



## Effect of colchicine on different growth parameters and secondary metabolite (Mangiferin, scopoletin and quercetin) evaluated by HPTLC analysis in ethanolic micro extracts of *Canscora decurrens* (Dalz)

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### Abstract

In the present study, dry seeds of *C. decurrens* were treated with different concentration of colchicine (0.5, 1 and 2%), to increase the synthesis and accumulation of secondary metabolite as well as changing the genetic activity which may lead to increased chance of obtaining high yielding plant variety. In the study highest doses of colchicine exhibited enhanced shoot and root length, no. of leaves and node. In contrast to that fresh weight was significantly decreased in 2% colchicine as against in control. Chlorophyll content (chl a, b and total chl) showed great variability as well as uneven distribution of chlorophyll pigment irrespective of colchicine doses was found. In quantitative HPTLC analysis of secondary metabolite (mangiferin, scopoletin and quercetin) in ethanolic micro extracts all doses of colchicines were found to effectively increase the active phytochemical, quantity of scopoletin was found highest in 1% than control.

**Keywords:** *C. decurrens*, colchicine, HPTLC, mangiferin, scopoletin, quercetin

### Introduction

*Canscora decurrens* (syn. *C. diffusa*) is such a potential medicinal plant known to cure large number of disorders of central nervous system [6]. Whole plants of *Canscora* species are used in large number of Ayurvedic herbal preparations of nervous disorders like epilepsy, insanity, nervous debility and as nervine tonic [13]. In the present study approaches were used to optimize the synthesis and accumulation of secondary metabolite. If either growing plants should be exposed to stressful condition using colchicine or changing the genetic activity which may lead to increased chance of obtaining high yielding plant variety, further different solution of colchicine were worn on biomass production in terms of shoot and root length, number of leaves, fresh weight, dry weight, chlorophyll content as well as on Phytochemistry [28].

Colchicine (C<sub>22</sub>H<sub>25</sub>O<sub>6</sub>N), a product extracted from the seeds and bulbs of *Colchicum autumnale* L., is probably the most widely used chemical for induction of polyploidy. Colchicine inhibits formation of spindle fibres which result in polyploid cells [1]. These cells are often larger than diploid counter parts and greater cell volume frequently develops into thicker tissues, thus resulting in large size plant organs. It also affects stomata size, stomata frequency, pollen grain diameter and other plant morphological characteristics in new higher ploidy levels [24].

In *C. decurrens* extraction was done through Microwave assisted extraction method to extract the secondary metabolite from plant material. In Microwave assisted extraction heating of mixture (Powder + solvent) occurs in targeted and selective manner as no heat is lost, this method is most suitable for polar mixtures [17]. The extraction is governed by ionic conduction and dipole rotation of both solid plant matrix and solvent and hence unlike Soxhlet (conductive heating) microwave heat the whole sample simultaneously microwave

extraction cutback cost and time with very less solvent consumption [27]. It is also simple, rapid and safe. Further effect of different concentration of colchicine on secondary metabolite [9]. Effect of different doses of colchicine on secondary metabolite Mangiferin (Xanthone), Scopoletin (Coumarin) and Quercetin (Flavonoid) was evaluated by HPTLC analysis. HPTLC has emerged as an efficient and powerful analytical technique for fingerprinting and quantification of marker compounds in herbal drugs due to its merits of reliability, simplicity, sensitivity, accuracy, suitability for high throughput screening and speed of estimation of the content of phytochemicals in herbs [13, 5]. It is more accurate, reliable, cost effective and user friendly than other methods like, NMR, GC-MS, LC-MS and IR [26].

No attempts have been done to study the effect of different concentration on growth and phytochemistry. The present study bridges this gap and has come out with interesting results.

