

Anti-inflammatory effect of *Euphorbia dendroides* L

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Abstract

Euphorbia dendroides L. (Euphoraceae) is a tree-like semi-succulent spurge growing as a wild plant in Libya. In the present study, the anti-inflammatory activity of ethanolic extracts of *Euphorbia dendroides* L. in a dose of 400 mg/kg p.o. was investigated in mice by means of carrageenan-induced paw oedema method. The pedal oedema was measured by means of a micrometer; using 0.025 ml of 1% carrageenan solution was injected subcutaneously into one hind paw of each mouse, compared with aspirin in a dose of 100mg/kg orally to serve as a reference compound. The results showed that the ethanolic extract exhibited a highly significant inhibition in oedema ($p < 0.01$) in the group treated with *E. dendroides* L. and the control.

In order to confirm the anti-inflammatory effect of the plant extract, using aspirin as a reference compound.

Percentage of inhibition of the oedema was 84% for *Euphorbia dendroides* L., and 86% for aspirin and this confirms that the expected mechanism of *Euphorbia dendroides* L. anti-inflammatory effect is probably through decreased in the prostaglandin's level.

Key words: Ethanolic extract of *E. dendroides* L., Anti-inflammatory, Carrageenan test.

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