases of malaria occurred globally with most cases (80%) and deaths (90%) occurring in Africa. Most deaths (77%) occurred in children under the age of five [9]. In other words, malaria continues to be a major cause of morbidity and mortality. It is caused by five species of parasite that affects

humans. All the parasites belong to the genus *Plasmodium*: *Plasmodium falciparum*, *Plasmodium vivax*, *Plasmodium ovale*, *Plasmodium malariae*, *Plasmodium knowlesi*. Of these, *Plasmodium vivax* and *Plasmodium falciparum* are the most important.

Documentation of Traditional medicines(TM) and plants traditionally used for the prophylaxis and treatment of malaria in Zimbabwe constitutes an important step not only in preserving the local traditions and indigenous knowledge but also in improving access to and participation in improving traditional malaria control interventions by the communities. Documentation of TM could facilitate future research on the safety and efficacy of medicinal plants and could provide a starting point for identifying single chemical entities with anti malarial activity which could lead to the development of standardized phytomedicines. Because the drug-resistance of *Plasmodium falciparum* and the resistance of *Anopheles* mosquitoes to insecticides are widespread, the search for new anti malarial drugs is increasingly important. *Aedes* species which are the primary source of dengue virus are becoming more and more widespread at global arena. Since there is no successful intervention through vaccines, use of plant products can be a strong future possible way to control dengue world over.

Medicinal plants play a major role in many communities over the world in the treatment and prevention of disease and the promotion of general health. Previous studies have shown that more than 1200 medicinal plants from 160 families are used worldwide to treat malaria or fever [10] and still many anti-malarial plant species remain to be discovered. Phytochemical? derived from various plants with proven mosquito control potential can be used as an alternative to synthetic insecticides or along with other insecticides under the integrated vector control. Plant products can be used, either as insecticides for killing larvae or adult mosquitoes for protection against mosquito bites, depending on the type of activity they possess. A Large number of plant extracts have been reported to have mosquitocidal insect growth regulator (IGR) activity against mosquito vectors but very few plant products have shown practical utility for mosquito control due to proper

formulation and commercialization. The study aimed to collect comprehensive data from traditional healers on medicinal plant-based remedies commonly used against malaria to document their methods of preparation and administration, together with information on how the healers conceptualize and diagnose malaria to contribute to the overall documentation of anti-malarial plant species.

PLANT SPECIES

Acalypha alnifolia Family Euphorbiaceae

Acalypha alnifolia is a shrub known as Cat-tail and Copper leaf found in the wild in South India (Fig.1). In Southern Kallar region, Nilgiris tribal people used this plant leaves as a smoke repellent. This plant contains phenolic, tannin and flavonoids. The adulticidal activities of leaf extracts of *A. alnifolia* were assayed for their toxicity against three important vector mosquitoes, viz., *Aedes aegypti*, *Anopheles stephensi* and *Culex quinquefasciatus*. The adult mortality was observed after 24 h of exposure. Extract showed moderate adulticide effects. The LC₅₀ values of *A. alnifolia* leaf extracts against adulticidal activity [11].



Fig. 1.-*Acalypha alnifolia*

Source:- From Wikipedia

Adansonia digitata Family: Malvaceae

Adansonia digitata (Baobab) is the most widespread of the *Adansonia* species (Fig. 2). Preliminary phytochemical analysis of *A. digitata* showed the presence of triterpenoids and saponins. The preliminary study indicated that *A. digitata* showed larvicidal and repellent activities against *An. stephensi* and could be used for controlling mosquitoes. Further studies are indicated to purify

the active compounds from these plants for developing larvicide and repellents [12].



Fig. 2. *Adansonia digitata*

Source: - worldofsucculents.com

Ajuga bracteosa Family: Lamiaceae

Also known as bugleweed, ground pine, carpet bugle, or just bugle, is a genus of annual and perennial herbaceous flowering plants (Fig. 3) with high Anti plasmodial activities. The methanolic extract demonstrated a dose-dependent chemo-suppression during early and in established infections, along with significant ($P < 0.05$) repository activity and have no toxic effect up to 5 g/kg weight [13]. It has some direct anti-plasmodial activity, additive to that of artemisinin in vitro and in vivo and synergistic with some other anti-malarial plants [14].



