# A Short Review on the Bioactive Constituents from Six *Terminalia* Species

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#### Abstract

*Terminalia* as a genus has received a great attraction to evaluate and examine the pharmacological potential having their medicinal properties. Different species under *Terminalia* genus have been used as herbal medicine with various formulations in the treatment of abdominal pain, cancer, cough, conjunctivitis, diarrea, heart problem, leproscopy, urinary tract infection, and sexual related diseases. These properties have been reported to express abundant biological characteristics for example antioxidant, antiparasitic, antibacterial, antifungal, antiviral, and anti-inflammatory. This review has constructed to solicitude the phytochemicals from the genus *Terminalia*. A total six species belongs to this genus such as *Terminalia chebula*, *T. citrina*, *T. phanerophlebia*, *T. belerica*, *T. catappa*, and *T. arjuna* have been studied and fifty-six phytochemicals with their chemical structures have been reported in this review. *Terminalia chebula* consists of a higher number of phytochemicals as compared to the other species.

Key words: Terminalia, Phytochemicals, Tannins, Glucosides, Pyranosides, Triterpenoids, Phenolic compounds.

#### Introduction

Nature is a significant resource for medicinal plants. The medicinal plants along with elucidated chemical compounds having pharmacological activities are using as traditional medicinal agents in the prevention and management of different diseases for many years (Hussain 2020, 2019a, 2019b, 2018). These medicinal plants having varied curative properties like anti-microbial, anticancer, antiinflammatory, anti-plasmodial, and anti-oxidant potentials (Hussain et al., 2016, 2011, 2010; Billah et al., 2013; Ismail et al., 2010). Terminalia is a second prevalent genus under the family of Combretaceae having 200 species and is distributed in tropical countries especially in Southeast Asia (Fahmy et al., 2015). T. chebula is a medium tree, which can go up to 30.0 m in height, with a trunk having diameter up to 1.0 m. This plant also has traditional use as

medicine to treat liver and kidney dysfunction. Dried fruit is also used in Ayurveda as cardiotonic, antitussive, diuretic, homeostatic, laxative, and diuretic (Tawaril *et al.*, 2017).

#### **Reported bio-active constituents**

A total six medicinal plants from *Terminalia* genus for example *Terminalia chebula*, *T. citrina*, *T. phanerophlebia*, *T. belerica*, *T. catappa*, and *T. arjuna*, were reviewed and fifty six (**1-56**; Figures 1-6) phytoconstituents have been reported along with their chemical structures in this article.

*Tannins:* Several tannins having hepatitis C inhibitory potentials were isolated from *Terminalia chebula*, which are chebumeinin A (1) and B (2), chebulic acid (3), casuarinin (4), pentagalloyl glucose (5), 5-O-galloylshikimic acid (6), ethyl

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gallate (7), gallic acid (8), corilagin (9), chebulagic acid (10), ellagic acid (11), tetra-o-galloyl- $\beta$ -D-glucose (12), chebulinic acid (13), and penta-O-

galloyl-β-D-glucose (**14**) (Figure 1) (Ajala *et al.*, 2014; Mahajan *et al.*, 2010; Saleem *et al.*, 2002; Lee *et al.*, 2007; Han *et al.*, 2006).

