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Ficus benjamina





Synonym

- Gujarati: જાવા ફિગ ટ્રી, જાવા ફિગ ટ્રી (Java Fig)
- Hindi: फ़िकस वृक्ष (Ficus Vriksh), बेंजामिन वृक्ष (Benjamin Vriksh), पुकर (pukar)
- English: Weeping fig, Benjamin fig, Java fig, Chinese banyan, golden fig

Botanical name

- Ficus benjamina

Family

- Moraceae

Chemical Constituents

- Contains phenolic acids (chlorogenic, p-coumaric, ferulic, syringic, and caffeic acids), flavonoids (kaempferol, quercetin, naringenin, kaempferol glycosides), alkaloids, terpenes, steroids (stigmasterol), glycosides, and ceramides (benjaminamide).
- Essential oils from stems and roots include compounds like 2-pentanone, hexadecanoic acid, palmitic acid, and 9,12-octadecadienoic acid.

Therapeutic Uses

- Exhibits antioxidant, antimicrobial, antiviral, and anti-inflammatory activities.
- Traditional use covers treatment for skin disorders, inflammation, piles, vomiting, leprosy, malaria, diarrhea, bronchitis, and respiratory ailments.
- Demonstrates anticancer, antiplasmodial, hepatoprotective, antiulcer, and antihelminthic properties.

- Extracts have shown inhibition of drug-resistant bacteria and biofilm-producing microorganisms.
- Promotes wound healing and reduces secretion of pro-inflammatory cytokines IL-6 and IL-8, suggesting strong anti-inflammatory effects.

Marketed Preparations

- Used in herbal formulations, topical ointments, and traditional remedies.
- Emerging as a candidate for cancer therapy research due to selective toxicity properties.
- Also found in natural product supplements for antimicrobial and anti-inflammatory applications.