

STUDY ON APHRODISIAC ACTIVITY OF *OLEA DIOICA* ROXB. BARK, LEAF EXTRACTS, AND ITS PURE COMPOUND USING WISTAR ALBINO RATS

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ABSTRACT

Objectives: We aimed to assess the effects of *O. dioica* Roxb. leaf and bark extract and its isolated constituent benzeneethanol, 4-hydroxy- on aphrodisiac activity in rats using different standard aphrodisiac parameters.

Methods: To determine the aphrodisiac activity several parameters were observed. These include measuring and observing the mount frequency (MF), mount latency (ML), intromission frequency (IF), intromission latency (IL), anogenital sniffing (AS), and genital grooming (GG).

Results: The aphrodisiac activity of *O. dioica* Roxb. leaf and bark extracts and its pure compound were studied on Wistar albino rats at different dosages. The parameters observed during the study were MF, ML, IF, IL, AS, and GG. The results revealed that the crude extracts showed dose-dependent activity in all the concentration, in that, ethanolic leaf extract showed excellent activity compared to ethanolic bark extract and pure compound benzene ethanol 4-hydroxy.

Conclusion: Results showed the excellent aphrodisiac activity of *O. dioica* Roxb. leaf and bark ethanolic extracts. However, the major compound benzeneethanol, 4-hydroxy- was not responsible for the aphrodisiac activity, may be the minor compounds even though in minor concentration in the extract influence the sexual activity in tested animals.

Keywords: *Olea dioica* Roxb, Benzene-ethanol, 4-hydroxy-, Aphrodisiac activity, Mount frequency, Mount latency, Intromission frequency, Intromission latency, Anogenital sniffing, Genital grooming.

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INTRODUCTION

In all the historic literature of Indian, Chinese, Egyptian, Roman, and Greek cultures, there was a mention of many plant-based substances for the purpose of improving the sexual capability [1], the word aphrodisiac came from the Greek God Aphrodite, goddess of love and beauty [2].

The sexual function involves central and peripheral neuronal activity, hormonal activity, and peripheral cellular activity. Compared to other tricyclic antidepressants, it has a greater effect on dopamine blockade and serotonin reuptake inhibition [3,4].

From many plants, numerous number of compounds scientifically proved for its Aphrodisiac activity, such as Yohimbine hydrochloride from the Yohimbe (*Pausinystalia johimbe*) trees of West Africa, protodioscin from *Tribulus terrestris*, Icarin from Horny goat weed (*Epimedium herba*) from China, HV430 from Muira Puama (*Ptychopetalum olacoides*) a Brazilian plant, MACA ethanolic extract of MACA (*Lepidium meyenii*) from Andes, extracts of Ginseng (*Panax ginseng*) a plant from Korea, ethanolic extract of Nutmeg (*Myristica fragrans*) native to India, Indonesia, and Sri Lanka, crocin and safranal from Saffron (*Crocus sativus*) native to the Middle East, phenylethylamine and N-acylethanolamine from cocoa *Theobroma cacao* native to tropical regions in South America and Africa and many animal origin compounds such as the triterpene alcohol ambrein from whale (*Physeter catodon*), cantharidin from Spanish fly (*Lytta vesicatoria*), bufotenine and its O-methylated derivative 5-methoxy-M,N-dimethyltryptamine from Bufo Toad (*Bufo alvarius*) [2] Yohimbine is an indole alkaloid derived from the bark of the *P. johimbe* [5] tree in Central Africa were also confirmed for their aphrodisiac activity.

The Western Ghats comprises of a hill range running about 1500 km along the Western edge of Indian subcontinent. Although it covers a mere 5.00% of the country's total land area in the country, it is believed to be more than 27.00% of country's plant species remarkably high level of endemism ranging from 25.00% to 60.00% of recorded species in various taxa 63% of Indian evergreen tree species are believed to be endemic to that area [6].

From a survey conducted by the Indian Council of Medical Research on Ethnomedicinal Plants of Western Ghats, India, reported more than 500 medicinal plants throughout the Western Ghats, used by the traditional medicinal practitioner for different diseases [7].

Olea dioica Roxb. taxonomical hierarchy.

Kingdom	Plantae
Phylum	Tracheophyta
Class	Magnoliopsida
Order	Lamiales
Family	Oleaceae
Genus	<i>Olea</i>
Species	<i>O. dioica</i> Roxb.

O. dioica: *Olea dioica*

O. dioica Roxb. is an important ethnomedicinal tree belonging to the family of Oleaceae. The tree grows up to 15 m tall. The bark of the tree is brownish, rough, blaze pale brown. Young branchlets are subquadrangular, lenticellate, and glabrous. Leaves are simple, opposite, decussate; petiole 0.6-1.3 cm long, canaliculate; lamina 7.5-17.5 cm × 2.3-7.5 cm, elliptic to elliptic-oblong, apex gradually

acuminate to subacute, base acute or attenuate, margin distantly serrate (with strong teeth) or entire, coriaceous to subcoriaceous, glabrous; midrib flat above, usually reddish when dry; secondary nerves 8-12 pairs; tertiary and higher order nerves obscure or slightly impressed. Inflorescence axillary divaricate panicles; flowers polygamodioecious, cream-white; pedicel 0.4 cm long. Fruit is drupe, ellipsoid, blue when ripe; one-seeded. Roots of the plant have medicinal properties and are used for the treatment of cancer and snake bite in Siddha medicine. In Maharashtra, the tribes use *O. dioica* Roxb. fruits for the treatment of skin disease. Bark and fruit paste are used in rheumatism; decoction of the bark is used to wash old wounds and given to counter fever [8]. Ripe fruits are traditionally used by the tribes in Kerala forest [9]. *O. dioica* leaf ethanolic extract showed appreciable antibacterial, antifungal activity, antioxidant, and cytotoxic properties [10-12].

The study was conducted in Sharavathi Wildlife Sanctuary, Shivamogga, Karnataka, to document the Tree diversity revealed that *O. dioica* is the most frequently distributed and species with density, basal area and was emerged as most important tree species found in evergreen, semi-evergreen, and moist deciduous forest of the area [13].

Despite meager work on this plant *O. dioica*, a very important medicinal plant was not explored for many pharmacological activities. Therefore, the aim of the study was to prove the aphrodisiac potential of *O. dioica* Roxb. leaf and stem extract collected from the forest of Central Western Ghats, Karnataka.

METHODS

Study area

The study area was Sagara – moist deciduous forest types of Western Ghats, within Karnataka state, India, with altitude range 630-840 m. The study area is situated in Shimoga (14° 08' 48" N 74° 57' 25" E) (Fig. 1).

Identification

The botanical identification of the plant was done using Flora of Madras – Gambler and it was confirmed by Prof. K G Bhat, Udupi, and the voucher specimen was conserved under the reference number KU/AB/RN/AS/001.

Preparation of the extract

The plant samples were shade dried for about 30-45 days and mechanically powdered. Powdered material was subjected to Soxhlet extraction [14] successively with petroleum ether, chloroform, and ethanol. Samples were air-dried and kept in an air tight bottles.

The qualitative preliminary phytochemical analysis

Extracted plant samples were screened for the presence of tannins, alkaloids, saponin, glycosides, flavonoids, steroids/sterols, and phenols using the standard [15,16].

Gas chromatography and mass spectroscopy (GC-MS) analysis

GC-MS of plant extract was done in Vittal Mallya Scientific Research Foundation, Bengaluru. Plant extracts were subjected to GC-MS analysis and obtained spectra were analysed. GC model: Thermo trace GC Ultra, MS model: Thermo DSQ II, ionization: Electron impact ionization (EI), chemical ionization, mass range: 1-1074 m/z.

Animals

Wistar albino rats of both sex weighing between 180 and 200 g were obtained and kept in the laboratory. The animals were maintained under standard environmental conditions and had free access to standard diet and water. Plant extracts were administered orally by gavage in distilled water at different dose levels. The study was permitted by the Institutional Animal Ethical Committee (Reg. No. SCSCP/IAEC/11/12/2016-17), India.

Preparation of male rats

The male rats were prepared for sexual activity, two times a day for a period of a minimum of 10 days. The one which did not show any sexual

interest during the 10 days of the period was considered as an inactive male.

Preparation of female rats

Female rats were kept in separate cages providing with food and water. The female rats were brought in estrous phase by treating them with estradiol valerate (10-50 µg) for adult rats depends on the body weight).

