THERAPEUTIC AND MEDICINAL POTENTIAL OF INDIAN CORCHORUS AND THEIR CONSERVATION

S. K. HAZRA*, A. K. MAHAPATRA*, A. SAHA*, DIPANKAR SAHA*, AND D. GUPTA*

Traditionally, different plant parts of two cultivated species and seven wild species of Corchorus have therapeutic uses in different forms for the treatment of various diseases. Six Corchorus species contain bioactive compounds such as cardiac glycosides, stropanthidin, stropanthidol, β -sitosterol, terpenoid – corosin, flavone glycoside, ursolic acid, VitC, mucilage and others. These are potential candidates for drug research to develop plant based drugs in future. Appropriate crop age, cultivation regime, harvesting stage need to be ascertained for improved therapeutic efficiency and harnessing bioactive principles.