

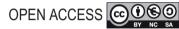
Substantiable Eruca sativa biomass: from mass spectrometry to insights for biopharmacotherapy

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REVIEW

Abstract

The use of medicinal plants to treat human ailments has received more attention recently. *Eruca sativa* (*E. sativa*; jarjeer) is a very popular edible plant of the Brassicaceae family with remarkable nutritional and therapeutic properties. In this frame, bioactive metabolites derived from *E. sativa* biomass have captured more attention in pharmacotherapy and biomedicine. This review focuses on recent advances in high-resolution mass spectrometry (HRMS), which have made the characterization of Eruca metabolites, such as glucosinolates and their derivatives, more feasible. Moreover, bio-pharmacological impact, viz. antiulcer, anticancer, antioxidant and antimicrobial, anti-obesity and hypoglycemic activities, cardiovascular benefits, and neuroprotective effects are discussed. This review concentrates all important research findings on these topics, and stresses upon the activities of chemistry and pharmacological areas. By stressing upon additional investigations, this paper emphasizes and appeals researchers and industrials to attempt a comprehensive knowledge of the pharmacological implications of Eruca species and improve their application in modern medicine.

Keywords: Eruca sativa; phytochemicals; mass spectrometry measurements; biomedicine; pharmacotherapy potential

Introduction

Overusage of antibiotics in numerous areas, viz. agriculture and medicine, has caused propagation of drugresistant bacteria, with extended human travel and reduced global hygiene practices (Bobate *et al.*, 2023; Chatterjee and Haque, 2024). Presently, antimicrobial resistance (AMR) has become a global fear. Millions of people die annually because of opportunistic or major pathogens that develop resistance due to horizontal gene transfer (HGT) and/or biofilm formation (Cangui-Panchi *et al.*, 2023). This has induced global approximation that in 2050 10 million people may die because of infections because of ineffective antibiotics and resistant bacteria (Ahmed *et al.*, 2024).

On the other hand, doubts have arisen about the effects of synthetic chemical compounds on human health. Notwithstanding our incomplete awareness of their impacts on human health, such compounds are available and interconnected to health threats by virtue of their high toxicity and carcinogenic consequences (Cheke et al., 2022). For instance, over the past 40–50 years, the International Agency for Research on Cancer (IARC) has categorized more than 1,000 synthetic agents, with the majority being occupational chemicals and some complex compounds. The assessments have revealed that 50% of them are or possibly carcinogenic to humans, while the rest 50% are not identifiable because of deficient data (Madia et al., 2019). Generally, chemical carcinogens recognized by IARC mainly cover those listed as carcinogens in the European Chemicals Agency (ECHA) inventory, which embody \approx 3% of the whole chemicals list (Madia et al., 2019).

Facing all these difficulties, researchers shifted their primary target toward original natural compounds (Badraoui *et al.*, 2020). Lately, phytochemicals have

captured more and more attention because of their wide-spread biological potential (Thiruvengadam *et al.*, 2022). Reviews of some published literature demonstrate that myriad plant-based compounds have a great potential for human health. As a medicinal plant and pertaining to the Brassicaceae family, *E. sativa* is found globally (Zhu *et al.*, 2021). *E. sativa* is a diploid annual/biennial herb and is a synonym of *Eruca vesicaria* subsp. sativa (miller). In the United Kingdom, it is designated as salad rocket, *salatrauke* (Germany), *eruca* or *oruga* (Spain), *roquette* (France), *rucola* (Italy), and in the United States, it is named arugula (Testai *et al.*, 2022).

In the Mediterranean basin, E. sativa was extemporaneously cultivated as a leafy vegetable, while in Europe, Northern America, and Asia, it was industrialized for oilseeds (Wells 2024). E. sativa has been recognized for its impact on human health since the Roman period. E. sativa is known for its biological activities, notably stomachic, diuretic, carminative, and to relieve abdominal discomfort, enhance digestion and its aphrodisiac features (Park et al., 2024). In addition, E. sativa has abundant of bioactive compounds, such as antioxidants, vitamins C and E, flavonoids, and glucosinolates (GSLs), with positive effects on human health (Bell et al., 2020). Its protective effect to combat several diseases has been directly linked to their phytochemical composition (Bell et al., 2020). In fact, in response to stress, GSLs are decomposed into bioactive molecules known as isothiocyanates (ITCs), which have antioxidant, anti-inflammatory, and cardioprotective properties (Bell et al., 2020). Similarly, E. sativa reduces the release of inflammatory mediators, and had cytoprotective, antiulcer and antisecretory potential (Pagnotta et al., 2022). The Eruca species comprise GSLs, secondary metabolites that are fragmented by myrosinase enzymes into ITCs and numerous other breakdown compounds (Bell et al., 2020). Regarding these products, their characteristics depend on the specific core of GSL structures, their stability, and the conditions of extraction, such as pH, time, and temperature (Tian et al., 2024). Owing to the existence of high amount of GSL, flavonoids, and carotenoids, various extracts from E. sativa seeds were considered as an abundant source of antioxidants (El-Nwehy et al., 2023). All health benefits offered by E. sativa are attributed to the presence of different phytochemicals in its tissues. 4-Methylthiobutyl glucosinolate (glucoerucin) is the chief GSL extant in E. sativa extracts as well as its oxidized analogues, 4-methylsulfinylbutyl glucosinolate and glucoraphanin (GRP) (Testai et al., 2022).

Recently, the high analytical power triggered by the new mass spectrometry instruments could characterize plant metabolites more feasible. As an illustration, in recent decades, a rapid progress is observed in mass spectrometric (MS) systems permitting analysis and

characterization of Eruca natural products. Although the analysis of Eruca natural products has been explored for several years, no review in literature focused on the prospective multifunctional roles and their pharmacological potential, and the useful perspective of high-resolution mass spectrometry (HRMS). Here, we provide information about these topics and their advances and applications that could be interesting for analytical chemistry, natural product communities, and pharmacological commodities.

Literature Review Methodology

Inclusion, exclusion criteria, and relevant screening of studies

The evaluation of original papers was established through screening of the (a) title, (b) abstract, and (c) full text.

Title screening

Thanks to intensive search approach and good numbers of assembled manuscripts, title screening was the first step to eliminate noticeably unsuitable articles.

Abstract screening

In this phase, abstract of articles, which matched subsequent criteria, were chosen. To avoid probable errors in language translation, published studies in English were included. Similarly, the data focusing on "E. sativa," "mass spectrometry," and "health benefits" were only selected. Here, unpublished documents were not involved, and the data were assembled for scientific articles only.

Screening of full text

Full texts of available papers, for which abstract screening was completed, were considered and unattainable manuscripts were excluded. Only articles with available full texts were selected for data extraction and analysis. Article was selected if it fulfilled the following criteria: (a) studies involving experiments with E. sativa, mass spectrometry (part 1), and health benefits (part 2); (b) available full-text research articles; (c) original research papers; (d) judging of positive samples and the exact total size; (e) representative type of examined E. sativa; (f) MS as an analytical method; and (g) health benefit. Furthermore, to restrict any faux pas in translation, only English language papers were incorporated, as reported by the earlier meta-analysis studies in analytical chemistry and medical sciences. Papers not meeting the above-mentioned criteria were excluded. In addition, research articles with distinct E. sativa, analytical chemistry by MS, and medicinal capacity, were included. However, the prior condition triggered an extreme limit in pertinent citation numbers. Therefore, the manuscripts were comprised if only E. sativa was assessed in

the research paper. To attain references, the EndNote X7° software (Thomson Reuters, Toronto, Canada) was used.

The inclusion criteria reflected that included in part 1, ensuring the identification of articles with experimental designs and publications in English. Regarding part 1, the careful selection process yielded 45 articles that met the established criteria. For part 2, the search identified 37 articles that met the established criteria.

Data extraction

The data were extended and well checked by the author of this work. The collected data from each study were illustrated as study structures corresponding as the first author, year of publication, *E. sativa*, MS (analyte, quantification, and detection), and health-promoting potential.

In order to search and recoup the research papers associated to "E. sativa", "mass spectrometry," and "health benefits," the array of key collection of online Scopus database was explored, and only these criteria were selected. Studies pertaining to conference abstracts, letters, patents, or review articles were not accepted.

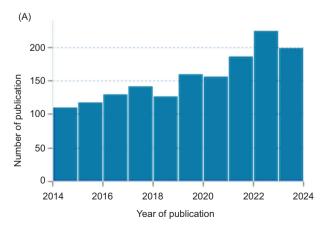
Between 2014 and 2024, the number of publications augmented exponentially. Slow but stable growth achieved its first maximum in 2023, with n=220 articles cited, and c=1,500 times in 2014 and 2018. This was clarified by the fact that consumers preferred "Natural" for preventatives than for curatives (Figures 1A and B).

From the utilized 876 publications, at least 87.8% were explicitly about *E. sativa*, MS, and medicinal potential. The research areas were evaluated according to

the Journal Citation Report (JCR) assignments. The most allocated JCR subject category was (i) agricultural sciences, (ii) analytical chemistry, and (iii) medicine and pharmacology, with 65% of the total of topics (Figure 2). The increasing attention to *E. sativa* in medicine is linked to various factors, such as beneficial impact on various diseases (e.g. antiulcer, anticancer, antioxidant, antimicrobial, anti-obesity, and hypoglycemic activities, and cardiovascular and neuroprotective benefits) as well as their phytochemical characterization by suitable analytical chemistry tools (such as MS measurements).

