Proximate Composition and Lipids

The plant leaves contained 28.3% crude protein and 16.6% crude fat and were not deficient in copper, zinc or iron (Adam, 1999). Investigation of roots of *R. stricta* of Pakistan origin lead to the isolation of two fatty esters 9-octadecenoic acid-2',3'-dihydroxy propyl ester and hexadecanoic acid-2',3'-dihydroxy propyl ester (Atta-ur-Rahman *et al.*, 2008). *R. stricta* has been reported rich in Cu, Co, Fe, Mg, Mn and Zn (Kaneez *et al.*, 2001). The plant, growing on mining area at Mahad Ad'Dahab, Saudi Arabia was found to accumulate heavy metals (Al-Farraj and Al-Wabel, 2007).

Alkaloids

The chemical constituents, and in particular the alkaloids, pharmacological and toscixological properties of the medicinal plant *Rhazya stricta* have been reviewed by several authors (e.g. Atta-ur-Rahman and Fatima, 1982; Atta-ur-Rahman, 1983, 1986, 1987; Atta-ur-Rahman *et al.*, 1989b; Ali *et al.*, 2000a; Gilani *et al.*, 2007; Marwat *et al.*, 2012). Hooper (1906), was the first investigator who studied the presence of a volatile alkaloid which resembled conine alongwith a non-characterized, non-volatile base. Over 100 alkaloids have been isolated, characterized and identified from the plant.

Two monoterpenoid indole alkaloids and four β -carbolines were isolated from a hybrid cell suspension culture generated from *Rauwolfia serpentine* Benth. and *Rhazya stricta* Decaisne. This indicates that the function of alkaloid biosynthesis is retained after hybrid formation and that alkaloids not previously detected in the parental plants or cell cultures are formed (Aimi *et al.*, 1996). The treatment of *Rauwolfia serpentina* × *Rhazya stricta* somatic hybrid cell suspension culture with 100 µM of methyl jasmonate led to a general increase in

indole alkaloid content and to qual. changes in the alkaloid pattern.

The content of six alkaloids were investigated with respect to their content in both the cell biomass and nutrition medium. Intracellular 17-*O*-acetyl-norajmaline content on the 5th day after treatment had increased about 40-fold compared with the control culture. The respective concnentrations of the other alkaloids increased by a factor of two to five. In total 26 indole alkaloids were identified in extracts of the Me jasmonate-treated culture. The identification of macrophylline, yohimbine oxindole, and yohimbine pseudoindoxyl has not been reported before in *Rauwolfia serpentina* or *Rhazya stricta* plants nor in cell cultures derived from these plants (Sheludko *et al.*, 1999). Several other alkaloids have been identified from somatic cell suspension culture of the genus and species combination of *Rauwolofia serpentrina x Rhazya stricta viz.* tubotaiwine, vallesiachotamine, vomilenine, stemmadenine, tuberosine, 1,2-dehydroaspidospermidine, rhazinilam and 3-oxo-rhazinilam (Kostenyuk *et al.*, 1994, 1995; Sheludko *et al.*, 2000; Gerasimenko *et al.*, 2001).

Eleven main alkaloids were identified from cell suspension cultures of *Rhazya stricta* grown in 4X-medium for 15 days. The alkaloids comprised the 5 groups corynanthane, strychnos, eburnane, secodine and aspidosperma and can be regarded as being typical *Rhazya* alkaloids, although the strychnos alkaloid akuammicine has been isolated for the first time from the genus *Rhazya*. The most abundant alkaloid was (+)-1,2-dehydroaspidospermidine (15mg/L medium) whereas all other constituents were synthesized in amounts lower by factors of ~ 5-10. More than 15 additional alkaloids were formed as minor components (Pawelka and Stoeckigt, 1986).