Experimental details

The sexually active male rats were selected and divided into seven groups; each group consisting of six animals. The groups were designed as follows, control (normal saline) 2 ml/kg body weight, positive control (sildenafil citrate) 4.5 mg/kg body weight, ethanolic leaf extracts in 200 and 400 mg/kg body weight, ethanolic bark extract in 200 and 400 mg/kg body weight, pure compound benzene-ethanol, 4-hydroxy- in 4.5 mg/kg body weight. The sexual behavior of the experimental rats was observed in a dim light in specially designed cages that have glasses on all the sides and measuring 50 cm × 30 cm × 30 cm. The male rat was first placed in the cage, and then two female rats in estrous phase were introduced. An initial period of 15 minutes was considered as acclimatization period. The experimental extract and the pure compound were introduced 15 minutes after acclimatization period. The activity of male rat in each group was recorded individually for 60 minutes, after 30 minutes of drug administration [17-20]. To determine the aphrodisiac activity of the extracts, several parameters were observed. These include measuring and observing the mount frequency (MF), mount latency (ML), intromission frequency (IF), intromission latency (IL), anogenital sniffing (AS), and genital grooming (GG) [21].

MF

Mounting is defined as the climbing of one animal by another usually from the posterior end with the intention of introducing one organ into another. Mount may also be operationally defined as the male assuming the copulatory position but failing to achieve intromission. MF is therefore defined as the number of mounts without intromission from the time of introduction of the female until ejaculation.

IF

Intromission is the introduction of one organ or parts into another. For example, the penis into the vagina. IF is therefore defined as the intromissions from the time of introduction of the female until ejaculation.

ML

ML is defined as the time interval between the introduction of the female and the first mount by the male.

IL

IL is the time interval from the time of introduction of the female to the first intromission by the male. This is usually characterized by pelvic thrusting and springing dismounts.

AS

AS is defined as sniffing of the genital part by the experimental male rat after the introducing the test drug. AS count is the number of sniffing of genitals in a given interval of time was recorded.

GG

GG is defined as licking of the genital part by the active male with its tongue after test drug administration. Hence, GG count is the number of grooming of genital in a given interval of time was recorded.

Acute toxicity studies

Rats of both sexes (three females and three males, weight: 25-35 g, age: 6-8 weeks) received an ethanolic extract of *O. dioica* leaf and bark starting at 2 g/kg orally by gavage. The animals were observed for

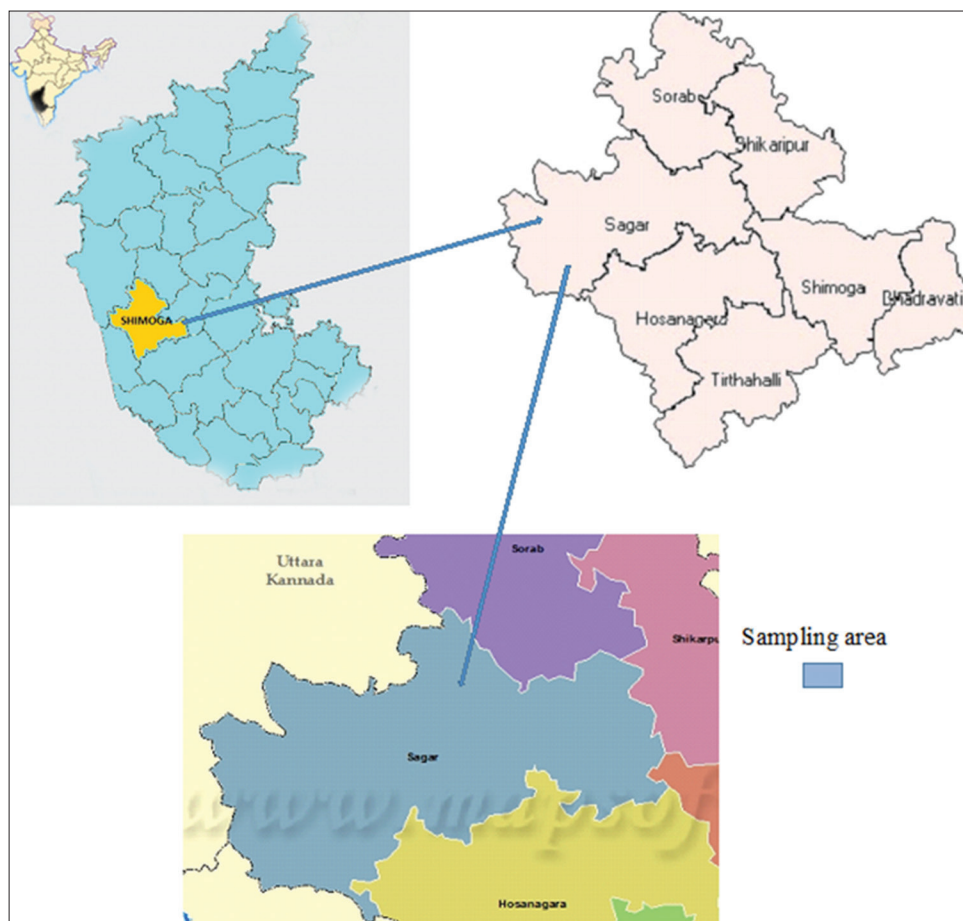


Fig. 1: Sampling site details and location

toxic symptoms continuously for the first 4 hrs after dosing. Finally, the number of survivors was noted after 24 hrs and these animals were then maintained for further 13 days with observations made daily [22]. The acute toxicity studies were carried out according to OECD guidelines – 425.

Statistical analysis

The mean value±standard error of mean was calculated for each parameter. Results were statistically analyzed by one-way analysis of variance (ANOVA) followed by Dunnet's t-test. Symbols represent statistical significance. * $p < 0.05$, ** $p < 0.01$, *** $p < 0.0001$, ns - not significant, as compared to control group.

RESULTS

Extract yield and preliminary phytochemical analysis

The soxhlet extraction of *O. dioica* leaf (750 g) with petroleum ether gives 8.14 g, with chloroform gives 13.32 g and with ethanol gives 65.32 g yield. The soxhlet extraction of *O. dioica* bark (750 g) with petroleum ether gives 8.14 g, with chloroform gives 13.32 g and with ethanol gives 65.32 g yield. The results of preliminary qualitative phytochemical screening of different extracts of *O. dioica* leaf indicate the presence of saponins, flavonoids, steroids/sterols, glycosides and phenols in the ethanolic crude extract, the chloroform and petroleum ether crude extract gave negative results for all these compounds.

In *O. dioica* bark ethanolic extracts indicate the presence of saponins, flavonoids, steroids/sterols, glycosides and phenols, and the chloroform crude extracts shows positive results for tannins and flavonoids, but the petroleum ether crude extract gave negative results for all these compounds. Hence, the experiments we took only ethanolic leaf and bark extracts (Table 1).

GC-MS analysis of ethanolic crude extract

Leaf ethanolic extract

In GC-MS analysis of medicinal *O. dioica*, ethanolic leaf extract revealed the presence of 38 compounds, in that major percentage of compounds present, was benzene-ethanol, 4-hydroxy- (37.44), 2-amino-3-(3,4-dihydroxy-phenyl)-propionic acid (L-Dopa) -(16.47), 1,3-benzenediol, 4-propyl- (6.46), 2,4-dimethoxytoluene - (5.01), benzaldehyde, 2,3-dimethoxy - (4.63). The compounds such as benzene-ethanol, 4-hydroxy- (37.44%) has antioxidant and cytotoxic properties. 2-amino-3-(3,4-dihydroxy-phenyl)-propionic acid (16.47%) has similar structure 99 percent similar to L-Dopa a psychoactive drug and also cytotoxic properties (Table 2 and Figs. 2-5).

Bark ethanolic extract

In GC-MS analysis of bark *O. dioica* ethanolic extract revealed the presence 37 compounds, in that benzene-ethanol, 4-hydroxy- (24.51), ethanone, 1-[5-[(5-methyl-2-furanyl)methyl]-2-furanyl]- (18.05), ethanol, 2,2'-oxybis- (8.03), acetic acid, 5,7,8-trimethyl-6-coumarinyl ester (7.34), 2-furancarboxaldehyde, 5-(hydroxymethyl)- (6.82) in major percentage (Table 3 and Figs. 6-9).