A varied collection of scholarly literature is within the area of science and archived in numerous databases, which were examined extensively. Here, a comprehensive inspection approach was engaged through international databases. In view of its position as an authoritative and extensively employed database that includes worldwide citations and research publications, the author of this review decided to apply Web of Science (WoS), considered as the largest accessible citation database. The search was subdivided into two parts. Part I concentrated on an in-depth collective expertise on the analytical techniques employed in identification and characterization of phenolics from E. sativa. To guarantee robust study design, the used keywords in this search were "E. sativa," "analytical chemistry," and "mass spectrometry." Part II of the search strategy examined the health-promoting potential of the Eruca species. The corresponding keyword search engaged terms such as "Eruca extract," "medicinal, pharmaceutical, therapeutic," and "health benefits."

A bibliometric analysis of the Lens (www.lens.org) displays that between 2014 and 2024 (26 June 2024), a total of 1,820 peer-reviewed scholarly works were published on "E. sativa," OR "mass spectrometry," OR "health benefits" (Figure 3).



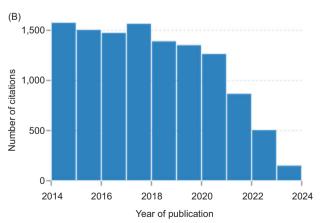


Figure 1. (A) Number of publications and (B) citations of *E. sativa*, mass spectrometry, and health benefits between 2014 and 2024. Source: www.lens.org. Accessed on 26 June 2024.

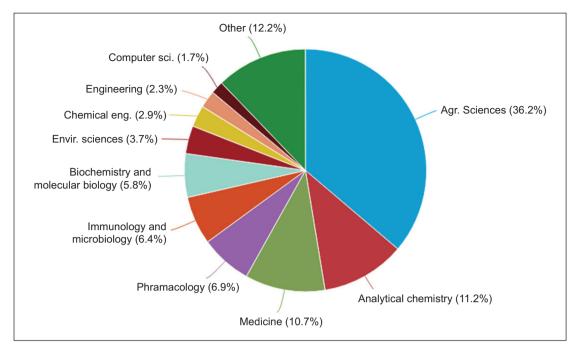


Figure 2. Journal Citation Report (JCR) subject categories related to the *E. sativa*, mass spectrometry, and medicinal potential. The data were obtained from Scopus database on 26 June 2024.

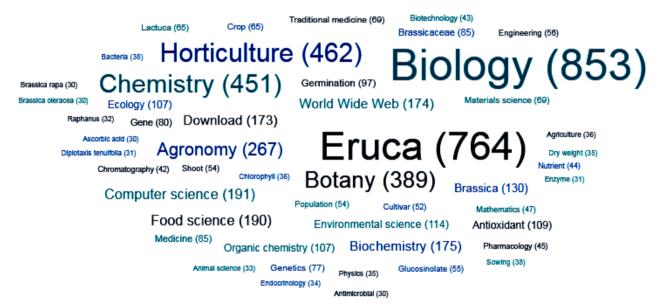


Figure 3. Publication subject linked to *E. sativa*, OR mass spectrometry, OR health benefits. Source: <u>www.lens.org</u>. Accessed on 26 June 2024.

An Insight into Qualitative and Quantitative Profiles of Phenolic Compounds in *E. sativa*

Kumar *et al.* (2022) explored the phytochemical composition and anti-oxidant benefits of *E. sativa* grown under different environment conditions in India: high mountain Ladakh region (3,524 m, Leh–Ladakh) vs. lowaltitude region (321 m, Chandigarh). The solubility of

polyphenols in polar solvents is more than that in nonpolar solvents, suggesting that polar solvents extract large amounts of phenolic compounds (Kaczorová *et al.*, 2021; Palaiogiannis *et al.*, 2023). In this way, the cited authors indicated that the efficiency of solvents for extraction of phenolic compounds was in the following order: aqueous > 70% methanol (MeOH) > chloroform (CHCl₃) > Hex. Compared to Chandigarh plants, aqueous extract of

Leh–Ladhak-grown plants showed highest values of total phenolic content (TPC) (~32 μg gallic acid equivalent [GAE]/mg) and total flavonoid content (TFC) (~33 μM RE/mg) whereas 70% MeOH extract showed higher value of total antioxidant capacity (TAC) (~120 μg AAE/mg). Samples grown at these two different altitudes were statistically significant. Regarding TPC, *E. sativa* grown in Leh–Ladhak had a significantly higher levels of aqueous extract (32 μg /mg), 70% MeOH (29 μg /mg), chloroform (10 μg /mg), and Hex (8.05 \pm 0.30 μg /mg) compared to the Chandigarh-grown *E. sativa*. Kumar *et al.* (2022) confirmed that great altitude displayed higher TPC than lower altitude.

It is reported that exposure of plants to ultraviolet-B (UV-B) radiation enhances the concentration of some phenolic compounds, including secoiridoids and hydrocinnamic acid, which protect plants from the deleterious effects of UV-B stress (Dias *et al.*, 2019). Several studies demonstrated that plants grown at higher altitudes are revealed to intense UV-B radiation, leading to great consequences of plant growth, physiology, and morphology. The defense mechanism of plants is activated by intense UV-B radiation and therefore a higher production of polyphenol compounds (Testai *et al.*, 2022).

Elahdef *et al.* (2020) revealed that significant differences were observed in the phytochemical contents among *E. sativa* populations collected from seven natural Tunisian geographic locations. The cited authors reported that environmental conditions, such as altitude, average annual precipitation (AAT), average annual temperature, and relative humidity, influenced phytochemical contents. Hence, altitude and average annual precipitation had a positive impact on TFC, and any increase in average annual precipitation was directly linked to TPC, TFC, and TAC.

Zidorn Stuppner (2001)collected and Leontodon (Cichorieae) in Austria from diverse altitudes (1013-3855 m) and demonstrated a significant relationship between altitudes of collection sites and TFC. Dong et al. (2011) investigated variation of TFC in Eucommia ulmoides leaves grown at six different altitudes (550-1,180 m) and showed that the altitude was correlated to TFC. Ghasemi et al. (2011) discovered a good coefficient of correlation between TFC and altitudes (750-2,465 m) in MeOH extract of walnut green husks (Juglans regia L.) obtained from 11 different geographical locations with differing climatic conditions in Iran. Likewise, Pandey et al. (2018) perceived comparable conclusions for Thalictrum foliolosum extracts, and demonstrated that samples from higher altitudes had more phenolic compounds than those from lower altitudes. Kumar et al. (2007) also reported variation of TFC in *E. sativa* extracts from the samples grown at two different altitudes. Similar trends were reported by Kumar *et al.* (2022), which *E. sativa* grown in Leh and Chandigarh were comparable to those for 32 *Eruca* accessions, with an average value of 2353 mg/100 g DW, and a range that varied from 999 to 3139 mg/100 g DW (Pasini *et al.*, 2012). Additionally, TFC of fresh *E. sativa* showed a broader range because its content is influenced remarkably by exposure to UV light and cyclical variations, in addition to soil growth conditions (Bennett *et al.*, 2006).

Sadiq *et al.* (2014) assessed the phytochemical profile of aqueous and methanolic extracts of *E. sativa* stems, leaves, flowers, and seeds. Remarkably, findings evidenced that all parts of *E. sativa* plant were abundant in steroids, terpenoids, tannins, diterpenes and glycosides, polyphenols, alkaloids, flavonoids, and phytosterols. In addition, TPC of all aerial parts revealed that they had a good quantity of phenolics, particularly in seeds (27 µg GAE/mg) and leaves (23 µg GAE/mg). Table 1 summarizes selected outcomes of phenolic contents reported in *Eruca sativa* in recent years.

Advanced Analytical Methods for Detection of Phenolic Compounds in Eruca Species

Establishing the richness of bioactive compounds at any particular point of Eruca life cycle and crop management could provide understanding of how metabolic variations may impact the health. Since these biological compounds are quiet challenging to acquire, and their isolation and extraction are expensive, it is generally decided that MS is a major requirement for their identification and characterization. It is equal to employ tandem mass spectrometry (MS/MS) or nuclear magnetic resonance (NMR) studies, which permit total confirmation and revelation of molecular structures (Bouanani et al., 2023). Through high-performance liquid chromatography-diode array detection-electrospray ionization/tandem mass spectrometry (HPLC-DAD-ESI-MS/MS), Pasini et al. (2012) identified GSLs in 32 Italian E. sativa accessions. Eight desulfoglucosinolates (DS-GSLs) were marked in all extracts. Findings exposed four aliphatic-derived compounds (glucoraphanin, glucoalyssin, glucoerucin, and progoitrin/epiprogoitrin), one aromatic GSL (glucosinalbin), two indole-derived compounds (4-OH-glucobrassicin and glucobrassicin), and two structurally related compounds covering one intermolecular disulfide linkage (4-[β-D-glucopyranosyldisulfanyl] butyl-GSL and dimeric 4-mercaptobutyl-GSL).