### Material and Methods

#### 1. a. Growth and Germination

Mature and dry seeds of *C. decurrens* (7mg for every treatment) were soaked in aqueous solution of Colchicine (0.5, 1 and 2%) for 6hrs. At the end of treatment the seeds were surface sterilized (1 wash of mercuric chloride and 3 times with distilled water) and seeds were inoculated on MS basal medium and kept under controlled condition for 3 months for further germination and growth. Effect of colchicine was studied on various growth parameters like, shoot length, root length, no. of node, no. of leaves, fresh weight and dry weight and chlorophyll content.

#### b. Chlorophyll Content

500mg of fresh leaves were ground in 80% acetone (10ml),

filtered and centrifuged (5000rpm) for 5 min. This procedure was repeated for three times. The supernatant were analyzed spectrophotometrically (ELICO BL-198) by recording absorbance at 663 and 645nm wavelength.

Quantity of chlorophyll was calculated by following formula [19].

$$\begin{aligned} \text{mg chlorophyll a/g tissue} &= 12.7(A_{663}) - 2.69(A_{645}) \times v \setminus 1000 \times w \\ \text{mg chlorophyll b/g tissue} &= 22.9(A_{645}) - 4.68(A_{663}) \times v \setminus 1000 \times w \\ \text{Total chlorophyll/g} &= 20.2(A_{645}) + 8.02(A_{663}) \times v \setminus 1000 \times w. \end{aligned}$$

## 2. Micro-Extraction

The plants grown from the seeds treated with aqueous colchicine (0.5%, 1% and 2%) were shade dried and powdered. 500 mg powder was taken in absolute ethanol and microextracted in waterbath in microwave (Kenstar3D power and set at 60%) in 8 cycle of 30sec of each.

## 3. HPTLC Analysis

Phytochemical groups namely xanthenes, coumarin and flavonoid were selected. HPTLC procedure involved loading of 4µl ethanolic microextracts (obtained from microwave) using mangiferin (Xanthenes), scopoletin (Coumarin) and quercetin (flavonoids) as reference standard. Plates were developed using a mobile phase Ethylacetate: Glacial acetate: Formic acid: Water (100:11:11:26) for Xanthenes and Toluene-diethylether (1:1) saturated with 10% acetic acid for Coumarin and flavonoids. Densitometric analysis was done at 258nm for mangiferin, for scopoletin and quercetin at 366nm. Derivatization was done by NP/PEG and 10% KOH at UV254 and UV 366nm for Xanthone, Coumarin and flavonoids UV 365nm.

## 4. Quantification

Quantity of mangiferin, scopoletin and quercetin in all the treated and control plants was obtained by the following formula:

**Amount of secondary metabolite present in sample (µg) = Concentration of standard in 4µl × peak area of sample / peak area of Standard**

The Concentration of sample is 0.25µg/4µl in ethanol and for standard (Mangiferin, Scopoletin) is 0.25µg/4µl and 0.5µg/4µl for (quercetin) in ethanol, width of band were -6mm.

## Results and Discussion

### 1. Effect of Colchicine on the Shoot and Root Length, No. Of Leaves and Node

In *C. decurrens*, colchicine was found to have negative impact on seed germination and survival of plants at maturity [18]. There was stimulatory effect of all doses on shoot growth as compared to that in control. Among all doses 2% colchicine exhibited highest shoot length (6.5 cm) and it decreased with decrease in colchicine concentration (fig,1). Root length also showed promising increase with better root growth and highest root length (11.6 cm) in 2% colchicine. In other doses it was 6.55 cm (0.5%) and 8.0cm in (1%) which was more than that of control [15]. Similar enhancing trend was found with respect to no. of nodes and leaves after colchicine treatment. It was highest again in 2% colchicine with 6.5 number of nodes with 15 leaves. In 0.5 and 1% both the parameters showed increased. Value that of control (3.84-no. of nodes and 8.9 - no. of leaves (Table.1). increase in plant height, no. of branches, no. of leaves and leaf dry weight in *Datura stramonium* [3].

