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## A Review on: Role of Herbal Plant and their Mechanism in Management of Diabetes Mellitus

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Received Date: November 27, 2024; Published Date: 17 December, 2024

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### Abstract

*A serious worldwide health issue today is diabetes mellitus, a long-term metabolic condition characterized by high blood sugar. Insulin and oral hypoglycaemic medications are examples of conventional treatment methods; however, they are frequently linked to long-term problems and adverse consequences. Because of their effectiveness, low cost and lack of negative effects, herbal medicinal plants have drawn interest as alternate or additional medications for the management of diabetes in recent years. This review examines the possible therapeutic benefits, mechanisms of action and active ingredients of several herbal plants in the treatment of diabetes. Through improvements in insulin sensitivity, increased production of insulin and inhibiting glucose absorption, a few plants, including Momordica Charente's (bitter melon), Trigonella frenum-graecum (fenugreek), Cinnamomum verum (cinnamon) and Gymnema Sylvester, have demonstrated promising anti-diabetic properties. Many phytochemicals located in herbal medicinal plants, especially phenolic, alkaloids, terpenes and flavonoids, have been associated with antidiabetic effects by a variety of mechanisms. These include increased insulin secretion, decreased absorption of glucose and digestion of carbohydrates, increased Radial tissue glucose absorption and antioxidant reactions that reduce one of the main causes of diabetes is oxidative stress. In preclinical as well as clinical research, Trigonella frenum-graecum (fenugreek) and Momordica Charente's (bitter melon) are examples of plants Cinnamomum verum (cinnamon) and Gymnema Sylvester indicate great potential in promoting insulin sensitivity and lowering blood sugar levels. The pharmacological mechanisms, bioactive components and scientifically proven usefulness of herbal plants the use of therapeutic plants to treat diabetes are examined in this review, which summarises the most recent research in this area. In terms of managing glucose metabolism, improving insulin sensitivity and protecting pancreatic beta cells, medicinal herbs such as Coccinea indica, Salacia oblonga and Berberi's aristae (berberine) have shown efficacy.*

**Keywords** - Diabetes mellitus, Medicinal plants, Hyperglycaemia, Anti diabetic, Antioxidant.

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### INTRODUCTION

People with diabetes mellitus are afflicted with this frequent and highly prevalent disease in both industrialized and developing nations. This disease is estimated to impact 25% of the world's population. The improper metabolism of carbohydrates, that is connected to low insulin levels in the blood or insulin sensitivity in the target organ, is what causes diabetes mellitus <sup>[1]</sup> Even though oral hypoglycaemic medications have made significant progress in treating diabetes, there is still a need for additional medications due to the drawbacks of the synthetic ones now on the market.

Despite its admiration with their therapeutic qualities in conventional medical systems, commercially available modern drugs that have an antidiabetic effect have not yet been produced from traditional remedies [2].

