

Banana Peel (*Musa Paradisiaca*) : Can It be a Revolutionary Change in Periodontal Therapy? - A Review



Dental Science

KEYWORDS : *Musa paradisiaca*, Traditional medicine, Phytochemicals, Pharmacological activities

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ABSTRACT

*Periodontitis is a disease with multifactorial etiology leads to loss of tooth supporting structures and tooth. Gram negative bacteria play a central role in development and progression of periodontal disease. With many different treatment modalities carried over to treat these periodontal diseases, today even the focus is carried over towards various traditional plants and plant products. Banana, tropical fruit belonging to Musaceae family, is grown in many countries all over the world. All the parts of banana plant, i.e. flower, pulp, stem and leaves have used in many medical conditions like anemia, depression, heart burn, strokes, stress, GIT disorders, mosquito bites, warts etc. Banana peel, is a waste bi-product of banana industry, has shown to contain bio-active compounds such as flavonoids, tannins, phlobatannins, alkaloids, glycosides and terpenoids. These products have shown pharmacological effects especially as antioxidant, antidiabetic, anti-inflammatory and antibiotic. So the focus of this review is the possible exploitation of banana peel (*musa paradisiaca*) to treat periodontal diseases to suggest future investigations.*

Introduction

The current practice of medicine today has changed a lot from its practice in medieval times. However in India, we still use traditional practice for treatment of various diseases since Vedic period. 1 Periodontitis is a disease with multifactorial etiology leads to loss of tooth supporting structures and tooth. Gram negative play a central role in development and progression of periodontal disease. 2 Here this review focus a scientific information on uses, isolated chemicals and pharmacological activities to evaluate the traditional uses of *M. Paradisiaca* in different types of diseases. 3

Banana peel seen a valuable source of natural products for maintaining human health. 4 Banana peel (*musa paradisiacal*) it is a herbaceous plant (up to 9 m long) with robust tree like pseudo-stem, a crown of large elongated oval deep-green leaves with prominent midrib. Fruits are oblong, fleshy 5-7 cm long in wild form and long in the cultivated varieties. 3

Taxonomical Hierarchy

Kingdom : Plantae.
Sub Kingdom : Tracheobionta.
Super Division : Spermatophyta.
Class : Liliopsida.
Sub Class : Zingiberidae.
Order : zingiberales.
Family : Musaceae.
Genus : Musa.
Species : *Musa paradisiacal*.

Cultivation and Distribution

About 300 varieties of banana grown, majority have been grown in Asian, Indo-malysian and now widely found throughout tropical and subtropical countries. India, China, Brazil, Mexico, Colombia, Thailand are the top banana producing countries. 3.

Banana is one of the most popular fruits distributed all over the world. Production of the fruit in India is very high, around 23,204,800 tones in year 2008. It grows through-

out year for the production of fruits. 5 The plant is widely distributed throughout India for its nutritious and delicious fruits. 6.



Traditional Uses

Fruit of *musa paradisiaca* used in diarrhoea, dysentery, internal lesions in ulcerative colitis, diabetes, uremia, nephritis, gout, hypertension, cardiac disease. 7. Leaves are used in

eczema, as cool dressings for blister and burns⁸. Flowers are used in dysentery and menorrhagia. Stem juice of fruited plant is used for treating diarrhoea, dysentery, cholera, otalgia, haemotypsis⁸. The root is used as anthelmintic, blood disorders, venereal diseases⁹. The plant is also used in inflammation, pain and snakebite¹⁰.

Phytochemicals Of Banana Peel

Cellulose, hemicelluloses, arginine, aspartic acid, glutamic acid, valine, phenylamine and threonine have been isolated from peel of *M. paradisiaca*¹¹. Hemiterpenoid glucoside (1,1-dimethylallyl alcohol), syringin, benzyl alcohol glucoside have been isolated from flower of *M. paradisiaca*¹². Banana peel contains bioactive compounds such as flavonoids, tannins, alkaloids, glycosides and terpenoids. These bioactive exerts pharmacological effects, especially as an antioxidant, antidiabetic, anti-inflammatory and antibiotic¹³. Also banana peel contains vitamin A, C, E, B₆, gallic acid, catechin, dopamine, succinic acid, palmitic acid, magnesium, phosphorus, potassium, fibers, iron and fatty acids¹⁴.