Pasini *et al.* (2012) reported that all Eruca accessions displayed a large variation in TFC, that is, from 23 to 31 g/kg DW. The ampler flavonoid group was characterized by kaempferol derivatives, with kaempferol-3,4-diglucoside

Table 1. Some examples of phenolic contents reported in Eruca sativa

Source	Plant Part	Solvent Extraction	Analyte	Method/Detection	Quantification	Reference
Leh–Ladakh (India)	Whole plant	Hexane Chloroform Water 70% Methanol	TPC (GAE µg/mg of DPE)	Folin–Ciocalteu (765 nm)	8.05 10.01 31.9 28.79	Kumar <i>et al.</i> , 202
			TFC (RE [µM/mg of DPE])	Aluminium chloride colorimetric technique (415 nm)	14.6 14.77 35.54 21.6	
Chandigarh (India)		Hexane Chloroform Water 70% Methanol	TPC (GAE μg/mg of DPE)	Folin–Ciocalteu (765 nm)	6.62 8.59 16.82 25.48	
			TFC (RE [μM/mg of DPE])	Aluminium chloride colorimetric technique (415 nm)	3.21 7.54 19.38 15.04	
slamabad (Pakistan)	Stem Leaf Flower Seed	85% Methanol	TPC (mg GAE/g)	Folin–Ciocalteu (640 nm)	13.55 23.07 19.9 27.1	Sadiq <i>et al.</i> , 2014
Kedarkantha (India)	Whole plant	95% EtOH 50% EtOH Water	TPC (GAE/g extract)	Folin–Ciocalteu (765 nm)	26.57 18.4 1.54	Pandey <i>et al.</i> , 2018
			TFC (RE/g extract)	Aluminium chloride colorimetric technique (415 nm)	8.28 6.36 5.64	
			Berberine content (µg/mg) of crude sample	HPTLC mobile phase, isopropanol:formic acid:water (9:2:1)	7.37 6.84 5.1	
Taluka (India)		95% ethanol, 50% ethanol Water	TPC (GAE/g extract)	Folin–Ciocalteu (765 nm)	25.42 16.8 1.4	
			TFC (RE/g extract)	Aluminium chloride colorimetric technique (415 nm)	7.96 6.02 5.28	
			Berberine content (µg/mg) of crude sample	HPTLC mobile phase, isopropanol:formic acid:water (9:2:1)	7.92 7.24 5.74	
Sankri (India)		95% ethanol, 50% ethanol	TPC (GAE/g extract)	Folin–Ciocalteu (765 nm)	24.7 15.62 1.24	
		Water	TFC (RE/g extract)	Aluminium chloride colorimetric technique (415 nm)	7.2 5.63 5.09	
			Berberine content (µg/mg) of crude sample	HPTLC mobile phase, isopropanol:formic acid:water (9:2:1)	9.76 9.42 6.80	
Bhowali (India)		95% ethanol, 50% ethanol Water	TPC (GAE/g extract)	Folin–Ciocalteu (765 nm)	21.27 12.52 10.01	

Table 1. Continued.

Source	Plant Part	Solvent Extraction	Analyte	Method/Detection	Quantification	Reference
			TFC (RE/g extract)	Aluminium chloride colorimetric technique (415 nm)	6.94 5.24 4.82	
			Berberine content (µg/mg) of crude sample	HPTLC mobile phase, isopropanol: formic acid: water (9:2:1)	11.1 10.8 7.84	
Iran	Leaves	Water	TPC (mg TAE/g DW)	Folin–Ciocalteu (765 nm)	28–42	Nikzad et al., 2023
			TFC (mg QE/g DW)	Aluminium chloride colorimetric technique (510 nm)	3.76–5.11	
Ethiopia	Leaves	Water	TFC (mg of CE/g)	Aluminium chloride colorimetric technique (510 nm)	14.03	Keyata et al., 2021
			TAC (mg of cyanidin-3- glucoside per gram)	pH dependence of color change of anthocyanins (520 and 700 nm)	0.25	
Egypt	Leaves	ethanol	TPC (mg GAE/g)	Folin–Ciocalteu (725 nm)	12.522	El-Gayar et al., 2022
			TFC (mg CE/g)	Aluminium chloride colorimetric technique (510 nm)	9.938	

TPC: Total polyphenolic content, GAE: gallic acid equivalent, TFC: Total flavonoid content, RE: rutin-trihydrate equivalent.

being the main flavonoid in all samples, ranging from 8 to 23 g/kg DW. The second abundant flavonoid was isorhamnetin-3,4-diglucoside, with 9–16% TPC. Bell *et al.* (2015) reported that the total average flavonol content in Eruca sample ranged from 0.5 to 3.8 g/kg DW. It was demonstrated by liquid chromatography—mass spectrometry (LC-MS) that Eruca accumulated kaempferol glucosides, and myricetin was the predominant glucoside.

For GSL, the monomeric and dimeric forms of glucosativin (4-mercaptobutyl-GSL) were identified and quantified separately. Fechner *et al.* (2018) reported that glucosativin and 3-thiazepane-2-thione (sativin), its hydrolysis product, are liable for the distinctive flavor and aroma of Rocket "*Eruca sativa* L" (EER). Bell *et al.* (2017) carried out the broadest sensory analysis of seven *E. sativa* accessions by grouping with numerous chemical analyses. This elucidated some of the associations between specific traits of EER, such as GSLs hydrolytic products (GHPs) and volatile sulfur compounds with mustard and hotness flavors. Other relation detected between green leaf volatiles and free amino acids was a

decrease of apparent pungency, and GSLs/GHPs were reported to reduce bitterness and hotness perceptions. A study conducted by Raffo *et al.* (2018) reported that sativin was the main cause of flavor and aroma in EER.

Kim and Ishii (2006) identified two DS-GSLs, DS-glucoraphanin, and DS-glucoerucin by HPLC-ESI-MS. These molecules were confirmed to be the principal GSLs in E. sativa seeds and roots, while three DS-GSLs (DS-glucoraphanin, DS-glucoerucin, and DS-dimeric 4-mercaptobutyl GSL) were the core compounds detected in leaves. By using LC/ESI-quadrupole ion-trap mass spectrometry (QIT-MS), a study conducted by Cataldi et al. (2007) revealed 12 species of GSLs in E. sativa. Seven aliphatic compounds, named glucoraphanin (m/z 436), glucoerucin (m/z 420), 4-mercaptobutyl-GLS (m/z 406), progoitrin/epiprogoitrin (m/z 388), sinigrin (m/z 358), 4-methylpentyl-GSL, and n-hexyl-GSL (m/z 402). In addition, two indole GSLs (4-(β-D-glucopyranosyldisulfanyl)butyl-GLS [m/z 600] and dimeric 4-mercaptobutyl-GLS [m/z 811]) were detected. It was an MS2 fragmentation

experiment and chromatographic parting from 4-hydroxyindol-3-ylmethyl-GSL.

Abd-Elsalam *et al.* (2021) determined chemical components of the ethanolic extract of *E. sativa* L. seeds by LC-MS. The chemical profile revealed the existence of numerous classes as sulfur-containing compounds, including derivative compounds of glucosinalates, viz. glucoerucin, glucoalyssin, desulfated glucoraphanin, desulfated sinidrin, and desulfated (glucosyl-disulfonyl)-butyl glucosinolate, and flavonoids that fit to O-glycosides and their aglycones. In addition, the corresponding profile revealed some phenolic compounds, such as caffeoyl-O-hexoside and chlorogenic acid and fatty acids (e.g. tri-hydroxy-octadecenoic, octadecatetraenoic, linoleic, arachidic, and erucic acids).

Martínez-Sánchez et al. (2007) examined the chemical profile of E. vesicaria leaves. The MS/MS study endorsed the elucidation of quercetin mono- and diacyl-tri-Oglucosides and flavonoid glycosylation. The cited authors proved that E. vesicaria included kaempferol derivatives as principal compounds. In order to quantify glucosinolates concurrently, and the corresponding ITCs in E. sativa defatted seed meals (DSM), Franco et al. (2016) developed a new high-pressure liquid chromatographyelectrospray ionization-tandem MS (HPLC-ESI-MS/ MS) method. Interestingly, the new approach was suitable to quantify glucosinolates and ITC derivatives jointly in biomasses and bakery products. Sharma et al. (2017) evolved a simple and rapid ultra performance liquid chromatography (RP-UPLC) to synchronously quantify erucin (4-methylthiobutyl isothiocyanate; ER), allyl isothiocyanate, and benzyl isothiocyanate in E. sativa oil. Erucin was detected as the main component (~29%) in E. sativa oil, while allyl isothiocyanate and benzyl isothiocyanate were observed at very low levels (0.06% and 0.07%, respectively). Chemically, in the presence of myrosinase, glucoerucin breaks down into erucin and other active hydrolytic products, such as 4-methylthiobutyl thiocyanate and 4-methylthiobutyl nitrile (Maycotte et al., 2024). Sharma et al. (2017) confirmed the presence of eight compounds in methanolic *E. sativa* extract by using UPLC-MS/MS. Glucoerucin was the only detected isothiocyanate at m/z 421, with perceived caffeoyl glucose (at m/z 203), 3-caffeoylquinic acid (at m/z 191), and sinapicglucoside (at m/z 223. In addition, apigenin-7-O-glucoside, isorhamonetin-3-O-rutinoside, kaempferol-3-O-glucuronide, and Isorhamonetin-3-O-(3"-acetylglucoside) were detected as four flavonoids derivatives in the methanolic extract of *E. sativa*.

In a study conducted by Crescenzi *et al.* (2023), it was reported that through LC-ESI-Quadrupole(Q)-Exactive-MS/MS, the methanol and hydroalcoholic profiles of *E. sativa* extracts exhibited a good number

of bioactive compounds, such as glycosylated flavonoids (quercetin 3,30,40-O-triglucoside, quercetin-3,40-Odiglucoside-30-O-(6-sinapoyl-glucoside), and quercetin diglucoside). Besides, E. sativa cultivated in the Piana del Sele (Salerno, Italy) presented the peak value of glucosinolates, with a talented aptitude to produce erucin by its myrosinase conversion. Crescenzi et al. (2023) separated different geographical E. sativa origins by using the archived biomarker metabolites profiling of hydroalcoholics. Glucosinolates and flavonols were controlled by harvest time, culture type, and production cycle (Buitrago-Villanueva et al., 2023). These differences established the conditions to select culture system and E. sativa crops. Herr and Büchler (2010) reported that glucosinolates levels could vary gradually depending on environmental conditions. Furthermore, E. sativa cultivated in Piana del Sele showed the highest level of Glucoerucin (GER), with a promising ability to generate erucin through its conversion by myrosinase action. Sut et al. (2018) extracted glucosinolates by using supercritical carbon dioxide (SCO₂) as a combination of water. Sut et al. (2018) pointed out that maximum glucosinolate found in E. sativa leaves was in the dimeric form of 4-mercaptobutylglucosinolate (DMB) glucosativin and glucoerucin.