Fig. 3. *Ajuga bracteosa*

Source:- Natural medicine facts

Allium sativum L. Family: Amaryllidaceae

Allium sativum commonly known as garlic, is a species in the onion genus (Fig. 4). *A. sativum*

juice had insecticidal activity against *Delia radicum* and *Musca domestica* [15]. And larvicidal affects against *Anopheles stephensi* and *Culex quinquefasciatus* mosquitoes [16]. In addition to ovicidal and adulticidal against *Callosobruchus maculatus* [17].



Fig. 4. *Allium sativum*

Source:-<https://plantingman.com/>

***Andrographis paniculata* Family: Acanthaceae**

Andrographis paniculata, known in Indian subcontinent as Chirayetah and Kalmegh, is the commonly used plant in the traditional system of Unani and Ayurvedic medicines (Fig. 5). Substantial enhancement in their anti-malarial activities were observed whether used in isolation or in combination [18]. The repellent activities of crude extracts of leaf of *An. paniculata* at three different concentrations of 1.0, 2.5, and 5.0 mg/cm² against important vector mosquito *Aedes aegypti* the potential to be used as an ideal eco-friendly approach for the control of mosquitoes [19].



Fig. 5 *Andrographis paniculata*

Source:-chhagedgarden.com/

***Annona reticulata* L. Family: Annonaceae**

Annona reticulata is a small deciduous or semi-evergreen tree in the plant family Annonaceae (Fig. 6). It is best known for its fruit, called custard apple. The ethanol leaf extract of *A. reticulata* exhibited excellent larvicidal activity against *Cx. quinquefasciatus* and *Ae. Annona reticulata*, *Aegypti* mosquitoes [20]. The larvicidal activity is attributed by the mixture of compounds like saponin, terpenoids and alkaloids. However, it is required to optimize the concentration as well as to identify the novel compound with larvicidal efficacy [21].



Fig. 6. *Annona reticulata*

Source:-Tropical the ferns

***Argemone maxicana* Family: Papaveraceae**

Argemone maxicana is a native of tropical South America but now a day it is wide spread in all countries (Fig. 7). It is an annual herb with bright yellow sap. Leaves alternate, simple, with spines-tipped lobes and whitish wax that subs off, flowers with 4-6, bright yellow petals and many stamens. Insecticidal properties of Argemone (leaf and flower) were evaluated with different stages of mosquito larvae. The flower treatment is more effective during all the three hours of observations at all the dose level as compared to the leaf extract treatment. The extract of leaf and flower of *A. Maxicana* was also gives effective result on pupal stage [22].



Fig. 7. *Argemone maxicana*

Source:- Tropical the ferns

***Azadirachta indica* Family: Meliaceae**

Azadirachta indica (Neem), an herb extensively used as medicine (Fig. 8) was also tested *in vivo* against *P. berghei* following Peter's 4-day test and recorded about 70% parasitemia inhibition [23]. *A. indica* have been studied as possible mosquito repellents and have demonstrated good efficacy against some mosquito species [24, 25, and 26]. In a study on *Azadirachta indica* reported that different types of extracts (alcoholic, chloroform and Benzene) with different parts of the plants exerted significant effect on the control of larval stages of *Aedes aegypti*.



Fig. 8. *Azadirachta indica*

Source:-Research gate

***Brucea mollis* Family: Simaroubaceae**

B. mollis is a shrubs or small trees, usually 1-2 m tall, branchlets yellow-green (Fig. 9). Crude

extract from dried *B. mollis* root tested *in vitro* and *in vivo* antiplasmodial activity against *Plasmodium falciparum* and *Plasmodium yoelii* respectively. Mathenolic -aqueous extract of *B. mollis* have firstly report antiplasmodial activity in both *In vivo* and *In vitro* tests [27].