Radioactive 1,2-dehydroaspidospermidine was formed when mevalonate-2-14C was administered to *R. stricta*. The C-5, -20, and -21 groups of this compound contained no radioactivity and the C-8 group contained 65% of the total activity. When Na mevalonate-3-14C was supplied to this plant the C-20 group of 1,2- dehydroaspidospermidine contained 47% of the total activity. The biosynthesis of the indole and ipecacuanha alkaloids was probably related to the formation of the cyclopentanoid monoterpene skeleton, and the C-2 and C-6 group of one mevalonate unit was rendered equivelant (Battersby *et al.*, 1966). The biosynthesis of indole alkaloids in *R. stricta* has been studied by several researchers (e.g. Battersby *et al.*, 1967).

Lounasmaa *et al.* (1995) presented evidence to support the view that rhazimanine and bhimberine, two indole alkaloid samples isolated from *Rhazya stricta* and claimed to be identical with (16*R*)-3-*epi*-*E*-isositsirikine and (16*S*)-3-*epi*-*E*-isositsirikine, respectively, consist mainly of one and the same compound, (16*R*)-*E*-isositsirikine.

The structure of a chiral β -carboline derivative, compound D which was found during the chemical investigation of metabolites formed by cultured hybrid cells of two Apocynaceae plants, *Rauwolfia serpentina* Benth. and *Rhazya stricta* Decaisne, was rigorously confirmed by chemical synthesis starting from tryptamine and D-glucose (Kitajima *et al.*, 1996).

Strictosidine which gives on wild hydrolysis vallesiachotamine and glucose) was reported as a key intermediate in the biogenesis of indole alkaloids (Smith, 1968). The isolation of geissoschizine from the plant was reported impostant from a biogenetic viewpoint since it is one of the key performed intermediates in the biosynthesis of C_{19} - C_{20} indole alkaloids (Chatterjee *et al.*, 1976b). Quantitative estimation of the alkaloids of *Rhazya stricta*, growing in Saudi Arabia leaves, stems and roots revealed that leaves contained greater amounts of alkaloids. The leaf contained 8 alkaloids, whereas seeds contained only 2, and were devoid of rhazine, which was present in all other organs. Rhazine was present in leaves, roots, and stems at 3.92, 2.21, and 0.96% (of total alkaloids), respectively. Betaine occurred in leaves as 0.85% of the quaternary alkaloids. The occurrence of the largest no. of alkaloids



in the leaf suggests that the leaf is the site of alkaloid formation (Hassan et al., 1977a).

Atta-ur-Rahman *et al.* (1989b) classified the alkaloids isolated from *Rhazya orientalis* and *Rhazya stricta* (75 alkaloids at that time) in seventeen different groups; these groups are:

- a. Ajmaline-type alkaloids e.g. leepacine and strictisidine.
- b. Aspidosperma alkaloids e.g. aspidospermidose and vincadine.
- c. Aspidospermatin-type alkaloids e.g. geissoschizine and rhazimanine.
- d. Corynantheine-type alkaloids e.g. geissoschizine and rhazimanine.
- e. Dimeric alkaloids e.g. presecamin and secamine.
- f. Eburnamine-type alkaloids e.g. eburnamine.
- g. Heteroyohimbine-type alkaloids e.g. strictosamide.
- h. Hunterburine-type alkaloids e.g. antirhine.
- i. Movacurine-type alkaloids e.g. strictine.
- j. Picraline-type alkaloids e.g. picralinal.
- k. Quinoline-type alkaloids e.g. rhazicine.
- 1. Rhazinilam-type alkaloids e.g. rhazinilam.
- m. Sarpagine-type alkaloids e.g. akuammidine (rhazine).
- n. Secodine-type alkaloids e.g. dihydrosecodine
- o. Strictosidine-type alkaloids e.g. strictosidine.
- p. Strychnos-type alkaloids e.g. stricticine.
- q. Miscellaneous alkaloids e.g. strictine. The following alkaloids are isolated from *R. stricta*:
- 1- N-Acetylaspidaspidospermidine from leaves and roots (Atta-ur-Rahman et al., 1991a).
- 2- (+)-Akuammidine (Rhazine) (**994**) (Miana *et al.*, 1982), from roots (Bashir *et al.*, 1994a), Abdel-Sattar *et al.* (1994); Atta-ur-Rahman *et al.*, 1989b).
- 3- (-)-Akuammidine (Zaman, 1990, Qureshi, 1991).
- 4- Antirhine (Rhazinine) (995) (Banerji et al., 1970; Atta-ur-Rahman et al., 1989b,c).
- 5- (+)-Aspidospermidine (**996**) from aerial parts (Schnoes *et al.*, 1962; Smith and Wahid, 1963; Abdel-Mogib *et al.*, 1998).
- 6- Aspidospermidose (997) from leaves (Atta-ur-Rahman et al., 1987c).
- 7- Aspidospermiose (998) from leaves (Habib-ur-Rahman and Atta-ur-Rahman, 1996).
- 8- Atrictamine (Jewers et al., 1980).
- 9- Betaine from leaves (Edsall, 1943; Hassan et al., 1977a).
- 10-Bharhingine (999) from leaves (Ahmad et al., 1987; Atta-ur-Rahman et al., 1987b).
- 11-Bhimberine (1000) (Malik, 1985; Atta-ur-Rahman et al., 1986d`).
- 12-Bhimberine N-oxide (Bisset, 1958).
- 13-Bisstrictidine (Zaman, 1990; Qureshi, 1991).
- 14-1-Carbomethoxy-β-carboline from leaves (Habib-ur-Rahman and Atta-ur-Rahman, 1996).
- 15-5-α-Carboxystrictosidine (1001) (Smith et al., 1971).
- 16-Condylocarpine from roots (Atta-ur-Rahman et al., 1986f).
- 17-16*S*,16'-Decarbomethoxytetrahydrosecamine (**1002**) from roots (Atta-ur-Rahman and Zaman, 1988; 1989; Abbas, 1995).
- 18-16*R*,16'-Decarbomethoxytetrahydrosecamine from roots (Atta-ur-Rahman and Zaman, 1988).
- 19- Decarbomethoxy-15,20,16,17-tetrahydrosecodine (2-Ethyl-3[2-(3-ethyl)piperidino] indole) (Qureshi, 1991; Marwat *et al.*, 2012).
- 20-16S,16'-Decarboxytetrahydrosecamine (Marwat et al., 2012).
- 21-Decarbomethoxy-15,20,16,17-tetrahydrosecodine (Marwat et al., 2012).
- 22-Dehydroaspermidine
- 23-(+)-1,2-Dehydroaspidospermidine (eburenine) (Smith and Wahid, 1963; Schnoes et al.,



24-1,2-Dehydroaspidospermidine-N-oxide from roots (Atta-ur-Rahman and Zaman, 1986b).