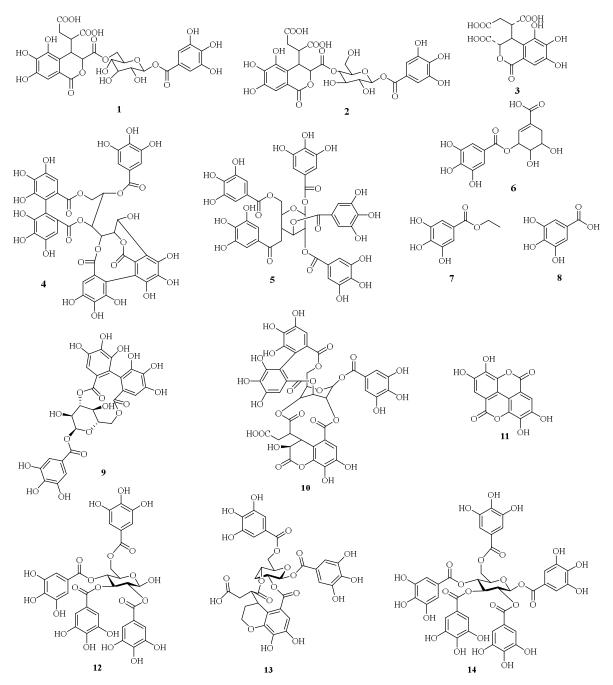


Figure 1. Tannins from Terminalia chebula

*Glucosides:* Six glucosides and one glucosidic ester bearing antiestrogenic and antimicrobial property were elucidated from *Terminalia citrine* and *Terminalia phanerophlebia*; for example, *Fterminaloside-L* (**15**), terminaloside-M (**16**), terminaloside-N (**17**), terminaloside-O (**18**), terminaloside-P (19), methyl-3,4,5trihydroxybenzoate (20), and 1,6-di-o-coumaroyl glucopyranoside (21). Among all the isolated glucosidic compounds from *Terminalia* genus, compound **21** was reported to be a lead molecule for the discovery of medicinal agents targeting tuberculosis (Figure 2) (Muhit *et al.*, 2016; Madikizela *et al.*, 2014).

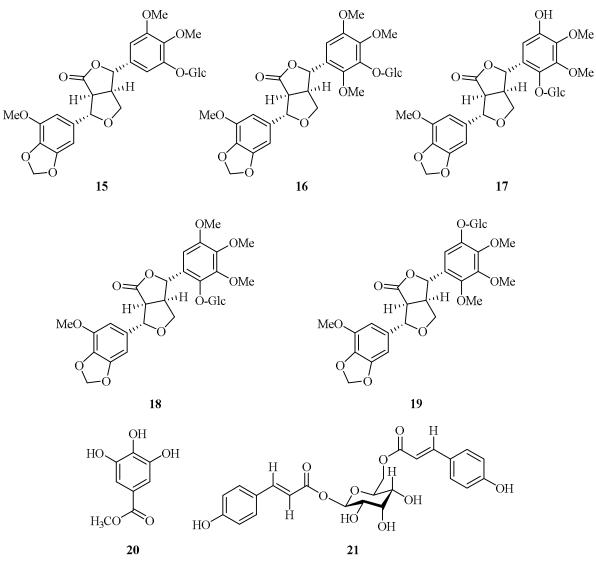


Figure 2. Glucosides from Terminalia citrina (15-19) and Terminalia phanerophlebia (20, 21)

*Pyranoside:* Antiplatelet and antioxidant potency containing one pyranoside, benzoyl- $\beta$ -D- $(4' \rightarrow 10''$ geranilanoxy)-pyranoside (22), has been reported from *Terminalia belerica* (Figure 3) (Ansari *et al.*, 2016).

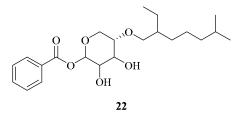


Figure 3. Pyranoside from Terminalia belerica

Triterpenoids: The reported triterpenoids from the medicinal plant, Terminalia chebula are 28-O-β-D-glycopyranosyl ester (23),23-O-4'-epineochebuloylarjungenin (24), arjungenin (25), arjunic 23-O-galloylarjunic acid (26), acid (27),arjunglucoside I (28), arjunglucoside Π (29), quercotriter-penoside I (30), terminolic acid (31), 28O- $\beta$ -D-glucopyranosyl-23-O-galloylterminoliate (**32**), arjunolic acid (**33**), 23-O-galloylarjunolic acid (**34**), 28-O- $\beta$ -D-glucopyranosyl-23-O-galloylarjunolate (**35**), arjunetin (**36**), crataegioside (**37**), 28-O- $\beta$ -D-glucopyranosyl-pinfaenoate (**38**), and 28-O- $\beta$ -D-glucopyranosyl-23-O-galloylpinfaenoate (**39**) (Figure 4) (Lee *et al.*, 2017).

