

SOME OBSERVATIONS ON THE TAPPING TRIALS ON *COMMIPHORA WIGHTII* (ARN.) BHAND. USING ETHEPHON

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"Guggulu" the gum exudate of Commiphora wightii (Arn.) Bhand. is one of the important drugs in Ayurveda. It is effective in rheumatism, inflammation, obesity etc. and has anti-cholesterolaemic activity. Compound preparations of Guggulu like Mahayograj guggul, Kaishor guggulu, Gokshuradi guggulu etc. are well known.

There are several traditional and other methods of tapping gum from Commiphora wightii, but so far there is no standardised method. The major constrain is the mortality of plant after tapping, as there is no safe technique of tapping Guggulu gum without casualty. With a view to evolve a safe technique of tapping, an experimental pilot study using an activator Ethephon has been conducted at Guggul Herbal Farm, Mangliawas. In the present paper details of experimental study and other observations are recorded.

According to present observations, use of Ethephon has enhanced the exudation but there was 100% mortality of the tapped plants, which is contrary to the earlier studies.

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