Acute toxicity studies

The ethanolic extract of leaf and bark of plant *O. dioica* was found to be safe up to 2000 mg/kg body weight by the oral route. After 24 hrs, animals were found well tolerated. There was no mortality and no signs of toxicity and extract were found to be safe.

Aphrodisiac activity

The aphrodisiac activity of ethanolic leaf and bark extracts of *O. dioica* were studied on male Wistar albino rats at various dosages. The

Table 1: Preliminary phytochemical analysis of different leaf and bark extract of *O. dioica* Roxb

Secondary metabolites	Type of tests	Petroleum ether crude extract		Chloroform crude extract		Ethanol crude extract	
		Leaf	Bark	Leaf	Bark	Leaf	Bark
Alkaloids	Mayer's test	-	-	-	-	-	-
	Wagner's test	-	-	-	-	-	-
Saponins	Foam test	-	-	-	-	+	+
Tannins	Ferric chloride test	-	-	-	+	+	+
Flavonoids	Shinda test	-	-	-	-	+	+
	Zinc-HCl reduction test	-	-	-	-	+	+
	Alkaline reagent test	-	-	-	-	+	+
	Lead acetate test	-	-	-	+	+	+
Steroids	Salkowaski test	-	-	-	-	+	+
	Keller-Killiani's test	-	-	-	-	+	+
Glycosides	Brown water test	-	-	-	-	+	+
	Legal test	-	-	-	-	+	+
	Ferric chloride test	-	-	+	-	+	+
Phenols	Acetic acid test	-	-	+	-	+	+
	Liebermann-burchard test	-	-	+	-	+	+

-. Negative result, +: Positive result, *O. dioica*: *Olea dioica*

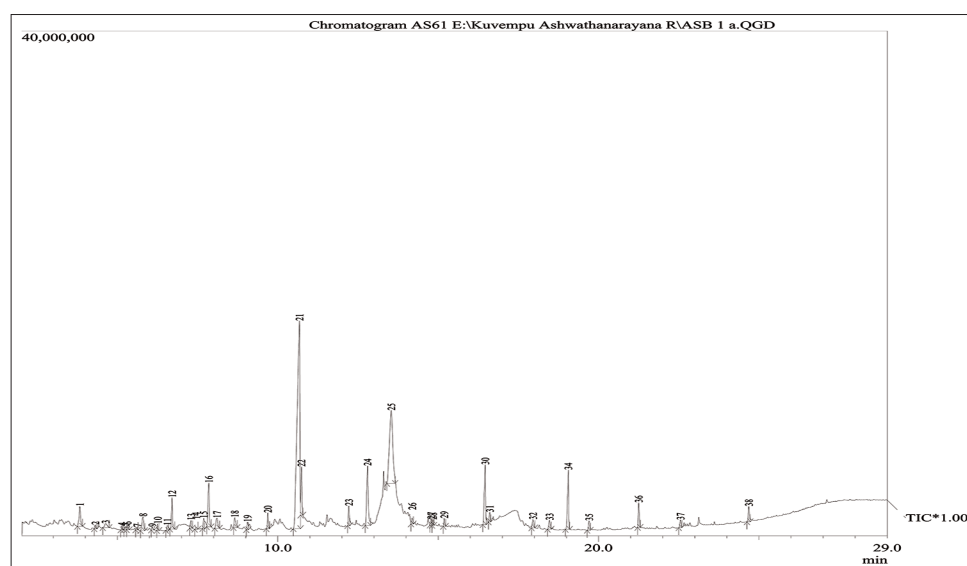
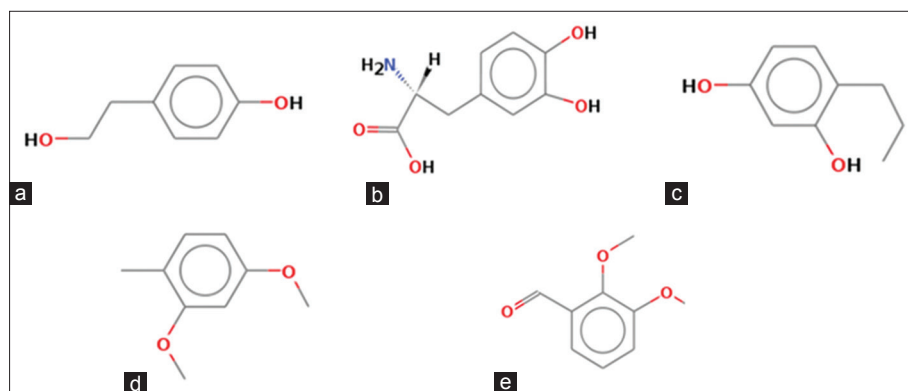
Fig. 2: Gas chromatography and mass spectroscopy chromatogram of *Olea dioica* leaf ethanolic extract

Fig. 3: Major percentage of constituent present in the gas chromatography and mass spectroscopy analysis of crude leaf ethanolic extract of *Olea dioica* Roxb. (a) Benzenethanol, 4-hydroxy-, (b) 2-amino-3-(3,4-dihydroxy-phenyl)-propionic acid, (c) 1,3-benzenediol, 4-propyl-, (d) 2,4-dimethoxytoluene, (e) benzaldehyde, 2,3-dimethoxy-

Table 2: List of identified of phytochemicals in crude leaf ethanolic extract of *O. dioica* Roxb. by GC-MS analysis

S.No.	Chemical compound present	Average (%)	Properties of the compound
1	Glyceraldehyde	1.97	Parental compound of GAPDH enzyme induced under environmental stress [23]
2	3-hydroxy-2 (5H)-furanone	0.23	Immunosuppressive agents and appetite depressants [24]
3	Formamide, N-(cyanomethyl)	0.71	Unknown
4	Benzenemethanol	0.23	Flavor industries, bacteriostatic agent, local anesthetic, and antimicrobial agent [25]
5	2,4-hexanedione	0.29	Disrupting the cell cycle and causing apoptosis in the human SK-N-SH neuroblastoma cell line [26]
6	Pentanoic acid, 4-oxo	0.37	Food additives, enzyme Inhibitors, anti-inflammatory and medication for cancer, antibacterial, and potential biofuels can be prepared. Also used in cigarettes to increase nicotine delivery in smoke and binding of nicotine to neural receptors [27]
7	2-Furancarboxylic acid	0.16	Bactericide, fungicide, flavoring agents [28]
8	Cyclopentane, 1-acetyl-1,2-epoxy	1.62	Unknown
9	Cyclohexanone, 2,6-dimethyl	0.26	Cytotoxic, antimicrobial, anticancer, anti-malarial activity [29]
10	Phenylethyl alcohol	0.33	Antimicrobial [30]
11	2-acetyl-2-hydroxy- γ -butyrolactone	0.41	Recreational intoxicant, antimicrobial [31]
12	4H-Pyran-4-one, 2,3-dihydro-3,5-dihydroxy-6-methyl	2.22	Antimicrobial, anti-inflammatory, antiproliferative antioxidant, automatic nerve activity, anticancer, anti-inflammatory [32]
13	4H-pyran-4-one, 3,5-dihydroxy-2-methyl	0.52	Antioxidant, flavor of roast barley [33]
14	1,2-benzenediol	0.17	Pesticides, carcinogen, cytotoxic [34]
15	2,3-dihydro-benzofuran	0.82	Entactogen agent, leishmaniasis treatment, and treatment of neuropathic pain [35,36]
16	2-furancarboxaldehyde, 5-(hydroxymethyl)	3.81	Inhibits the formation of sickle cells in the blood antimicrobial, preservative [27]
17	1,2,3-propanetriol, diacetate	1.25	Antifungal agent, antifreeze mixtures, explosives [37]
18	2H-pyran-5-carboxylic acid, 2-oxo-methyl ester	1.08	Unknown
19	2-methoxy-4-vinylphenol	0.52	Flavoring agent [38]
20	Borolo[1,2-a] borine, octahydro	1.01	Unknown
21	Benzeneethanol, 4-hydroxy	37.44	Antioxidant [12]
22	Benzene, 1-(bromomethyl)-3-nitro	2.82	Unknown
23	Tyramine, N-formyl	1.28	Unknown
24	1,3-benzenediol, 4-propyl	6.46	Antimicrobial, analgesic, antiseptic, diuretic, antioxidant, anti-inflammatory, antiulcer, and anticancer properties [39]
25	2-amino-3-(3,4-dihydroxy-phenyl)-propionic acid	16.47	A psychoactive drug, cytotoxic to rats [40]
26	Benzeneacetic acid, 4-hydroxy-3-methoxy, methyl ester	0.41	Cytotoxic [41]
27	2-(2-hydroxy-2-phenylethyl)-3,5,6-trimethylpyrazine	0.38	Unknown
28	2H-benzocyclohepten-2-one, 3,4,4a, 5,6,7,8,9-octahydro	0.32	Unknown
29	3,7,11,15-tetramethyl-2-hexadecen-1-ol	0.49	Vitamins E and K1 precursor, decomposition product of chlorophyll, chemical deterrents against predation, flavoring agents [42]
30	2,4-dimethoxytoluene	5.01	Unknown
31	Cyclohexene, 1,5,5-trimethyl-6-acetylmethyl	0.60	Unknown
32	2,4-hexadienedioic acid, 3,4-diethyl-, dimethyl ester, (E, Z)	0.84	Unknown
33	2H-pyran, tetrahydro-4-methyl-2-(2-methyl-1-propenyl)	0.85	Flavor ingredients, fragrance chemical [43]
34	Benzaldehyde, 2,3-dimethoxy	4.63	Unknown
35	Benzoic acid, 3-amino-6-(4-morpholyl)	0.79	Unknown
36	4-tert-butoxystyrene	1.51	Unknown
37	Benzenamine, 3,4-dimethyl	0.59	Precursor for vitamin B2, with modest toxicity [44]
38	Pyridinium, 2,6-dimethyl-1-[(phenylsulfonyl) amino]-, hydroxide	1.14	unknown