Ramazzina et al. (2022) investigated the impact of plasmaactivated water (PAW) on polyphenolic profile of E. sativa. In this way, the cited authors explored qualitative/ quantitative polyphenolic profile by ultra-highperformance liquid chromatography (UHPLC)-MS/MS analysis. It was performed on the MeOH extracts acquired after revealing matrix to PAW for 20 min (PAW-20). Detected polyphenol correlated to glycosylated flavonols (kaempferol, isorhamnetin, and quercetin). From E. sativa seeds, Khaliq et al. (2021) defined napin (EsNap), a low molecular mass protein that fits to prolamin super family. EsNap was isolated by 70% (NH₄)₂SO₄ precipitation and size-exclusion chromatography. The nano LC-MS/MS analysis generated two peptides (IYQTATHLPK10 and QQQGQQQQQVISR16) that included 26 residues. It should be noted that EsNap family is characteristically rich in Arg, Lys, and Cys amino acid residues.

Fagerlund *et al.* (2021) examined anti-listerial activity in *E. sativa*, and concluded that the active fraction was retained in polar chromatographic conditions and comprised several metabolites. The elucidation of this fraction, using LC-MS/MS, led to identification of compounds containing 19 nucleosides and amino acids: 11 amino acids, a dipeptide, a quaternary ammonium compound, an amine, three nucleosides, and two nucleobases. In summary, Table 2 presents some frequently used methods to quantify and identify phenolic compounds (chromatographic conditions; mobile phase and gradient; quantification and detection; and analytical method)

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Source	Analyte	Chromatographic conditions	ic conditions	Quantification	Detection	References
		Mobile phase	Gradient			
Italy	Glucosinolates and phenolic compounds	Water (mobile phase A)-acetonitrile (mobile phase B)	99% A, linear gradient to 75% A at min 17.5, linear gradient to 99% A at min 20; total analysis time: 35 min	HPLC-DAD-ESI-MS	229 nm	Pasini <i>et al.</i> , 2012
¥	Glucosinolate and flavonol	Ammonium formate (0.1%) (mobile phase A)-acetonitrile (mobile phase B)	Isocratic gradient: 95% and 5%	TC-MS	229 and 330 nm, respectively	Bell et al., 2015
Egypt	Sulfur-containing compounds, flavonoids, phenolic acid, and fatty acids	Water with 0.1% formic acid (mobile phase A) and methanol with 0.1% formic acid (mobile phase B)	I	LC-ESI-MS	Between 200 nm and 400 nm	Abd-Elsalam et al., 2021
Italy	Desulfo-glucosinolates, phenolic acids, and flavonoids	Phosphoric acid 103 M (mobile phase A)–acetonitrile 95:5 (mobile phase B)	B: 0–2 min, 5% B (isocratic); (2–4.5 min) at 10% B; at 5.5 min, 15% B; at 9 min, 35% B; at 11 min, 55% B; from 12 min to 13 min at 70% B (isocratic)	HPLC	229, 280, and 320 nm, respectively	Testai <i>et al.</i> , 2022
Italy	Glucosinolate (GSL) and desulfo-glucosinolate	0.5% Formic acid (mobile phase A)-acetonitrile with 0.5% formic acid 5 (mobile phase B)	B: 10 min at 5%, 4 min at 24%, 4 min at 50%, 7 min at 80%, 10 min at 5%	HPLC-ES-MS/MS	229 and 365 nm, respectively	Franco <i>et al.</i> , 2016
India	Erucin, allyl isothiocyanate, and benzyl isothiocyanate	0.1% HCOOH in water acid (mobile phase A)–0.1% HCOOH in methanol (mobile phase B) and pure acetonitrile (mobile phase C)		UPLC-ESI-QTOF	280 nm	Sharma et al., 2017
Italy	Glucosinolates, glycosylated flavonoids, fatty acids, and lipids	Water + 0.1% formic acid (mobile phase A)-acetonitrile + 0.1% formic acid (mobile phase B)	B: 0–23 min, from 5 to 40%; 23–45 min, from 40 to 95%; and then back to 5% for 10 min	UHPLC-Q-Exactive- Orbitrap-MS/ MS	280 nm	Crescenzi <i>et al.</i> , 2023
Italy	Glucosinolates	Water with 0.1% TFA (mobile phase A)– MeOH with 0.1% TFA (mobile phase B)	0–10 min: 100%:0% (A:B) linear change to 80%:20% (A:B, v/v); 10–15 min:50:50; 16–20 min increased to 100% B; 21–25 min: change to solvent A 100%	Electrospray ionization (ESI)– ion trap mass spectrometry (ITMS) (ESI-ITMS)	Between 200 nm and 400 nm	Cataldi <i>et al.</i> , 2007
India	Seed oil: isothiocyanates and free fatty acids	1	Temperature programming was from 50°C (hold 5 min) to 290°C at 6 C/ min; the transfer line and ion trap were at 180°C	HS/SPME/GC-MS	Between 200 nm and 400 nm	Khoobchandani et al., 2010
Saudi Arabia	Vitamins, fatty acids, alkaloids, flavonoids, terpenoids, and phenols	1% Formic acid in deionized water (mobile phase A) and acetonitrile (mobile phase B)	I	HR-LC/MS	Between 200 nm and 400 nm	Awadelkareem et al., 2022a
India	Vitamins, fatty acids, alkaloids, flavonoids, terpenoids, and phenols	Methanol (mobile phase A)-water (0.05% formic acid) (mobile phase B)	1	HPTLC	366 nm	Awadelkareem et al., 2022b
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Source	Analyte	Chromatographic conditions	ic conditions	Quantification	Detection	References
		Mobile phase	Gradient			
Italy	Phenolic compounds	Water + 0.2% formic acid (mobile phase A) and acetonitrile + 0.2 formic acid (mobile phase B)	A 9-min linear gradient of 2–20% B in 0.2% A	UHPLC-ESI-MS/MS	Between 200 nm and 400 nm	Ramazzina et al., 2022
Colombia	Glucosinolates	0.05% Formic acid (mobile phase A) and 0.05% HCOOH in acetonitrile (mobile phase B)	0 min 5% B, then B was progressively raised to 95% at 55 min and kept at this value for 5 min, and finally, B 5% kept till 65 min	rc-ws	270 nm	Buitrago- Villanueva <i>et al.</i> , 2023
Iran	Phenolic compounds	Formic acid (0.1%) (mobile phase A)–acetonitrile (99.8%) (mobile phase B)	10–26% B for 40 min, 65% B for 70 min, and finally 100% B for 75 min	HPLC-MS	Between 200 nm and 400 nm	Motalebnejad et al., 2023
Pakistan	Peptides	0.1% Formic acid in H ₂ O (mobile phase A)–0.1% formic acid (in acetonitrile) with 2% (mobile phase B)	2–30% B in 35 min	rc-ms/ms	1	Khaliq <i>et al.</i> , 2021
Hungary	Glucosinolates	Water with 0.1 % (v/v) formic acid, (mobile phase A)–acetonitrile with 0.1 % (v/v) formic acid (mobile phase B)	1	UPLC-ESI-IMS-QTOF-MS	1	Dernovics et al., 2023
Italy	Phenolic compounds	Water (mobile phase A) and acetonitrile (mobile phase B), both acidified with 0.1% (v/v) formic acid	95% (v/v) of A and 5% (v/v) of B; varied linearly to 25% A and 75% B in 25 min	LC-PDA-MS	1	Pane <i>et al.</i> , 2020
Norway	Nucleosides and amino acids	Water, 0.1% formic acid (mobile phase A)—acetonitrile, 0.1% formic acid (mobile phase B)	0 min, 5% B; 15 min, 5% B; 20 min, 95% B; 30 min, 95% B; 31 min, 5% B; 34 min, 5% B	rc-ms/ms	227 nm, 254 nm, 280 nm, and 330 nm	Fagerlund e <i>t al.</i> , 2021
Republic of Korea	Flavonols	100-mM formic acid in deionized water (mobile phase A)-acetonitrile (mobile phase B)	0 (15% B) to 45 min (40% B), from 75 to 84 min (98% B), and from 85 to 90 min (15% B)	HPLC-UV-MS	371 nm	Park <i>et al.</i> , 2024
India	Phenolic contents	Aqueous formic acid 0.1% (mobile phase A)-formic acid 0.1% in acetonitrile (mobile phase B)	0 min: A 95%, B 5%; 2 min: A 95%, B 5%; t = 32 min: A 40%, B 60%; t = 47 min: A 0%, B 100%; t = 55 min: A 0%, B 100%; t = 60 min: A 95%, B 5%	UPLC-ESI-MS/MS	I	Khoobchandani et al., 2011

HPLC-DAD-ESI-MS: High-performance liquid chromatography coupled to photodiode array and electrospray ionization mass spectrometric; LC-MS: Liquid Chromatography-mass spectrometry; LC-ESI-MS: Liquid Spectrometry; UHPLC-Q-Exactive-Orbitrap MS/MS: Ultra-high-performance liquid chromatography coupled with hybrid quadrupole-orbitrap tandem mass spectrometry; HS/SPME/GC-MS: Headspace Solid-Phase Microextraction (HS-SPME) and Gas Chromatography/Mass Spectrometry Analysis; HR-LC/MS: High Resolution-Liquid Chromatography Mass Spectrometry; HPTLC: High-performance thin layer chromatography; photodiode-array-mass spectrometry; HPLC-UV-MS: High-performance liquid chromatography (HPLC) with UV detection coupled with electrospray ionization tandem mass spectrometry; UPLC-ESI-MS/MS: Ultraperformance liquid chromatography-diode array detector-tandem mass spectrometry; UPLC/ESI-Q-TOF-MS: Ultra Performance Liquid Chromatography/Electrospray Ionization-Quadrupole-Time Of Flight-Mass chromatography-electrospray ionization-tandem mass spectrometry; HPLC: high-performance liquid chromatography; LC-ESI-MS: HPLC-Electrospray ionization-Mass Spectrometry; UPLC-DAD-MS: Ultra-high-LC/ESI-MSn: liquid chromatography-electrospray ionization/multi-stage mass spectrometry; UHPLC-ESI-MS/MS: Ultrahigh-performance liquid chromatography tandem mass spectrometry with electrospray ionization; UPLC-ESI-IMS-QTOF-MS: ultra-high-performance liquid chromatography coupled with electrospray ionization quadrupole time-of-flight mass spectrometry; LC-PDA-MS: Liquid chromatographyperformance liquid chromatography-electrospray ionization tandem mass spectrometry.