Among the more common endocrine conditions worldwide, diabetes mellitus (DM) impacted 422 million individuals in 2014 [3]. Type 2 diabetes is related for each relative insulin a lack and increasing resistance to glucose in the peripheral tissues and liver [4]. Reduced synthesis of insulin is the cause of type 1 diabetes. While oral hypoglycaemic drugs have made major advancements in managing diabetes, there remains an opportunity for new drugs due to the limitations of the artificial drugs now on the market. While receiving acknowledgement of their beneficial effects in conventional medical systems, natural remedies that have an anti-diabetic effect are still being developed into current pharmaceuticals for commercial use [5]. Diabetes mellitus (DM) combined with poor glucose tolerance is a potentially fatal condition that can raise the risk of cardiovascular disease up to eight times. In the US, the condition is responsible for 60% of non-invasive amputations [6] and 30.3 million people were believed to have diabetes mellitus, of which 7.2 million were believed to be undiagnosed [7]. In the same Diabetes was directly linked to an estimated 1.6 million deaths each year and an additional 2.2 High blood sugar was linked to million deaths [8]. Furthermore, it was projected that, by the globally, there will be 642 million adult diabetes by the year 2040 [9]. Because higher blood glucose levels raise the possibility of cardiovascular along with other disorders, they have been linked to death. 43 percent of these fatalities happened before the patient turned 70 years old [10] increased oxidative stress brought on by hyperglycaemia results in inflammation and activation of the polyol pathway, as well as harm to the body's organs [11]. Diabetes needs diagnosis, medical treatment, Lifestyle, adjustment, even though as of right now, no effective causative remedy has been found [12]. There are many synthetic medications to treat the symptoms of diabetes mellitus, however none of them can conclusively reduce the cause of the illness [13]. Herbal therapy is utilized in traditional medicine to treat diabetes in developing nations when the general public is impacted by the cost of pharmaceutical medications [14]. Diabetes along with its associated issues remain a serious medical issue even after the development of synthetic and natural hypoglycaemic drugs. It has been displayed that many native Indian medicinal plants are capable of treating diabetes. The reality that plants for medicine are readily available and have minimal adverse effects is one of the many advantages they provide. Traditionally, Plants have been used to a prime source of medications, so several of the medications on the market now coming either through them directly or indirectly. Approximately 800 species are identified within the botanical information as possibly antidiabetic [15]. Many plants and substances produced from them are employed in the treatment of diabetes, therefore the plants offer a potential source of hypoglycaemic medications. Numerous Indian various types of diabetes have been investigated in relation to plants. These studies have been reported in several scholarly journals. Many plants that are utilized like herbal medications for the management of diabetes are mentioned in Ayurveda and other ancient medical systems. Because they are inexpensive and have fewer adverse effects, they are valuable as alternative medicine. It has been observed that the active ingredients in medicinal plants can release insulin, regenerate pancreatic beta cells, and treat insulin resistance. [16]

The genesis of the emergence of diabetic complications involves hyperglycaemia. Herbs that lower blood sugar levels stimulate insulin secretion, improve muscle or adipose tissue's absorption of glucose, and prevent the liver and intestines from producing glucose [17]. The mainstays of diabetes care remain insulin as well as oral hypoglycaemic drugs like biguanides and sulphonylureas, but efforts are being made to produce more potent anti-diabetic medications.

Herbal medications have grown increasingly useful as a form of hypoglycaemic drugs in recent years. Based on studies by Marles and Farnsworth, more than 1,000 plant species are used as conventional medicine in order to control diabetes [18]. The chemical composition of plant-based compounds used as diabetic supplementary therapies has an impact on their biological properties [19]. Plant or herbal items are abundant in components that lower blood glucose levels, such as coumarins, terpenoids, flavonoids, and phenolic compounds. [20] Several types' antidiabetic effects of herbal medicines have been documented in both scientific and popular literature [21]. Herbal medications are prescribed because of their affordability, perceived effectiveness, and decreased negative consequences in clinical practice price [22]. Diabetes mellitus has long been treated with medicinal and herbal plant items in many different countries. A review paper lists a few therapeutic herbs that have hypoglycaemic effects and describes how they work. These include *Combretum micranthum*, *Elephantopus scaber*, *Bauhinia forficata*, *Liriope spicata*, *Parinaric excelsa*, *Ricinus communis*, *Sarcopoterium spinosum*, *Smallanthus sonchifolius*, *Swertia punicea*, *Vernonia anthelmintic*, and *Gymnema Sylvestre* are some of these approximately 1000 plants reported to have potential to be antidiabetic [23]. The goal of this review is to collect all of the knowledge on plants that have hypoglycaemic activity which has been presented in Medline 'PubMed' between 1990 and 2000. [24]

## **Types of diabetes**

### **Type 1 diabetes**

Autoimmune diseases are thought to damage the B cells in the pancreatic islets that produce insulin. Mechanisms, which causes type 1 diabetes. Erroneously, healthy B cells are destroyed by active T cells. The autoimmune component accounts for about 95% of diabetes I cases. Pancreatic cell loss occurs at a very varied rate, with less than 5% of cases being idiopathic and, in some cases, occurring quickly while in others developing slowly. While HPV can happen to anyone at any age, children are more likely to get it, with the infection peaking in the pre-school years [25].

