

International Journal of Scientific Research in Biological Sciences Vol.5, Issue.5, pp.83-89, October (2018)

Extraction and characterization of natural dye from arils of *Celastrus paniculatus* Willd. for textile application

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Available online at: www.isroset.org

Received: 05/Oct/2018, Accepted: 19/Oct/2018, Online: 31/Oct/2018

Abstract- Celastrus paniculatus Willd., is one of the important medicinal plants belongs to the family Celastraceae. The present study is carried out for the first time to extract natural pigment from the arils, which are of orange-red in colour. The dye was extracted with hot water boiling method. The color of the extracted dye is orange. However, the orange color changes to yellowish-orange on cotton fabric when dyed .The dye potential of the extract was evaluated by dyeing on cotton fabrics without/with mordants such as ammonium ferric sulphate, ferrous sulphate, and copper sulphate. Shades of yellow color were observed when different mordants were used. Ferrous sulphate and copper sulphate have exhibited good coordination complexes with dye molecules that have reflected in imparting bright yellow shades to the fabric. The dyed cotton fabric was tested for color fastness by light, rub and wash fastness. The fabric showed no significant changes in rub and light fastness. However, studies have showed slight fading in color when subjected to wash fastness. The spectroscopic characteristics were determined with the help of UV-Vis and FTIR. UV-Vis spectral analysis of both mordanted and unmordanted dye have revealed varied peaks for the pigments indicating different binding affinity of mordants with chromphore groups within the pigments that give different shades. Analysis of dye by Infrared spectroscopic study has displayed the presence of carotenoid content at 940cm⁻¹. The findings disclosed that the extraction of dye from aril of *Celastrus paniculatus* Willd. has promising prospect in textile industry.

Keywords: Aril, Celastrus paniculatus, Cotton fabric, Mordants, Natural dye, Spectral analysis.

I. INTRODUCTION

The use of natural dves/colorants has decreased largely since the advent of synthetic dyes in 1856 by William Henry Perkin accidently [1]. Recently, dyes derived from natural sources have emerged as important alternatives to synthetics dyes, which have been reported to have carcinogenic effects. Natural dyes have better biodegradability and generally have higher compatibility with the environment. The natural dyes are clinically safer than their synthetic analogues in handling and use because of non-carcinogenic and biodegradable nature [2]. In India, more than 450 plants can yield dyes [3]. Archaeological evidences have shown that, particularly in India and the Middle East, dyeing is being carrying out since 5000 years. Generally, light fastness, wash fastness and rub fastness are important parameters to be considered for textile fibers. However, dyeing textile using natural dyes was found to yield poor color because of inadequate fastness properties [4]. Hence, mordants are being used to enhance the effectiveness of these characteristics to form a dye complex to fix the dye and fiber together. Metal ions of mordants act as electron acceptors for electrons donors to form co-ordination bonds with the dye molecule, making them insoluble in water [5]. Common mordants used for dyeing are ammonium ferric sulphate (alum), chrome, stannous chloride, copper sulphate and ferrous sulphate etc. [6]. In present study, color pigments were isolated from orange colored arils of *Celastrus paniculatus* and studied in order to understand the process-taking place during its usage in textile coloration along with/without mordants. In addition, the effect of mordants employed in the dyeing process has been studied. Further, Spectroscopic and FTIR analysis have been conducted to know the nature of compounds and for identification of certain bonding elements/ functional groups present in the dye.

This article deals with the research on extraction of dye from arils of *C.paniculatus* and dyeing of cotton fabric. The importance of natural dyes in place of synthetic dyes, significance of using mordants in textile industry and justification of the objectives are briefly explained in introduction. This section is followed by the materials and methodology, which briefly deals with plant collection, its authentication, design of experiments for the extraction of the dye and dying process. The results observed by our present

Int. J. Sci. Res. in Biological Sciences

experiments are depicted in tables, figures and supplemented with photographs. The present findings are discussed thoroughly by comparing our findings with previous relevant works. Finally, the feasibility of utilizing the orange dye from the arils of *Celastrus paniculatus* in cotton textile industries along with recommendations is mentioned in conclusion.