Fig. 9. *Brucea mollis*

Source:-Research gate

***Calotropis procera* Family: Apocynaceae**

Common names for the plant include apple of Sodom, Sodom apple, estabragh, kapok tree, king's crown, rubber bush, or rubber tree (Fig. 10). Leaves using *in vitro* methods. Preliminary phytochemical analysis of the extract showed the presence of phenolic compounds, flavonoids, alkaloids, tannins, saponins, glycosides and phytosterols as major phytochemical groups. The findings of a study emphasise the potentiality of *C. procera* leaves for controlling the mosquito population and their possible way in the developing the natural insecticide for the control of *Cx. tritaeniorhynchus* and *Cx. gelidus* mosquitoes [28].



Fig. 10. *Calotropis procera*

Source:-Research gate

***Capparis decidua* Family: Capparaceae**

Capparis decidua is a xerophytic popular shrub and its various plant parts and products have been used extensively for many years in food products and traditional folk medicine (Fig. 11). Plant contains toxic components, mainly volatile principles that have shown enormous insecticidal activity against a wide range of insect pests. On an average 90-95% mortality was observed in larvae and adults of many insect species and it was found to be dose dependent. Further, *C. decidua* extracts and its constituents have shown significant repellent action in large number of insect larvae and adults, inhibited oviposition in susceptible female adults and disallow the emergence of individuals by blocking the development [29]. Various solvents i.e. acetone, chloroform, petroleum ether, methanol, hexane and aqueous extracts of stem, root and flower of *C. decidua* were evaluated for insecticidal activity against the *Rhizopertha dominica* (Fabr). These have shown very high mortality i.e. 90-95% mortality and were found to be dose dependent [30].



Fig. 11. *Capparis deciduas*

Source:-en.wikipedia.org

***Cardiospermum halicacabum* Family: Sapindaceae**

Cardiospermum halicacabum, known as the balloon plant or love in a puff, is a climbing plant (Fig. 12). To determine adulticidal activity of hexane, ethyl acetate, benzene, chloroform and methanol leaf extracts of *C. halicacabum* against

Culex quinquefasciatus (*Cx. quinquefasciatus*), *Aedes aegypti* (*Ae. aegypti*) and *Anopheles stephensi* (*An. stephensi*).

Excellent adulticidal activity was observed from the crude extract of *C. halicacabum* was an excellent potential for controlling *Cx. quinquefasciatus*, *Ae. aegypti* and *An. Stephensi* mosquitoes [31].



Fig. 12. *Cardiospermum halicacabum*

Source:-en.wikipedia.org

***Carpolobia lutea* Family: Polygalaceae**

Carpolobia lutea, G. Don (Polygalaceae) is a medicinal plant commonly used by herbalists against dental and genitourinary infections (Fig. 13). Root and leaves extract also exhibited curative effect as demonstrated in the mean survival time of the mice in the extract and chloroquine treated group. This antiplasmodium activity of root and leaves extract of *Carpolobia lutea* due to some secondary metabolite and phytochemicals [32].



Fig. 13. *Carpolobia lutea*

Source <http://www.sci-news.com/>

***Catharanthus roseus* Family: Apocynaceae**

Catharanthus roseus, commonly known as the Madagascar periwinkle or rosy periwinkle (Fig. 14). Larvesidal activity against *Anopheles stephensi* L was tested. Highest larval percent was observed to be found in the flower extract of *C. roseus* L. plant with 100% mortality at 100mg/l concentration. LC₅₀ value was calculated against different concentrations. It is recorded that lowest LC₅₀ value was observed in the *C. roseus* L. flowers followed by leaves i.e. 37.15mg/l and 67.61mg/l respectively after 24 h of exposure time and 26.92mg/l, and 35.48mg/l, respectively, at 48 h of exposure time [33].



Fig. 14. *C. Roseus*

Source:-en.wikipedia.org

***Centrosema pubescens* Benth. Family: Fabaceae**

Centrosema pubescens, common name butterfly pea (Fig. 15). Secondary metabolites evolved in plants protect them from herbivores due to its toxicity activity. Potential larvicidal activity of CpB leaf and stem extracts was noted. All plant extracts showed moderate toxic effect on mosquito larvae after 48 hours of exposure at 10,000 ppm. Highest mortality was found in the leaf extract and results clearly indicate that the percentage of mortality being directly proportional to the concentration of the extracts. Larvicidal bioassay reveals that crude extracts possess risk to mosquito larvae at different concentrations. Leaf extract gives the higher risk to mosquito larvae [34].