- 25-Didemothoxycarbonyl-1-carbomethoxy-β-carboline from leaves (Marwat et al., 2012).
- 26-(20R),19,20-Dihydrocondylocarpine (1003) from fruits (Qureshi, 1991).
- 27-Didemethoxycarbonyltetrahydrosecamine from the roots (Atta-ur-Rahman et al. 1986f).
- 28- (20S),19,20-Dihydrocondylocarpine from frui (Atta-ur-Rahman et al., 1991a).
- 29-Dihydrocorynantheol (1004) from roots (Atta-ur-Rahman and Zaman, 1986a).
- 30-Dihydroeburnaminine from leaves and roots (Atta-ur-Rahman et al., 1991a).
- 31-Dihydroprescamine (1005) (Brown et al., 1970; Cordell et al., 1970b).
- 32-3,14-Dihydrorhazigune (Zaman, 1990, Qureshi, 1991).
- 33-Dihydrosecamine from leaves (Marwat et al., 2012).
- 34-Dihydrosecodine (1006) (Cordell et al., 1970a).
- 35-Dihydrosecamine (1007) (Evans *et al.*, 1968b)
- 36-(+)-Eburenine (Adel-Sattar et al., 1994).
- 37- (+)-21*S*-Eburnamenine from leaves and roots (Pleiocarpine) (Atta-ur-Rahman *et al.*, 1991a; Quereshi, 1991).
- 38-Eburnamine (1008) (Pleiocarpinidine) (Schnoes *et al.*, 1962; Atta-ur-Rahman *et al.*, 1989b).
- 39- Eburnamonine (1009) (Schnoes et al., 1962; Atta-ur-Rahman et al., 1989b).
- 40-3-epi-Antirhine from leaves (Marwat et al., 2012).
- 41-2-Ethyl-3[2-(3-ethylpiperidino)ethyl]-indole from leaves roots (Atta-ur-Rahman *et al.*, 1991a)
- 42- nor-C-Fluorocurarine (Crowley and Harley-Mason, 1971; Ahmad et al., 1977; Atta-ur-Rahman et al., 1989b).
- 43-16-Formylstrictamine from leaves (Marwat et al., 2012).
- 44-Geissoschizine (1010) (Banerji et al., 1970; Chatterjee et al., 1976b).
- 45-Harhingine from leaves (Marwat et al., 2012).
- 46-16'-Hydroxyrhazisidine (Zaman, 1990; Qureshi, 1991).
- 47-15β-Hydroxyvincadifformine from leaves (Atta-ur-Rahman et al., 1988e).
- 48-Isorhazicine (1011) from leaves (Atta-ur-Rahman and Khanum, 1987a).
- 49- Isosaifinine from roots (Abbas, 1995).
- 50-Isositsirikine (Kutney and Brown; 1966, Brown and Leonard, 1979).
- 51-16-epi-Z-Isositsirikine from leaves (Mukhopadhyay et al., 1983; Marwat et al., 2012).
- 52-16R-19,20-E-Isositsirikine acetate from leaves and roots (Atta-ur-Rahman et al., 1991a).
- 53-Isovallesiachotamine (1012) from legumes (Atta-ur-Rahman and Malik, 1984b; Malik, 1985).
- 54-Leepacine (1013) from leaves and roots (Atta-ur-Rahman et al., 1991a).
- 55-Leuconolam (1014) (Goh et al., 1984; Goh and Ali, 1986; Atta-ur-Rahman, 1989b).
- 56-nor-C-Luorocurarine (Marwat et al., 2012).
- 57-2-Methoxy-1,2-dihydrorhazimine from leaves (Atta-ur-Rahman and Khanum, 1985).
- 58-17-Methoxy-1,2-dihydrorhazimine (Marwat et al., 2012).
- 59-(-)16R,21R-O-methyleburnamine from leaves and roots (Atta-ur-Rahman et al., 1991a).
- 60-N-Methylleuconolam from roots (Qureshi, 1991 Atta-ur-Rahman et al., 1995b).
- 61-*N_b*-Methylstrictamine (**1015**) from leaves (Atta-ur-Rahman *et al.*, 1987e).
- 62-Polyneuridine (1016) (Ohashi et al., 1963; Mukhopadhyay et al., 1981).
- 63-Postsecamidine (Didemethoxycarbonyltetrahydrosecamine) from roots (Malik, 1985; Atta-ur-Rahman *et al.*, 1986f).
- 64-Prescamine (1017) (Cordell et al., 1970b,c; Brown et al., 1970).
- 65-Pseudoyohimbine (Abbas, 1995).

ŅΗ N H Η Н 0 Ή OCH₃ OH 1004 Dihydrocorynantheol Η 1003 (20R),19,20-Dihydrocondylocarpine H₃CO₂C N H ۍ H N H Ĥ ĊO₂CH₃ CO₂CH₃ **1005** Dihydropresecamine 1006 Dihydrosecodine H H HO. ĿН CO₂CH₃ Η Ĥ CO₂CH₃ 1008 Eburnamine 1007 Dihydrosecamine H H Н N H Η Ĥ O² Н́ OMe Ò. H₃CO-H ŲÓ 0 N H Ö ÓН