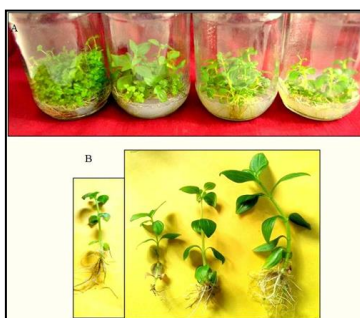
In contrast to that fresh weight was significant decreased in 2% (5.87gm) as against in control (11.07 gm). The probable reason for this might be low survival of plants at higher dose. When the fresh weight biomass was dried lowest dry weight was encountered in control (0.53gm). The difference in weights gradually increases from highest dose to control (Table. 1). Interestingly as the dose increased stimulation increased. Early reports indicated that colchicine has capacity to affect certain metabolic process increasing the rate of enzymatic reactions in proportion to its concentration [7].

**Table 1:** Effect of Colchicine on different growth parameters and biomass of *C. decurrens*.

Concentration \ Parameters	Shoot length (cm)	Root length (cm)	No. of nodes	No. of leaves	Fresh weight (g)	Dry weight (g)
0.5%	4.70±0.03 <sup>b</sup>	6.55±0.06 <sup>b</sup>	4.46±0.04 <sup>b</sup>	11.01±0.08 <sup>b</sup>	10.46±0.15 <sup>c</sup>	0.79±0.01 <sup>c</sup>
1	5.50±0.09 <sup>c</sup>	8.04±0.11 <sup>c</sup>	5.16±0.08 <sup>c</sup>	12.27±0.17 <sup>c</sup>	7.277±0.11 <sup>b</sup>	0.68±0.008 <sup>b</sup>
2	6.5±0.12 <sup>d</sup>	11.60±0.29 <sup>d</sup>	6.50±0.10 <sup>d</sup>	15.01±0.20 <sup>d</sup>	5.87±0.12 <sup>a</sup>	0.49±0.03 <sup>a</sup>
Control	3.78±0.04 <sup>a</sup>	3.71±0.06 <sup>a</sup>	3.84±0.08 <sup>a</sup>	8.91±0.08 <sup>a</sup>	11.07±0.10 <sup>d</sup>	0.53±0.01 <sup>a</sup>

The data shown are means±SD of three replicates. Mean with in coloumn followed by same letter are not significantly

different at  $p \leq 0.05$ . Different lettera a,b,c and d denote significant



**Fig 1:** Effect of colchicine treatment Growth paorameters of *C. decurrens* A (R to L) – shootegth in control, 2,1 and 0.5% colchicine, B no. of node leaves in control, 0.5,1 and 2% colchicine

The fundamental significance of photosynthesis in any commercial plants is its direct impact on biomass production (Fw\ Dw) and economical viability. High rates of photosynthesis maintain the plants against stressful eventualities [11]. Chlorophyll content (chl a, b and total chl) shows great variability. In general chl a was found to be

higher than chl b in control and chlorophyll treatment except 2% dose where chl b is much higher than chl a, chl b content, on the other hand, show linear decrease from higher to lower doses [4, 6]. These result are in agreement with those obtained in *Hibiscus sabdariffa* [22] (Table. 2).

