CHAPTER 7
CONCLUSION
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The study concludes with an opinion that the extent of genetic or epigenetic control of the trait for phytochemical concentration in medicinally important plant species may vary as per the species. In some plants the genetics may play the major role while in others the environmental influence may be the vital force behind variation in bioactive chemical content. Apart from the functional genetics aspect where varied gene expression results in low or high production of bioactive chemical marker compounds, the structural genetics may also play a major role where there exists a significant difference in the genetic material of plants at the intra-specific level, which can be correlated with the concentration of these compounds. Therefore, if the genetic fingerprint suggests a difference that can be associated with the phytochemical variation, it is a good opportunity to successfully use it for breeding of superior genotypes in medicinal plants. DNA markers that correlate with the yields of secondary metabolites if identified in a particular plant species can be used for marker assisted breeding to develop superior varieties for commercial purpose.