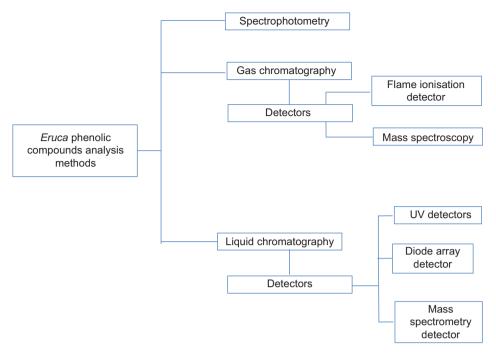


Figure 4. Methods employed for qualitative and quantitative analysis of various phenolic compounds in Eruca species.

from different extracts of Eruca species. As shown in Figure 4, many dependable quali-quantitative approaches are available for the measurement and characterization of phenolic contents/compounds from Eruca species.

To determine the effectiveness of polyphenolic contents as health-promoting molecules, it is significant to have extraction methods and exact bioactive molecules from Eruca species. Organic solvents used for the extraction of major molecules with different activities are the most acceptable solvents for extraction from Eruca species. Owing to the chemical multiplicity of phenolic compounds and the complication of composition in Eruca species, it is expensive and difficult to separate each phenolic compound and investigate it independently. Moreover, a combined total antioxidant power of a multifaceted sample is frequently more expressive to assess the health benefits because of the cooperative action of bioactive compounds.

Health-Promoting Potential of *Eruca* Species

Nutrition assumes a crucial part in human health and impacts the evolution and development of chronic diseases. Therefore, utilization of plant extracts and nutritional supplements could decrease the risk of fisease. Thanks to the presence of different *E. sativa* varieties, its consumption has demonstrated different health benefits. In this section, the potential use of *E. sativa* as a therapy in some human health condition is discussed.

Antiulcer activity

Helicobacter pylori is the commonest trigger of chronic gastritis and variably results in serious gastroduodenal disorders in some patients (Kim, 2024). This latter could comprise duodenal peptic ulcers, gastric cancer, and gastric mucosa-associated lymphoid tissue lymphoma. In H. pylori colonization, numerous mechanisms, counting motility, urease production, and adhesion are discussed (Li et al., 2024). In traditional medicine, E. sativa has an important role to kill bacteria. Urease enzyme is essential for the growth, metabolism, and colonization in gastric mucosa. Khan and Khan (2014) investigated the impact of urease inhibition of crude extract and fractions of E. sativa in an in vitro experimental model. Extract of E. sativa was determined to provide protection to gastric mucosa against ulceration triggered by numerous necrotizing agents considering ethanol (EtOH) and strong alkalis. EtOH-induced gastric ulcers have been employed in the evaluation of gastroprotective activity. In this regard, it has been concluded that O2-derived free radicals are concerned in the mechanism of acute and chronic stomach ulceration (Zhang et al., 2021). The EtOH genesis can provoke gastric lesions of multifactorial origin with a decrease in gastric mucus, and is related to the production of free radicals, resulting in an increase of lipid peroxidation (LPO), which causes damage to cells and cell membranes (Zhang et al., 2021). The cytoprotective effect of *E. sativa* extract may be associated to its ability to prevent gastric acid secretion and/or enhance mucosal defensive factors, such as prostaglandins, and a decrease in LPO (Alqasoumi *et al.*, 2009). Some investigations confirmed that flavonoids may be related to the antiulcer activity (Madjo *et al.*, 2023) and have a main role in the mechanism of gastroprotection (Madjo *et al.*, 2023). In addition to flavonoids, other compounds in EER, such as sterol and/or triterpenes, are recognized for their antioxidant activities, which may contribute to some of the antiulcer mechanisms (Singh *et al.*, 2022).

With half maximal inhibitory concentration (IC₅₀) = 7.77mg/mL, the crude extract displayed a patent inhibition against urease. On the other hand, the dominant fraction was ethyl acetate was followed by the aqueous extract at IC₅₀ = 4.17 and 5.83 mg/mL. In a study, Alqasoumi et al. (2009) studied the anti-ulcerogenic property of EER in diverse ulcer mice models. In pylorus-ligated Shay mice, the EtOH extract of EER meaningfully decreased the basal gastric acid secretion, titratable acidity and ruminal ulceration. EER could reduce gastric ulceration and indomethacin- and hypothermic-restraint stress, thus histologically confirming its antiulcer effect. Similarly, pretreatment with EER hindered EtOH-induced necrosis in the superficial layers of gastric mucosa with congestion. On the other hand, the extract significantly refilled the levels of gastric wall mucus, non-protein sulfhydryl, and malondialdehyde.

Saleh *et al.* (2016) reported in animal models that by maintaining the acid–base balance of gastric contents, the leaf extracts of *E. sativa* were found to display antiulcer activity against ethanol-induced gastric mucosa injury.

Antibacterial activity

Malik (2015) investigated the activity of E. sativa seeds against S. aureus and B. cereus. Interestingly, methanolic extracts showed an inhibition zone of 3-8 mm. Regarding minimum inhibitory concentration (MIC) values, the concentrations were 80 μg/mL and 20 μg/mL against S. aureus and B. cereus, respectively. Koubaa et al. (2015) studied the potential of EER flowers against 11 pathogenic strains. By using 14 mg of extract, the diameter of inhibition zones had a maximum of 16.7 mm vs. Salmonella typhimurium. Furthermore, Khoobchandani et al. (2010) described the antimicrobial activity of crude extracts of several parts of E. sativa against two Grampositive and three Gram-negative bacteria. Particularly, a larger activity was stated for the seed oil against Grampositive bacteria compared to Gram-negative bacteria. Moreover, Qaddoumi and El-banna (2019) outlined the antagonistic activity of E. sativa aqueous extract for E. coli and S. aureus. The corresponding φ values of the inhibition zones for E. coli and S. aureus were 19 mm and 12 mm, respectively. In the same study, antimicrobial activity of crude extract of ethyl acetate had no antimicrobial activity toward the tested pathogens.

In another study, Rizwana et al. (2016) investigated the antimicrobial potential of some organic extracts, viz. ethanol (EtOH), MeOH, ethyl acetate (EtOAc), acetate (AC), and CHCl₃ of E. sativa, against Gram-positive and Gram-negative bacteria. Higher inhibition activity was determined in EtOAc and CHCl₃ extracts against S. aureus (ϕ = 25 mm and 23 mm, respectively), followed by MeOH and EtOH (ϕ = 16 mm and 14 mm, respectively). The antimicrobial activity of solvent extracts of E. sativa (aerial parts and roots) and seed oil against antibiotic-resistant Gram-negative (E. coli, P. aeruginosa, and Shigella flexneri) and Gram-positive (S. aureus and B. subtilis) bacteria was investigated by Gulfraz et al. (2011). Among the various preparations, seed oil was the most active extract, displaying a zone of inhibition of 97% against Gram-positive bacteria and that of 74-97% against Gram-negative bacteria. The MIC of the seed oil was found as 65-75 μg/mL and 60-70 μg/mL for Gram-negative and Gram-positive bacteria, respectively (Khoobchandani et al., 2010). These authors assumed that antimicrobial activity of Eruca oil was mainly due to higher concentration of erucic acid, which was present in both free and triglyceride form. Awadelkareem et al. (2022b) reported that crude extract of E. sativa was active against food-borne pathogens, unveiling a rapid kinetics of killing bacteria in a time-dependent manner. The MIC and minimum bactericidal concentration (MBC) values of *E. sativa* crude extract ranged between 125 μg/mL and 500 μg/mL and between 250 μg/mL and 1,000 µg/mL, respectively. The inhibition of developed biofilm of E sativa was extended from 59% to 73% for all tested strains, and the E. sativa crude extract decreased the bacterial cells viability in biofilms.

Antioxidant activity

Ghazwani *et al.* (2020) established the aptitude of *E. sativa* decoction to inhibit hepatic LPO at a level of 150–400 μ g/mL. Hence, a concentration of 400 μ g/mL ensued 68.46% inhibition of oxidation of hepatic lipids, and the total antioxidant capacity of leaves was equal to 217 μ g/mL (IC₅₀). In addition, the *in vitro* design proposed the antioxidant mechanism of *E. sativa* by transfer of H atom and reduction of metal ions.

Barillari *et al.* (2005) reported that glucoerucin and its metabolite erucin are hydroperoxide scavenging antioxidants and assert direct antioxidant activity. The isolated fraction served as an active inducer of phase II enzymes, and it is highly operative to decrease oxidative stress and cell damage in various pathological conditions (Barillari *et al.*, 2005).