O. dioica: *Olea dioica*, GAPDH: Glyceraldehyde-3-phosphate dehydrogenase, GC-MS: Gas chromatography and mass spectroscopy

parameters observed during the study were MF, ML, IF, IL, AS, and GG (Table 4 and Fig. 10).

MF

By observing the results, it is revealed that all the crude extracts showed dose-dependent activity in all the concentration, in that ethanolic leaf

extract (9.66±0.32) and ethanolic bark extract (7.33±0.32) showed highest MF at 400 mg/kg body weight. Whereas, ethanolic extracts at 200 mg/kg body weight also showed appreciable activity (leaf: 5±0; bark: 4.66±0.32) activity. On the other hand, the pure compound benzene ethanol 4 hydroxy- (4±0) 4.5 mg/kg body weight showed negligible MF compared to all the extract used. Therefore, the above

Table 3: List of identified of phytochemicals in crude bark ethanolic extract of *O. dioica* Roxb. by GC-MS analysis

S.No.	Chemical compound present	Average (%)	Properties of the compound
1	Propanoic acid, 2-methyl-, methyl ester	0.76	Flavoring agent [45]
2	3 ethanol, 2,2'-oxy bis	8.03	Food additives, strong oxidizing agents, cytotoxic may cause degeneration of kidney and liver and cause death [46]
3	4H-pyran-4-one, 2,3-dihydro-3,5-dihydroxy-6-methyl	3.34	Sedative, cytotoxicity, anticancer, anti-inflammatory [47]
4	4H-pyran-4-one, 3,5-dihydroxy-2-methyl	1.20	Unknown
5	2-furancarboxaldehyde, 5-(hydroxymethyl)	6.82	Strong oxidizing agents, treatment sickle cell disease, food additives [48,49]
6	1,2,3-propanetriol, monoacetate	2.17	In manufacture of smokeless powder and dynamite, as solvent for basic dyes, in tanning leather [50]
7	2-methoxy-4-vinyl phenol	1.18	Antifungal agent, a gelatinizing agent in explosives, used in leather tanning [51]
8	Cis-dimethyl morpholine	1.13	Synthesis of p38 α MAP kinase inhibitors used in the treatment of autoimmune diseases [52,53]
9	Benzeneethanol, 4-hydroxy	24.51	Antioxidant [9]
10	Phenol, 2-methoxy-4-(1-propenyl)	1.18	Fragrance and flavor ingredient [54]
11	Tyramine, N-formyl	0.78	Unknown
12	3-hydroxy-4-methoxy benzoic acid	1.76	Antimicrobial activity, antithrombus activity, anti-inflammatory, antioxidant activities, and antimicrobial activity [55-58]
13	Ethanone, 1-(4-hydroxy-3-methoxyphenyl) - (CAS) acetovanillone	0.92	Anti-inflammatory agents, non-steroidal, antioxidants, enzyme inhibitors, food additives [59]
14	1,3-benzenediol, 4-propyl	0.93	Antiarthritic, antiasthmatic, treatment for bowel disease, atherosclerosis [60]
15	3,4-epoxycyclohexyl carboxylic acid, 3,4-epoxycyclohexyl	2.21	Cytotoxic [61]
16	Benzeneacetic acid, 4-hydroxy-3-methoxy-, methyl ester (CAS) methyl 3-methoxy	0.81	Cytotoxic in a higher dose, grape wine component [62]
17	4-((1E)-3-hydroxy-1-propenyl)-2-methoxyphenol	0.22	Antimicrobial, antitumor, antimicrobial, antioxidant anti-inflammatory, analgesic [63,64]
18	2H-benzocyclohepten-2-one, 3,4,4a, 5,6,7,8,9-octahydro-4a-methyl	0.68	Antioxidant activity, antiproliferative potential [65]
19	1,2-diethoxy-4-ethylbenzene	0.45	A constituent of tea and coffee aroma [66]
20	Mixture of delta.(1 (11))-bicyclo[5.4.0]undecenone-10 and .delta.(1 (7))-bicyclo	1.13	Unknown
21	Benzenemethanol, 3,4,5-trimethoxy-	0.9	Antimalarial agent [67]
22	1,3-isobenzofurandione, 4,5,6,7-tetrahydro-4,7-dimethyl	0.22	Unknown
23	Tricyclo[8.6.0.0 (2,9)]hexadeca-8,16, head, tail-dione, trans-2,9-cisoid-9,10-cis-1	2.4	Unknown
24	Cyclooctanone, dimer	1.13	Unknown
25	3-[2-Thiosulfatoethyl] aminomethyl-2-norbornanone	1.7	Unknown
26	Benzaldehyde, 2,3-dimethoxy	0.99	Unknown
27	4-tert-butoxystyrene	1.6	Unknown
28	7-(3,4-methylenedioxy)-tetrahydro benzo furanone	0.5	Unknown
29	4,8-ethano-4H-1,3-benzodioxin, hexahydro	0.88	Unknown
30	2-methoxy-4-ethyl-6-methylphenol	0.83	Flavoring agent [68]
31	Ethanol, 2-[4-(1-methylpropyl) phenoxy]	0.69	Unknown
32	2,6,10,14,18,22-tetracosahexaene, 2,6,10,15,19,23-hexamethyl-, (all-E) - (CAS) - squalene	0.24	Cosmetics, immunologic adjuvant, adjunctive therapy in a variety of cancers, cholesterol-lowering drug [69]
33	Pyridine, 4-(1-methyl-2-pyrrolyl)-2,6-diphenyl	0.15	Unknown
34	Pyridinium, 2,6-dimethyl-1-[(phenylsulfonyl) amino]-, hydroxide, inner salt	1.08	Unknown
35	Ethanone, 1-[5-[(5-methyl-2-furanyl) methyl]-2-furanyl]	18.05	Flavoring substances, cytotoxic [70]
36	Acetic acid, 5,7,8-trimethyl-6-coumarinyl ester	7.34	Unknown
37	Stigmast-5-en-3-ol, (3.beta.,24S) - (CAS) clionasterol	1.05	Flame retardants, flavors/fragrances, used to treat hyperlipidemias [71]

MAP: Mitogen-activated protein

observation confirms the positive activity of ethanolic extracts but the major pure compound benzene ethanol 4 hydroxy- was not the reason for the extract aphrodisiac activity.

ML

The results revealed that the animals treated with ethanolic leaf (141.33 \pm 0.66) and bark (203.66 \pm 2.02) extracts at the dose of 400 mg/kg body weight showed a significant decrease in ML, whereas the animals at 200 mg/kg body weight treated with ethanolic leaf (287.66 \pm 1.44) and bark extracts (276.33 \pm 0.87) showed a negligible decrease in ML.

However, the pure compound benzene ethanol 4 hydroxy- (304 \pm 3.05) at 4.5 mg/kg body weight showed nil activity, even though it is a major compound in the leaf and bark ethanolic extracts, which is not responsible for its aphrodisiac activity.

