Enumerations on Seed-Borne Diseases of Datura (Datura spp.) and Their Management

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Abstract
Datura (Datura spp.) of family Solanaceae is widely occurring annual or perennial herb used in modern and traditional medicine system. The extracts of Datura and allied species has antiepileptic, anti-asthmatic, analgesic, anticancer, anti-inflammatory, anti-rheumatoid, antioxidant, insecticidal or insect repellent, herbicidal, antimicrobial, anti-fungal, anti-bacterial and organophosphate protective effects. Datura and allied species are more prone to viral diseases as compare to fungal and bacterial diseases. The plant has therapeutic potential or medicinal values due to presence of alkaloids, saponins, tannin, sterols, flavonoids phenols and glycosides. The plant is attacked by various diseases that reduced the economic and medicinal potential of plant.

Keywords
Datura, seed-borne diseases, pharmacologically, phytochemical, disease management

INTRODUCTION:
Medicinal plants have tremendous potential to develop new drugs for many severe diseases. Datura (Datura spp.; synonyms: D. inermis Juss. ex Jacq., D. chalybae W.D.J. Koch and D. tatula (L.) Torr.) is an important medicinal plant of family Solanaceae. It has several pharmacological properties as anti-asthmatic, antioxidant, analgesic, antimicrobial, antiepileptic and insecticidal. Various species of Datura namely D. innoxia Mill., D. stramonium L. and D. metel L. are used as medicine in crude form and as a source of tropane alkaloids. The seeds of D. innoxia and leaves of D. metel are used as source of hyoscyamine. Due to presence of alkaloid, D. metel has antifungal, antibacterial, anticancer, insecticidal, herbicidal, anti-inflammatory, and anti-rheumatoid activity. The alkaloid tropane found in seeds and flowers is used in therapeutic purposes. The plant parts as seeds, leaves and roots used to cure insanity, fever with cerebral complications and skin diseases [1, 2]. Scopolamine (alkaloid) is used as a pre anesthetic in surgery, ophthalmology, and prevention of motion sickness [3, 4]. Mostly the Datura species are found in wild form but D. stramonium is cultivated commercially in Europe and South America. D. stramonium has antinociceptive [5], hypolipidemic [6], antioxidant [7], anti-rheumatoid [8], anti-inflammatory and hypoglycemic properties [9]. It is a wild-growing, hallucinogenic plant causes serious poisoning, severe anti-cholinergic reaction which lead to toxicity in human beings [10-20]. The seed extract has an analgesic (acute and chronic pain) [21], anti-asthmatic, hallucinogenic and euphoric properties [14, 22-23]. Alkaloids hyoscyamine, hyosyne, atropine, and scopolamine sitosterol and proteins are found in various parts of the plant [20, 24-25]. In D. stramonium, hyoscyamine (alkaloid) yielded from the line of flowering [26-28]. Approx. 0.2%-0.45% alkaloid found in leaves and 0.2% of total alkaloid found in seeds [29]. The dried leaves used as an anti-asthmatic, psychotropie, sacred, and antispasmodic [28, 30-34]. It is used to cure asthma, burns, ulcers, sinus infection, headaches, and sores in different formulations [35].
Common names:
It is commonly known as thorn-apple, false castor-oil, jimsonweed, moonflower, purple thorn-apple, thorn-apple in English; gewone stinkblaar in Afrikaans; tatura, nafer, thagher, banj tatura, tatura shaeeka, el-shajara el-muskera in Arabic; man tuo luo in Chinese; datura straminea, herbe des taupes, pomme épineuse in French; Stechapfel in German; indormia, stramonio commune in Italian; Estramônio, figurea-do-diabo in Portuguese; datura manzana, estramonio, tapa, toloache in Spanish and violspikklubba in Swedish [36].

Plant description:
The plant is glabrous, annual, or sometimes perennial herb [37,38]. The younger parts of plant covered with short curved hairs, which shad as plant became older. It exhales fetid odor arises from the leaves especially when they are bruised. The taproot is large, whitish, fibrous, long thick and frequently branched. The green stem is erect and leafy, branching repeatedly in a forked manner. Leaves are cauline and ramal, exstipulate; alternate to opposite, petiolate, simple, dissected, acute, glabrous, uncosted and reticulate venation. The flowers are ebracteate, ebracteolate, pedicellate, actinomorphic, bisexual, complete, regular, hypogynous and pentameros except the fourth whorl. Calyx has 5 fused sepals, tubular, sharp-toothed, sepaloid, hairy and persistent. Corolla has 5 gamopetalous petals fused at the base, surface hairy infundibuliform, white or sometimes purple, twisted, inferior, half-opened with six prominent ribs. The blooming of flowers occurs nearly in summer with sweet scented fragrance which attracts night-flying moths. Polyanthrous five stamens, epipetalous, filamentous, diothecous, basifixed and introrse are found. The ovary is bicarpellary, syncarpous, posterior obliquely, superior, bilocular with many ovules on swollen placenta with axile placentation. Fruit base has persistent remnant of the calyx which curves sharply downward. A large green colour, walnut-sized and egg-shaped fruit (capsules) covered by numerous sharp spines is developed (hence the name of the plant). The fruit opens apically after maturation with 4 valve-like segments disperses the dark brown seeds. The seeds are large, irregular, and dark-colored with pitted reticulated surface.