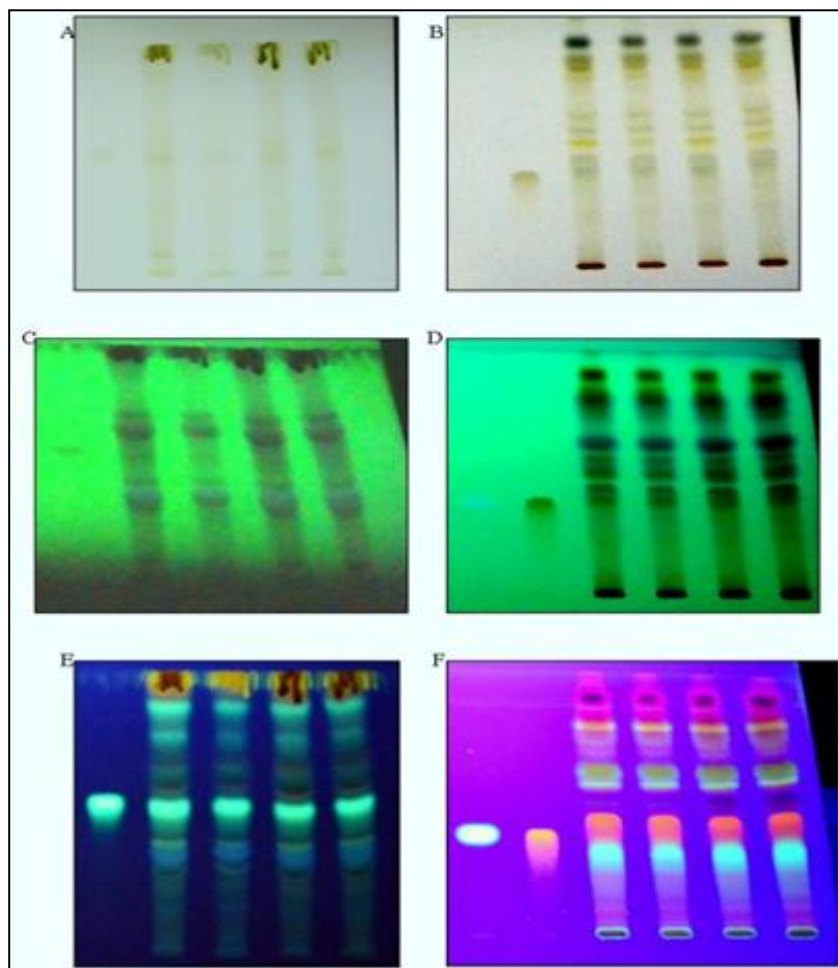
**Table 2:** Effect of Colchicine on chlorophyll content

Concentration	Chlorophyll a	Chlorophyll b	Total chlorophyll
%	(mg)	(mg)	(mg)
0.5	12.78	5.38	18.2
1	17.39	6.55	23.9
2	0.04	12.05	12
Control	13	5.5	18.5

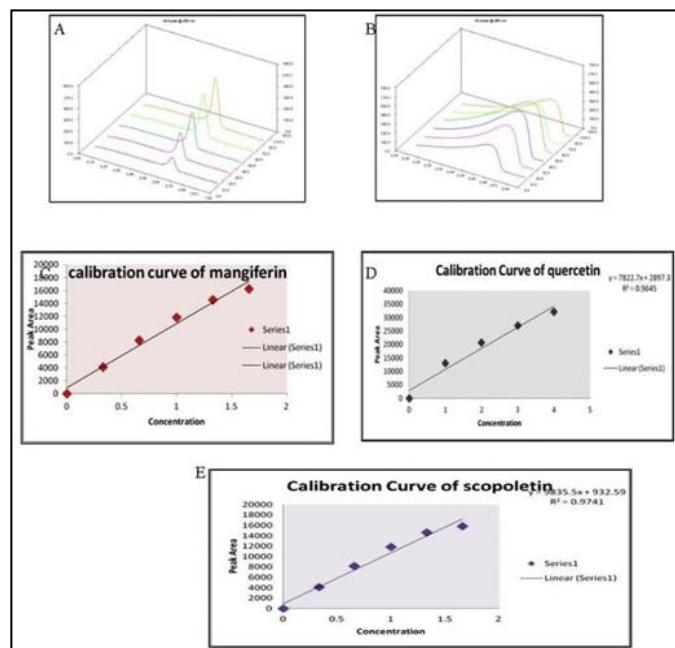
**2. Quantitative analysis of secondary metabolite (mangiferin, scopoletin and quercetin) in *C. decurrens***

Colchicine is a potent chemical which can be used to get vigorous, giant plants. However the main problem in colchicine treatment is delayed or inhibited cell division, due to inhibited spindle apparatus formation. [12, 21] It leads to severe lethality in the treated plant which is evident from the results of present investigations increase in

phytochemical were envisaged in *C. decurrens*. The data of HPTLC quantification of xanthenes (with reference to standard mangiferin), coumarin (with reference to standard scopoletin) and flavonoid (with respect to standard quercetin) in control and treated plants, In *C. decussate* quantification is done for mangiferin by HPLC method [10, 25]. Similarly spectrofluorometric determination of scopoletin and mangiferin in *C. decussata*. [20]



