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Pharmacognostical and Preliminary Phytochemical Evaluation of *Aegiceras corniculatum (L)*

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Abstract : The whole plant material of *Aegiceras corniculatum (L)* was collected and powedered. The powdered material was subjected to successive soxhlet extraction with petroleum ether (40-60^{o}), chloroform, ethanol and finally macerated with water so as to get respective extracts. Physicochemical parameters such as total ash value, acid insoluble ash value, water soluble ash value and sulphated ash value were determined which were 14.38, 8.12, 10.34 and 6.09% respectively. Moisture content, foreign organic matter, crude fibre content, alcohol soluble extractive and water soluble extractive were also determined. The percentage yield of petroleum ether, chloroform, ethyl acetate, ethanol and water were 5.7, 10.0, 5.5, 4.5 and 10.5% respectively. Preliminary phytochemical analysis of different extracts was carried out. The results were positive for glycoside, carbohydrate, sterols, flavonoids and phenolic compounds in petroleum ether extract. Chloroform extract showed positive test for tannins only, ethyl acetate extract showed positive test for sterols and saponins, ethanolic extract exhibited positive test for alkaloids, flavonoids, glycosides, tannins, amino acids and saponins whereas aqueous extract was found to be positive for flavonoids, alkaloids, carbohydrates, glycosides, amino acids and saponins. These secondary metabolites are the active constituents of *Aegiceras corniculatum (L)*. and may be responsible for its pharmacological activities.

Key words : *Aegiceras corniculatum (L)*, Pharmacognostic evaluation, Phytochemical analysis and Secondary metabolites.

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