

## Detection of minor flavonoids from *Tragia plukenetii* A. R. Smith

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### Abstract

The minor flavonoids from *Tragia plukenetii* A. R. Smith were extracted by using different solvent and they were identified and detected by Paper Chromatography (PC) and spectroscopic method. The minor flavonoids classes like chalcones, auronones and flavanones were detected from *T. plukenetii* A. R. Smith.

**Keywords:** Minor flavonoids, *T. plukenetii* A. R. Smith, PC, spectroscopy.

### INTRODUCTION

Flavonoids are natural pigments and biological active compounds containing phenolic –OH groups. The minor flavonoids are conveniently described as the related derivatives of the major flavonoids. They are limited natural distribution in plants. These flavonoids classes of plants are chalcones, auronones, flavonones, isoflavones, biflavonyls and leucoanthocyanidins. Chalcones and dihydroflavonols are precursor compounds in the biosynthesis of the major flavonoids in plants. Chalcones and auronones are together termed as anthochlor pigments. Chemically, the minor flavonoids are closely related to each other and to the major flavonoids. Sulphuretin (class auronones) was extremely a potent inducer of nodulation gene in plant [1]. Butein (Chalcone) shows the most potent antiproliferative agent [2], cytotoxic effect on human colon adenocarcinoma cell [3], inhibitory activity against HIV-1 protease [4] and also show inhibits proliferation in breast cancer cells [5]. Naringin (Flavanone) exerts a variety of pharmacological effects such as anticancer activity [6], blood lipid lowering and antioxidant properties [7 and 8]. Flavonoids show antiviral activities [9]. *Tragia plukenetii* A. R. Smith (Family-Euphorbiaceae) is hirsute, scandent under shrub, much branched, hispid with stinging hairs, leaves palmately 3-partite, pinnatifid, petioles and leaf mainly hispid with stinging hairs and found in hedges around fields, along roadsides. Taxonomically, this plant is well studied but the minor flavonoids chemistry is ignored. Hence, the present study was undertaken to detection and identification of the minor flavonoids in the same plant.

### MATERIALS AND METHODS

*Tragia plukenetii* was collected from Dabhad, Dist Nanded (M.S.) India and it was identified on the basis of the morphological characters up to the species level.

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### Preparation of plant extract for minor flavonoids

The plant material i.e. stem and leaves were dried at 50°C in oven. The dried material was treated with light petroleum ether for 12 hrs. at room temperature and it was filtered through whatman filter paper. The filtrate was concentrated in Rotary vacuum evaporator (R.V.E.) at 40°C to obtain residue. Chlorophyll and waxy matter free residue was treated with 80% Ethanol for 24 hrs. at room temperature. Again, it was filtered through whatman filter paper. The filtrate was treated with ethyl acetate and concentrated in R.V.E. and it was used for Paper Chromatography to identification of minor flavonoids. Two chromatograms were prepared and spotted ethyl acetate solution on the proper site of each chromatogram. Spotted chromatograms were dried by Hair dryer. These dried chromatograms were developed in BAW (n-Butanol-Acetic acid-Water; 4:1:5) and PhOH (Phenol-Water; 3:1) solvent system, respectively. These papers were dried and identified the colors under UV light with fuming of ammonia. The colors were identified and calculated  $R_f$  values of minor flavonoids.

Table 1 Detection of minor flavonoids from *Tragia plukenetii* A. R. Smith on the basis of the colors and  $R_f$  values

Sr.No.	Color in UV+NH <sub>3</sub>	$R_f$ value (x100) in		Pigments	Class
		BAW	PhOH		
1.	Bright yellow	---	70	Sulphuretin	Auronones
2.	Brown	78	---	Butein	Chalcones
3.	Yellow-green	59	---	Naringin	Flavanones

### Spectral analysis

The proper bands of each chromatogram of minor flavonoids was taken and eluted in 95% Ethanol, separately. The elution was continued till the paper become colorless. Each mixture was filtered through whatman filter paper, separately. Each filtrate was used for spectrophotometric identification. The absorption spectra of each solution of minor flavonoids were measured by scanning the sample in the region between 300-400 nm.

Table 2. Detection of minor flavonoids from *Tragia plukenetii* A. R. Smith on the basis of the absorption maxima

Sr. No.	Spectral max. in EtOH (nm)	Pigments	Class
1.	399	Sulphuretin	Aurones
2.	382	Butein	Chalcones
3.	330	Naringin	Flavanones

## Results and Discussion

The minor flavonoids like aurones, chalcones and flavanones from *Tragia plukenetii* A. R. Smith were identified and detected by Paper Chromatography and spectroscopic method. Aurones like sulphuretin was appeared as bright yellow in color in presence of ammonia fuming under UV light.  $R_f$  value of this aurone was measured as 70 in PhOH solvent system (Table 1). The other minor flavonoids like butein (chalcones) and naringin (flavanones) were appeared as brown and yellow-green in colors, respectively in presence of ammonia fuming under UV light.  $R_f$  values of these flavonoids were measured as 78 and 59, respectively in BAW solvent system (Table 1). Butein and naringin were not observed in PhOH solvent and sulphuretin was not recorded in BAW solvent system (Table 1). The spectral values of minor flavonoids were recorded as 399 (Sulphuretin), 382 (Butein) and 330 nm (Naringin) in 95% Ethanol (Table 2).

*Tragia plukenetii* is neglected because of its stinging hairs characters but it contains minor flavonoids like sulphuretin, butein and naringin. These flavonoids widely used in medicine because they show antiviral activities and antioxidant properties and also an important a potent inducer of nodulation gene in plants. So this stinging hairs plant is also source of the minor flavonoids.

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