**Fig 2:** Finger printing profiling of colchicine treated plant extract and control (L-R) photo Amangiferin, 0.5, 12% and control b-standard, (scopoletin and quercetin), 0.5, 12% and control in visible c and d- in 254nm and e, f in 366nm after derivatisation



**Fig 3:** spectra and calibration curve of standard (mangiferin, scopoletin and quercetin). A-mangiferin;B-quercetin; C,D,E- calibration curve

In colchicine pure standard mangiferin, scopoletin and quercetin showed R<sub>f</sub> and peak area (0.64, 12466.1AU), (0.43, 9363AU) and (0.41, 23139.5) respectively. In colchicine treated extract (0.5, 1 and 2%) mangiferin R<sub>f</sub> ranged from 0.59- 0.73 and peak area found to be 11127.0, 9797.0, 11697.1 AU respectively. In control peak area for mangiferin was 8492.8 AU for scopoletin and quercetin R<sub>f</sub> ranged between 0.42-0.47 .0.5% treatment showed peak area 8868.4 and 7135.9 AU was observed in1%, 11858.8 and 6496.0AU and in highest dose 2% showed 8655.3 and 6341.9.In control 6914.9 and 4727.2AU. All the colchicine doses showed increase in peak area for mangiferin, scopoletin and quercetin. Maximum

peak area for mangiferin was observed in 2% (11697.1 AU), in scopoletin it was observed in 1% (11858.8 AU) and in quercetin (7135.9 AU) in 0.5% (Table. 3).

▪ **For quantification of Mangiferin. (fig. 2,3)**

The developed HPTLC plates of standard mangiferin was scanned at 258 nm wavelength and indicated R<sub>f</sub> value ranging between 0.53(start position) to 0.66 (end position).

The estimation of mangiferin by standard calibration curve, showed a good correlation coefficient (r<sup>2</sup>= 0.9803) in the selected concentration range per spot with respect peak area. The equation of standard curve y=9973.9x + 888.11. The plot has slop (m) y = mx + c (fig C) (fig. 3).

At 258nm spectra of all track indicated presence of 7 peaks in *C. decurrens* sample corresponding to 7 xanthenes derivatives (fig.2 E,F).However the peak corresponding to that of standard mangiferin (R<sub>f</sub> 0.65) in each track was selected for quantification. The peak area of mangiferin in each sample (each track) is designated by densitogram (fig. 4).