Fig. 15. *Centrosema pubescens*

Source:-<https://www.mozambiqueflora.com/>

***Citrullus colocynthis* L. Family: Cucurbitaceae**

Citrullus colocynthis with many common names including colocynth, bitter apple, bitter cucumber, desert gourd, vine of Sodom, or wild gourd, is a desert vine plant (Fig. 16). *Citrullus colocynthis* leaf extracts have shown larvicidal, ovicidal, and repellency properties against the *Culex quinquefasciatus* mosquito [35,36]. In addition, the extract of the whole plant has been examined in different studies, and showed larvicidal activity against the early fourth instar larvae of *Anopheles stephensi* [37].



Fig. 16. *Citrullus colocynthis*

Source:- Plants of the world online

***Cryptocarya alba* Family: Lauraceae**

Cryptocarya alba, the Peumo or Chilean acorn, is an evergreen tree (Fig. 17). The insecticidal effect of the oil on the house fly *Musca domestica* was evaluated by placing flies in a sealed glass jar

containing a piece of EO-treated cotton yarn. The dose necessary to kill 50% of flies (LC50) in 0.5 and 1 h was determined at 26 ± 1 °C. The composition of the *C. alba* essential oil reported in this study is different to that reported in other publications with 4-terpineol (17.48%) ; 4- (3,3-dimethyl-but-1-ynyl) -4-hydroxy-2,6,6-trimethylcyclohex-2-enone (12.84%); 1,8-cineole (7.90%); p-cymene (7.11%) and sabinene (6.80%), accounting for 52.13% of the EO [38].



Fig. 17. *Cryptocarya alba*

Source:-en.wikipedia.org/

***Cryptomeria japonica* Family: Cupressaceae**

Cryptomeria (literally "hidden parts") is a monotypic genus of conifer and a very large evergreen tree (Fig. 18). Natural products of plants possess insecticidal property which have been tried recently for various insect, vectors and pest control. Essential oil is extracted from leaf and bark of *C. japonica* demonstrated high larvicidal activity against *Aedes aegypti* (Diptera, culicidae) larvae [39].



Fig. 18. *Cryptomeria japonica*

Source: - <https://www.vallonchene.fr/>

***Curcuma longa* Family: Zingiberaceae**

Ayurveda has a vast literature [40, 41] in several Indian languages, covering various aspects of diseases, therapeutics and pharmacy. Widely used Ayurvedic compound turmeric, is a potent biological compound and curcumin, a component of turmeric isolated from rhizomes of the *C. longa* plant (Fig. 19). Curcumin inhibits chloroquine-resistant *P. falciparum* growth in culture in a dose dependent manner [42].



Fig. 19. *Curcuma longa*

Source:-<http://www.spicegarden.eu/>

***Dodonaea angustifolia* Family: Sapindaceae**

Dodonaea angustifolia (*Dodonaea*), is an early succession shrub (Fig. 20). *D. angustifolia* contain different secondary metabolites that have antiplasmodial activity [43]. Tannins [44], alkaloids [44] and phenols [45]. Which have been suggested to be responsible for antiplasmodial activity of other plants were also detected in the seed of a *D. angustifolia*.



Fig. 20. *Dodonaea angustifolia*

Source:- Research gate

***Gongronema latifolium* Family: Asclepiadaceae**

Gongronema latifolium, an edible rainforest climbing plant. It is used widely as a staple vegetable and spice in tradomedicine (Fig. 21). This ethanolic leaf extract of *G. latifolium* exhibited significant antimalarial activity is consistent with the traditional use of the plant as herbal medication against the disease and indicative of its potential as a chemotherapeutic antimalarial agent [46].