IF

Appreciable IF was observed in ethanolic leaf extract (0.68 \pm 0; 1.59 \pm 0.03) and ethanolic bark extract (0.66 \pm 0.01; 1.25 \pm 0.01) at the dose of 200 and 400 mg/kg body weight. Whereas, the pure compound benzene ethanol 4 hydroxy- (0.4 \pm 0) at 4.5 mg/kg body weight showed nil activity.

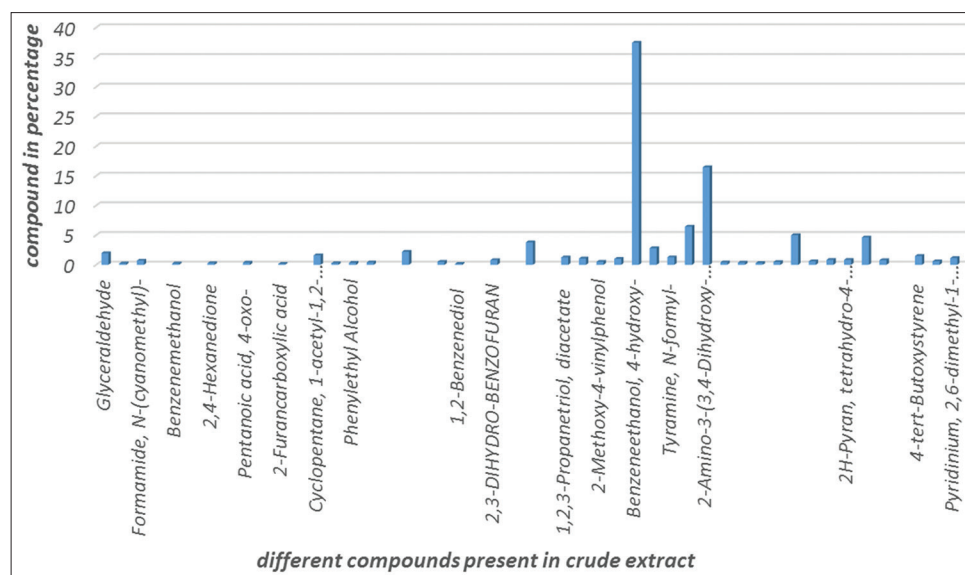


Fig. 4: Gas chromatography and mass spectroscopy of crude *Olea dioica* Roxb. ethanolic leaf extract showing percentage of different compounds

Table 4: Effect of *O. dioica* Roxb. leaf and bark ethanolic extract and its pure compound on sexual behavior of male rats

Group (dose mg/kg body weight)	Different aphrodisiac activity (mean±SEM)						
	Number of animals	MF	ML (seconds)	IF	IL (seconds)	AS	GG
Control	6	2.33±0.32	310±0.57	0.4±0	796±2.51	3.66±0.32	2.33±0.32
Sildenafil citrate (4.5)	6	12±0.57***	100.33±0.87***	1.74±0***	197±1.52***	12±0.57***	6.33±0.33***
Ethanol leaf (200)	6	5±0***	287.66±1.44	0.68±0***	495.66±1.76***	6±0.57*	3±0.57
Ethanol leaf (400)	6	9.66±0.32***	141.33±0.66***	1.59±0.03***	218.66±1.44***	9.33±0.32***	5±0.57**
Ethanol bark (200)	6	4.66±0.32**	276.33±0.87*	0.66±0.01***	691.33±6.66***	5.33±0.32*	2.33±0.33
Ethanol bark (400)	6	7.33±0.32***	203.66±2.02***	1.25±0.01***	425±3.05***	8.33±0.32***	3.66±0.66
Benzene ethanol 4 hydroxy - (4.5)	6	4±0*	304±3.05	0.4±0	767.66±5.66	4±0.57	2.66±0.32
One-way ANOVA	p value	<0.0001	<0.0001	<0.0001	<0.0001	<0.0001	<0.0001
	F value	105.2	2742	1148	4341	45.31	9.389

Each value is the mean±SEM of five rats, *p<0.05, **p<0.01, ***p<0.0001 versus control. One-way ANOVA followed by Dunnet's t-test %. *O. dioica*: *Olea dioica*, SEM: Standard error of the mean, MF: Mount frequency, ML: Mount latency, IF: Intromission frequency, IL: Intermision latency, AS: Anogenital sniffing, GG: Genital grooming

IL

The results revealed that the ethanolic leaf extract (197±1.52; 495.66±1.76) and ethanolic bark extract (218.66±1.44; 691.33±6.66) at the concentration of 200 and 400 mg/kg body weight showed appreciable IL as compared to control animals. On the other hand, the pure compound benzene ethanol 4 hydroxy- at 4.5 mg/kg body weight showed negligible (767.66±5.66) IL in comparison to rest of the group.

AS

A significant increase in number of AS was observed in the animals treated with ethanolic leaf extract (9.33±0.32) and ethanolic bark extract (8.33±0.32) at the dose of 400 mg/kg body weight and moderate activity was observed in the animals treated with ethanolic leaf extract (6±0.57) and ethanolic bark extract (5.33±0.32) at the dose of 200 mg/kg body weight. Whereas pure compound benzene ethanol 4 hydroxy- (4±0.57) at 4.5 mg/kg body weight showed negligible AS compared to the control group.

GG

The results revealed that appreciable increase in a number of GG was observed in the animals treated with ethanolic leaf extract (5±0.57)

400 mg/kg body weight and the standard Sildenafil citrate 4.5 mg/kg body weight, whereas other groups showed negligible GG.

DISCUSSION

O. dioica Roxb. plant is unexplored for many pharmacological activities but aphrodisiac activity is accidental one because, even though it was used by the tribes for various treatments such as cancer, snake bite, skin disease treatment, rheumatism, fever [8,9], and experimentally proved for antibacterial, antifungal activity, antioxidant, and cytotoxic properties [10-12], but aphrodisiac activity of this plant was not been reported in tribal history and by the scientific experiments. We excluded the petroleum ether and chloroform extracts of *O. dioica* Roxb. leaf and bark due the negligible metabolites present in it and it is confirmed by qualitative preliminary phytochemical analysis (Table 1).

GC-MS analysis of *O. dioica* Roxb. leaf ethanolic extract revealed the presence of 38 compounds, they were benzene-ethanol, 4-hydroxy- (37.44), 2-amino-3-(3,4-dihydroxy-phenyl)-propionic acid (16.47), 1,3-benzenediol, 4-propyl- (6.46), 2,4-dimethoxytoluene - (5.01), benzaldehyde, 2,3-dimethoxy - (4.63), 2-furancarboxaldehyde, 5-(hydroxymethyl)- (3.81), benzene, 1-(bromomethyl)-3-nitro-

