

Editorial

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Editor-in-Chief

Dear Readers and Authors,

I am pleased to bring you volume 15, issue 2 of Pharmacognosy Communications. In this issue, we present a review of the developments in horticultural methods and processing of *Vanilla planifolia* Andrews pods (vanilla beans). In this review, the authors discuss phytochemistry and the pathways for vanillin production, as well as methods to identify and quantify the major components of the beans. In so doing, the authors highlight the need to develop improved analytical methods that can simultaneously monitor levels of the volatile flavour components, as well as their corresponding glycosylated forms, thereby evaluating the quality of the vanilla. We also present a research study that reports that *Larrea tridentata* (DC.) Coville (commonly known as chaparral) leaf extracts inhibit the growth of *Proteus mirabilis* and *Proteus vulgaris* (bacterial triggers of rheumatoid arthritis), *Klebsiella pneumoniae* (a trigger of ankylosing spondylitis), *Streptococcus pyogenes* (a trigger of rheumatic fever), and *Pseudomonas aeruginosa* (a trigger of multiple sclerosis in genetically susceptible people). Additionally, another study examined the effects of high antioxidant Australian native plant preparations (*Solanum chippendalei*, *Citrus glauca*, and *Ficus racemosa* and *Melaleuca alternifolia*) on the malodour forming bacteria *Corynebacterium jeikeium*, *Propionibacter acnes*, *Brevibacter linens* and *Staphylococcus epidermidis* and reported noteworthy activity of the extracts, indicating their potential as deodorant components/additives.

Our regular features are also continued in this issue. Two more high quality medicinal plant images are also included in this issue and a listing of upcoming conferences and meetings is also included. I encourage any conference organisers who would like to publicise their event to contact me with details so they can be included in future upcoming events sections of this journal. I look forward to bringing you the next issue of Pharmacognosy Communications in 3 months' time. Keep submitting your quality research manuscripts and reviews and also consider becoming involved/submitting to the other sections (Janus Corner, Medicinal Plant Images etc.) of the journal. On behalf of the editorial board, we look forward to bringing you the next issue of Pharmacognosy Communications in 3 months' time.



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