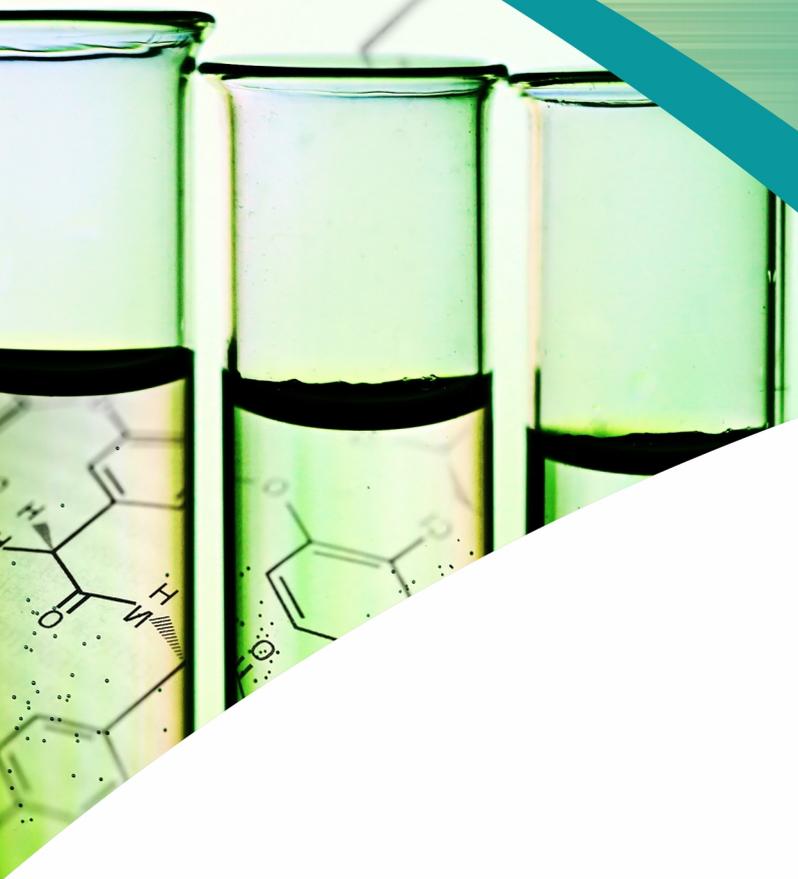


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Cannabis sativa Plant and its Viable Antifungal Activity

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ABSTRACT

Background and aims: *Cannabis sativa* has a long history of human use. It has several phytoconstituents namely cannabinoids, terpenoids, and phenolic compounds. Among these, cannabinoids reflect the most studied class of molecules. Tetrahydrocannabinol and cannabidiol are the major cannabinoids. Cannabinoids show their action by acting on the endocannabinoid system found in human body. It possesses potent antifungal and antimicrobial activity. Researches have shown that *C. sativa* has been effective in killing *Candida albicans* and *Aspergillus niger* without causing drug resistance. In one study, it was reported that acidic extract of *C. sativa* was effective in showing antifungal activity at very low concentrations when compared to Nystatin. In a recent study, ZnO and Ag doped nanoparticles were prepared from *Cannabis sativa* leaf extract. They were found to be effective against fungal (*Fusarium spp.* and *Rosellinia necatrix*) and microbial strains. It's reclassification in 2018 from Schedule 1 to Schedule 2 made it possible to be prescribed in disease conditions.

Methods: Up to date data obtained from various reliable resources has been used. It includes Scopus, Web of Science, Medline via PubMed, Google Scholar, several reviews and research articles, books, clinical trials and government reports.

Results: Extensive studies indicated *C. sativa* plant's antifungal potential along with its other established medicinal effects. It displays antifungal activity and thus can also be used on commercial level. It was also observed that cannabis lacks supportive clinical data and more studies are needed to be conducted for harnessing its full antifungal potential.

Conclusions: Despite being a plant of medicinal importance, *C. sativa* is still considered as a threat to society due to its abuse potential. However, under proper guidance and in proper concentration it can prove to be a drug of great importance with least toxicity.



Aims & Scope

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