Seed-borne microflora:
Fungal diseases:
The plant is attacked by several fungal, bacterial and viral diseases which affected various parts of plant, their medicinal value and available concentration of bioactive compounds or secondary metabolites [39]. Out of 15 species (Datura metel, D. alba, D. stramonium, D. fastuosa, D. candida (Pers) Saff., D. ceratocaula Ortega, D. discolour Bernh, D. dolichocarpa (Lagerh) Saff, D. ferox L., D. inoxia Mill., D. anoxia Mill., D. kymatocarpa Barclay, D. leichhardtii Benth, D. reburra Barclay, D. wrightii (Regel) of Datura found worldwide only 10 species are found in India. Datura choranthus, D. fastuosa, D. fastuosa var. alba, D. inoxia, D. metel and D. stramonium L are important species [40, 41]. These are attacked by various diseases reported from various parts of country viz. leaf blight [Alternaria alternate (Fr.) Keisser] (Syn. = A. tenuis Nees) from Jammu, J&K [42]; leaf spot [Alternaria crassa (Sacc.) Rands.] from Calcutta, WB [43]; Maharashtra [44, 45]; Jammu, J&K [46]; Secunderabad, Andhra Pradesh [47], A. tenuissima (Kze. ex Pers.) Wiltshire Jammu, J&K [48]; Khumaltar, Nepal, Ascochyta datureae Sacc. from Khumaltar, Nepal, Cercospora daturicola (Spec.) Vassiljevsky from Kokilamukh, Assam [49]; Kanpur, U.P. [50], Cercospora jamaicensis Chupp. from Poona, Maharashtra [51], Cercospora medicaginis Ell. & Ev. from Udaipur, Rajasthan [52], Phyllosticta solani Ell. & Mart. from Poona, Bombay, Maharashtra [50], Pseudocercospora daturae Chiddarwar from Poona, Maharashtra [53], Colletotrichum capsici (Syd.) Butler & Bisby from Madras, Tamil Nadu [54-57] from Maharashtra [58] and Karnataka [59]; root rot and foot rot [Corticium solani (Prill. & Delacr.) Bourd. & Galz.] from Jammu-Tawi, J&K [71]; charcoal rot [Macrospomina phaseolina (Tassi.) Goid] from Delhi [60]; powdery mildew (Oidium cyparissiae Syd.) from Coimbatore, Tamil Nadu [61], Oidium sp. from Hyderabad, Andhra Pradesh [62]; fruit and seedling [Pythium ophanidermatum (Edson), Fitzp.]; leaf and stem (Verticillium dahlia (Kleb.) from Poona, Maharashtra [63]; anthracnose [Colletotrichum capsici (Syd.) Butler & Bisby] from Madras, Tamil Nadu [54-57] from Maharashtra [58] and Karnataka [59]. Bacterial wilt (Pseudomonas solanacearum E.F. Sm.) is very common diseases in India attack severely on the plant [40].

Viruses:
The plant is attacked by various viruses like Chilli mosaic virus, Cucumis virus I, Marmor daturae, Potato virus Y, Solanum virus 6, Southern sunnhemp mosaic virus and Leaf curl virus of tomato [63]. The distortion mosaic of Datura (Datura virus 3, Little leaf virus) reported from South India [39, 40].