Fig. 21. *Gongronema latifolium*

Source:- Research gate

***Holarrhena antidysenterica* Family: Apocynaceae**

Holarrhena antidysenterica is a typical Indian medicinal plant (Fig. 22). The anti-malarial activity of the principal steroidal alkaloid, conessine was evaluated. Conessine isolated from the bark of *H. antidysenterica* exhibited substantial anti-malarial activity with slight cytotoxic nature [47].



Fig. 22. *Holarrhena antidysenterica*

Source:- <https://www.ayurtimes.com/>

***Hyptis suaveolens* Family: Lamiaceae**

Hyptis suaveolens pignut or chan, is a branching pseudocereal plant (Fig. 23). Lamiaceae have traditionally been used in developing countries for their insecticidal and repellent properties against several insect species. The essential oil (EO) extracted from fresh leaves of *H. suaveolens* (Lamiaceae), and its main constituents were evaluated for larvicidal and repellent activity against the Asian tiger mosquito, *Aedes albopictus* Skuse (Diptera: Culicidae), [48].

Amongst the solvent extracts tested, acetone exhibited highest larvicidal activity and LC₅₀ values was 485.61 followed by petroleum ether and chloroform extract which were 493.44 and 625.97 mg/L after 24 hours. In the case of 48 hours, petroleum ether extract (LC₅₀ 298.76 mg/L) was found to exhibit highest larvicidal activity followed by acetone (LC₅₀ 344.03 mg/L) and chloroform (LC₅₀ 429.50 mg/L) [49].



Fig. 23. *Hyptis suaveolens*

Source:- <https://sites.google.com/>

***Lantana camara* L. Family: Verbenaceae**

Chick pea and tomato crops are severely infested by pest *Helicoverpa armigera* in South Rajasthan (India) (Fig. 24). When recommended doses of leaf and Flower extracts of *Lantana camara* (L.) was applied in chickpea and tomato crops respectively in a Randomised Block Design with Endosulfan as standard check, the results were interesting. Percent infestations with highest dose of 1000ml per hectare of *L. camara* (L.) were 9.11 and 8.51 on weight basis and 64.58 and 14.35 on number basis for leaf and flower respectively

against 6.63 for Endosulfan. Similarly 32.35 (Weight basis) Bioeconomics again revealed that cost benefit ratio were 1:23.26 and 1:24.20 for leaf and flower of *Lantana camara*(L)respectively against 1:31.82 with Endosulfan at highest applied dose of 1000 ml /l/hectare. Similarly cost and benefit ratio of entomopathogen was 1:52.60 against 1:62.37 for Endosulfan at highest applied dose of 400 ml/l/hectare [50].



Fig. 24. *Lantana camara*

Source:-<https://en.wikipedia.org/>

***Laurus nobilis* L. Family: Lauraceae**

It is known as bay laurel, sweet bay, bay tree (especially in United Kingdom), true laurel, Grecian laurel, laurel tree or simply laurel (Fig. 25). The pure essential oil of *L. nobilis* has shown aphidicidal activity against *Brevicoryne brassicae* [51]. Moreover, the essential oil of the leaves has shown fumigant toxicity against all of the life stages of *Tribolium confusum* [52] repellent potential against *Tribolium castaneum*, *Rhyzopertha dominica* [53].



Fig. 25. *Laurus nobilis*

Source:-<https://en.wikipedia.org/>

***Maesa indica* Family: Myrsinaceae**

This is a large, evergreen, glabrous shrub, with a thin, warty bark. The highest mortality (100%) was observed in acetone extracts of *M. indica* (Fig. 26). The larvicidal activity of the different selected plant extracts was found to be dose depended [54].



