

An emerging medicinal plant with promising *In vitro* antioxidant potential-*Helicteres isora*. Linn.

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Helicteres isora Linn. or East-Indian screw tree belonging to the family Sterculiaceae. In different parts of India, *Helicteres isora* Linn. has been used by a large number of tribal people/ethnic groups for the treatment of various ailments such as diabetes, flatulence, diarrhea, scabies, eczema, sore ear, snake bite. Antioxidant assays have gained much of attention in last decade. The stem bark of *Helicteres isora* was analysed for antioxidant efficacy. Crude fractions of hydroalcoholic (HIHE), methanolic (HIME) and aqueous extracts (HIAE) were prepared and compared for their free radical scavenging activity. *In vitro* antioxidant assays such as DPPH (1, 1-diphenyl-2-picryl-hydrazyl) and superoxide radical scavenging activity were employed for evaluation of stem bark of *Helicteres isora*. Prior to this total phenolic content for all the three extracts was also determined using folin-ciocalteu method. DPPH assay exhibited inhibition of 93.65, 95.4 and 88.17% at various concentrations (0.03 mg/ml-300 mg/ml) for HIHE, HIME, HIAE respectively which was comparable to ascorbic acid (96.2%) and BHT (93%) taken as standards. In case of superoxide radical scavenging activity percentage of inhibition observed was in the following decreasing order HIAE> HIHE> HIME> Rutin. This explains the considerable antioxidant potential for *Helicteres isora* supporting its further exploration for treatment against various ailments.

Biography

Veena Sharma completed her Ph.D. in toxicology in 1992 from Rajasthan University. Her area of interest includes toxicology, ethno-botany, pharmacology and animal biotechnology. She has published more than 58 papers in reputed journals. She is also a life time member of society of toxicology (STOX) and some other professional societies.