

Pharmacognostical and Phytochemical Standardization of *Shatpushpadi Taila* - An Ayurvedic Polyherbal Formulation

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Abstract

Kashyapa has vividly described the effect of Shatapushpadi taila on Beejotsarga in the chapter *Shatapushpa-Shatavari Kalapadhyaya*. It is used in the management of *Vandhyatva* (anovulation) and helps in “*Rutupravartana*” which indicates both *Artavajanana* and *Beejotsarga*.¹ The present work was carried out to standardize the finished product *Shatpushpadi taila* to confirm its identity, quality and purity. There has been an increase in demand for the Phyto-pharmaceutical products of *Ayurveda* so a new pharmaceutical preparation in the form of *Shatpushpadi taila* was tried to standardize which is economical in terms of time and machinery usage. Pharmacognostical and phyto-chemical observations revealed the specific characters of all active constituents used in the preparation. The presence of oil globules, starch with prismatic crystals, cork cells, were the characteristic features observed in the microscopy of drug combination. Refractive index of *Shatpushpadi taila* was found 1.4860., specific gravity 0.9104, iodine value 101.97, saponification value 220.85 and acid value is 3.28.

Keywords

Anovulation, Pharmacognosy, Phyto-chemistry, Shatpushpadi taila



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INTRODUCTION

According to Acharya Sushruta, four essential factors are required for healthy conception, which are proper fertile period, physiologically adequate and healthy internal organs of reproduction, the proper nourishment - to the developing zygote or fetus, the activated ovum and spermatozoa. . Among them Beeja is the core stone of the female reproductive process and in its absence conception cannot achieve despite of all the other factors. Here the Beeja is taken as Antahpushpa i.e. ovum. So anovulation can be included under Beeja Dushti.

Now a day, Infertility is a problem of global proportion, affecting on an average 8-12% of couples worldwide. The incidence of infertility is increasing by changed life style in urban India i.e. irregular working hours, late marriage, sedentary

lifestyle, professional and social stress on young couples, genetic disorder.

Female-factor infertility is most commonly caused by lack of ovulation (e.g., the development and release of eggs from the ovary anovulation.² So there is a ray of hope for women to achieve ovulation which give her motherhood through the Ayurvedic treatment.

In modern science there are treatments like Clomiphene Citrate, IVF, GIFT, ET etc. available for ovulation induction but all have unsatisfactory results, enormous expenses, lots of side effects and complications.[2] So there is a great scope of research to find out safe, potent, less costly and effective remedies from Ayurveda for the management of Vandhyatva. So here an effort in this direction has been put by this research work. So taking all these points into consideration, in this

present study we take Shatapushpadi Taila in Nasya and Basti form.

Kashyapa has vividly described the effect of Shatapushpa on Beejotsarga in the chapter Shatapushpa-Shatavari Kalapadhyaya. The rasa and virya of the Shatapushpa described by the Kashyapa is Madhura and Ushana respectively. But in Dravya Guna Vignana the rasa of Shatapushpa is Katu, Tikta and Veerya is Ushna.³The action of Shatapushpa is Balya, Brihaniya, Deepana, Pachana, Yonivishodhana, Rutupravartana etc. as described by Kashyapa. Here, “Rutupravartana” indicates both Artavajanana and Beejotsarga. So, to

prove these both actions of the Shatapushpa, it has been taken for present study.

MATERIALS AND METHODS

Collection, Identification and authentication of raw drugs:

The raw drugs for the study were procured from the Pharmacy of Gujarat Ayurved University, Jamnagar. The ingredients were identified and authenticated in the Pharmacognosy Institute for Post Graduate Teaching & Research in Ayurveda, Gujarat Ayurved University, Jamnagar. [Table 1]

TABLE 1 Ingredients of *Shatpushpadi Taila*¹

S. No	Ingredients	Latin Name	Part Used	Amount
1.	Shatapushpa	<i>Anethum sowa</i> Kurz	Beeja	28kg
2.	Guduchi	<i>Tinospora cordifolia</i> (Willd.)Miers.	Kanda	140gms
3.	Gokshura	<i>Tribulus terrestris</i> Linn.	Beeja	140gms
4.	Guggul	<i>Comiphora mukul</i> Hook ex. Stocks	Niryas	140gms
5.	Karpura	<i>Cinnamom camphora</i> Nees & Eberm	Niryas	140gms



