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RESEARCH ARTICLE

Study on pharmacognostical properties of leaf of *Helicteres isora* L.

M. CHITRA

ABSTRACT

The micro morphology of the leaves of *Helicteres isora* L. (Sterculiaceae) was explored. The leaves are serrate, obliquely cordate or ovate, shortly acuminate and rough above and pubescent beneath. Microscopic analysis was informative and provides useful information in the botanical identification, standardization for purity and quality and immense value in authentication of the leaf. Microscopic evaluation of leaves revealed the presence the midrib is broadly conical on the adaxial side and broadly semicircular on the abaxial side. It is 900 μ m in vertical axis and 450 μ m along the horizontal abaxial part. The lamina is 200 μ m thick and has fairly broad, distinct adaxial epidermis of squish cells. Some of the epidermal cells are dilated and multiogenous. Calcium oxalate druses are abundant in the midrib, lamina and petiole. The lateral veins are uniformly thick forming mostly squarish or rectangular distinct vein-islets. This study of pharmacognostical features of *Helicteres isora* is useful for the detection of botanical identification and in authentication of the leaf of *Helicteres isora* L.

Key words : *Helicteres isora*, Sterculiaceae, Microscopical evaluation, Botanical authentication

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● ————— AUTHOR FOR CORRESPONDENCE ————— ●

M. CHITRA, Agricultural College and Research Institute, THANJAVUR
(T.N.) INDIA
Email : chitra.m@tnau.ac.in