Fig. 26. *Maesa indica*

Source:-<http://www.flowersofindia.net/>

***Melaleuca alternifolia* Family: Myrtaceae**

Melaleuca alternifolia, commonly known as narrow-leaved paper bark, narrow-leaved tea-tree, narrow-leaved ti-tree, or snow-in-summer, is a species of tree or tall shrub (Fig. 27). The chemical composition of *M. alternifolia* essential oil was investigated by GC-MS analysis. Tea tree essential oil was mainly composed by oxygenated monoterpenes, with 1,8-cineole as the major constituent. *M. alternifolia* essential oil exerted toxic activity against *Aedes albopictus* larvae, with a LC_{50} =267.130 ppm [55]



Fig. 27. *Melaleuca alternifolia*

Source:-<https://en.wikipedia.org/>

***Mentha longifolia* Family: Lamiaceae**

Since fumigants play major role in insect pest control in storage, there is a global interest in alternative strategies including development of plant products such as essential oils and their constituents. Our observations showed that fumigant activity of *M. longifolia* oil was characterized by hyperactivity, convulsion, paralysis and quick knock down followed by death. Needless to say, that there is an urgent need for environmentally safe alternatives to conventional fumigants phosphine and methyl bromide, for the control of stored product insects [56].



Fig. 28. *Mentha longifolia*

Source:-<https://en.wikipedia.org>

***Moringa oleifera* Family: Moringaceae**

India is the largest producer of Moringa plants (Fig. 29). It is a fast-growing, drought-resistant tree. Leaves, flowers and seeds of *Moringa oleifera* Lam. were evaluated for their larvicidal activities against *Anopheles stephensi* (L. (Fig. 42). The obtained data indicates that phytochemical derived from *M. oleifera* Lam. seed extracts are effective mosquito vector control agent [57].

The eggs of *A. stephensi* were treated with extracts of *M. oleifera* to see the ovicidal acting. In case of larvicidal activity as the concentration increases the percent hatching decreases and it is highly significant at CD 5%. The calculated value of F for the different dose level is significant at 0.01% significance level and at 2,42 df [58].



Fig. 29. *Moringa oleifera*

Source:-<https://en.wikipedia.org>

***Nigella sativa* Family: Ranunculaceae**

Nigella sativa (black-caraway, also known as nigella or kalonji), often called black cumin, is an annual flowering plant (Fig. 30). Water extract of the Seeds of *N. sativa* reduce plasmodium parasite when it administer in *Plasmodium berghei* infected Swiss albino mice. Reductions in parasite level are due to the reducing level of nitric oxide (NO) and an immune mechanism. By reducing the NO level it act as anti-oxidant [59].



Fig. 30. *Nigella sativa*

Source:-<https://en.wikipedia.org>

***Ocimum americana* Family: Lamiaceae**

It is an erect, much branched medicinal herb with striate stem (Fig. 31), leaves ellipticlanceolate, petiole hairy, and flowers in close whorls in spiciform racemes. The ovicidal action of *O.*

americana is observed during the observation that the percent hatching is very much reduced with the increase of the dose level. The pupae of the *Anopheles stephensi* were treated with the extracts for assessing pupicidal action. During the different treatments of *O. americana*, all the three i.e. time period, concentration and plant parts show very significant result. During observation at 24 hours, the flower extract proves to be more effective than that of leaf (Fig. 44) [60].



Fig. 31. *Ocimum Americana*

Source: -<https://en.wikipedia.org>

***Ocimum basilicum* L. Family: Lamiaceae**

Basil, Thai basil, or sweet basil, is a common name for the culinary herb *Ocimum basilicum* (Fig. 32). The essential oil of the *Ocimum basilicum* plant has shown insecticidal activity against *Acyrtosiphon pisum*, *Myzus persicae* [61], and *Musca domestica* [62] it has also exhibited repellency against *Aedes aegypti*, *Anopheles stephensi*, *Culex quinquefasciatus* [63]. The larvicidal effect of the crude petroleum ether leaf extracts of a widely grown medicinal plant and extracts are highly toxic against mosquito larvae from a range of species; therefore, they may be useful for the management of mosquito larvae to control vector borne diseases [64].

The formulations also included the synergist, piperonyl butoxide. The plant can, therefore, serve as a substitute for some expensive synthetic insecticides which have toxic residual effects [65].