6.	<i>Vacha</i>	<i>Acarus calamus</i> Linn.	<i>Rhizome</i>	140gms
7.	<i>Madhuyashti</i>	<i>Glycyrrhiza glabra</i> Linn.	<i>Mool</i>	140gms
8.	<i>Daruharidra</i>	<i>Berberis aristata</i> DC.	<i>Rhizome</i>	140gms
9.	<i>Manjistha</i>	<i>Rubia cordifolia</i> Linn.	<i>Mool</i>	140gms
10.	<i>Lavang pushpa</i>	<i>Syzygium aromaticum</i> Linn.	<i>Pushpa</i>	140gms
11.	<i>Sariva</i>	<i>Hemidesmus indicus</i> R. Br.	<i>Mool</i>	140gms
12.	<i>Bala</i>	<i>Sida cordifolia</i> Linn.	<i>Mool</i>	140gms
13.	<i>Bilva</i>	<i>Aegle marmelos</i> Corr.	<i>Mool</i>	140gms
14.	<i>Gambhari</i>	<i>Gmelina arborea</i> Linn.	<i>Mool</i>	140gms
15.	<i>Patala</i>	<i>Stereospermum suaveolens</i> DC.	<i>Mool</i>	140gms
16.	<i>Brihati</i>	<i>Solanum indicum</i> Linn.	<i>Panchang</i>	140gms
17.	<i>Kantakari</i>	<i>Solanum xanthocarpum</i> Schrad & Wendl	<i>Mool</i>	140gms
18.	<i>Shalaparni</i>	<i>Desmodium gangeticum</i> DC.	<i>Mool</i>	140gms
19.	<i>Vasa</i>	<i>Adhatoda vasica</i> Nees.	<i>Patra</i>	140gms
20.	<i>Rasna</i>	<i>Pluchea lanceolata</i> C. B. Clarke	<i>Mool</i>	140gms
21.	<i>Khushtha</i>	<i>Saussurea lappa</i> C.B. Clarke	<i>Mool</i>	140gms
22.	<i>Laghu Ella</i>	<i>Lesser cardamom</i> Maton	<i>Seeds</i>	140gms
23.	<i>Shatavari</i>	<i>Asparagus recemosus</i> Willd	<i>Mool</i>	140gms
24.	<i>Trivrita(shyama)</i>	<i>Ipomoea turpenth</i> Silva Manso	<i>Mool</i>	140gms
25.	<i>Khadira</i>	<i>Acacia catechu</i> Wild.	<i>Saar</i>	140gms
26.	<i>Twak</i>	<i>Cinnamomum zeylanica</i> Blume	<i>Twak</i>	140gms
27.	<i>Draksha</i>	<i>Vitis vinifera</i> Linn.	<i>Dried fruit</i>	140gms
28.	<i>Haridra</i>	<i>Curcuma longa</i> Linn.	<i>Rhizome with root</i>	140gms
29.	<i>Ushira</i>	<i>Vetiveria zizanioides</i> Linn.	<i>Mool</i>	140gms
30.	<i>Shankhapushpi</i>	<i>Convolvulus pluricaulis</i> Choisy	<i>Panchang</i>	140gms
31.	<i>Chandana</i>	<i>Santalum album</i> Linn.	<i>Twak</i>	140gms
32.	<i>Haritaki</i>	<i>Terminalia chebula</i> Retz.	<i>Phal</i>	140gms
33.	<i>Bhibhitaki</i>	<i>Terminalia bellirica</i> Roxb.	<i>Phalmajja</i>	140gms
34.	<i>Amalaki</i>	<i>Emblica officinalis</i> Gaertn.	<i>Phal</i>	140gms
35.	<i>Ashwagandha</i>	<i>Withania somnifera</i> Dunal.	<i>Mool</i>	140gms
36.	<i>Katphala</i>	<i>Artocarpus intagrefolia</i> Linn.	<i>Phal, Twak, Patra</i>	140gms
37.	<i>Punarnava</i>	<i>Boerhavia diffusa</i> Linn.	<i>Mool</i>	140gms
38.	<i>Katuki</i>	<i>Picrorhiza kurroa</i> Royle ex	<i>Rhizome with root</i>	140gms