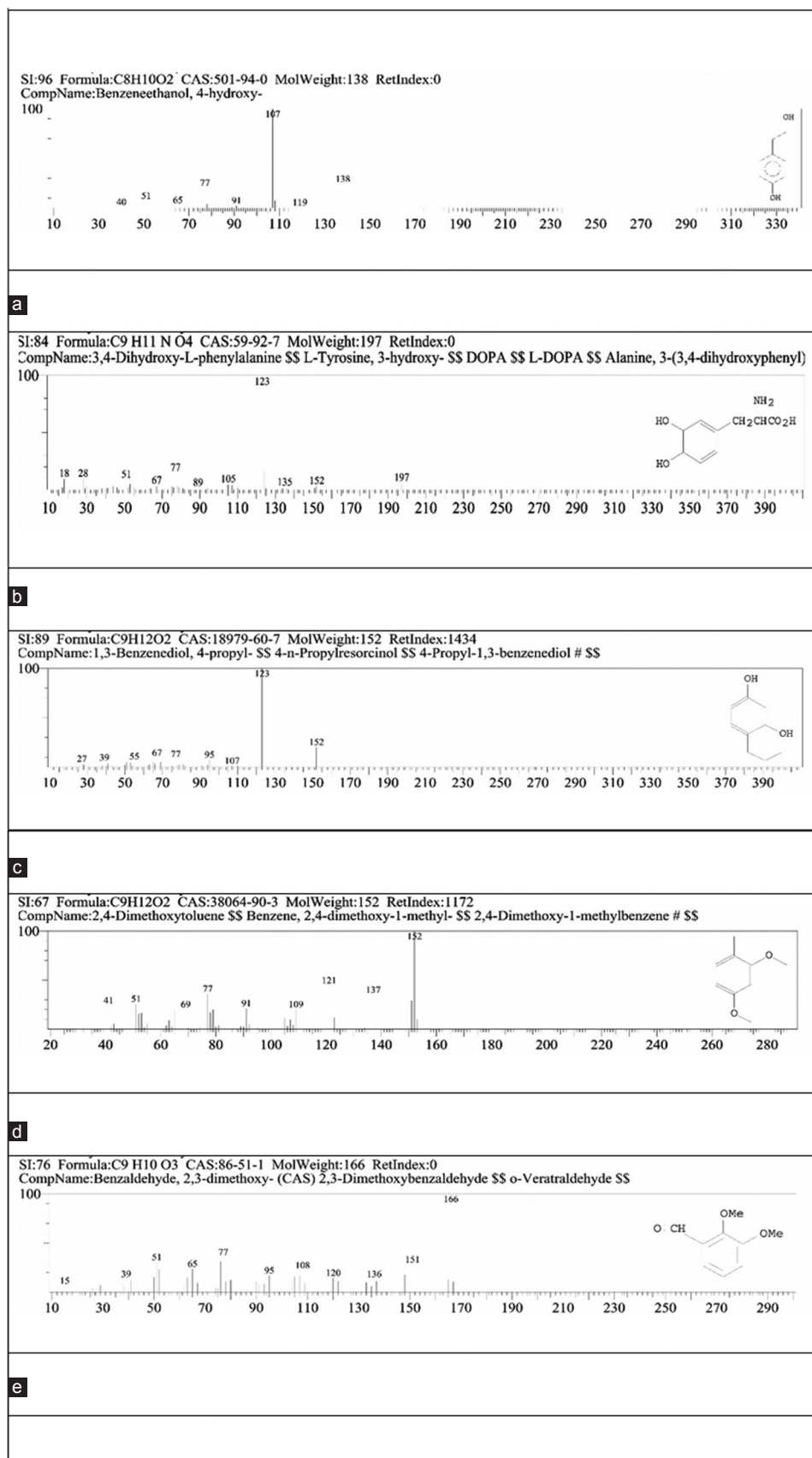


Fig. 5: Mass spectrum of a major percentage of the constituent present in crude leaf ethanolic extract of *Olea dioica* Roxb.

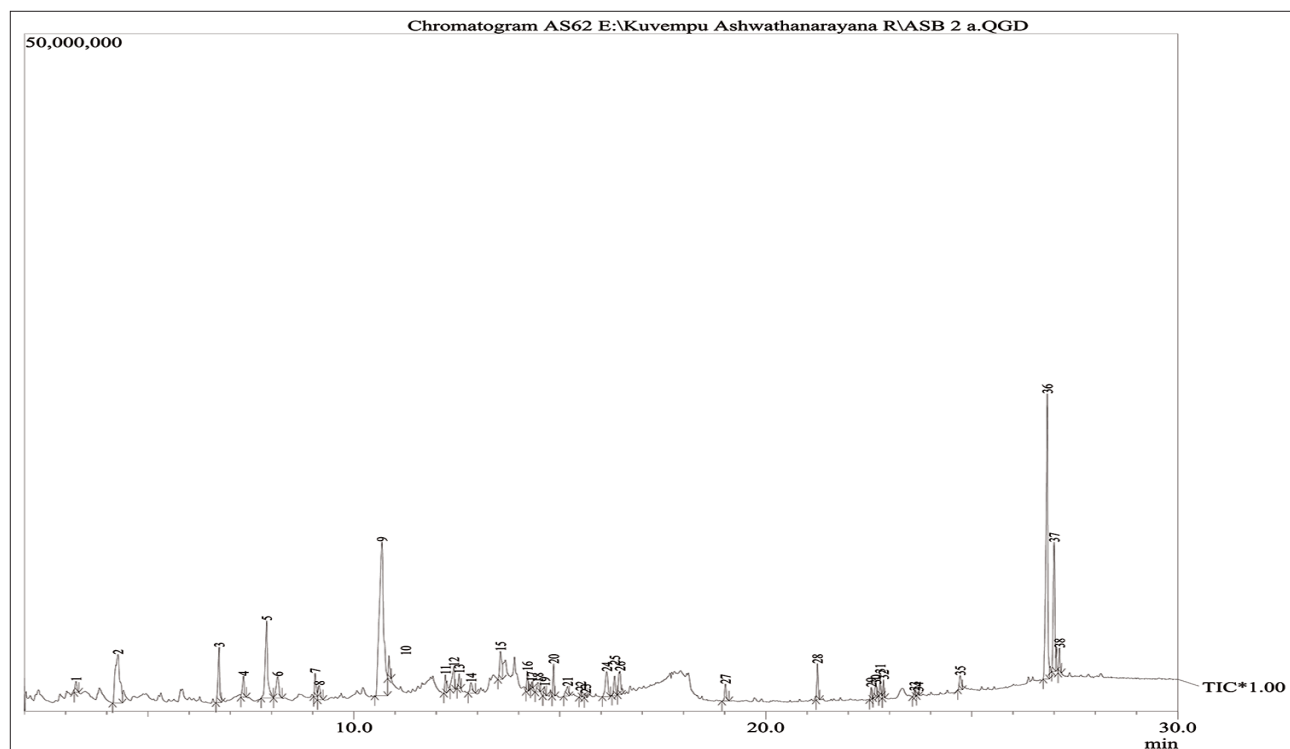


Fig. 6: Gas chromatography and mass spectroscopy chromatogram of *Olea dioica* bark ethanolic extract

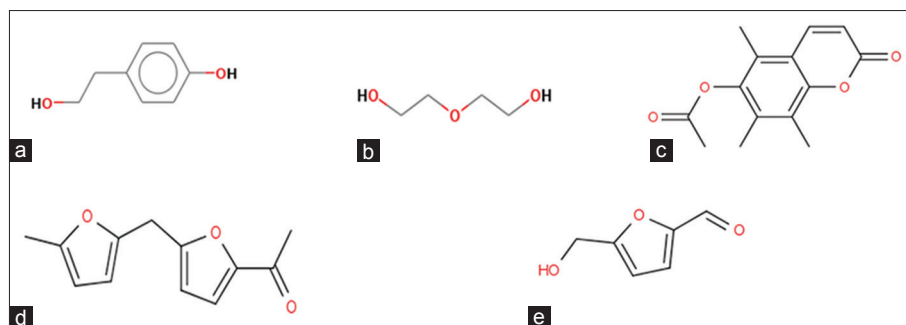


Fig. 7: Major percentage of constituent present in the gas chromatography and mass spectroscopy analysis of crude bark ethanolic extract of *Olea dioica* Roxb. (a) Benzenethanol 4 hydroxy-, (b) 3 ethanol, 2,2'-oxybis-, (c) Acetic acid, 5,7,8-trimethyl-6-coumarinyl ester, (d) ethanone, 1-[5-[(5-methyl-2-furanyl) methyl]-2-furanyl]-, (e) 2-furancarboxaldehyde, 5-(hydroxymethyl)-

(2.82), 4H-pyran-4-one, 2,3-dihydro-3,5-dihydroxy-6-methyl- (2.22), glyceraldehyde (1.97), cyclopentane, 1-acetyl-1,2-epoxy- (1.62), 4-tert-butoxystyrene (1.51), tyramine, N-formyl- (1.28), 1,2,3-propanetriol, diacetate (1.25), pyridinium, 2,6-dimethyl-1-[(phenylsulfonyl)amino]-, hydroxide (1.14), 2H-pyran-5-carboxylic acid, 2-oxo-, methyl ester (1.08), borolo[1,2-a]borine, octahydro- (1.01), 2H-pyran, tetrahydro-4-methyl-2-(2-methyl-1-propenyl)- (0.85), 2,4-hexadienedioic acid, 3,4-diethyl-, dimethyl ester, (E, Z)- (0.84), 2,3-dihydro-benzofuran (0.82), benzoic acid, 3-amino-6-(4-morpholy)- (0.79), formamide, N-(cyanomethyl)- (0.71), cyclohexene, 1,5,5-trimethyl-6-acetylmethyl- (0.6), benzenamine, 3,4-dimethyl- (0.59), 2-methoxy-4-vinylphenol (0.52), 4H-pyran-4-one, 3,5-dihydroxy-2-methyl- (0.52), 3,7,11,15-tetramethyl-2-hexadecen-1-ol (0.49), benzeneacetic acid, 4-hydroxy-3-methoxy-, methyl ester (0.41), 2-acetyl-2-hydroxy-gamma-butyrolactone (0.41), 2-(2-hydroxy-2-phenylethyl)-3,5,6-trimethylpyrazine (0.38), pentanoic acid, 4-oxo- (0.37), phenylethyl alcohol (0.33), 2H-benzocyclohepten-2-one, 3,4,4a,5,6,7,8,9-octahydro- (0.32), 2,4-hexanedione (0.29), cyclohexanone, 2,6-dimethyl-

(0.26), benzenemethanol (0.23), 3-hydroxy-2(5H)-furanone (0.23), 1,2-benzenediol (0.17), and 2-furancarboxylic acid (0.16). In that 15 compounds were unknown, no scientific literature was found about its pharmacological properties, and the rest of the 23 compounds has known pharmacological properties (Table 2).