### **Type 2 diabetes**

In terms of clinical traits and aetiology, it has grown more challenging to differentiate between T1D and T2D diabetes. According to a theory, both types of diabetes rapid and slow share the inefficiency of beta cells and would ultimately result in insulin resistance. As diabetes II affects people in later life and this is a hereditary disorder that arises at a younger age that was formerly referred to as adult diabetes or non-insulin-dependent diabetes [26]. This particular form of diabetes affects 90–95% of people with the disease. The peptide hormone insulin regulates blood glucose levels by controlling the breakdown of proteins, fats and carbs in the target tissues. Insulin receptors are expressed on many somatic cells [27]. Insulin directly affects the liver, adipocytes and skeletal muscle in these tissues. A significant and specific function in metabolic homeostasis that depends on the presence of regulatory pathways. For instance, insulin boosts glucose transport and Synthesis of glycogen in skeletal muscle cells. Improving glucose use in these cells and facilitating the liver's ability to store excess glucose. Also, insulin promotes the production of glycogen in the liver and raises the expression of lipogenic genes [28]. Additionally, it affects preventing the breakdown of adipose tissue and promoting the production of lipids and glucose transport. Insulin affects the target tissues indirectly in addition to its direct effects. For instance, insulin lowers the amount of hepatic acetyl-coA by inhibiting the breakdown of the adipose tissue, hence reducing the activity of Pyruvate carboxylase. This process further inhibits the production of hepatic sugar through glycine synthesis and lipolysis. Additionally, obesity raises tissue resistance to insulin's effects, and poor hepatic insulin sensitivity, skeletal muscle and adipose tissue the three major

metabolic organs lower blood sugar levels. Insulin prevents the skeletal muscle cells from absorbing glucose. [29]

### Gestational Diabetes Mellitus (GDM)

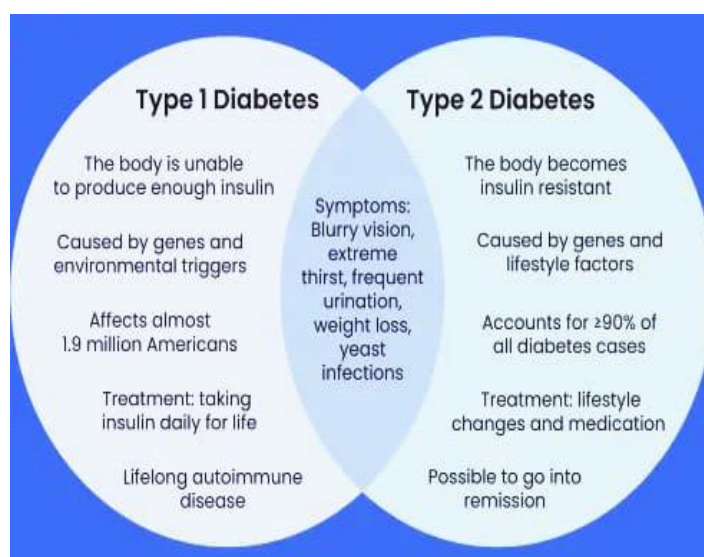
The term “gestational diabetes” refers to any kind of high insulin levels that develops before or during pregnancy. Two types of gestational diabetes mellitus (GDM) exist: A1GDM, also known as diet-controlled GDM, which is easily controlled without the use of medication and responds well to dietary therapy, and A2GDM. In order to attain proper management of the blood sugar level, drugs regulate the sugar directly. It's evident that a malfunction in the pancreatic beta cells or a delayed reaction of the beta cells to blood sugar levels are the causes of gestational diabetes. Human lactogenic resistance to insulin is the primary hormone linked to elevated insulin resistance in gestational diabetes, however other hormones linked to the development of Prolactin, progesterone, and growth hormone are factors in this condition that help to induce insulin resistance and elevated blood sugar levels in pregnant women.