Benth				
39.	<i>Vidharikanda</i>	<i>Pueraria tuberosa</i> DC.	Rhizome	140gms
40.	<i>Agnimantha</i>	<i>Premna muceronata</i> Roxb.	<i>Patra, Mool</i>	140gms
41.	<i>Kapittha</i>	<i>Feronia elephantum</i>	<i>Phal Majja</i>	140gms
42.	<i>Gunja</i>	<i>Abrus precatorius</i> Linn.	<i>Beeja, Moola</i>	140gms
43.	<i>Kullatha</i>	<i>Dolichos biflorus</i> Linn.	<i>Beeja</i>	140gms
44.	<i>Yava</i>	<i>Hordeum vulgare</i> Linn	<i>Beeja</i>	140gms
45.	<i>Agaru</i>	<i>Acularia agallocha</i> Roxb.	<i>Kandasaar</i>	140gms
46.	<i>Akshota</i>	<i>Juglans regia</i> Linn	<i>Phal Majja</i>	140gms
47.	<i>Indravaruni</i>	<i>Citrullus colocynthis</i> Schrad	<i>Moola</i>	140gms
48.	<i>Saindhav lavana</i>	Rock salt	-	140gms
49.	<i>Meda & Mahameda</i> = <i>Ashwandha</i>	<i>Withania somnifera</i> Dunal.	<i>Mool</i>	140gms
50.	<i>Kakoli &</i> <i>Ksheerakakoli</i> = <i>Shatavari</i>	<i>Asparagus recemosus</i> Willd	<i>Mool</i>	140gms
51.	<i>Jivaka= Vidari</i>	<i>Puperia tuberosa</i>	<i>Kanda</i>	140gms
52.	<i>Tila taila</i>			21 kgs.
53.	<i>Go dugdha</i>			30 lit.

METHOD OF PREPARATION

Preparation of *Shatapushpadi Taila*:

DRUG PREPARATION:-

- *Tila Taila*:- 21 kgs.
- *Go-dugdha*:- 30 liters
- *Kalka*:- *Shatapushpa* 4kg
Rest each *Dravya* 40gms.
- *Kwatha*:- *Shatapushpa* 24kg
Rest each *Dravya* 100gms.
- 12 times of water reduced to one fourth.

Preparation of *Taila*:-

- *Shatapushpa* in amount of 24kg and rest all drugs in amount of 140gms each and 61 litres. of water will be used for *Kwatha* preparation. 16 litres of *Kwatha* will prepare for *Taila paka*.
- Same ingredients will used for *Kalka* preparation in the amount of 5kg.
- *Kwatha, Kalka, Taila and Dugdha* will be mixed together for *Snehapaka*.
All examinations for *Snehapaka* will be done.

Pharmacognostical evaluation of ingredients of *Shatpushpadi Taila*-

Organoleptic study:

Individual powders were subjected for various sensory characters like colour,taste,odour ,and were carefully noted.[**Table 2**].

Table 2 Organoleptic properties of *Shatpushpadi taila*

<i>Rupa</i> (Colour)	Light brown
<i>Rasa</i> (Taste)	Sweetish, Astringent
<i>Gandha</i> (Odour)	Characteristic
<i>Sparsha</i> (Consistency on Touch)	Liquid ,sticky

Powder microscopy:

The powders of respective parts taken in glass slide covered with cover slip and observed under the Carl Zeiss microscope with stain (Phloroglucinol and Conc. HCl) and without stain, to study the characters. The microphotographs were taken by using Carl Zeiss binocular attached with camera.[**Fig 1. plate 1-41**]

Plate 1 Microphotographs of finished products of *Shatpushpadi taila*⁴⁻¹²

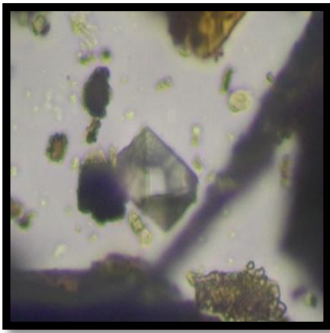
Physico chemical study:

Shatpushpadi taila was analyzed by using qualitative and quantitative parameters at Pharmaceutical Chemistry Laboratory, Institute for Post Graduate Teaching & Research in Ayurveda, Gujarat Ayurved