GC-MS analysis of *O. dioica* Roxb. bark ethanolic extract revealed the presence of 37 compounds, they were benzene-ethanol, 4-hydroxy- (24.51), ethanone, 1-[5-[(5-methyl-2-furanyl)methyl]-2-furanyl]- (18.05), 3 ethanol, 2,2'-oxy bis- (8.03), acetic acid, 5,7,8-trimethyl-6-coumarinyl ester (7.34), 2-furancarboxaldehyde, 5-(hydroxymethyl)- (6.82), 4H-pyran-4-one, 2,3-dihydro-3,5-dihydroxy-6-methyl- (3.34), tricyclo[8.6.0.0(2,9)]hexadeca-8,16,head,tail-dione, trans-2,9- (2.4), 3,4-epoxycyclohexyl carboxylic acid, 3,4-epoxycyclohexyl (2.21), 1,2,3-propanetriol, monoacetate (2.17), 3-hydroxy-4-methoxy benzoic acid (1.76), 3-[2-thiosulfoethyl] aminomethyl-2-norbornanone (1.7), 4-tert-butoxystyrene (1.6), 4H-pyran-4-one, 3,5-dihydroxy-2-methyl- (1.2), 2-methoxy-4-

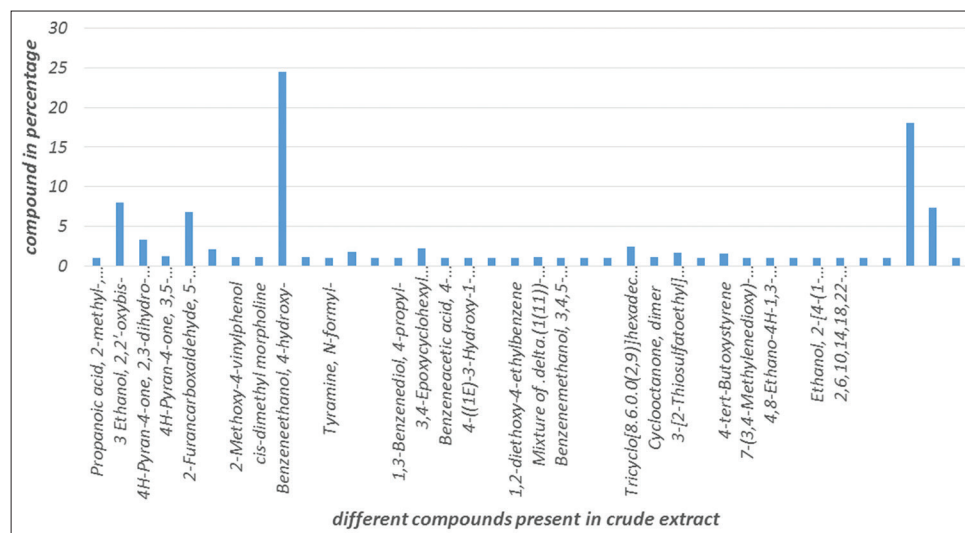


Fig. 8: Gas chromatography and mass spectroscopy of crude *Olea dioica* Roxb. ethanolic bark extract showing percentage of different compounds

vinyl phenol (1.18), phenol, 2-methoxy-4-(1-propenyl)- (1.18), cis-dimethyl morpholine (1.13), mixture of delta(1(11))-bicyclo[5.4.0]undecenone-10 and .delta.(1(7))-bicyclo[1.13], cyclooctanone, dimer (1.13), hydroxide, inner salt (1.08), stigmast-5-en-3-ol, (3.beta.,24S)- (1.05), benzaldehyde, 2,3-dimethoxy- (0.99), 1,3-benzenediol, 4-propyl- (0.93), ethanone, 1-(4-hydroxy-3-methoxyphenyl)- (0.92), benzenemethanol, 3,4,5-trimethoxy- (0.9), 4,8-ethano-4H-1,3-benzodioxin, hexahydro- (0.88), 2-methoxy-4-ethyl-6-methylphenol (0.83), benzeneacetic acid, 4-hydroxy-3-methoxy-, methyl ester (0.81), tyramine, N-formyl- (0.78), propanoic acid, 2-methyl-, methyl ester (0.76), ethanol, 2-[4-(1-methylpropyl)phenoxy]- (0.69), 2H-benzocyclohepten-2-one, 3,4,4a,5,6,7,8,9-octahydro-4a-methyl-(0.68), 7-(3,4-methylenedioxy)-tetrahydrobenzo furanone (0.5), 1,2-diethoxy-4-ethylbenzene (0.45), 2,6,10,14,18,22-tetracosahexaene, 2,6,10,15,19,23-hexamethyl-, (all-E)- (0.24), 4-((1E)-3-hydroxy-1-propenyl)-2-methoxyphenol (0.22), 1,3-isobenzofurandione, 4,5,6,7-tetrahydro-4,7-dimethyl-(0.22) and pyridine, 4-(1-methyl-2-pyrrolyl)-2,6-diphenyl- (0.15). In that 15 compounds were unknown, no scientific literature was found about its pharmacological properties, and the rest of the 22 compounds has known pharmacological properties (Table 3).

By the results, it is revealed that the *O. dioica* Roxb. leaf and bark ethanolic extracts and its pure compound showed excellent aphrodisiac activity in all tested parameters.

In MF test, ethanolic leaf at 200 and 400 mg/kg body weight and ethanolic bark extract at 400 mg/kg body weight showed significant activity, ethanolic bark extract at 200 mg/kg body weight showed moderate activity and the pure compound benzene ethanol 4-hydroxy- at 4.5 mg/kg body weight showed negligible MF (Table 4).

In ML test, ethanolic leaf at 400 mg/kg body weight and ethanolic bark extract at 400 mg/kg body weight showed significant activity, ethanolic leaf extract at 200 mg/kg body weight showed moderate activity and the ethanolic bark and pure compound benzene ethanol 4-hydroxy- at 4.5 mg/kg body weight showed negligible ML (Table 4).

In IF and IL tests, all the extracts showed excellent activity except pure compound. In AS, ethanolic leaf and bark extract at 400 mg/kg body weight showed excellent activity and in 200 mg/kg body weight

showed moderate activity and pure compound showed nil grooming. In GG, all the tested compound showed nil grooming except the standard sildenafil citrate (4.5) and ethanolic leaf extract at 400 mg/kg body weight (Table 4).

The leaf ethanolic extract showed excellent activity comparably with the bark ethanolic extract. leaf ethanolic extract has 2-amino-3-(3,4-dihydroxy-phenyl)-propionic acid in 16.47%. which had 99% similar structure to L-dopa ((2S)-2-amino-3-(3,4-dihydroxyphenyl)propanoic acid) a psychoactive drug mainly used in the treatment of Parkinson's disease and many research articles [72-76] already proven that L-dopa has strong aphrodisiac properties, so similar structured compound may also the main reason for the aphrodisiac properties of leaf ethanolic extract and in bark ethanolic extract unknown compound/compounds may influence the aphrodisiac activity in tested rats.

This is the first paper to report to prove aphrodisiac activity of *O. dioica* Roxb. which is unexplored till now by traditional practitioners as well as scientific communities. Further studies such as sperm count, sperm motility, sperm morphology [77] and estrous cycle, hematological parameters, and serum biochemical parameters [78] should be done to observe the actual pathway of the crude extract which is enhancing aphrodisiac activity.