II. MATERIALS AND METHODOLOGY

Materials

Source: Healthy mature fruits were collected from the plants growing in the outskirts of Yellahanka and GKVK Agricultural University campus, Bangalore, Karnataka, India (Fig. 1A). The source plants were identified and authenticated by Southern Regional Center, Botanical Survey of India, Tamil Coimbatore, Nadu, India (BSI/SRC/5/23/2017/Tech/1598). Herbarium of the authenticated material is deposited in Department of Botany, Bangalore University, Bangalore, India (Voucher number: BUB 301).

Substrate: 100% cotton cloth was purchased from departmental stores, Bangalore, Karnataka.

Mordants: Ammonium ferric sulphate (Alum), Copper sulphate and Ferrous sulphate.

Methods

The dyeing of cotton fabric with aril dye extract was carried out in five stages - Preparation of raw material, extraction of dye from aril, scouring of cotton, mordanting and dyeing.

Preparation of raw material

Mature fruits were thoroughly washed in running tap water to remove impurities. They were then, cut open to collect the seeds. Orange colored arils were removed from the mature seeds and stored at 4°c in refrigerator for further studies (Fig.1B-1C).

Extraction of colorant

Customary boiling method was followed to extract the dye.100gm of aril was weighed accurately and added to 500ml of distilled water in conical flask of capacity of 1L. The material was allowed to boil for 50-60min. The color was extracted from arils by the end of 60min. The solution was filtered to obtain crude orange dyestuff (Fig.1D).

Scouring of cotton

Cotton cloth chosen for the experiment was weighed and measured accurately before scouring. It is washed in a solution containing 0.5g/L of sodium carbonate and 2g/L of non-ionic detergent (Tween-20) at 50°C for 25min and ratio was maintained at 1:40(Na₂Po₄:Tween20).The scoured material is thoroughly washed in distilled water and dried at room temperature. Prior to mordanting and dyeing, the cotton fabric was soaked in clean water for 30min [7-10].

Mordanting

Scoured cotton cloth was treated with different metal salts/mordants like ammonium ferric sulphate, copper sulphate and ferrous sulphate.2g of above-mentioned

mordants are mixed with 100ml of distilled water to make the concentration of 2%. Thus; prepared mordants were mixed with water individually in the ratio of 1:40. The mordants were used either individually or in combinations. The wetted cotton sample was treated with different mordant solutions and then brought to heating. Temperature of water bath was raised to 70-80°C over a period of 30-40min and left at that temperature for another 20-30min. The mordanted material was then rinsed with water thoroughly, squeezed and dried at room temperature[11].

Dyeing

Cotton fabric samples treated with/without mordants were dipped in aril extract directly and gently boiled for another 30min at the temperature of 70-80°C on a hot plate. The pH was maintained at 4 by adding a sodium phosphate buffer solution. The scoured cotton cloth is kept inside dye solution for 30min to 1h. After dyeing, the dyed material was washed with cold water and dried at room temperature.

Fastness Tests

The dried dyed cotton cloth was tested for light fastness, wash fastness and dry fastness. Light fastness was analyzed by exposing the dyed cloth to direct sunlight for 24h, for tenure of 3 days consecutively. The wash fastness was carried out by washing the dyed fabric with commonly used detergent (1g/l). The dyed fabric was rubbed to check the rub fastness for fading of color [12, 13].

UV-Visible Spectroscopy and Fourier Transform Infrared Spectroscopy

The absorption spectra of the dye were obtained using UV-Vis double beam Elico spectrophotometer at a wavelength ranging from 210nm to 1200nm. The FTIR studies have been performed on a Perkin Elmer Spectrometer Spectrum -1000, in the wave length range of 400–4000 cm⁻¹.

III. RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Nature expresses itself in a wide spectrum of colors all around us. Natural dyes provide an environmentally safe option for coloring of food and other materials. Since the production of synthetic dyes is dependent on petrochemical sources that results in the production of carcinogenic amines, natural dyes play a major role in safety issues[14].Moreover, many countries have already imposed stringent environmental standards over these dyes. For instance, Germany has banned the azo dyes [15]. The objectives of this study were to extract natural dye from the aril of C.paniculatus; to test some commonly used mordants for their ability to fix color on cotton fabric and to characterize the dye by analyzing the spectra obtained by UV-Vis and FTIR. The dye extracted from the aril by boiling method was orange in color (Figure 1D). Baishya et al. [16] have followed the same method to obtain purple color dye from the flowers of bottlebrush.

Different shades of yellow and orange were obtained from the dye when the mordants were used in various concentrations and combinations. Alum, copper sulphate and ferrous sulphate were used as mordants in the present study. A ternary complex comprising fiber, mordant and dye is formed when mordant is used. Strong coordination tendency of Fe enhances the interaction between the fiber and dye resulting in high dye uptake [9]. However, bright yellow colour was seen when the fabric was treated with copper sulphate and ferrous sulphate (Fig.1E-1F). Better color strength results are dependent on the metal salt used [17]. Ferrous sulphate and copper sulphate have the ability of forming co-ordination complexes that gives high resistance to fading. The presence of hydroxyl or carbonyl groups in dye structure is capable to form metal complex with the positively charged metals. In addition one molecule of dye can form a bond with one site of fiber molecule, while one molecule of mordant can form bonds with 2 or more molecules of dyes[18, 19]. The yellow shades thus obtained from single dye using different mordants like alum, ferrous sulphate and copper sulphate, may be due to varied interaction of mordant salts and bonding with dye molecules. Similar results were obtained when the dye from the flowers of Tecoma stans and bottlebrush were treated with various mordants [16, 20]. Uddin[21] has concluded that the color values were found to be influenced by the mordants from his study on silk dyeing with natural dye from mango leaves.

Mordanted cotton cloth was immediately used for dyeing because some mordants are photosensitive. In the present investigation, all mordants have shown comparatively good shades of color yield. Colour fastness of the fabric depends on the high dye uptake and interaction between the dye and the fabric through the type of the mordant used. The mordanted fabric dyed with the aril dye in the present study has showed good rub fastness and light fastness as well. However, color slightly fades when subjected to wash fastness; this may be due to the presence of metal ions in soap water. Wash fastness of the dye depends on the rate of diffusion and accumulation of the dye inside the fabric [22]. Nevertheless, Jyothi[9] has observed the changes in color of the fabric treated with African marigold flower dye when it was washed with soap. The changes in color were attributed to the usage of alkaline washing. Color shade changes of the dye obtained from tamarind seeds were also depends on the changes in washing conditions and the result of sensitivity of the dye molecule to detergent solution [23]. The drastic color changes were observed when the cotton fabric dyed with mangrove bark extract was subjected to wash fastness test [5].That was ascribed to the ionization of the hydroxyl groups in the dye molecules under alkaline condition of the standard detergent or decomposition of the dye itself. However, improvement in light fastness when mordants are used is may be due to the formation of complex with transition metal. Thus, formed complex protects the chromophore from photolytic degradation.

UV-Vis spectroscopy is used to identify the colorant/dye by its peaks at predominating wavelength indicating the colors. Natural dyes present in plants are pigmentary molecules, which impart color to the materials.

Normally for all the natural dyes, the spectra specially indicate different peaks for mixed colorants available in their extract in both UV and visible region. Absorption at maximum wavelength for aqueous unmordanted orange dye extract showed at 435nm for chl'a' and 455nm for chl'b', 510nm for carotenoids and 480nm for xanthophylls in the present investigation. Further cotton fabric treated with different mordants produced shades of yellow due to varied interaction between the dye and mordants. The aqueous extract of the dye treated with different mordants results in significant change in the absorption spectra with chl a, chl b, carotenoid and xanthophyll pigments at varied peaks (Table 1). Spectral analysis showed different binding affinity of mordants with chromphore groups within the pigments that give different shades. Similar results were obtained by Ghurde et al.[23] who have analyzed the dye obtained from flowers of *Ixora coccinea* by spectroscopic studies using various extracts with different concentrations of mordants.