### Additional Diabetes Types

Exogenous pancreatic diseases (such as pancreatitis and cystic fibrosis), monogenic diabetes syndromes (such as diabetes in young adults and neonates), and diabetes caused on by drugs or chemicals (such as glucocorticoids used in HIV treatment or after organ transplantation) are some of the causes of these types of diabetes.

### Syndrome Monogenic Diabetes

This comprises diabetes-onset in youth (MODY), persistent congenital diabetes (PNDM), neonatal transient diabetes mellitus (TNDM), and genetic disorders.<sup>[30]</sup> It also contains two forms of monogenic genetic abnormalities, namely monogenic B-cell function issues. While polycystic ovarian disease, irritability, and hyper-insulinemia are common symptoms of insulin resistance in the absence of obesity, monogenic defects in insulin function are less common than monogenic B-cell issues.<sup>[31]</sup> A set of clinical symptoms and hyperglycaemia are caused by mutations in the insulin receptors.<sup>[32]</sup>



**Figure 1:** Types of Diabetes

## Mechanism of Action of Anti-Diabetic Herbal Plants

### Insulin Secretion Stimulation

A few medicinal plants work against diabetes by raising insulin levels secreted by pancreatic "β-cells." Bioactive chemicals found in these plants increase the Insulin is released via regulating the

$\beta$ -cells. So increasing in lowering blood glucose levels. Say for example: There is evidence that the bitter melon, *Momordica Charentais*, contains polypeptide-p, vicine, and charantin, which can increase the release of insulin. It has been shown that *Gymnema Sylvester* stimulates insulin secretion and regenerates pancreatic " $\beta$ -cells." This action has been associated with gymnemic acids [33]

### **Improving Insulin Sensitivity**

After meals, several herbal plants slow down the conversion of carbohydrates into glucose, which helps to avoid sharp rises in blood sugar levels. This mechanism functions similarly to alpha-glycosidase inhibitors seen in medicine. *Salacia reticulata*: Slows down the breakdown of carbohydrates by inhibiting the alpha-glycosidase enzymes with its salacinol and kotalanol contents. The common bean, *Pharsalus vulgaris*, has alpha-amylase inhibitory action, which slows down the conversion of starch to glucose [34]

### **Preventing the Absorption and Digestion of Carbohydrates**

Insulin resistance is one of the primary features of type 2 diabetes, which happens when the body's cells do not respond to insulin as they need to. Some herbs improve insulin sensitivity, which enables cells to use glucose more effectively. Plants such as *Coptis chinensis* and *Berberi's aristae* contain berberine, which activates AMP-activated protein kinase (AMPK), an essential regulator of energy metabolism. Insulin sensitivity and tissue glucose absorption are enhanced as a result. The saponins and soluble fibre in fenugreek (*Trigonella foenum graecum*) enhance insulin sensitivity and glucose tolerance. [35]

### **Antioxidant Activity**

Breakdown of pancreatic  $\beta$ -cells and insulin resistance are caused by One of the main factors contributing to the development of diabetes is oxidative stress. Strong antioxidant characteristics found in many herbal plants aid in reducing oxidative stress and preventing cellular damage. *Curcuma longa* (Turmeric): The active ingredient, curcuma, is a potent antioxidant that enhances insulin sensitivity, lowers oxidative stress, and shields  $\beta$ -cells. Green tea, or *Camellia sinensis*, is rich in polyphenols, especially epigallocatechin gallate (EGCG), which includes the ability to enhance insulin sensitivity and reduce oxidative damage [36]

### **Inhibition of a final product of advanced glycation (AGEs) Formation**

A metabolism in glucose and insulin resistance are significantly influenced by the gastrointestinal flora. Certain medicinal herbs can enhance glucose regulation by altering the gut flora. Garlic, or *Allium sativum*, is a probiotic plant that has been demonstrated which promote glucose metabolism and lower insulin resistance by modifying microbiota and improving gut health. Beyond its ability to mimic insulin, cinnamon (*Cinnamomum verum*) balances the gut microbiota, which enhances glucose homeostasis.