CONCLUSION

By the above observation, it is concluded that the pure compound benzene ethanol 4-hydroxy- even though a major constituent of leaf and bark ethanolic extracts is not responsible for the aphrodisiac effect and leaf ethanolic extract have 2-amino-3-(3,4-dihydroxy-phenyl)-propionic acid which has similar structure to the L-dopa [72-76] a psychoactive drug mainly used in the treatment of Parkinson's disease and sexual disorders, may be the reason for aphrodisiac activity in leaf ethanolic extract and in bark ethanolic extract unknown compound/compounds may influence the aphrodisiac activity in tested rats that should be studied further.

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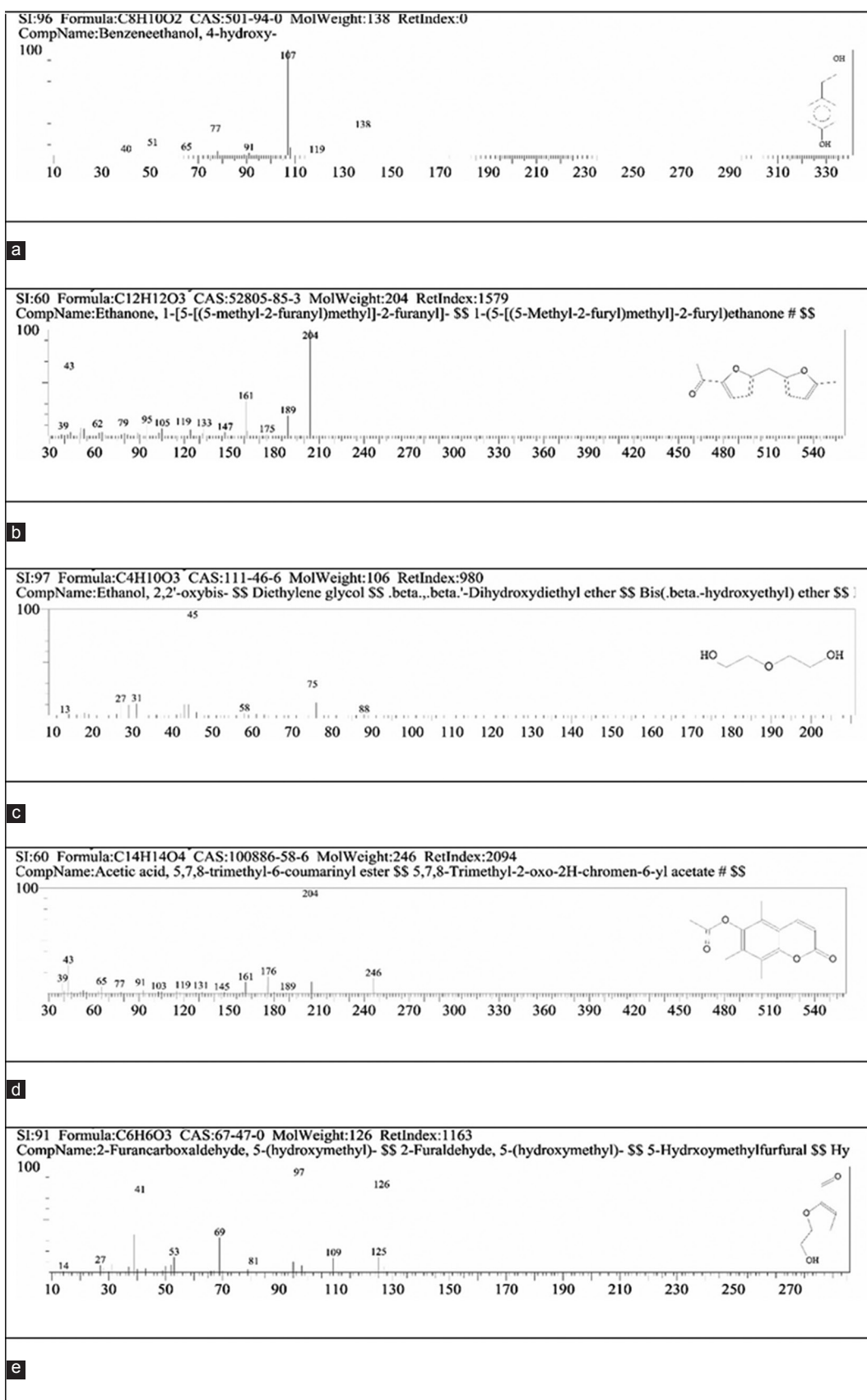


Fig. 9: Mass spectrum of a major percentage of the constituent present in crude bark ethanolic extract of *Olea dioica* Roxb.

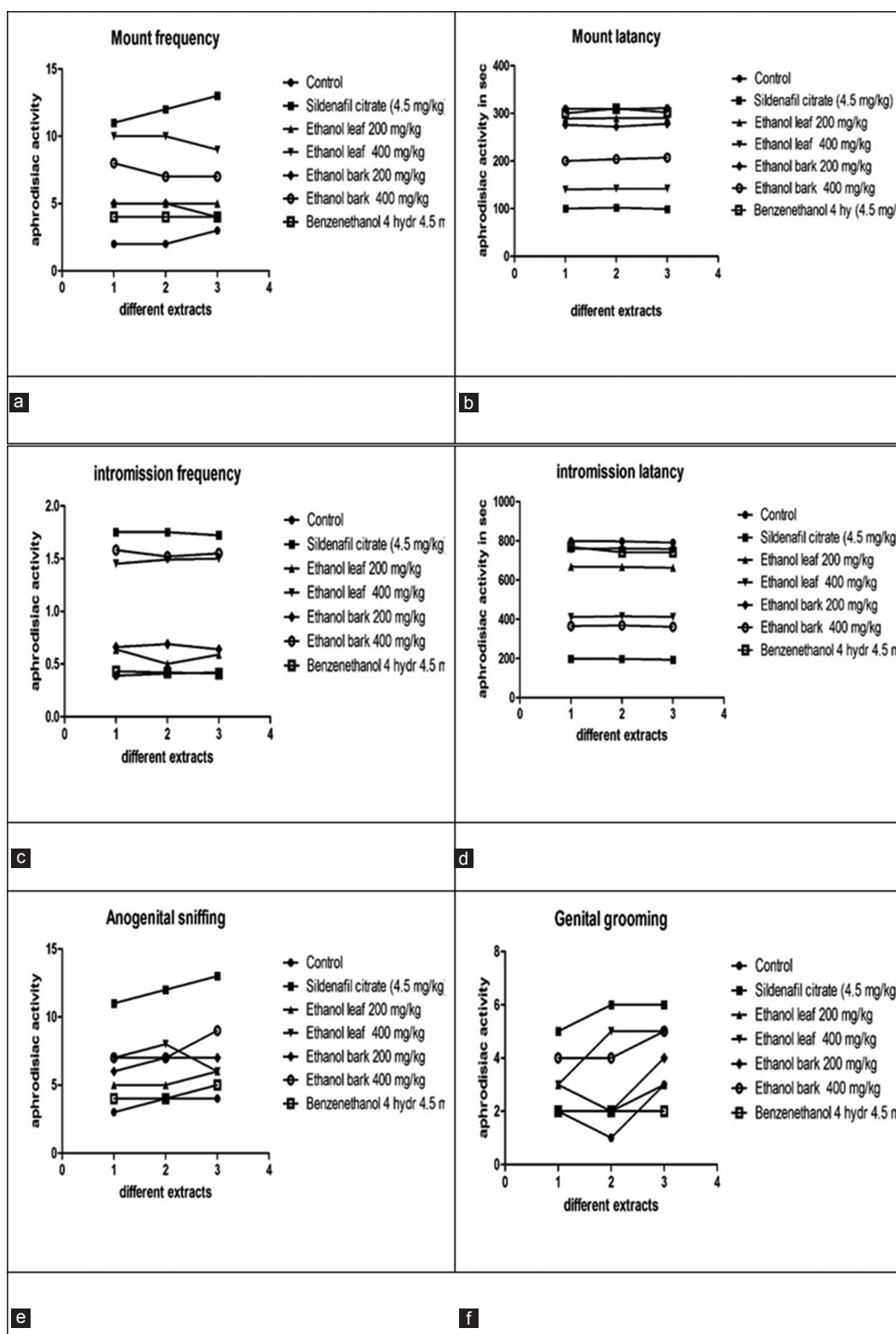


Fig. 10: (a-f) Aphrodisiac activity of *Olea dioica* Roxb. leaf and bark ethanolic extract using different parameters in different concentration with pure compound and standard

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