Fig. 32. *Ocimum basilicum*

Source: - <https://www.gardenia.net/>

***Ocimum sanctum* Family: Lamiaceae**

A widely used traditional medicinal plant *Ocimum sanctum* (Tulsi), the Queen of herbs, the legendary 'Incomparable one' of India was tested for its anti-malarial activity (Fig. 33). Leaf and root extracts of *Ocimum sanctum* have good antiplasmodium activity with 35.5% suppression at highest dose (1000mg/ kg) level. *O. sanctum* was investigated for its activity against *P. falciparum*. When the leaf and root [66,67] extracts of *O. sanctum* was tested *In vitro* against *P. falciparum*, the extracts showed excellent result.



Fig. 33. *Ocimum sanctum*

Source: -<https://en.wikipedia.org>

***Parthenium hysterophorus* L. Family: Asteraceae (Compositae)**

Parthenium is worldwide in distribution (Fig. 34). The weed is found all over the area in wastelands, roadsides, unused cultivated lands etc. When the eggs were treated with the leaf and flower extract to see the ovicidal action, it is observed that in case of the leaf extract 68.66 percent egg hatching took place with the maximum dose level of 0.2 ml per 100 ml of water. In both the extracts as the concentration increases the percent hatching of eggs decreases.



Fig. 34. *Parthenium hysterophorus*

Source: - <https://keys.lucidcentral.org/>

***Phyllanthus emblica* Family: Phyllanthaceae**

Phyllanthus emblica, also known as *Emblica officinalis* (Fig. 35), Indian gooseberry, Malacca tree, or amla from Sanskrit amalika. The ethanol and methanol extracts of *P. emblica* were tested for phytochemical, larvicidal, oviposition-deterrent and ovicidal activities. *P. emblica* also showed excellent ovipositional deterrent and ovicidal activities. The oviposition activity index value of ethanol and methanol extracts of *P. emblica* at 500 ppm were -0.80 and -0.92, respectively [68]. Promising antiplasmodial activity was found in the extracts from two plants, *P. emblica* leaf 50% inhibitory concentration (IC₅₀) 3D 7: 7.25 µg/mL (ethyl acetate extract), 3.125 µg/mL (methanol extract) [69].



Fig. 35. *Phyllanthus emblica*

Source: - <https://en.wikipedia.org>

***Phytolacca dodecandra* L. Family: Phytolaccaceae**

Sarcoca dodecandra, basionym *Phytolacca dodecandra* (Fig. 36), commonly known as endod, gopo berry is a trailing shrub or climber. Study was to evaluate insecticidal effect of *P. dodecandra* plant extracts against cabbage flea beetle (*Phyllotreta cruciferae*). These plant extracts can be useful for small scale farming community to control cabbage flea beetle *P. cruciferae* [70].



Fig. 36. *Phytolacca dodecandra*

Source: - <https://en.wikipedia.org>

***Picrorhiza kurroo* Family: Polygalaceae**

Picrorhiza kurroo is a non-timber forest products found in the Nepalese Himalayas (Fig. 37). It is commonly known as 'Kutki' in local language is found in North-East region. Roots of this plant are medically used to cure stomachache and dysentery

values of parasitaemia ranged between 17.31 to 30.02%. Oral administration of extract of *P. kurrooa* (Scrophulariaceae) to inoculated mice resulted in inhibition of *Plasmodium berghei* to significant values of 4.36 ± 2.25 [71].