▪ **For quantification of Quercetin and Scopoletin**

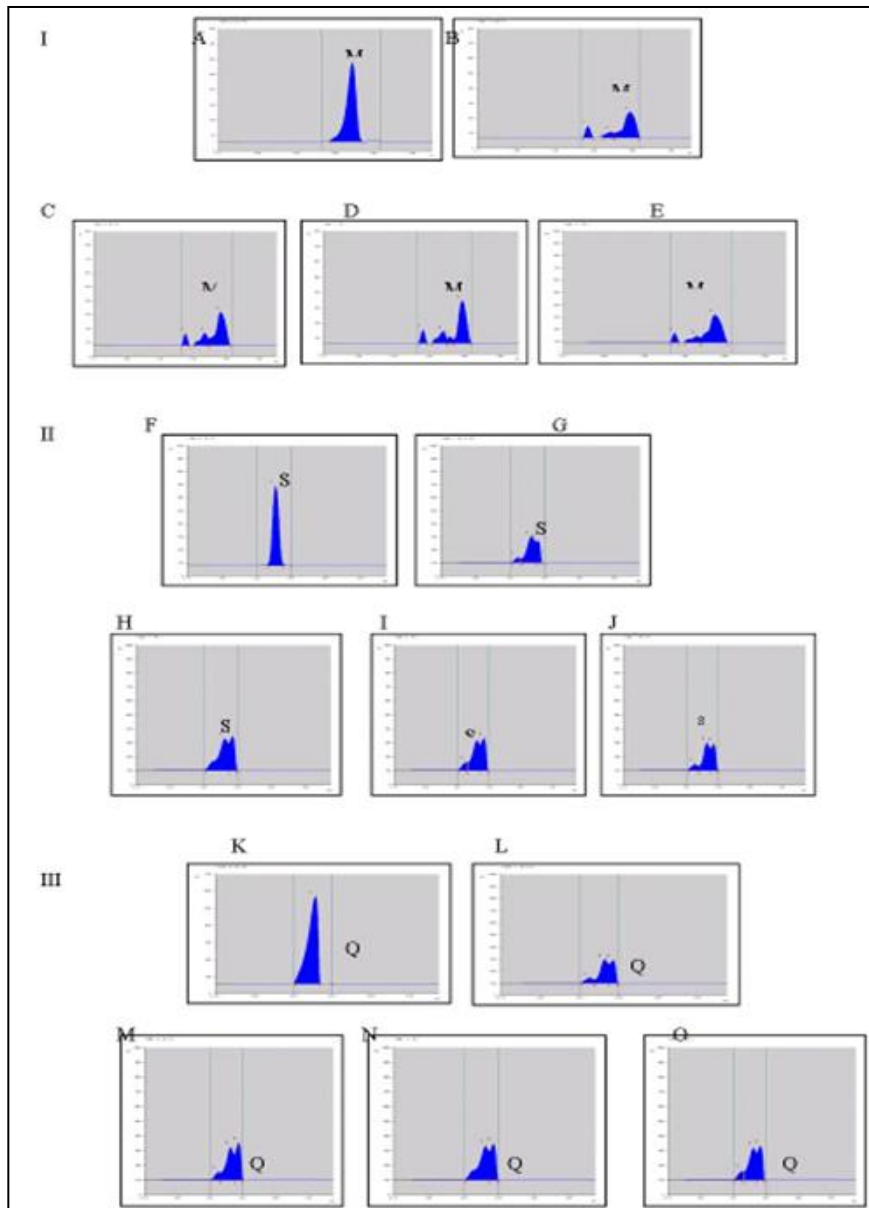
Both quercetin and scopoletin were resolved in the same mobile phase (Toulene: diethylether 1:1 saturated with 10% glacial acetic acid) and detected in 254 nm as dark absorbing (quenching) bands and in 365nm as fluorescent blue bands (scopoletin) and orange fluorescence quercetin (fig. 2).

The standard calibration curve of quercetin showed colinerity between different concentration and their respective peak area (fig3.D) with r<sup>2</sup>= 0.9645.correlarion coefficient. The equation of best felting line was y= 7822.6x+2897.3, similar for scopoletin good colinerity was observed having R<sup>2</sup>=0.9741(fig.3.E).The corresponding R<sub>f</sub> for quercetin was found to be in the range 0.26(start position) to 0.42 (end position) while for scopoletin it was 0.34 (start position) and 0.43 (end position). The spectra at selected R<sub>f</sub> indicated presence of 2 closely situated peaks.