With the aim of exploring variation in antioxidant potential of wild EER in connection to agricultural practices, Durazzo et al. (2013) reported that the ferric reducing antioxidant power (FRAP) ranged from 4.44 mmol/kg fresh weight (FW) to 9.92 mmol/kg FW for conventional EER and from 4.13 mmol/kg FW to 11.02 \pm 0.45 mmol/kg FW for integrated EER. A study conducted by Heimler et al. (2007) observed a correlation between 2,2-Diphenyl-1-picrylhydrazyl (DPPH) activity and polyphenol content ($R^2 = 0.92$ with GAE) in the case of five E. sativa varieties. Alam et al. (2007) studied the antioxidant impact of ethanolic extract of *E. sativa* seeds and its protecting effect on mercuric chloride (HgCl₂)-induced renal toxicity. The corresponding extract was determined to comprise 4.5 µg/mg DW of glucoerucin and 6.5 μg/mg DW of flavonoids, thus attributing a significant antioxidant activity (IC $_{50}$ ~60–65 µg/mL). The alcoholic extract of E. sativa seeds showed a powerful free radical scavenging and nephroprotective properties, since the HgCl₂-inducing nephrotoxicity could induce oxidative stress. Alam et al. (2007) concluded that E. sativa seed extract inhibited HgCl2-induced LPO and nephrotoxicity. Interestingly, restoration of glutathione (GSH) levels by E. sativa seeds extracts also maintained glutathione reductase (GR) activity. In a mice model, a decrease in the activities of superoxide dismutase (SOD), catalase (CAT), glutathione peroxidase (GPX), GR, and GSH and recovery to normal levels because of pretreatment with E. sativa seeds extract demonstrated that the oxidative stress caused by HgCl2 intoxication was neutralized due to the antioxidant activity of seeds extract.

Keyata *et al.* (2021) calculated the levels of bioactive compounds and antioxidant activities of Girgir leaves in Ethiopia. Results showed that the methanolic extract of leaves had a TFC of 14.03 mg of CE/g, TAC of 0.25 mg of cyanidin-3-glucoside/g, β -carotene = 0.36 mg/g, and L-ascorbic acid = 1.49 mg/g. Using DPPH and FRAP methods, the antioxidant activity of methanolic extract of Girgir leaves at 0.56 mg/mL was 80%. In addition, the extract had relatively low DPPH scavenging ability (71.70%) with IC₅₀ = 0.15 mg/mL and a low FRAP (123.16 mM of Fe²⁺/g).

Awadelkareem *et al.* (2022a) reported the scavenging of radicals by *E. sativa* crude extract. The scavenging efficacy of crude extract with DPPH (IC₅₀ = 66 µg/mL) radicals was more complete, compared to hydrogen peroxide ($\rm H_2O_2$) (IC₅₀ = 76 µg/mL) radicals. By applying total antioxidant capacity, reducing power, and $\rm H_2O_2$, nitric oxide (NO), and SOD scavenging activity, Kishore *et al.* (2016) explored the antioxidant potential of alcohol and hydro-alcohol *E. sativa* extract. The total antioxidant capacity was 111.00 µM/g and 230.60 µM/g of ascorbic acid equivalent. Alcohol and hydro-alcohol extracts were found to scavenge DPPH and $\rm H_2O_2$ radicals, NO,

and SOD radicals. The IC $_{50}$ values were found to be 3.28 and 3.53 $\mu g/mL$ for DPPH, 188.11 and 181.56 $\mu g/mL$ for H $_2$ O $_2$, 73.05 and 64.33 $\mu g/mL$ for NO, and 87.91 and 41.12 mg/mL for SOD radicals.

Findings of Koubaa *et al.* (2015) for antioxidant activities showed >90% DPPH free radical inhibition, 315 μ g AAE/mL for 71 mg/mL extract, and >70% inhibition using β -carotene bleaching assay. The cited authors concluded that the main compounds of *E. sativa* leaf extract, viz. kaempferol 3,4-di-O-glucoside, kaempferol 3-glucosyl, quercetin 3-glucosyl, and isorhamnetin 3-glucosyl were linked to antioxidant potential. Owing to its high antioxidant activities, *E. sativa* extracts could be used as a food preservative or a nutraceutical in the food manufacturing or processing industry. In addition, *E. sativa* extracts could produce novel natural products for the food industry with safer and enhanced antioxidants with a potential for protection against oxidative damage in body as well as food.

Anticancer activity

By using 3-(4,5-dimethylthiazolyl-2)-2,5 diphenyltetrazolium bromide (MTT) assay, Awadelkareem *et al.* (2022a) studied the anticancer activity of *E. sativa* crude extract in two human colorectal cancer cells (HCT-116 and Caco-2). The extract could prevent the cell viability of both cells in a dose-dependent manner. The survival of HCT-116 cell line was found to be higher, and IC $_{50}$ = 64 µg/mL, compared to CaCO $_{2}$ with IC $_{50}$ = 83 µg/mL.

Nazif *et al.* (2010) assessed the cytotoxic potential of the alcoholic extract of DSM, and isolated compounds to counter different tumor cell lines using sulforhodamine B (SRB) test. The activity was assessed against the following cell lines: colon carcinoma (HCT116), cervix carcinoma (Hela), liver carcinoma (HepG2), breast carcinoma (MCF7), and brain carcinoma (U251). Crude extract, glucoerucin, and glucoiberin showed cytotoxic activity for HCT116 at IC $_{50}$ = 0.74, 2.42, and 0.94 µg/mL, respectively, while IC $_{50}$ for Hela, HEPG2, MCF7, and U251 was >10 µg/mL.

Similarly, Michael *et al.* (2011) reported a powerful anticancer potential of 70% EtOH extract of *E. sativa* against the following cell lines: liver carcinoma (HepG2), breast carcinoma (MCF7), colon carcinoma (HCT116), and larynx carcinoma (Hep2). Hereto, several investigations established the effectiveness of erucin (1-isothiocyanato-4-(methylthio)butane) against various human cancer cell lines. AtHalf-maximal inhibitory concentration (IC $_{50}$) equal to 28 μ M, Azarenko *et al.* (2014) found that erucin stops proliferation of a breast cancer cell line (MCF7). In addition, cell cycle arrests mitosis at IC $_{50}$ = 13 mM and

apoptosis by a mechanism consistent with the impairment of microtubule dynamics. In the same direction, a study conducted by Singh et al. (2023) focused on the development of cubosomes loaded with erucin or ER-cubosomes (ER-CUB) isolated from seeds of E. sativa and evaluated their effectiveness for anti-proliferative activity against a colon cancer cell line Ehrlich-Ascites Carcinoma (EAC). The anticancer impact of erucin was described for dissimilar human cancer cell lines, such as the lung, liver, colon, and prostate, with the help of different mechanisms, such as cell cycle regulation, apoptosis, and inhibition of proliferation as well as mitochondrial depolarization. Generally, the mechanism of action showed the modulation of phase I, II, and III detoxifications, the regulation of cell growth by the induction of apoptosis, cell cycle arrest, the induction of reactive oxygen species (ROS) mechanism, and regulation of androgen receptor pathways (Dinkova-Kostova et al., 2017). Azarenko et al. (2014) found that erucin prevented the proliferation of MCF7 (breast cancer cells; $IC_{50} = 28 \text{ mM}$) in parallel with cell cycle arrest at mitosis (IC $_{50}$ = 13 mM) and apoptosis by a mechanism consistent with the impairment of microtubule dynamics.

Pure erucin and ER-CUB presented an efficient growth inhibition with the IC $_{30}$ values of 0.0021 and 0.006 µL/mL, 0.016 and 0.062 µL/mL, and 0.023 and 0.084 µL/mL. According to Singh *et al.* (2023), ER-CUB cytotoxicity is principally due to the effect of erucin present in cubosomes, and the anticancer activity of erucin was reported on various cancerous cell lines; however, the effect of ER-CUB on EAC is not proved yet. ER-CUB revealed a substantial growth inhibitory outcome on tested cell line with IC $_{50}$ = 0.0230 µL/mL. Erucin- and ER-CUB-treated cells showed morphological shifts, counting viability loss, chromatin aberrations, and loss of membrane integrity (Peng *et al.*, 2010).

In a study conducted by Awadelkareem et al. (2022b), the anticancer effect of silver nanoparticles (Ag NPs) synthesized from E. sativa was assessed. In human lung cancer cells (A549), the anticancer potential of Ag NPs was examined by MTT, scratch, and invasion assays. The results indicated that Ag NPs inhibited the migration of A549 cells at 25.15 µg/mL. Singh et al. (2021) explored the anti-cancer effect of 4-(methylthio)butylisothiocyanate against 7,12-dimethylbenz[a]anthracene (DMBA)-induced breast cancer. Using reverse transcription-polymerase chain reaction (RT-PCR), hypoxia pathway was estimated and it was found that 40 mg/kg of 4-MTBITC depressed the expression of HIF-1α. Akt/ mTOR signing pathway was one of the major pathways engaged in 4-MTBITC cell growth. Amino acid profiling of serum-free plasma discovered the down-regulation of specific amino acids required for vital mechanisms of fast-growing cancer cells. 4-MTBITC reduced the levels

of Ser, Arg, Ala, Asn, and Glu. Isothiocyanate sulforaphane (SFN) is shown to prevent, directly or through a competitive mechanism, expression and activity of various phase I cytochrome P450 (CYP450) enzyme isoforms in mice and human tissues (Melchini and Traka, 2010), although phase I enzyme inhibition by erucin has not been demonstrated to date. Erucin (5-20 µM) did not inhibit CYP1A1 protein expression in HepG2 cells after coming in contact to human carcinogen benzo[a]pyrene (BaP, 50 µM), although erucin reduced the BaP-induced CYP1A1 activity in a dose-dependent manner, with a realization of 25% inhibition at the maximum studied level. Moreover, exposure of HepG2 cells to a concentration of 1-µM erucin decreased the BaP-induced DNA migration by 50%. Interestingly, one of the ITC constituents of *E. sativa*, identified as erysolin, showed stronger activity, compared to erucin, by inhibiting CYP1A1 activity in BaP-treated HepG2 cells by 50% at a lower concentration of 5 µM (Lamy et al., 2008).