1010 Geissoschizine

1011 Isorhazicine



A. RIZK



1017 Presecamine

- 66- (-)-Quebrachamine (Chatterjee *et al.*, 1961b, Chaudhury *et al.*, 1963b, Siddiqui *et al.*, 1966; Jewers *et al.*, 1980; Miana *et al.*, 1982, Abdel-Sattar *et al.*, 1994).
- 67-Rhazicine (1018) from leaves (Atta-ur-Rahman and Khanum, 1984c).
- 68- Rhazidigenine (Qureshi, 1991).
- 69- Rhazidigenine N-oxide (1019) (Miana et al., 1982).
- 70-Rhazidine (1020, rhazidigenine) (Chaudhury et al., 1963a,b)
- 71- Rhazigine (Zaman, 1990, Qureshi, 1991).
- 72-Rhazimal (16-formylstrictamine) (1021) (Ahmad *et al.*, 1979a, 1983, Atta-ur-Rahman and Habib-ur-arahman, 1986).
- 73-Rhazimanine (1022) from fruits (Malik, 1985; Atta-ur-Rahman *et al.*, 1986e), roots (Bashir *et al*, 1994a).
- 74- Rhazimine (1023) from leaves (Atta-ur-Rahman and Khanum, 1984b).
- 75-Rhaziminine from leaves (Marwat et al., 2012).
- 76- Rhazimol (deacetylakuammiline) (**1024**) from roots (Ahmad *et al.*, 1979a, 1983; Atta-ur-Rahman and Zaman, 1986a).
- 77-Rhazinaline (1025) (16-formyl-16-epistrictamine) (Banerji et al., 1970; Chatterjee et al.,

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1976b).

- 78- Rhazine from air-dried roots and leaves (Chatterjee *et al.*, 1961b, 1962; Chaudhury *et al.*, 1963b; Jewers *et al.*, 1980).
- 79- Rhazinilam (1026) (Banerji et al., 1970; De Silva et al., 1972; Jewers et al., 1980).
- 80- Rhazinine (Ganguli et al., 1962; Siddiqui et al., 1966).
- 81-Rhazinol (a hydroxyl methyl analog of strictamine) (Ahmad et al., 1979a, 1983).
- 82-Rhazisidine (Atta-ur-Rahman, 1986b).
- 83- Rhazizine (1027) from leaves (Atta-ur-Rahman et al., 1989c).
- 84- Rhimberine N-oxide (Bisset, 1958; Zaman, 1990).
- 85-Saifine (1028) from roots (Abbas, 1995 Atta-ur-Rahman et al., 1995b).
- 86-Saifinine from roots (Abbas, 1995).
- 87-Secamine (1029) from leaves (Evans et al., 1968b).
- 88- Sewarine (**1030**) (10-hydroxyakuammicine) (Siddiqui *et al.*, 1966; Ahmad *et al.*, 1970, 1971; Mukhopadhyay *et al.*, 1981).
- 89-Stemmadenine from leaves (Mariee et al., 1988).
- 90-Strictalamine (1031) (Ahmad et al., 1977).
- 91- Strictamine (1032) (Vincamidine) (Schnoes *et al.*, 1966; Ahmad *et al.*, 1977; Atta-ur-Rahman and Habib-ur-Rahman, 1986; Atta-ur-Rahman *et al.*, 1989b).
- 92- Strictamine N-oxide from leaves (Atta-ur-Rahman and Khanum, 1984a).
- 93- Strictanine (1033) from fruits (Atta-ur-Rahman and Malik, 1987).
- 94-Strictanol from fruits (Atta-ur-Rahman and Malik, 1987), roots (Bashir et al., 1994a; Abbas, 1995).
- 95-Strictavine (Cordell, 1970; Qureshi, 1991).
- 96-Strictazine (Zeadon and Kaposi, 1970, Qureshi, 1991).
- 97-Strictibine (1034) from leaves (Habib-ur-Rahman and Atta-ur-Rahman, 1996).
- 98- Stricticine (1035) (Ahmad et al., 1983; Atta-ur-Rahman et al., 1987d).
- 99-bis-Strictidine from leaves (Marwat et al., 2012).
- 100-Strictimidine from leaves (Marwat et al., 2012).
- 101-Strictigine (Qureshi, 1991).
- 102-Strictimine (a bispiperidine alkaloid) from the roots (Atta-ur-Rahman and Zaman, 1984).
- 103-Strictine (1036) (Ahmad et al., 1983; Atta-ur-Rahman and Khanum, 1987b).
- 104- Strictosamide (1037) from leaves and roots (Atta-ur-Rahman et al., 1991).
- 105-Strictisidine (1038) (Qureshi, 1991).
- 106-Strictosidine (Issovincoside) (1039) (Smith, 1968; Atta-ur-Rahman et al., 1989b; Qureshi, 1991)
- 107-Tabersonine (1040) (Marwat et al., 2012).
- 108-Tetrahydroalstonine (1041) (Atta-ur-Rahman and Malik, 1984a, Malik, 1984, 1985).
- 109-Tetrahydroprescamine (1042, Cordell et al., 1978).
- 110-Tetrahydrosecamine from leaves and roots (Mukhopadhyay *et al.*, 1981; Bashir *et al.*, 1994a).
- 111- Tetrahydrosecamines (Cordell et al., 1970b; Evans et al., 1968b; Abbas, 1995).
- 112-Tetrahydrosecodine (1043) (Brown et al., 1970; Cordell et al., 1970a).
- 113-Vallesiachotamine (**1044**) (Mukhopadhyay *et al.*, 1981; Atta-ur-Rahman and Malik, 1984b; Atta-ur-Rahman *et al.*, 1989b).
- 114- (+)-Vincadifformine (Goh and Ali, 1986; Smith and Wahid, 1963; Zeadon and Kopsi, 1970).
- 115-(-)-Vincadifformine (1045) (Marwat et al., 2012).
- 116-(±)-Vincadifformine (Smith and Wahid, 1963, Zeadon and Kopsi, 1970).
- 117- Vincadine (1046) from legumes (Atta-ur-Rahman and Malik, 1985; Malik, 1985).

