

Analytical study of *Coscinium fenestratum* (Gaertn.)

market samples in Sri Lanka. Abstract proceeding

BOOK, 10th International Conference in the Series : Functional Food in the Prevention and Management of Chronic Disease, **Functional Foods and Bioactive Compounds in Health and Disease: Science and Practice**, March 13-15, 2012, University of California, Santa Barbara (Santa Barbara, California, USA)

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Abstract:

Coscinium fenestratum (Gaertn.) Colebr. (Menispermaceae), called Venival in Sri Lanka. It is used in traditional medicine for treatment of diabetes and other ailments. The stem of *C. fenestratum* contains berberine, which is the major active compound. The interest in the biological activities of this plant has accelerated in recent years. Its stem powder is now mostly used in traditional medicine. In the present study we have done a comparative analytical study chromatographically with different market samples from various parts of the country to identify any variation in *C. fenestratum* powder (n=5). The measured moisture content, total alkaloids, and total alkaloids in layer chromatography and basic tanarization method of the powder. Total moisture content, total alkaloids and total alkaloids respectively were in the range of 6-10%, 3-6% and 2-4%. The layer chromatographic fingerprint of each extract showed a similar pattern with Rf values of authentic samples. In conclusion, our findings indicate that some stem powder samples of *C. fenestratum* vary with our authentic samples. This indicates that there should be a strong rug tanarization and quality control method implemented for herbal rug suppliers.