Fig. 37. *Picrorhiza kurrooa*

Source:-<https://www.dreamstime.com/>

***Rhizophora mucronata* (Lam) Family: Rhizophoraceae**

Rhizophora mucronata is a mangrove plant also known as loop-root mangrove and red mangrove (Fig. 38), the ethanolic bark extract of this plant exhibited *in vitro* antiplasmodial activity at $IC_{50} = 62.18 \mu\text{g/ml}$ [72]. This species is widespread and common within its range, and is the preferred species for mangrove restoration. crude extract of *R. mucronata* showed maximum larvicidal activity (LC_{50} value $0.0275 \pm 0.0066 \mu\text{g/ml}$ and $LC_{90} = 0.0695 \pm 0.156 \mu\text{g/ml}$) followed by the bark extract (LC_{50} value of $0.03 \pm 0.0076 \mu\text{g/ml}$ and $LC_{90} = 0.0915 \pm 0.156 \mu\text{g/ml}$). Column chromatographic fractions of *R. mucronata* bark extracts (E1) showed maximum larvicidal activity ($LC_{50} = 0.0496 \pm 0.0085 \mu\text{g/ml}$ and $LC_{90} = 0.1264 \pm 0.052 \mu\text{g/ml}$) followed by the acetone extract ($LC_{50} = 0.0564 \pm 0.0069 \mu\text{g/ml}$ and $LC_{90} = 0.1187 \pm 0.05 \mu\text{g/ml}$) [73]. There have been numerous reports on the mosquito larvicidal activity of terrestrial plants. Ours was the first study on mosquito larvicidal and repellent activity of marine plants (Kathiresan and Thangam 1987). Subsequently the mosquito larvicidal activity of seaweeds, *Plocamium telfairiae* and *Laurencia nipponica* was also reported by other authors [74,75 a&b].



Fig. 38. *Rhizophora mucronata*

Source:-<https://alchetron.com/>

***Synaptolepis alternifolia* Family**

Thymelaeaceae. *Synaptolepis alternifolia* is a shrub or woody climber with slender hairless branches (Fig. 39), growing from 0.5 - 10 metres tall. Extracts of *S. alternifolia* were screened for phytochemicals and tested for cytotoxicity and insecticidal activity. Tests indicated the presence of reducing sugars, terpenoids, flavonoids, saponins, tannins and alkaloids. Cytotoxic effects of the plant were assessed through the Brine shrimp lethality (BSL) bioassay showing a higher insecticidal activity after 48 hours of exposure to the extract. The results show a huge potential of *S. alternifolia* as an insecticide [76].



Fig. 39. *S. Alternifolia*

Source:-<https://en.wikipedia.org>

***Syzygium aromaticum* Family**

Myrtaceae Cloves are the aromatic flower buds of a tree. *Syzygium aromaticum* (Fig. 40) oil

exhibited 100% repellency at 5% concentration (dilution with absolute ethanol). (There was a significant difference in repellency rate between concentrations for each extract [77]. The isolation of compounds *S. aromaticum* seems to be of special interest for further antimalarial studies [78].



Fig. 40. *Syzygium aromaticum*

Source: -<https://en.wikipedia.org>

***Zanthoxylum zanthoxyloides* Family: Loranthaceae**

Z. zanthoxyloides is a shrub or small tree, spiny and more or less scandent, up to 6–8(–12) m tall (Fig. 41). They are considered antiseptic, analgesic and diaphoretic. Powder of *Z. zanthoxyloides* had the highest mortality effect on the weevil as it achieved 100% within 72 h at 5%(wt/wt) and its effect was significantly ($p < 0.05$) different from other powders. Powder of *Z. zanthoxyloides*, showed a reduction capacity on the emergence of the adult weevil at 20 % (wt/ wt). *Z. zanthoxyloides* prevented the damage of the seeds at 5, 10 and 20 % (wt/wt) [79,80,81,82].



Fig. 41. *Zanthoxylum zanthoxyloides*

Source: -<https://en.wikipedia.org>

CONCLUSIONS

The plants studied here can be seen as a potential source of useful drugs and insecticides. Several plants are used in traditional medicine for the prevention and treatment of diseases in many parts of the world. The flora of India has rich aromatic plant diversity with the potential for the development of natural insecticides for the control of mosquitoes. These studies would encourage the search for new active natural compounds offering an alternative to synthetic repellents, insecticides and antiplasmodial activities from other medicinal plants. As revealed in the present review, the screening of mosquitocidal potential by the isolation of natural products seems to be an attractive approach, which can result in the efficient elucidation of new lead compounds. Search for larvicidal active compound(s) is one of the several attempts to find effective and affordable ways to control many vectors and parasites. Thus, it will serve as useful guides in the collection of plants for laboratory and field research studies.

Native plants have further an additional advantage of low cost and easy availability. countries like India and Africa to develop their own low-cost technologies to control vast problem of vector-borne diseases.

COMPETING INTERESTS

Authors have declared that no competing interests exist.

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