Polyherbal Soap: A Review on Their Efficacy in Pigmentation Treatment

Yashraj Sahu[1], Tilotma Sahu[2], Yamini Verma[1], Dipesh Kumar[1]
[1]*Rungta Institute of Pharmaceutical Sciences and Research, Bhilai, Chhattisgarh, India.*
[2]*Rungta Institute of Pharmaceutical Sciences, Bhilai, Chhattisgarh, India.*
Corresponding Author: tilu06sahu@gmail.com

Abstract— Overproduction of melanin, or hyperpigmentation, is a frequent dermatological problem that affects people with a variety of skin types. The creation and assessment of an anti-hyperpigmentation soap enhanced with tamarind extract—which is renowned for having possible skin-brightening effects—are the main subjects of this study. The cold process method was used to create the soap, which included skin-beneficial components such as essential oils and tamarind seed extract. The effectiveness of the formulation was evaluated using a range of laboratory techniques, such as stability studies, pH measurement, and sensory assessments. According to preliminary research, the tamarind-infused soap shows promise in treating hyperpigmentation issues. The soap recipe showed consistent physical properties and a skin-friendly pH range.

***Index Terms*—Hyperpigmentation, tamarind, skin, soap.**

1. Introduction

From a photobiological standpoint, there are two types of melanin pigmentation in human skin: the first kind is intrinsic or constitutive skin colour, and the other type is facultative or inducible skin colour.[1]

In the absence of external factors such as hormones, sunlight, or other environmental influences, constitutive skin colour refers to the genetically set amounts of cutaneous melanin pigmentation in line with the genetic instructions of the cells. Facultative skin colour results from the complicated interaction between hormones and sun radiation on an individual's genetically determined melanogenesis, which is defined as an increase in melanin pigmentation over the constitutive level. frequently referred to as "suntan" refers to the facultative skin colour change caused by solar radiation.[1]

Fig.1. Human skin

2. Genetics Of Skin

New understanding of the molecular processes underpinning pigmentation control has been made possible by the incidence of genetic diseases in people that impact skin pigmentation. Numerous important genes involved in the regulation of skin pigmentation were identified because of the identification of mutations impacting certain genes in the context of Geno dermatoses with pigmentary diseases.[2]

Visible characteristics such as hair and skin tone can differ significantly both within and between ethnic groups. New insights into the regulation of pigmentation have been made possible by the genetic makeup of these features, which includes polymorphisms in the signaling proteins and enzymes involved in melanogenesis as well as the critical function of ion transport mechanisms throughout the maturation and distribution of the melanosome. Four large-scale genome-wide association studies in Europeans, two big genetic studies of skin color in Africans, one research in Latin America, and functional testing in animal models have recently identified a huge number of unique loci involved in the process.[2]

(associated with mutations of MYO5A (GS1), RAB27A (GS2), and MLPH (GS3); autosomal-recessive Hermansky–Pudlak syndrome (with mutations in genes encoding proteins belonging to protein complexes AP-3, BLOC1, BLOC2, and BLOC3, resulting in at least 10 syndrome types); X-linked recessive Menkes syndrome (associated with mutations of ATP7A); autosomal-recessive oculocutaneous albinism (with mutations in specific genes: TYR (OCA1), OCA2, TYRP1). Gene alterations encoding the Hermansky – Pudlak syndrome multiple components of the biogenesis of lysosomal organelles complexes (BLOC1, BLOC2, and BLOC3), AP3 (adaptor-related protein complex 3), and in addition to the distribuend-binding protein 1 gene, which was discovered and defines ten

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kinds of HPS: The HPS1 gene (BLOC 3 subunit 1) in HPS type 1, the AP3B1 gene (adaptor-related protein complex 3 beta 1 subunit) in HPS type 2, the HPS3 gene (BLOC 2 subunit 1) in HPS type 3, the HPS4 gene (BLOC 3 subunit 2) in HPS type 4, the HPS5 gene (BLOC 2 subunit 2) in HPS type 5, the HPS6 gene (BLOC 2 subunit 3) in HPS type 6, DTNBP1 binding protein 1) in HPS type 7, the BLOC1S3 gene (BLOC 1 subunit 3) in HPS type 8, and the BLOC1S6 gene (BLOC 3 subunit 6). [2].

Intrinsic and extrinsic regulation of human skin melanogenesis and pigmentation.

A. Why People Get Hyperpigmented

There are numerous causes of hyperpigmentation. These include endocrinologic factors such as Addison's disease, Cushing's syndrome, Nelson syndrome, phaeochromocytoma, carcinoid, acromegaly, hyperthyroidism, acanthosis nigricans, and diabetes, as well as external factors like these. Nutritional factors include folic acid shortage, niacin inadequacy, tryptophan deficiency, vitamin A deficiency, and kwashiorkor. An unwanted side effect of hormonal contraceptives is melasma on the skin.[3]

3. SOAP

A fatty acid compound is what soap is made of. The long hydrocarbon chain of a soap molecule has an ionic bond with a metal ion, typically potassium or sodium, at one end of the chain, which is carboxylic acid group. The ionic end is soluble in water, but the hydrocarbon end is non-polar and very soluble in non-polar substances. They have extremely long hydro carbon chains and are carboxylate salts. They can be produced by hydrolysing fats or oils at the base. It is used as a surfactant for cleaning, bathing, and washing, but it is also utilized as a lubricant in textile spinning. The process of creating soap by hydrolysing triglyceride fats into free fatty acids is called saponification.[4]

Advantage of polyherbal soap –

- Remove tanning
- Reduced chemical load
- Polyherbal leverage the combined therapeutic properties of herbs offering a large range of skin care benefit
- Carefully selected created balance formulation ensuring cleaning nourishing and protective for the skin
- Improves skin texture [5]