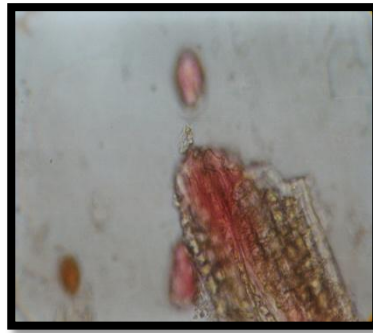
S. No	Test	Sample Result
1	Acid value	3.28
2	Refractive index	1.480
3	Specification value	220.85
4	Iodine value	101.97
5	Specific Gravity	0.9104

University, Jamnagar. All Physico-chemical parameters such as acid value,saponification value,iodine value,refractive index, Specific gravity were determined [**Table 3**].

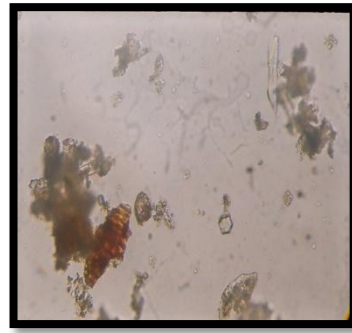
Table 3 Physico-chemical parameters of *Shatpushpadi taila*-



1. Prismatic crystals of Agru



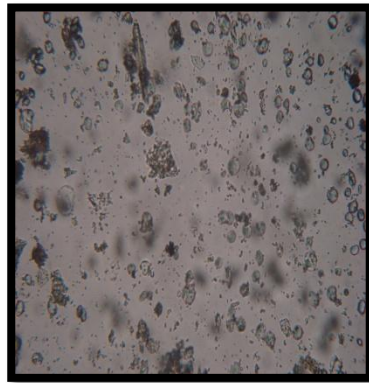
2. Stone cells of agnimanth.



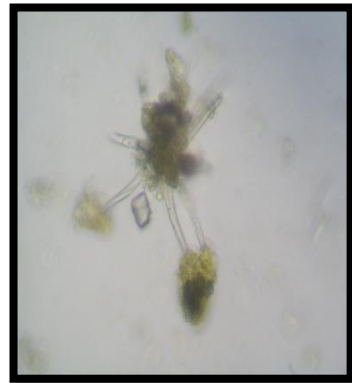
3. Prismatic crystals of akshota



4. Sclerides of amalaki



5. Starch grains of ashwaghandha



6. Stellate trichomes of bala



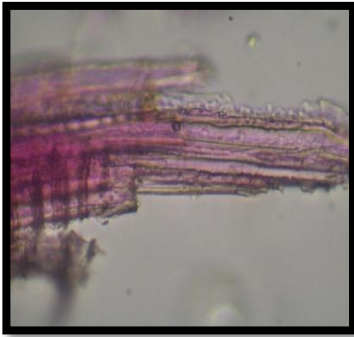
7- Stone cells of vibhitak



8- Fibres in bilwa



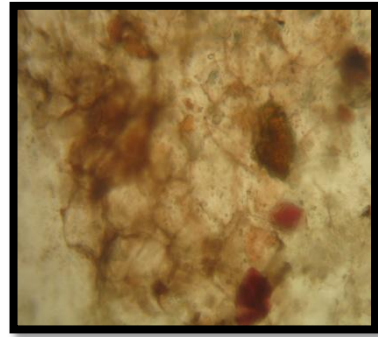
9- Simple trichome of brihati



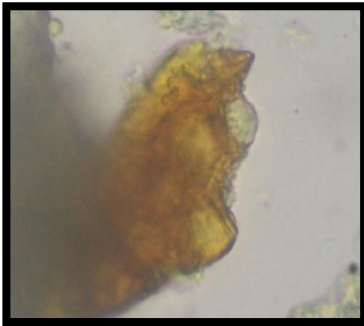
10. Lignified fibres of chandan



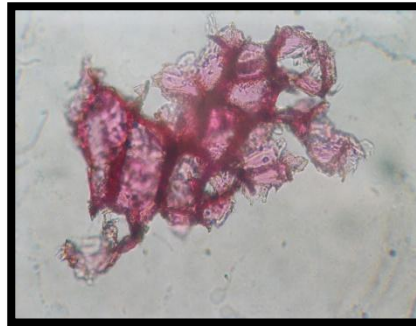
11. Fibres of daruhridra



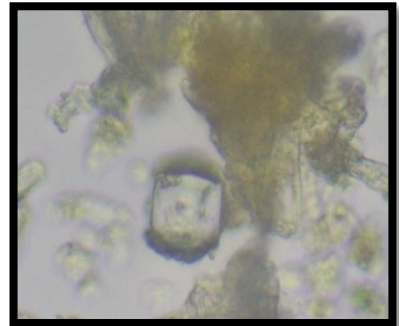
12. Lignified parenchymal cells of draksha