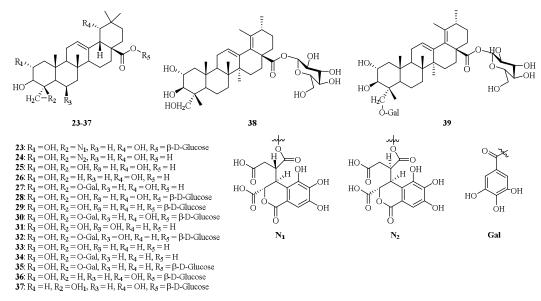


Figure 4. Triterpenoids from Terminalia chebula

Acidic compounds: Five acidic and two other compounds (i.e., carbonyl and o-glucosidic compounds) such as 2-pentadecanone (40), vanillic acid (or, 4-hydroxy-3-methoxybenzoic acid) (41), syringic acid (or, 4-hydroxy-3,5-dimethoxybenzoic acid) (42), ferulic acid (or, (E)-3-(4-hydroxy-3methoxyphenyl)acrylic acid) (43), p-coumaric acid (or, (E)-3-(4-hydroxyphenyl)acrylic acid) (44), 3,4,4'tri-O-methyl-ellagic acid (45), and  $\beta$ -sitosterol-3-O- $\beta$ -D-glucoside (46) were elucidated from *Terminalia* catappa (Figure 5) (Baratelli et al., 2012; Hussain et al., 2016, 2008).

#### Miscellaneous compounds

The isolated phytochemicals from *Terminalia* arjuna are triterpenoids, ursane tri-terpene-glucosyl ester, ursane tri-terpene-glycosyl esters and phenolic compounds. Reported compounds under these classes are arjunic acid (**47**), arjunetin (**48**), arjungenin (**49**),

28-O-β-D-glucopyranosyl-2α,3β-dihydroxyurs-12,18-dien-28-oate (**50**), 28-O-β-D-glucopyranosyl-2α,3β,23-trihydroxyurs-12,18-dien-28-oate (**51**), quadranoside viii (**52**), kajiichigoside f1 (**53**), 28-Oβ-D-glucopyranosyl-2α,3β,23-trihydroxyurs-12,19dien-28-oate (**54**), 3-O-methylellagic acid 4'-O-α-lrhamnopyranoside (**55**), and (-)-epicatechin (or, (2R,3R)-2-(3,4-dihydroxyphenyl)chromane-3,5,7triol) (**56**) (Figure 6) (Varghesea *et al.*, 2015; Wang *et al.*, 2010; Toumy *et al.*, 2003).

#### Concluding remarks and future perspective

Extracts from the different plants under the genus *Terminalia* is a good source of phytochemical compounds. A number of reports have revealed ethnopharmacological potential from the different medicinal plants (Das *et al.*, 2020). Here, a short survey has been performed based on the literature on the genus *Terminalia* which revealed different

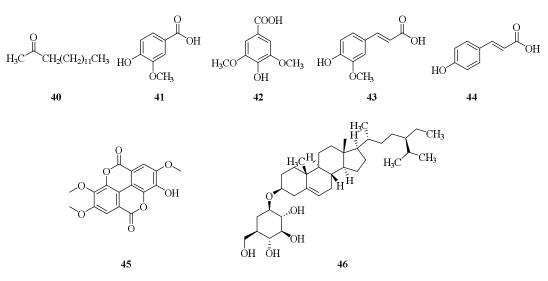


Figure 5. Acidic compounds from Terminalia catappa

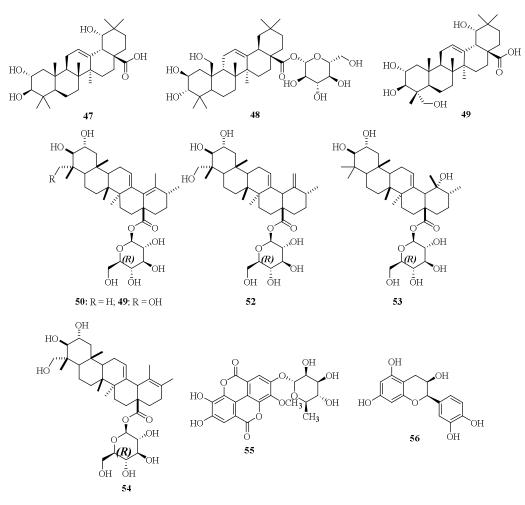


Figure 6. Compounds from Terminalia arjuna

phytochemicals such as tannis, glucosides, pyranosides, triterpenoids, and acidic compounds (Fahmy et al., 2015). Six medicinal plants (Terminalia chebula, T. citrina, T. phanerophlebia, T. belerica, T. catappa, and T. arjuna) under the genus Terminalia have been studied and fifty six compounds were reported having varied and distinctive chemical structure various bioactivity and pharmacological properties. The current review presents a short perceptive of the chemistry of various Terminalia species, that can be helpful in the progress and finding of the novel medicinal moieties for the diagnosis and treatment of different health related problems and diseases.

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