Anti-obesity and hypoglycemic activities

Diabetes and obesity are the most dominant global health issues and their occurrence is cumulative at a high proportions, leading to huge economic burden. Obesity, a multifaceted illness, is accompanied by insulin resistance (IR) and increase in oxidative stress and inflammatory marker expression, leading to increased body fat mass. A number of investigations have confirmed the potential health benefits of E. sativa extracts in treating obesity and hypoglycemia. For instance, anti-obesity and hypoglycemic effects of dietary supplementation with *E.* sativa seeds extract on high fat (HF)-induced obesity was evaluated in mice by Piragine et al. (2021). Remarkably, in an experimental obesity model, these authors reported that seed extracts were able to reduce body weight, and therefore enhance glucose homeostasis. These findings were in agreement with the studies conducted with other Brassicaceae species. For example, a 4-week supplementation with Brassica rapa L. juice decreased cholesterol concentration in middle-aged men and enhanced the metabolism of cholesterol (Aiso et al., 2014). Lee et al. (2018) stated that Brassica juncea leaves extract supplementation had a positive effect on lipid profile and body fat in mice fed with HF diet. Certainly, a decrease in body fat aggregation and an amelioration of lipid profile were observed by modulating lipogenesis and cholesterol metabolism (Lee et al., 2018). It should be noted that main bioactive components in Brassicaceae vegetables are glucosinolates and their ITC derivatives produced by myrosinase enzyme (Palliyaguru et al., 2018).

Lately, glucosinolate glucoraphanin elevated inflammation and decreased insulin resistance linked with obesity. Nuclear factor erythroid 2-related factor 2 (Nrf2) was

acknowledged as a main player in these beneficial effects, because the activation of Nrf2 endorsed the stimulation of both AMPK and uncoupling protein UCP1, which were altered in energy consumption (Xu *et al.*, 2018).

Recently, hydrogen sulfide (H2S) has been considered a biological mediator in obesity. H2S-releasing goods of erucin have been established and abridged levels of H₂Ssynthesizing enzymes have been reported in fat tissues of obese mice and in genetically diabetic-obese (db/db) animals (Katsouda et al., 2018). According to Fuentes et al. (2014), E. sativa extracts displayed platelet activation inhibition, accumulation and release of inflammatory mediators, and a restriction of pro-inflammatory transcription factor NF-Kb. Lucarini et al. (2019) evaluated the anti-hyperalgesic impact of *E. sativa* DSM, along with its main glucosinolate, glucoerucin on diabetic neuropathic pain prompted in mice by streptozotocin (STZ). E. sativa DSM at 1 g/kg and glucoerucin at 100 μmol/kg presented a dose-dependent pain-relieving effect in STZdiabetic mice. Co-administration with H₂S scavengers abrogated the pain relief mediated by both E. sativa meal and glucoerucin. Their effect was also prevented by selectively blocking Kv7 K channels. Lucarini et al. (2019) concluded that erucin reduced both pain and neuro-inflammation linked with diabetes-induced neuropathic pain in mice.

In order to assess the antidiabetic potential of *E. sativa* fresh leaves extract, Hetta *et al.* (2017) investigated their *in vitro* potential for stimulation of glucose uptake and inhibition of G6Pase and adipogenic activities. Ethanolic extract (EC₅₀ = $8.0~\mu g/mL$) and its unsaponifiable fraction

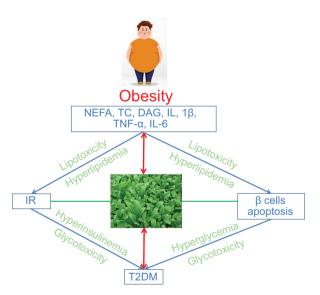


Figure 5. Mechanism of *E. sativa* extracts as antidiabetics. *E. sativa* extracts prevent the pathological progress of obesity and insulin-resistance β cells apoptosis in diabetes. IR: insulin resistance; T2DM: type 2 diabetes mellitus.

 $(EC_{50} = 5.8 \ \mu g/mL)$ could stimulate glucose uptake and inhibit G6Pase activity (ethanolic extract and its unsaponifiable fraction $IC_{50} = 4.8 \ \mu g/mL$ and 9.3 $\mu g/mL$, respectively) and substantial adipogenic activities (ethanolic extract and its unsaponifiable fraction $EC_{50} = \approx 4.3 \ \mu g/mL$ and 6.1 $\mu g/mL$, respectively).

 $E.\ sativa$ extracts regulate lipid metabolism and improve insulin resistance to reduce lipotoxicity. Next, $E.\ sativa$ extracts enhance insulin signaling and reinstate equilibrium between glucose production and utilization. Lastly, $E.\ sativa$ extracts renovate imbalance in autophagyapoptosis to protect β cells.

Cardiovascular benefits

Testai *et al.* (2022) studied *in vitro* hypertensive mice for *E. sativa* DSM extract and it stimulating hypotensive effect. In addition, these authors suggested dose-dependent cardio-protection *in vivo* model of acute myocardial infarct, which attained a reversible coronary occlusion. This latter effect was sensitive to blockers of mitochondrial ATP-sensitive potassium (KATP) and Kv7.4K channels, signifying a probable role of these mitochondrial channels in the protective effects of DSM extract. Accordingly, DSM extracts condensed calcium (Ca) uptake and apoptotic cell death in isolated cardiac mitochondria.

Alotaibi et al. (2020) examined the therapeutic role of rocket seeds (RS) against hydroxyapatite nanoparticles (HAP NPs) injection in mice that caused cardiac injury by diminishing oxidative stress and apoptosis. Regarding the HAP NPs+RS sample, a significant reduction of cardiac markers, viz. creatine phosphokinase (CPK), creatine phosphokinase-myocardial band (CPK-MB), lactate dehydrogenase (LDH), and myoglobin, was obtained. In addition, treated rats with RS extract after HAP NPs injection displayed a rise in cardiac SOD and CAT levels, compared to HAP NPs injection only. More recently, Flori et al. (2023) showed that erucin exerts cardioprotective effects against ischemia-reperfusion (I/R) damage through the involvement of mitochondrial KATP (mitoKATP) channels. Salma et al. (2018) also stated that E. sativa is an antihypertensive remedy mainly because of its vasodilatory and partly cardiac effects. Although the supposed mechanisms of action through which H₂S can have cardioprotective impact are abundant and involve antioxidant transcription factors (such as Nrf2), anti-inflammatory cytokines, and other agents, such as nitric oxide (NO), mitoK channels are documented as a stimulating target. Noteworthy is the fact that the cardioprotection promoted by sodium hydrosulfide (NaHS) in a model of myocardial I/R injury was meaningfully upturned by pharmacological blockage of mitoKATP

channels (Testai *et al.*, 2022). The involvement of mito-KATP channels in the cardioprotective effects of H_2S was demonstrated by using a synthetic H_2S -donor isothiocyanate (). Noticeably, sulforaphane at micromolar concentrations preserved both cultured cardiomyoblasts and adult cardiomyocytes from H_2O_2 -induced oxidative stress through the modulation of Nrf2 signaling pathway (Testai *et al.*, 2022).

Neuroprotective effect

In an in vivo design following addition of gentamicin, Abdelkader et al. (2022) examined the nephroprotective effect of E. sativa seeds aqueous extract. The authors reported that 150 mg/kg of the studied extract could preserve the kidneys from gentamicin-induced nephrotoxicity, and reduce oxidative damage induced by the antibiotic. Additionally, double dose of *E. sativa* seeds extract (300 mg/kg) provoked an increase in nitric oxide at kidney level in gentamicin-nephrotoxic animals (Abdelkader et al., 2022). Remarkably, E. sativa extract at both low and high doses, could reduce the inflammatory cascade activated by gentamicin after nephrotoxicity induction, thereby activating reduction of tumor necrosis factor-α (TNF-α) and interleukin 1ß (IL-1ß) (Abdelkader et al., 2022). Moreover, an in vitro study described dampening of lipopolysaccharide (LPS)-induced neuro-inflammation, with a decrease in pro-inflammatory cytokines, elimination of cyclooxygenase-2 (COX-2), and amended some expressions in cells pretreated with erucin extract (Gugliandolo et al., 2018). In this study, the NSC-34 motor neurons liable to the culture medium of LPS-stimulated macrophages, E. sativa (E. sativa, Mill.) extract could prevent the LPS-induced cell death and disintegration by neutralizing apoptosis. Interestingly, inhibition of Fas ligand (FasL) expression represses pro-inflammatory mediators (via COX-2 and toll-like receptor 4 [TLR4] and TNF-α) and excites the release of cytokine IL-10 (Gugliandolo et al., 2018). Recent studies have shown the multiple neuroprotective mechanisms of ITCs-major compounds found in E. sativa extracts. In this way, the electrophilic interaction of ITCs with the cysteine residues of the cytoplasmatic Kelchlike ECH-associated protein 1 (Keap1)-Nrf2 complex is a central event to endorse the binding of Nrf2 with antioxidant responsive element (ARE) at nuclear level (Morroni et al., 2018). On the other hand, SFN, derived from precursor glucosinolate present in E. sativa, and, after uptake in organism, is conjugated with GSH and metabolized through the mercapturic acid path to its corresponding mercapturic acid derivate SFN-cysteinylglycine, SFN-cysteine, and SFN-Nacetylcysteine. One interesting aspect is the reduction of sulfoxide SFN to its thioether analogue erucin (i.e. 4-methylthiobutyl ITC erucin), which is metabolized

through mercapturic acid pathway and excreted in urine or bile (Morroni *et al.*, 2018).

Clinical trials and the main outcomes of *E. sativa* bioactive compounds

In a preclinical study conducted by Alqasoumi *et al.* (2009), *E. sativa* extract could expressively decrease urease activity; also, gastric ulcers prompted by necrotizing agents, such as indomethacin and hypothermic agent, were also reduced, as established histologically.

