CHAPTER 10
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Medicinal plants are of great importance to the health of individuals and communities. The medicinal value of the plants is because of various chemicals present in them that produce a definite physiological action on the human body. Plants have played a significant role in maintaining human health and improving the quality of human life for thousands of years and have served human beings as valuable components of medicines, seasonings, beverages, cosmetics, dyes, etc. Herbal drugs have demonstrated a broad spectrum of biological activities.

Morphological studies are found no evolutionary or bio geographical variation.

Pharmacognosy basically deals with the standardization, authentication and study of natural drugs. Much of the research in pharmacognosy has been done in identifying controversial species of plants, authentication of commonly used traditional medicinal plants through morphological, histological, phytochemical and physicochemical parameters in plants, prescribed by an authoritative source.

In the pharmacognostic study of P. guajavaleaf, macroscopic and microscopic characters of leaf and powder were studied. Physicochemical parameters analysed were loss on drying, total ash, water soluble ash, acid insoluble ash, petroleum ether soluble extractive value, methanol soluble extractive value, acetone soluble extractive value, aqueous soluble extractive value, heavy metal analysis, pH value and solubility.

The qualitative phytochemical parameters analyzed were alkaloids, flavonoids, tannins, steroids, saponins and cardiac glycosides.

Ethnobotanical uses of plant Prosopis cineraria is boon part of city Barmer