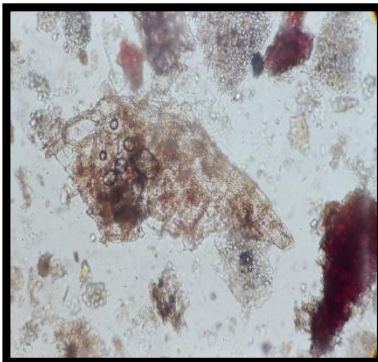
13. Tannin content of ela



14. Lignified cork of gambhari



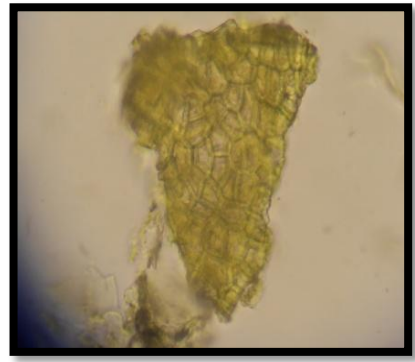
15. Crystals in gokshru



16. Cork cells of guduchi



17. Annular vessels in gunja



18. Epicarp cells of haritaki



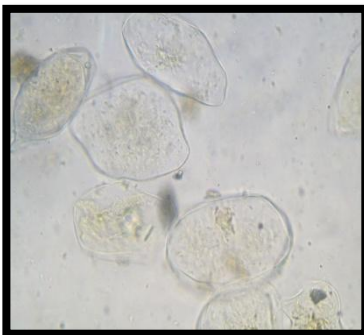
19. Septate fibres of indarvaruni



20.Border pitted vessels of khadhir



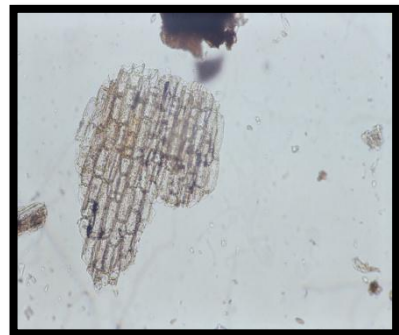
21.Multi branch trichome fibres of kantakari