In a preclinical study, the aphrodisiac potential of *E. sativa* extract was verified. Ethanolic extract of *E. sativa* extract displayed androgenic action and induced testicular steroids production that stimulated the pituitary gland and improved spermatogenesis in male mice testes (Grami *et al.*, 2024). The cited authors reported that adapted sperm parameters existing in diabetic mouse model, which was induced by streptozotocin exposure, were significantly improved by the administration of 250-and 500-mg/kg ethanol extract for 8 consecutive weeks. Compared to untreated diabetic animals, weight of the testes, epididymis, seminal vesicles, and prostate was suggestively augmented in treated mice at the end of the treatment (Grami *et al.*, 2024).

Extract of *E. sativa* leaves is considered for the rise of testosterone level and increased sperm activity as well as it reduced sperm death and its abnormalities (Hadi, 2017). E. sativa extract contained saponins and alkaloids and could develop sperm activity. Its histological examination showed a significant increase in the diameter of its tubules, spermatids, and Leydig cells as well as reduction in interstitial space. EER extract increases the growth of testis and augments proliferation and maturation of spermatozoa. E. sativa seeds oil also reduces nicotine-induced testicular damage by morphometric and histological modification (Grami et al., 2024). This impact was attributable to desulfo-glucosinolates, erucic acid, and ITCs. The study conducted by Abd El-Aziz et al. (2016) exposed that minor doses of seeds oil stimulate spermatogenesis.

Regarding nephroprotective effect, a preclinical study conducted by Elgazar and Abo Raya (2013) showed that alcoholic extract of *E. sativa* seeds had an impact on HgCl₂-induced nephrotoxicity. This effect was due to antioxidant molecules, enzymes, flavonoids, and glucoerucin constituents that had an important role in nephroprotection. Hussein *et al.* (2018) evidenced that aqueous E. *sativa* extract significantly reduced the occurrence of nephrocalcinosis by halting calcium oxalate crystal formation and its deposition in renal tissues by diuresis and alkalization. *E. sativa* extract also reduced the incidence

of calcium oxalate kidney stones because of the presence of large amounts of magnesium, which reduced the binding of oxalate to calcium ions in renal tubules.

A preclinical study demonstrated that oral and intravenous administration of methanolic *E. sativa* extract had hypotensive effects on hypertensive and normotensive subjects. This action was due to vasodilatory and cardiotonic effects. Vasodilation action of *E. sativa* extract across vasodilatory mediators (nitric oxide and certain muscarinic receptors), which are presents on vascular endothelial cells, has a direct effect on vascular smooth muscle (Alqasoumi *et al.*, 2009).

Potential Commercial Applications of E. sativa

Traditionally, the plant was used to treat hypertension and diabetes and as a rubefacient, tonic, and diuretic, digestive, astringent, laxative, emollient, stimulant, stomachic and scurvy agent (Jaafar and Jaafar, 2019; Salma *et al.*, 2018). The airy tender fresh parts of *E. sativa* were used in salad and occasionally cooked as a potherb (Khoobchandani *et al.*, 2010;). In addition, an antibacterial cream was also commercialized (Sanad *et al.*, 2016).

Of all the research papers concerning E. sativa and its phytochemistry, none has discussed how details could be employed within a population. A few plants breeding programmes were established by virtue of the number of environmental factors affecting E. sativa growth, development, and reproduction. For instance, selection of E. sativa plants through conventional/molecular breeding could be a valuable tool for research community and provide an excellent incentive for breeding companies to fund research on pharmaceuticals and supplements. The authentic checking and quantification of characteristics of E. sativa compounds would not only validate the heritability of such traits in EER but also provide a "roadmap" for how other minor crops could be developed for commercial use. Attentiveness should be rendered to the phytochemical content of *E. sativa*. Utilizing genetic resources, the falling costs of sequencing and bioinformatics can soon produce nutritive superior varieties of *E*. sativa. Plant breeding typically takes long time than the average research project, even with the use of advanced genomic selection methods. This situation could be remedied by long-term industrial collaboration and sponsorship by plant-breeding firms.

There are still unanswered questions related to standardizing of *E. sativa* extracts formulations. In view of variations involved in harvesting, extraction, and product formulation methods, variabilities in quality, efficacy, and composition of *E. sativa* compounds are

maintained. In addition, in spite of potential of compounds extracted from E. sativa, commercialization of new pharmaceuticals and supplements is generally trailing and a large volume of scientific findings remain unutilized. Standardization of active E. sativa compounds therefore seems to be one of the missing links to ensure consistency in efficacy. Crude plant products or semi-refined mixtures seem to provide consistent efficacy. However, application of crude plant materials may only offer a short-term solution for small-scale farming, as production for use on industrial scale may not be economically feasible in terms of production costs and space. Therefore, improved novel formulation methods that can preserve the chemical composition of analogues and compartmentalization of E. sativa active compounds are required to minimize environmental concerns, and improve their performance and persistence in soil.

Long-term Studies to Evaluate the Efficacy and Safety of E. sativa Metabolites Over Extended Periods

Long-term safety of *E. sativa* leaf ethanolic extract was approved in male mice. Investigations showed that ethanolic extract is not toxic to the structure and functioning of the liver and kidneys when administered to mice orally at a specific dose. The extract rich in antioxidants protect the cells from damage (El-Gayar *et al.*, 2022). Moreover, it has been reported that low dose of *E. sativa* seed oil was not associated with teratogenic changes; however, high doses induced some abnormalities (Moustafa and El-Makawy, 2002). Figure 6 outlines the medicinal potential of different parts of *E. sativa*.

Industrial-scale production of E. sativa seeds oil

The usage of inedible oils from natural plants as feedstock is required. Therefore, E. sativa crude oil is viewed as a substitute to mineral oils in many industries, and it has good potential for biodiesel production because of its good stability and high productivity at room temperature. It emerges that seeds of E. sativa Gars (EGS) contain 35% oil, which is suitable for production of biodiesel. As an illustration, the price of ESG oil in northwest of China is about \$0.15 per kg, much cheaper than soybean oil. Therefore, ESG oil is an excellent option for producing biodiesel. Li et al. (2009) produced ESG biodiesel, a type of nontoxic, biodegradable, and renewable alternative fuel. These authors generated a high-quality biodiesel from low-cost ESG oil in laboratory. The transesterification of ESG oil was catalyzed by solid heteropoly acid, $Cs_{2.5}H_{0.5}PW_{12}O_{40}$. Remarkably, the characteristics of biodiesel from ESG were comparable to conventional diesel and comply to the US Standard for biodiesel (ASTM 6751). In addition, harmful emissions, such as HC and CO,

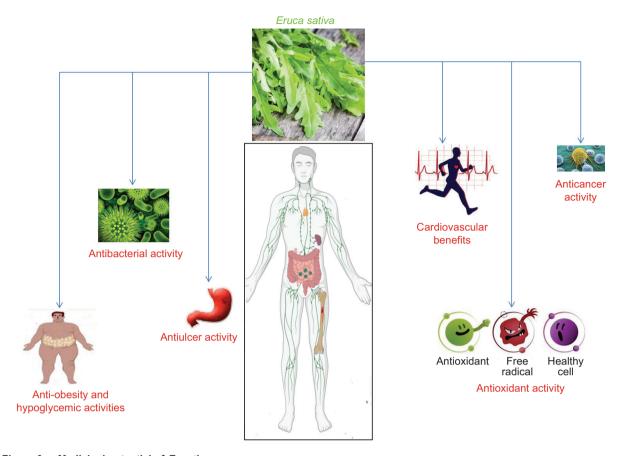


Figure 6. Medicinal potential of E. sativa.

were reduced by 33.33%. However, an increase in energy consumption and $\rm CO_2$ and $\rm NO_x$ emissions was observed by about 10.15%, 10.71%, and 13.21%, respectively.

On the other hand, Aghababaie *et al.* (2019) produced *E. sativa* oil in a two-phase enzymatic membrane bioreactor (TP-EMR). The yield of biodiesel production from crude oil using free Candida rugosa lipase (CRL) was augmented by TP-EMR. With the application of TP-EMR, the yield of biodiesel from non-edible *E. sativa* oil using CRL was complete: 100% yield was achieved in TP-EMR with commercial polyacrylonitrile (PAN) and organic phase flow rate of 40 mL/min along with 40% initial water content in organic phase.

Conclusions

Here, some important background summarized the actual status of *E. sativa* exploration concentrating their bioactive compounds. These compounds matched in their usage in medicine, pharmaceutical industries, and as nutraceuticals because of their antioxidant and antibacterial properties. Glucosinolates and their derivatives, flavonoid fractions, soluble and insoluble phenolics,

and fatty acids of E. sativa are the main bioactive compounds that merit care for their biological activities. In this review, the isolated chemical components of Eruca from different parts and identified by MS were outlined. Additional tool sophistication coupled with numerous systems, such as complex chromatography with NMR and MS in series, is imperative. In this line, an augmented importance of microcapillary columns with nanotechnology ESI systems appears certain. Moreover, biopharmacological effects are well reviewed. The link between Eruca natural products structure and their biological activity requires examination. Hence, the elucidation of mechanisms of action of Eruca phytochemicals could guide for its clinical application. On the other hand, although E. spp. extracts are generally recognized as safe, further examination is required to control and regulate their usage. Consequently, toxicological tests should be performed to assess its safe edible usage.

Modern methods, counting metabolomics, in silico insights, and nanotechnology have become essential tools for further progress in knowledge. In this regard, these modern tools aid to recognize therapeutics of *E. sativa* botanically and understand their metabolism. It is also conceivable to control detrimental *E.*

sativa compounds and to estimate appropriate dosages. Furthermore, the introduction of novel techniques would aid in the recognition of novel compounds as well as in identifying their targets and understanding their mode of action.

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Conflict of Interest

The author declared no conflict of interest.

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