Soap Base-

- Glycerine based
- Soap making procedure-
- Cold Process
- Hot Process
- Melt and Pour [6]

4. Herbas Used in Polyherbal Soap

A. Tamarind seed

The tamarind (Tamarindus indica L., family Fabaceae) is extensively dispersed throughout tropical and subtropical climates. The ripened fruit pulp is a common snack that can be eaten. The utilization of Tamarind Seed (TS) is equally significant.[7]

Fig.2. Tamarind seed

Chemical Constituent- Tamarind seeds are known for their potential skincare benefits due to the presence of various compounds that have antioxidant, anti-inflammatory, and moisturizing properties. Here are some properties of tamarind seeds that can be beneficial for the skin: [8]

Antioxidant Properties: Tamarind seeds contain antioxidants such as vitamin C, flavonoids, and polyphenols. Antioxidants help neutralize free radicals in the skin, preventing oxidative stress and damage, which can contribute to premature aging.[9]

Hydrating and Moisturizing: Tamarind seeds are rich in polysaccharides, which have hydrating properties. Incorporating tamarind seed extracts into skincare products can help in maintaining skin hydration and preventing dryness. [10]

Anti-Inflammatory: Tamarind seeds contain compounds with anti-inflammatory properties, which can help soothe irritated skin and reduce redness. This makes tamarind seed extracts potentially beneficial for individuals with sensitive or inflamed skin conditions. [11]

Collagen Production: Tamarind seeds contain compounds that may stimulate collagen production in the skin. Collagen is a protein that provides structure and elasticity to the skin, contributing to a more youthful appearance.[11]

Skin Brightening: The antioxidants in tamarind seeds may contribute to skin brightening by reducing the appearance of dark spots and hyperpigmentation.[12]

Anti-Aging: The combination of antioxidant and hydrating properties in tamarind seeds can contribute to anti-aging effects, helping to reduce the appearance of fine lines and wrinkles.[12]

B. Aloe vera

For thousands of years, people have utilized aloe vera, a plant that resembles a cactus and is a member of the Asphodelaceae (Liliaceae) family, for traditional medicinal purposes. Because of the bitter liquid found in the leaves, Aloe Vera gets its name from the Arabic word Alloeh‖, which means ―shining bitter substance‖, and the Latin word true‖, vera. Aloe comes in more than 300 species, the majority of which are indigenous to

Madagascar, South Africa, and Arabia. Aloe leaves can be divided into two main products: the gel, which is a tasteless, colourless substance found inside the leaf, and the latex, which is a bitter yellow liquid beneath the leaf's epidermis.[13]

Fig.3. Aloe vera

Aloe vera pulp is widely known for its skin-soothing, hydrating, and healing properties. While there is limited scientific evidence specifically addressing aloe vera's role in treating skin pigmentation, it is believed that some of its components may contribute to improving the appearance of pigmented skin.

Moisturization: Aloe vera is a natural moisturizer that can help hydrate the skin. Well-hydrated skin is generally more supple and may have a more even tone, potentially reducing the appearance of pigmentation.[14]

Sunburn Relief: If pigmentation is related to sun exposure, aloe vera can be soothing for sunburned skin. Sunburn can exacerbate pigmentation issues, so using aloe vera may help reduce inflammation caused by sun damage.[15]

C. Turmeric

Turmeric, specifically its active compound curcumin, has been studied for its potential benefits on the skin, including addressing issues related to pigmentation

Fig.4. Turmeric

Inhibition of Melanin Production: Some studies suggest that curcumin may inhibit the production of melanin, the pigment responsible for skin colour. By regulating melanin production, turmeric may help in reducing hyperpigmentation.[16]

D. Multani Clay

Natural baby powder made with Multani Mittens from Fuller's Earth. People have been using clay masks for ages to extract oil from their faces, moisturize their skin, teeth, and gums, treat pimples, clear their pores, and remove dirt and flakes from their skin.[17]

Fig.5. Multani Clay

Cleansing: Multani clay has natural cleansing properties that help in removing dirt, pollutants, and other impurities from the skin. This makes it suitable for use in facial cleansers and masks.[17]

Fig.6. Multani Clay Powder

Lightens Skin Tone: Some people use Multani clay for its potential to lighten skin tone and reduce hyperpigmentation [17].

5. Future Prospective

There are bright futures for polyherbal soap in the changing skincare scene. Polyherbal soaps, which include numerous herbal constituents, are poised to play a big role in the cosmetic sector as customers choose natural and plant-based solutions. It is anticipated that continued research and development will reveal fresh combinations of various plants, resulting in creative concoctions designed to target particular skin issues. Polyherbal soaps' ability to be personalized and customized will probably become a selling factor, enabling customers to select formulas that suit their particular skin types and tastes. With compositions intended to relieve a range of skin disorders, polyherbal soaps may find increased use in medicinal applications beyond their aesthetic appeal.

6. Conclusion

The intriguing combination of natural components in polyherbal tamarind soap may have skincare advantages. Tamarind, with its reputation for being an antioxidant and an exfoliant, gives formulas containing poly herbs a special touch. The combination of several herbs, including tamarind, has the potential to help with a number of skin issues, including irritation, dryness, and hyperpigmentation.

Polyherbal tamarind soap has a bright future ahead of it because to continuous research and development. With the growing focus on natural solutions in the skincare business, the distinctive qualities of tamarind and other herbal constituents in these soaps suit the tastes of the consumer. Polyherbal tamarind soaps are positioned as adaptable products that may be used to treat a variety of skin types and diseases due to their potential for therapeutic uses, customization, and personalization of formulations.

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