

IDENTIFICATION OF CRUDE DRUGS A CASE STUDY OF ADULTERANTS

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Abstract

Under the crude drug identification services of NISCAIR, 3076 crude drug samples have been received for identification from various plant based pharmaceutical companies, traders of medicinal plants, crude drug dealers, research students and teachers from various Universities, Colleges of Pharmacy, and scientists from various Research Institutions, during April 1998 to March 2008. Out of them, 345 samples were found botanically erroneous. The usage of such adulterated or spurious raw materials for manufacturing medicine in place of genuine one is responsible for lowering quality and efficacy of the drug because the adulterated material may not have the active compound. Moreover, it may have toxic compound that may cause deleterious effect on human health. Consequently, reliability of the finished products at national and international level is affected and betraying the faith of people on Indian Systems of Medicine. Therefore, the present study suggests that correct botanical identity and authenticity of the crude drug materials must be ensured before using the same for preparing medicine.

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