**Table 3:** R<sub>f</sub> range and area of peak in colchicine treated plant extracts

Peak	start position	end Position	Area	Area%
<b>I. Mangiferin-</b>				
Track1- Std Mangiferin				
1	0.47 R <sub>f</sub>	0.64 R <sub>f</sub>	12466.1	100.00%
Track 2-0.5% colchicine				
1	0.59 R <sub>f</sub>	0.72 R <sub>f</sub>	11127.0 AU	70.91%
Track 3-1%colchicine				
1	0.63 R <sub>f</sub>	0.73 R <sub>f</sub>	9797.0 AU	66.05%
Track 4- 2%colchicine				
1	0.57 R <sub>f</sub>	0.71 R <sub>f</sub>	11697.1 AU	78.34%
Track5 –control				
1	0.60 R <sub>f</sub>	0.73 R <sub>f</sub>	8492.8 AU	75.53%
<b>II. Scopoletin and Querctin</b>				
Track1- Std Scopoletin				
1	0.34 R <sub>f</sub>	0.43 R <sub>f</sub>	9363.0 AU	100.00%
Track2-Std Querctin				
1	0.28 R <sub>f</sub>	0.41 R <sub>f</sub>	23139.5 AU	100.00%
Track3-0.5% colchicine				
1	0.34 R <sub>f</sub>	0.42 R <sub>f</sub>	8868.4 AU	50.85%
2	0.42 R <sub>f</sub>	0.47 R <sub>f</sub>	7135.9 AU	40.91%
Track4-1%colchicine				
1	0.28 R <sub>f</sub>	0.42 R <sub>f</sub>	11858.8 AU	64.61%

2	0.42 Rf	0.47 Rf	6496.0 AU	35.39%
Track5-2%colchicine				
1	0.34 Rf	0.42 Rf	8655.3 AU	52.79%
2	0.42 Rf	0.46 Rf	6341.9 AU	38.68%
Track6-Control				
1	0.35 Rf	0.42 Rf	6914.9 AU	52.56%
2	0.42 Rf	0.47Rf	4727.2	35.93%



**Fig 4:** Densitogram showing mangiferin, scopoletin and quercetin in control, colchicine treated plant extract I mangiferin A- standard B-control, C-0.5%, D-1% E-2%, II scopoletin F standard G control, H 0.5% I-0.55; J-2%; III Quercetin K-standard L control, m 0.5%; N-1%; o-2%;

**Table 4:** Effect of Colchicine on quantity of mangiferin, scopoletin and quercetin in *C.decurrens*

Doses	Quantity of secondary metabolite		
	Mangiferin	Scopoletin	Quercetin
	(µg/ml)		
0.5%	147.5	155	152.5
1	130	207.5	140
2	152.5	152.5	137.5
Control	110	120	105

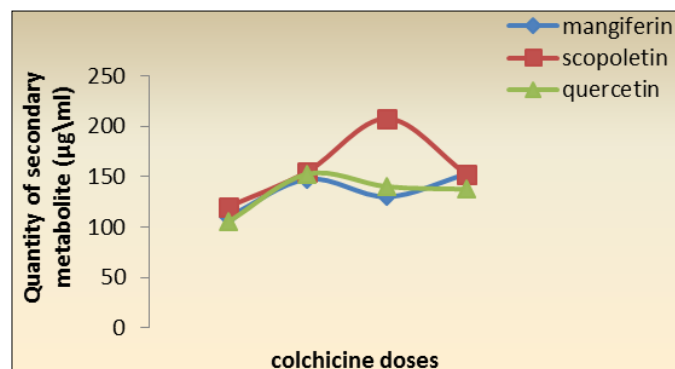


Fig 5

Colchicine was found to be most effective in enhancing the quantity of all phytoconstituents mangiferin concentration was increased in all doses of colchicine viz 0.5% (147.5), 1% (130) and 2% (152.5µg/ml. In control mangiferin was found in 110 µg/ml concentration. All doses of colchicine showed induced scopoletin production as compared to that in control. Quercetin on the other hand was promising increased but as the dose increased the quercetin quantity decreased i.e higher dose lower quantity of quercetin. (Table.4). In the present investigation, very high stimulation was observed in all the three phytoconstituents. Interestingly the phytochemical increase is positively correlated with increased in biomass similar report found in phytoconstituent Camptothecin and shikonin after treated with mutagen [8].

### Conclusion

- The establish method of extraction detection and identification in futuristic commercial exploitation of this potent medicinal plant.
- Colchicine at all doses were found to be positively interacting with *C. decurrens* genome as all the growth parameters showed positive growth with subsequently led to higher fresh weight\ dry weight.
- In colchicine the quantity of scopoletin increased than control at 1% but higher doses was found to be detrimental.

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