Pharmacological Activities in Banana Peel

Antimicrobial Activity

The use of natural antimicrobial compounds is not only in preservation of food borne diseases but also safe for human consumption¹³. Many studies showed that peel contains various bioactive components like tannins and flavonoids which are effective against pathogenic microbes¹⁴. Both are toxic to fungi, bacteria and viruses and inhibit their growth¹⁵.

Aq. extract of banana peel shows greater antimicrobial activity than extracts of leaves. The peel extract is more active against *Staphylococcus* (gram+) than *Pseudomonas* sp¹⁶.

Also methanolic extract of *Musa paradisiaca* fruit peel showed significant activity against *Bacillus subtilis*, *Staphylococcus aureus*, *E. coli*, *Pseudomonas aeruginosa* in comparison to benzyl penicillin and streptomycin. It also had inhibitory effect on *Candida albicans* and *Cryptococcus neoformans*¹⁷.

Antibacterial Activity

In vitro study, antibacterial activity of alcoholic extract of banana peel against standard stains of Gram-negative anaerobes like *P. gingivitis* and *A. actinomycetemcomitans* which are associated with periodontal diseases. *P. gingivitis* is a Gram-negative, anaerobic, nonmotile, saccharolytic rod that usually exhibits coccoid to short rod morphologies¹⁸. It is mainly associated with adult periodontitis, acute periodontal abscess and failure of the regenerative procedure¹⁹.

A. actinomycetemcomitans is a small, nonmotile, Gram-negative, saccharolytic, capnophilic, round-ended rod¹⁸. It is associated with adult periodontitis, aggressive periodontitis, refractory periodontitis and Pilon-Lefevre Syndrome²⁰.

Secondary metabolites such as flavonoid, tannins, phlobatannins, alkaloids, glycosides and terpenoids are responsible for antibacterial activity of banana peel²¹.

Antioxidant activity

Plasma oxidative stress is significantly reduced only after a single banana meal in healthy human due to the presence of dopamine, ascorbic acid and other antioxidants present in banana²². Glycosides and monosaccharide are mainly responsible for the antioxidant activity²³.

Vijaykumar et al. reported the antioxidant activity of the

extracted flavonoids from *Musa paradisiaca* in rats. They found that the flavonoids from banana stimulates the activities of superoxide (SOD) and catalase which might be responsible for the reduced level of peroxidation products such as malondialdehyde, hydroperoxidase and conjugated dienes²⁴.

The effect of a single banana meal on plasma lipids and lipoprotein profile, plasma oxidative stress and susceptibility of LDL to oxidation was studied in 20 healthy volunteers. Before meal and 2 hr after meal Lipid and lipid peroxide (LPO) levels were measured. Results showed that the LPO contents in plasma, very low density lipoprotein (VLDL), LDL and high density lipoprotein (HDL) decreased significantly in the 2 hr post-dose phase. Results suggest that the consumption of banana reduces the plasma oxidative stress and enhances the resistance to oxidative modification of LDL²².

Hypoglycemic activity

The green fruit of *M. paradisiaca* has been reported to have hypoglycemic effects due to stimulation of insulin production and glucose utilization²⁵. Its high potassium (K) and sodium (Na) content has been correlated with the glycemic effect²⁶. Fibers from *M. paradisiaca* fruit increased glyco-genesis in the liver and lowered fasting blood glucose²⁷. Antihyperglycemic effect of the hydromethanolic extract of *M. paradisiaca* root has been found significant²⁸.

Result showed that significant reduction in blood glucose and glycosylated haemoglobin and increase in total haemoglobin. There was decrease in thiobarbituric acid reactive glutathione, glutathione peroxides, superoxide dismutase and catalase. Thus the study shows that banana flower extract has hypoglycemic activity²⁹.

Wound Healing Activity

Wound healing activity of both methanolic and aqueous extracts showed that increase in hydroxyproline, hexauronic acid, hexamine and superoxide dismutase as well as the wound breaking strength and reduced glutathione level. They also decreased the wound area, scar area and lipid peroxidation³⁰.

Banana peel can be applied directly to burn or boil for good healing effect³¹. Also enhances immune system which helps in wound healing and cure of gastrointestinal disorders¹³.

Conclusion

In the present study we have providing an updated overview of the chemical constituents, photochemistry, pharmacology and toxicology of *Musa paradisiaca*. So the focus of this review is the possible exploitation of banana peel (*Musa paradisiaca*) to treat periodontal diseases and to suggest future investigations. The review suggests that the traditional uses of the plant in diarrhoea, dysentery, ulcer diabetes, hypertension and cardiac diseases. Besides, still there are options to investigate the unexplored potential of the plant based on its uses.

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