



JOURNAL OF BIODIVERSITY AND CONSERVATION

Ethnomedicinal uses of *Rauvolfia serpentina* (L.) Benth.

Somanath Routray¹, Milan Mahapatra¹, Sugimani Marndi² and Gyanranjan Mahalik^{1*}

¹Department of Botany, School of Applied Sciences, Centurion University of Technology
and Management, Odisha, India

²Ambika Prasad Research Foundation, Odisha, India

*Email-Id: gyanranjan.mahalik@cutm.ac.in

ARTICLE INFO

Article History

Received: 18 September 2019

Received in revised form: 23 October 2019

Accepted: 25 November 2019

Keywords: Active compound, Alkaloids, Medicinal,
Pharmaceutical, *Rauvolfia serpentina*

ABSTRACT

Rauvolfia serpentina (L.) Benth. is a medicinal plant which is used in various earliest preparations for therapeutic interventions. These are considered as respiratory material of biologically active compounds ample chemical variety. These are also used medicinal and agricultural industries. The chemical extract from the plant intensifies health condition of organisms. The root and leaves of the plant are rich in metabolites and proteins. Various alkaloids from *Rauvolfia serpentina* have been segregated and used in treatment of snake bite, hypertension and breast cancer. With modern cultivation technology this species is used commercially. In ancient times this species was used against snake bite, mental illness and high blood pressure and recently its cultivation is widely improved and the products like stem, leaves are widely used in pharmaceutical and agricultural industries.

Rauvolfia serpentina is one of important medicinal plant which has a great contribution towards health of society. The plant has some substances which have physiological actions on the body of an animal. The leaves, roots are useful for wellness of different diseases like diarrhea,

Epilepsy, Cancer, Snake Bite, insomnia, etc (Abhijit & De 2010). It has importance towards the stimulation of uterine shrinkage and develops the ejection of unborn child. It is commonly called 'Sarpagandha' and in many states, it is therefore used for snake bites (Sarkhel