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118- Vincanicine (1047) (12-methoxy-nor-C-fluorocurarine) (Atta-ur-Rahman et al., 1987f).



1027 Rhazizine

1028 Saifine



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1046 Vincadine



1047 Vincanicine

Non-Alkaloidal Constituents

Two flavonoids rhazinoside A and rhazinoside B were isolated from dried leaves of *Rhazya stricta*. The sugar portion of both flavonoid glycosides contains 1 mole rhamnose and 2 moles galactose (Kaneko and Namba, 1967). In addition, robinin, isorhamnetin 3-(6-rhamnosylgalactoside)-7-rhamnoside and isorhamnetin 3-(2,6-dirhamnosyl-galactoside)-7-rhamnoside (Andersen *et al.*, 1986) and 5,7-dihydroxy-6,2'-dimethoxy-flavone (Sultana *et al.*, 2005) were identified from the plant.

The leaves contain ursolic acid and methyl quinate (Kaneko and Nambe, 1967). Lupeol, lupeol 3-O-acetate, β -sitosterol glucoside (Qureshi, 1991), stigmasterol and 3 α -hydroxy-ursane-2-ene (Sultana and Khalid, 2010) were isolated from the fruits.

Vanillin, 5-methoxyeugenol, *trans*, *trans*-farnesol, phytol, dihydroactinidiolide and 4hydroxy-4,8,12,16-tetramethylheptadecanoic acid were isolated from the air-dried parts of *R*. *stricta* growing in Saudi Arabia (Abdel-Mogib *et al.*, 1998).

Trace elements (Al, Ag, Ba, Co, Cr, Cu, Fe, Mn, Ni, Pb, Sr, Ti and Zn) were determined in the ashes of leaves, shoots, flowers, seeds and roots of the plant growing in sandy areas of Karachi, Pakistan (Fatima *et al.*, 1999).