### **Modulation of Gut Microbiota**

Long-term diabetes problems such neuropathy, retinopathy, and nephropathy are associated with the development of AGEs, or advanced glycation end products. Certain plant extracts can stop or lessen the production of AGEs. *Triphala* is a traditional Ayurvedic preparation including three fruits: *Terminalia bellirica*, *Terminalia chebula*, and *Emblica officinalis*. It has been shown to prevent the production of AGEs. Ginkgo biloba Flavonoids and terpenoids with anti-glycation properties are present in this herb, reducing the production of AGEs and subsequent tissue damage. [37]



**Herbal medicinal plants which used as anti-diabetic****Gymnema Sylvester (Gurmar)**

**Family:** Asclepiadaceae,

**Mechanism of action**

Gymnemic acids, which are found in *Gymnema Sylvester* leaves, have been demonstrated to inhibit the taste of sweetness and prevent the intestines from absorbing sugar. By increasing the release of insulin and promotes the regeneration of pancreatic beta cells. It also increases peripheral tissues' sensitivity to insulin.

**Scientific Evidence**

*Gymnema Sylvester* extract administration significantly lower blood glucose levels in those who have Type 2 diabetes, as per clinical research by Baskaran et al. (1990).<sup>[38]</sup>



*Figure 2: Gymnema Sylvester.*

**Momordica charantia (Bitter melon)**

**Family:** Cucurbitaceae

**Mechanism of action:**

Compounds with insulin-like characteristics found in bitter melon include vicine, charantin, and polypeptide-p. These substances enhance the cells' ability to absorb glucose, increase insulin secretion, and reduce the liver's production of glucose.

**Scientific Evidence**

Dan's et al. (2007) reported that individuals treated with bitter melon extract saw an important reduction in fasting blood glucose when compared to placebo in a randomised, controlled experiment<sup>[39]</sup>



*Figure 3: Momordica Charantia*

### **Trigonella Frenum-graecum (Fenugreek)**

**Family:** Fabaceae

#### **Mechanism of action**

Soluble fibre, which is present in fenugreek seeds, makes it more difficult for carbohydrates to be absorbed and digested. The seeds also contain the amino acid 4-hydroxyisoleucine, which promotes the release of insulin. It has been shown that fenugreek lowers blood sugar and improves insulin sensitivity after eating rises.

#### **Scientific Evidence**

Fenugreek seed administration, It has been demonstrated to decrease fasting blood sugar levels and raise glucose tolerance Among people who have Type 2 diabetes, per a 1990 study by Sharma and Raghuram <sup>[40]</sup>



*Figure 4: Trigonella Frenum-Gracecum*

### **Cinnamomum verum (Cinnamon)**

**Family:** Lauraceae

#### **Mechanism of action**

Bioactive substances found in cinnamon that improve insulin sensitivity include cinnamom aldehyde and cinnamomic acid. It functions by enhancing glucose absorption, decreasing insulin resistance, and imitating insulin. Cinnamon also reduces cholesterol and blood sugar levels during fasting.

#### **Scientific Evidence**

In individuals Have diabetes type 2 research by Khan et al., 2003 showed which after 40 days of dietary supplements, cinnamon dramatically lowered fasting blood glucose levels <sup>[41]</sup>



*Figure 5: Cinnamomum Verum*

**Aloe Vera (Aloe barbadensis)****Family:** Liliaceae**Mechanism of action**

The phytosterols and polysaccharides included in aloe vera is demonstrated to increase the secretion and sensitivity of insulin, hence lowering blood glucose levels. Moreover, it contains antioxidant and anti-inflammatory qualities to protect against problems from diabetes. Also it assist in relieving dry skin.