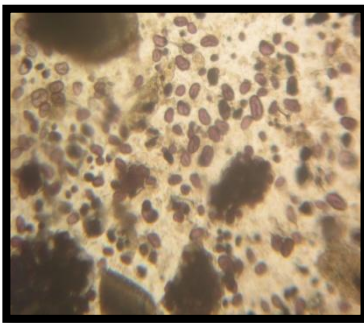
22.Mesocarp cells of kapitha



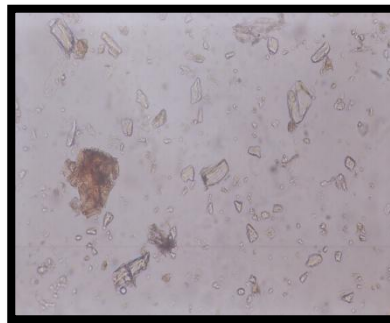
23. Stone cells of katphala



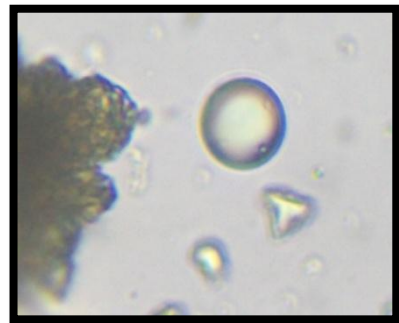
24. Cork cells of katuki



25.Starch(iodine)of kulatha



26.Oleoresin with crystals of kustha



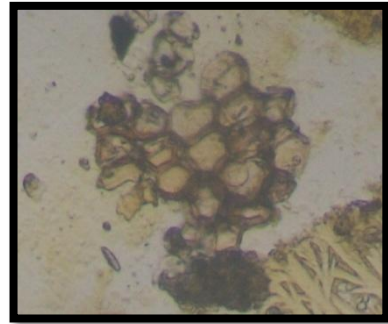
27. Oil globule of lavang



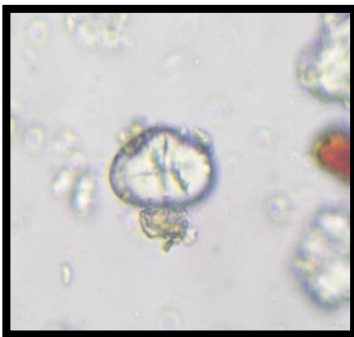
28. Acicular crystal in manjistha



29. Tannin with crystal of patla



30. Cork of punarnava



31. Starch with hilum of rasna



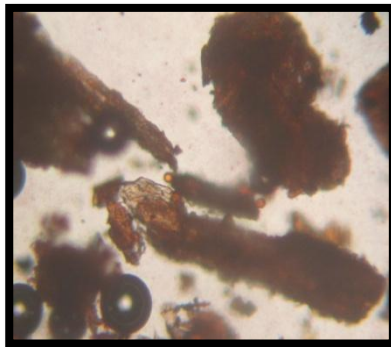
32. Lignified parenchymal cells of salparni



33. Pitted vessels of sariva



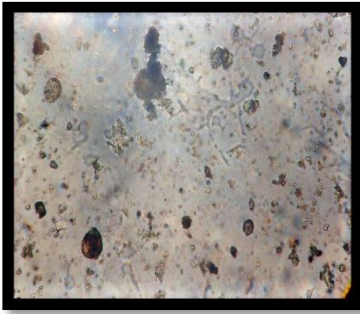
34. Lignified stellate trichome of shankhpushpi



35. Oil globules of shatpushpa



36. Simple fibres of shatavari



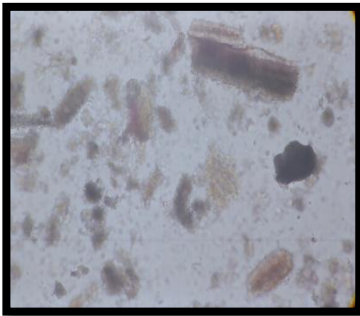
37. Roseete crystals and starch grains in trivrit



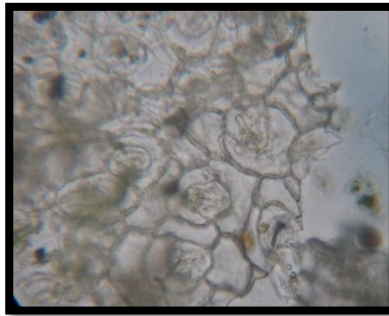
38. oil glands in twak



39. unicellular trichome of Usher



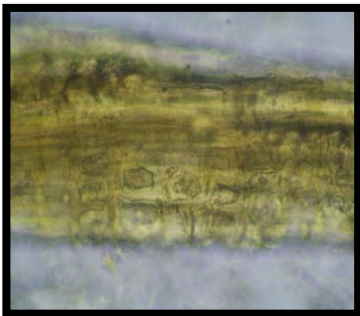
40. Oleoresin content of vacha



41. Diacytic stomata of vasa



42. Prismatic crystal of Vidhari



43. crystal fibre of yasthimadhu



44. unicellular trichomes of Yava

High performance thin layer chromatography (HPTLC):

Methanol extract of *Shatpushpadi taila* was used for High performance thin layer chromatography (HPTLC) study. Methanol

extract of *Shatpushpadi taila* was spotted on pre-coated silica gel GL60254 aluminum plate as 10mm bands by means of a Camag Linomate V sample applicator fitted with a 100 µL Hamilton syringe. Toluene: Ethyl acetate: Acetic acid (7:2:1) was used for *Shatpushpadi taila* as a mobile phase. The development time was 30 minutes. After development, Densitometry scanning was performed with a Camag TLC scanner III in reflectance absorbance mode at 254 nm and 366 nm under control of Win CATS software (V1.2.1. Camag).^{12, 13} Then the plate was sprayed with Vanillin sulphuric acid followed by heating and then visualized in day light¹³.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Pharmacognostical evaluation:

Organoleptic parameters:

The colour of shatpushpadi taila is light brown, whereas the taste of the shatpushpadi taila is sweetish and astringent. The odour is characteristic and consistency on touch is luid, sticky. These are all the organoleptic parameters of the shatpushpadi taila as mentioned in Table 2.

