

PHARMACOGNOSTICAL STUDY OF ROOTS OF *MERREMIA EMARGINATA* (BURM. F.) HALL. F. AND *MERREMIA AEGYPTIA* (LINN.) URBAN

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Merremia is one of the important genus of family Convolvulaceae and this family is known for the presence of glycosidal resin and its purgative property. *Merremia aegyptia* (Linn.) Urban and *Merremia emarginata* (Burm. F.) Hall. F. are the two plants of the same genus belonging to this family. The microscopic characters of *M. aegyptia* roots showed thick walled cork cells, small clusters of rosette calcium oxalate crystals and slightly larger xylem vessels than *M. emarginata*. The characteristic features of *M. emarginata* roots were one to two layers of suberized cork cells and uni or bi seriate medullary rays. The cells of cortical region were slightly polygonal to wavy in shape in *M. aegyptia*, while in *M. emarginata* parenchymatous cells of cortex region were polygonal to spherical in shape.

plant extracts showed many common spots having similar R_f and colour indicating more or less similar constituents but with different composition.

TLC profile of *M. aegyptia* showed more intense and significant spots in selected solvent system. Both the

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