FTIR spectroscopy is a vibrational spectroscopic technique that can be used to optically probe the molecular changes associated with tissues. Spectral bands in vibration spectra are molecule specific and provide direct information about the biochemical composition. FTIR peaks are relatively narrow and in many instances, it can be associated with the vibration of a particular chemical bond. FTIR spectroscopy has become a well-accepted and widely used method to characterize biological tissues. The technique of FTIR spectroscopy has become a technique of choice for scientists who are interested in analyzing the chemical structural properties of natural and synthetic tissues. FTIR was conducted to study few biochemical compounds necessary for pigments. The extracted dye in the present study is recorded in the wavelength ranging from 4000-400 cm⁻¹.An FTIR spectrum has revealed the characteristics of some organic compounds. Fatty acids and saccharides peaks are elevated at 892 cm⁻¹.Whereas carotenoid contents are manifested at 940 cm⁻¹. The lipid contents were visualized at peak frequencies of 2956 and 2874 cm⁻¹ (Fig.2). The cotton fabric with or without dye used in the present study was also subjected to FTIR analysis which correlates with the FTIR spectra of aril (Fig.3). The graph clearly indicates the binding of carotenoid and lipids with cotton fabric, when it is dyed. Characterization of dye obtained from the leaves of Justicia spicigera-using FTIR has revealed the presence of anthocyanin groups [24]. The previously mentioned data indicates the potentiality of the orange dye obtained from the aril of C.paniculatus with/without mordant in cotton dveing industry. Cotton fabric samples mordanted with different combinations of alum, ferrous sulphate and copper sulphate have shown various shades of yellow and orange. The dyed fabric has withstood the rub and light fastness tests significantly. The spectroscopic studies from UV-Vis and FTIR have indicated the presence of carotenoid pigments that imparts orange to yellowish orange color to the dye.

IV. CONCLUSION

The previously mentioned data indicates the potentiality of the orange dye obtained from the aril of *C.paniculatus* with/without mordant in cotton dyeing industry. Cotton fabric samples mordanted with different combinations of alum, ferrous sulphate and copper sulphate have shown various shades of yellow and orange. The dyed fabric has withstood the rub and light fastness tests significantly. The spectroscopic studies from UV-Vis and FTIR have indicated the presence of carotenoid pigments that imparts orange to yellowish orange color to the dye. Thus, based on the results, it can be concluded that the dye obtained from the arils of *Celastrus panicluatus* has good scope for application on cotton fabrics. Further, this dye needs to be explored in food industry for safety use.

ACKNOWLEDGMENT

Thanks are due to UGC, New Delhi for granting BSR-Faculty fellowship for one of the author (DHT). The present work was carried out under this fellowship.

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Fig. 1 : A- Woody liana, B - Tricarpellary fruit, C- Aril covering seeds, D- Extracted dye, E- Fabric dyed without mordants, F- Fabric dyed with mordants: (N- Normal, A- Alum, F- Ferrous sulphate, C- Copper sulphate)



Figure 2- FTIR of Aril



Figure 3: FTIR spectra of Cotton fabric with and without dye. a-Without dye

b-With dye

Pigments	Wavelength Without Mordant (nm)	Mordants		
		Alum	FeSO ₄	CuSO ₄
Chl a	435	435	435	435
Chl b	455	580	582	586
Carotenoids	580	510	512	510
Xanthophyll	480	480	480	480

 Table 1- UV-Vis absorption spectrum of aqueous extracted dye pigment from aril of Celastrus paniculatus Willd and its interaction with different mordants.

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