All Physico-chemical parameters of shatpushpadi taila are acid value is 3.28, saponification value is 1.480, iodine value is

101.97, refractive index is 1.480, Specific gravity is 0.9104.

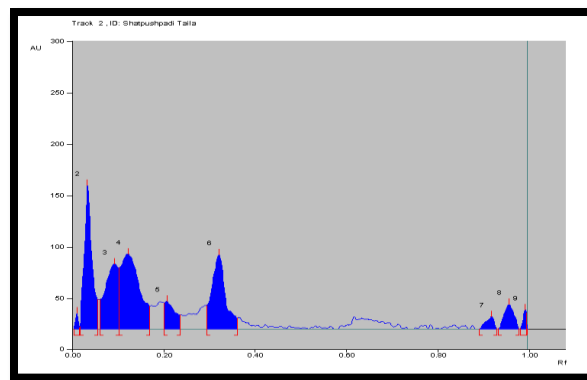
HIGH PERFORMANCE THIN LAYER CHROMATOGRAPHY¹⁰

On analyzing under demonstrator at 254 nm, the chromatogram showed 9 peaks while at 366 nm chromatogram showed 3 peaks and after spray the chromatogram showed 3 peaks [Table 4 and Fig 2 and Fig 4(a-c)]. Three dimensional densitogram (3D) at 254 and 366 nm shows comparative R_f value of sample with standard [Fig 3(a-c)]

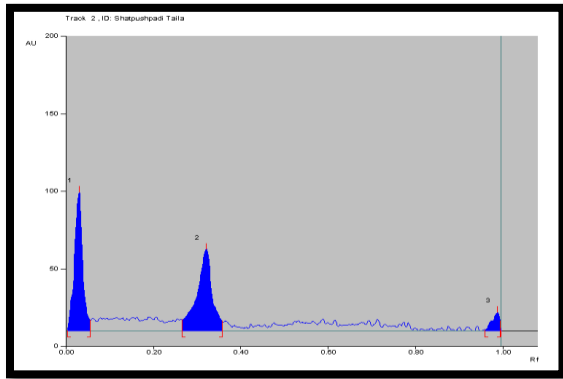
Table 4 The findings of HPTLC at 366 nm and 254 nm UV light *shatpushpadi taila* (Methanol Extract)

Wavelength	No. of Spots	R _f value
254 nm	09	0.01, 0.03, 0.09, 0.12, 0.21, 0.32, 0.92, 0.96, 0.9
366 nm	03	0.03, 0.32, 0.99
Vaniline sulphuric acid (after spray)	03	0.27, 0.14, 0.17

Fig 2 Densitogram of *Shatpushpadi Taila* at 254 and 366 nm

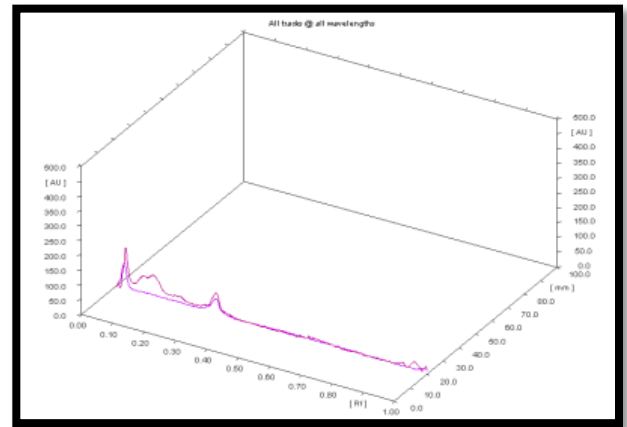


(a) Densitometry at 254 nm



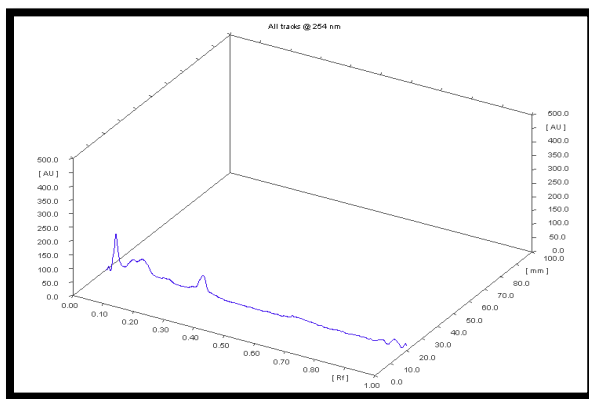
(b) Densitometry at 366 nm

Fig 3 (a-c) Three dimensional (3D) Densitogram at (a) 254nm (b) 366nm (c) specific comparater graph