**Scientific Evidence**

After consuming aloe vera juice, diabetic patients' fasting blood glucose levels and the haemoglobin A significantly decreased, according to a clinical investigation by Yongchaiyudha et al. (1996).<sup>[42]</sup>



*Figure 6: Aloe Vera.*

**Tulsi (Holly basil)****Family:** Lamiaceae**Mechanism of action**

Because of their capacity to increase insulin production and decrease oxidative stress, holy basil leaves which demonstrated to decrease in blood sugar. In a gut, the leaves also prevent glucose absorption.

**Scientific Evidence**

Holy basil extracts significantly decreased blood glucose levels during both fasting periods in individuals with Type 2 diabetes and after periods, according to a study by Agrawal et al. (1996).<sup>[43]</sup>



*Figure 7: Ocimum Sanctum*



### **Syzygium cumini (Jamun)**

**Family:** Myrtaceae

#### **Mechanism of action**

Ellagic acid and jamboline, found in *Syzygium cumini* seeds, work in order to lower blood sugar levels by improving the insulin sensitivity and preventing the absorption of glucose. Additionally, they have antioxidant qualities that guard against oxidative damage to pancreatic beta cells.

#### **Scientific Evidence**

Ayyanar and Subash-Babu's (2012) study, which presented an important drop in diabetic rats' blood glucose levels, supported the anti-diabetic properties of jamun seeds. [44]



*Figure 8: Syzygium Cumini*

### **Allium sativum (Garlic)**

**Family:** Amaryllidaceae

#### **Mechanism of action**

There is evidence that garlic reduces blood glucose and enhances insulin sensitivity. Garlic contains sulphur-containing chemicals called allicin, which increase insulin secretion and lower oxidative stress.

#### **Scientific Evidence**

In a study published in 2006, Eidi et al. found that garlic substance effectively lowered the diabetic rats' blood glucose levels. [45]



*Figure 9: Allium Sativum*

**Curcuma longa (Turmeric)****Family:** Zingiberaceae**Mechanism of action**

Curcumin, the main ingredient in turmeric, has been demonstrated to reduce blood sugar by improving insulin sensitivity and lowering inflammatory responses. Additionally, pancreatic beta cells are shielded from oxidative damage by curcumin.

**Scientific Evidence**

Curcumin helped diabetic rats better regulate their blood sugar and lessened oxidative stress, according to a 2005 study by Nishiyama et al.<sup>[46]</sup>



*Figure 10: Curcuma Longa*

**Berberis aristata (Indian barberry)****Family:** Berberidaceae**Mechanism of action**

The main ingredient, has been established to reduce blood sugar levels by activating AMP-activated protein kinase (AMPK), which causes the liver to produce less glucose and enhance glucose absorption. It increases the sensitivity to insulin as well.

**Scientific Evidence**

Zhang et al. (2010) shown through a meta-analysis that berberine was just as successful as metformin in reducing the blood sugar levels of individuals with Type 2 diabetes.<sup>[47]</sup>



*Figure 11: Berberis Aristata*

**Panax ginseng (Ginseng)**

**Family:** Araliaceae

**Mechanism of action**

Ginseng includes ginsenosides, which have been found to decrease hepatic glucose production, raise insulin secretion, and enhance insulin sensitivity. Furthermore, it has antioxidant and anti-inflammatory qualities to protect against issues from diabetes.

**Scientific Evidence**

Vuksan et al. (2000) found that Levels of blood glucose after meals in individuals with Type 2 diabetes were significantly reduced using North American ginseng. [48]



*Figure 12: Panax Ginseng*

**Pterocarpus marsupium (Indian Kino)**

**Family:** Leguminosae - Papilionoidea

**Mechanism of action**

Pterostilbene, which has been shown to promote pancreatic beta cell repair and insulin secretion is found in the heartwood of Pterocarpus marsupium. In addition, it stops the intestines from absorbing glucose.