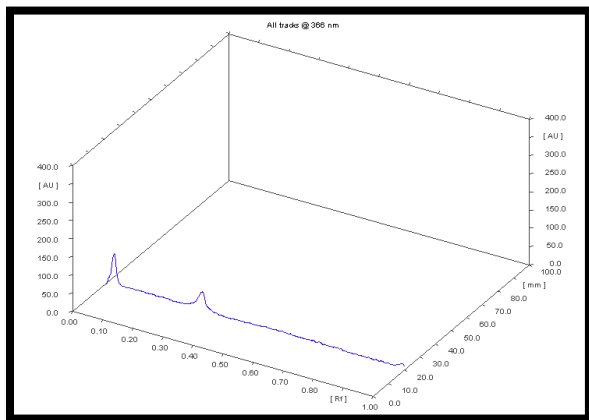


(c) Comparator

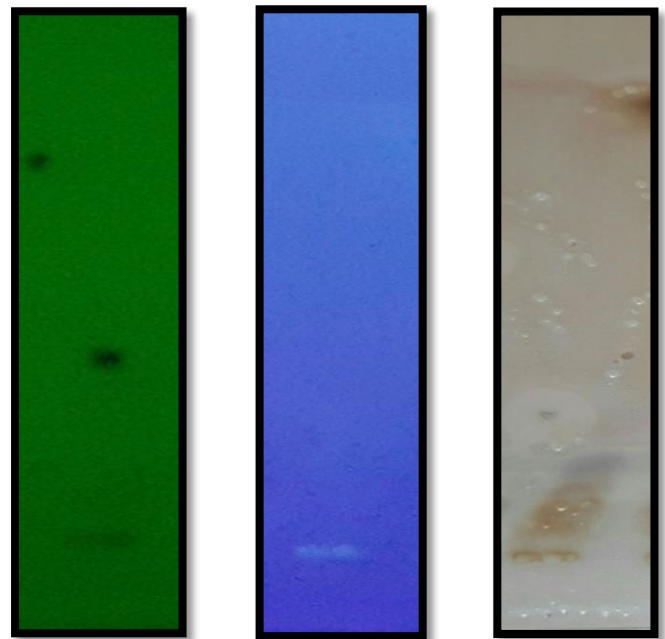
Fig 4 HPTLC finger prints at (a)254nm (b)366nm (c) after spray



(a) 254nm



(b) 366nm



a. 254nm

b. 266

c. after spray

DISCUSSION

Pharmacognostical evaluation showed that the shatpushpadi taila contains all the ingredients which were observed in the microscopical characters, this shows that the

purity and quality of the product. Phytochemical analysis showed that material gains no moisture during storage, so quality of the product is not affected. The obtained values of these tests were found within normal limits which indicate good quality of product. All Physico-chemical parameters of shatpushpadi taila are acid value is 3.28, saponification value is 1.480, iodine value is 101.97, refractive index is 1.480, Specific gravity is 0.9104. All tests are normal in limit and shows the product is of good quality and better results in the diseases. HPTLC results showed that the 9 spots at 254 nm and 3 spots at 366 nm.

CONCLUSION

Pharmacognostical and phytochemical evaluation of shatpushpadi taila illustrated the specific characters of all ingredients which are used in the preparation. The oleoresin, pitted vessels, prismatic crystal, calcium oxalate crystals are observed in the ingredients. All the physico-chemical parameters like acid value, saponification value, iodine value, refractive index, specific gravity analysed were within the normal range. All the results showed the quality of the preparation is standard. Further studies

may be carried out on it. On the basis of observations made and results of experimental studies, this study may be beneficial for future researchers and can be used as a reference standard in the further quality control researches.

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