**Scientific Evidence**

According to Grover et al. (2002), Pterocarpus marsupium extracts substantially lowered the diabetic rats' fasting blood glucose levels. [49]



*Figure 13: Pterocarpus Mar5supium*



**Salacia reticulate****Family:** Celastraceae**Mechanism of action**

Salacia reticulate involves chemicals called salacinol and kotalanol, which inhibit the enzyme alpha-glycosidase. This inhibits the breakdown and absorption of carbs, hence preventing blood sugar rises that occur after a meal.

**Scientific Evidence**

Salacia reticulate extract was discovered by Yoshikawa et al. (2002) to significantly decrease postprandial hyperglycaemia in humans and animal models <sup>[50]</sup>



*Figure 14: Salacia Reticulate*

**King of bitters (Andrographis paniculata)****Family:** Acanthaceae**Mechanism of action**

It has been shown that the active ingredient, the substance, reduces blood sugar levels via improving insulin sensitivity, lowering oxidative stress, and modifying inflammatory pathways.

**Scientific Evidence**

A study by Zhang et al. (2019) shown that the insect Andrographis paniculata lowered fasting improved glucose tolerance and blood glucose levels in diabetic mice <sup>[51]</sup>



*Figure 15: Andrographis Panaculata.*



### **Ficus Bengalese's (Banyan tree)**

**Family:** Moraceae

#### **Mechanism of action**

It has been discovered that the aerial roots of Ficus Bengalese's have anti-diabetic effects by increasing glucose absorption and insulin sensitivity. In addition, it has antioxidant properties that reduce the oxidative stress caused on by diabetes.

#### **Scientific Evidence:**

The fibre Bengalese's aqueous extract substantially reduced the blood sugar levels of diabetic rats, as reported by a study by Augusti et al. (1994).<sup>[52]</sup>



*Figure 16: Ficus Bengalese*

### **Coccinea indica (Ivy gourd)**

**Family:** Cucurbitaceae

#### **Mechanism of action:**

Diabetes has long been managed by using coccinea indica. The active ingredients, which include beta-sitosterol and flavonoids, decrease the liver's production of glucose and raise insulin sensitivity

#### **Scientific Evidence:**

In diabetic rats, Coccinea indica extract significantly reduced blood glucose levels during fasting and enhanced ability to tolerate glucose, based on a 2009 study by Kirana et al <sup>[53]</sup>



*Figure 17: Coccinea Indica*

**Moringa oleifera (Drumstick tree)****Family:** Moringaceae**Mechanism of action**

By enhancing insulin sensitivity, lowering oxidative stress, and blocking glucose absorption, the compounds quercetin and chlorogenic acid found in moringa oleifera leaves help lower blood glucose levels.

**Scientific Evidence**

Rats with diabetes had significantly less blood glucose levels when given doses of Moringa oleifera leaf powder, according to a 2012 study by Mbikay. [54]



*Figure 18: Moringa Oleifera*

**Silybum marianum (Milk thistle)****Family:** Daisy**Mechanism of action**

The main ingredient in milk thistle, silymarin, been demonstrated to decrease hepatic glucose synthesis or increase insulin sensitivity. In addition, its strong antioxidant qualities protect against oxidative damage to the pancreas and liver

**Scientific Evidence**

Silymarin significantly improved the control of glucose in people who have Type 2 diabetes, as per research by Huseini et al. (2006) [55]



*Figure 19: Silybum Marianum*

**Nigella sativa (Black seed)**

**Family:** Ranunculaceae

**Mechanism of action**

Thymoquinone, which is found in *Nigella sativa*, has been established to reduce inflammation, increase insulin sensitivity, and shield pancreatic beta cells from oxidative stress.

**Scientific Evidence**

*Nigella sativa* oil administration resulted in significant reductions in the haemoglobin A and blood glucose levels during fasting in individuals with Type 2 diabetes, according to a study carried out by Bamosa et al. (2010).<sup>[56]</sup>



*Figure 20: Nigella Sativa*

**Psidium guajava (Guava)**

**Family:** Myrtaceae

**Mechanism of action**

Quercetin and flavonoids found in guava leaves inhibit alpha-glycosidase and decrease the absorption of carbohydrates, decreasing postoperative blood sugar levels. It also possesses antioxidant and anti-inflammatory properties.

**Scientific Evidence**

In diabetic rats, guava leaf extract significantly decreased blood glucose levels, according to a 2005 study by Ojewole.<sup>[57]</sup>



*Figure 21: Guava*

**Neem****Family:** Meliaceae**Biological Source:** Azadirachta indica, a plant in the Meliaceae family, is the substance's natural source.**Use:** mainly used to control diabetes, [58]

*Figure 22: Neem*

**Dietary Guidelines for Management of Diabetes According to Ayurveda**

Numerous herbal medicines have had encouraging results in preclinical and clinical investigations, including bitter melon or *Momordica charantia*, *Gymnema Sylvester*, and Fenugreek, or *Trigonella foenum-graecum*. Though many people are aware of the traditional uses of these herbs, more standardised, large-scale clinical research are still required to verify their safety, determine the best dosages, and verify their efficacy. Furthermore, it is important to thoroughly investigate how herbal remedies might be combined with traditional medical therapy, with a focus on individualised diabetic care strategies. The knowledge of every person is genuinely unique and has a unique constitution known as Prakriti is at the basis of Ayurvedic nutrition. When it comes to diabetes management, Ayurveda creates a specific diet plan that not only cures symptoms but also intends to bring the balance of the body and harmony back. The developing possibility of individualised nutrition is highlighted as this article investigated the specifics of Ayurvedic dietary advice for diabetes.

**Vata Prakriti**

Airy and ethereal characteristics define people with a Vata constitution. They have an ability for abnormalities yet are often imaginative, approachable, and flexible.

**Pitta Prakriti**

People who are Pitta dominant represent the elements of fire and water. They frequently have determination, bright minds, and an affinity for overheating.

**Kapha Prakriti**

The elements of earth and water have an impact on kapha people. With an ability towards heaviness, they are usually solid, steady, and soothing. In. [59]

**Future Prospects of Herbal Plants**

Both established and emerging countries will see continued rapid growth in the market for herbal medicines and other herbal healthcare products. Growing understanding of holistic health, which considers a person's mental, emotional, and spiritual well-being in addition to their physical health. Finally, due of the abundance of information available online, people may now find and learn about herbal medications more readily. Several investigations are presently underway to ascertain the potential benefits of herbal medicine in the treatment of various illnesses. Certain herbs, for



example, have been demonstrated in some studies to improve immune function, lower blood pressure, and reduce inflammation. Moreover, more and more studies suggest that some herbal remedies could be helpful in treating mental health conditions. Also, controlling serious illnesses like diabetes and cardiovascular disease is beneficial. All things considered, as more people look for natural remedies for their medical problems, herbal medicine seems to have a bright future. However, it's important to keep in mind that taking herbal remedies should be done very carefully because they might not be appropriate for everyone and could conflict with prescription medications. Before taking any herbal medication, it is best to consult a qualified healthcare provider. [60]

## **CONCLUSION**

In addition to synthetic drugs, the use of therapeutic herbs to treat diabetes provides a natural treatment. Significant antioxidant properties have been established by the plants discussed in this article, mostly through mechanisms that increase insulin production, improve insulin sensitivity, and decrease glucose absorption. For these plants to be widely used, more extensive for their safety and effectiveness to be completely proven, clinical trials are required. Numerous herbal medicines have had encouraging results in preclinical and clinical investigations, including *Momordica charantia*, *Gymnema Sylvester*, and *Fenugreek*, or *Trigonella foenum-graecum*. Though many people are aware of the traditional uses of these herbs, more standardised, large-scale clinical research are still required to verify their safety, determine the best dosages, and verify their efficacy. Furthermore, it is important to thoroughly investigate how herbal remedies might be combined with traditional medical therapy, with a focus on individualised diabetic care strategies.

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