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Other viruses that attack on Datura are bromovirus (Spring beauty latent and Melandrium yellow fleck bromovirus), begomovirus (Soybean crinkle leaf begomovirus, Bean distortion dwarf begomovirus, Abutilon mosaic begomovirus, Cassava African mosaic begomovirus, Pepper Texas begomovirus, Tobacco leaf curl begomovirus, Tomato yellow mosaic begomovirus, Tomato Australian leaf curl begomovirus, Tomato golden mosaic begomovirus, Croton yellow vein mosaic begomovirus, Euphorbia mosaic begomovirus, Serrano golden mosaic begomovirus), carlaviruses (Nerine latent carlavirus, Pea streak carlavirus), comoviruses (Radish mosaic comovirus, cucumovirus (Peanut stunt cucumovirus, Pelargonium line pattern comovirus), hybrigeminiviruses (Tomato pseudocurly top hybrigeminivirus), ilarviruses (Alstroemeria ilarivirus, Tobacco streak ilarivirus, Plum American line pattern ilarivirus), ipomoviruses (Sweet potato mild mottle ipomovirus, Sweet potato yellow dwarf ipomovirus), isometric (Kalanchoe isometric virus), luteoviruses (Potato leafroll luteovirus, Tobacco necrotic dwarf luteovirus), macluraviruses (Narcissus latent macluravirus), necrosisviruses (Guar top necrosis virus, Tulip halo necrosis virus), nucleorhabdoviruses (Tomato vein clearing nucleorhabdovirus, Pittosporum vein yellowing nucleorhabdovirus, Datura yellow vein nucleorhabdovirus), nanoviruses (Milk vetch dwarf nanovirus), nepoviruses (Arabis mosaic nepovirus, Arracacha A&B nepovirus, Caraway latent nepovirus, Cassava green mottle nepovirus, Dogwood mosaic nepovirus, Lucerne Australian latent nepovirus, Chicory yellow mottle nepovirus, Tomato black ring nepovirus, Tobacco ringspot nepovirus, Tomato spot necrosis nepovirus, Potato black ringspot nepovirus, Potato U nepovirus, Dogwood mosaic nepovirus, Eucharis mottle nepovirus, ourmiaviruses (Melon Ournia ourmiaviruses), potyviruses (Artichoke latent potyvirus, Asparagus 3 potexvirus, Carrot mosaic potyvirus, Datura distortion mosaic potyvirus, Datura mosaic potyvirus, Datura Colombian potyvirus, Brinjal mild mosaic potyvirus, Hungarian mosaic potyvirus, Hipppeastrum mosaic potyvirus, Primula mottle potyvirus, Telfairia mosaic potyvirus, Tobacco etch potyvirus, Watermelon mosaic 2 potyvirus), doussiviruses (Potato A&B doussivirus), fabaviruses (Broccoli mosaic fabaviruses, Henbane mosaic fabaviruses, begomoviruses (Collomelia X potexvirus, Melliolus mosaic potyvirus, Potato X potexvirus), Pepper veinal mottle potyvirus, Potato aucuba mosaic potexvirus, Tomato mild mottle potyvirus, White clover mosaic potexvirus, Grapevine chrome mosaic nepovirus), carmoviruses (Turnip crinkle carmovirus, Elderberry latent carmovirus), satelliviruses (Tobacco mosaic satellivirus), sequiviruses (Parsnip yellow fleck sequivirus), fabavirus (Broad bean wilt fabavirus, Lamiun mild mottle fabavirus), cytorhabdoviruses (Broccoli necrotic yellows cytorhabdo virus), dianthoviruses (Carnation ringspot dianthovirus), carlaviruses (Cassia mild mosaic carlavirus), caulimoviruses (Cauliflower mosaic caulimovirus), tobatoviruses (Pepper mild mottle tobatovirus), comoviruses (Cowpea mosaic comovirus), carmoviruses (Cucumber soil-borne carmovirus), tombusviruses (Cymbidium ringspot tombusviruses), tymoviruses (Dulcamara mottle tymovirus), ourmiaviruses (Epirus cherry ourmiaviruses), tombusviruses (Eggplant mottled crinkle tombusviruses), cytorhabdoviruses (Ivy vein clearing cytorhabdovirus, Lettuce necrotic yellows cytorhabdovirus), sobemoviruses (Solanum nodiflorum mottle sobemovirus, Sowbane mosaic sobemovirus), tymoviruses (Poinsettia mosaic tymovirus, Potato Andean latent tymovirus Scrophularia mottle tymovirus, Abelia latent tymovirus, Belladonna mottle tymovirus), tombusviruses (Pelargonium leaf curl tombusviruses, Pepper Moroccan tombusviruses, Sunn-hemp mosaic tombovirus, Tobacco mottle tobamovirus, Pea early browning tobamovirus, Neckar River tombusvirus, Maracuja mosaic tombamovirus, Rose tomatovirus, Ullucus mild mottle tombamovirus, Frangipani mosaic tombamovirus, tymoviruses (Kennedya yellow mosaic tymovirus, Ononis yellow mosaic tymovirus, Physalis mosaic tymovirus), trichoviruses (Potato T trichovirus), tospoviruses (Tomato spotted wilt tospovirus, Peanut yellow spot tospovirus) and umbravirus (Tomato mottle umbravirus) [68].

**Bacterial disease:** The bacterium, *Xanthomonas campestris* pv. *musacearum* attack on Datura and banana. Bacterial wilt (BBW) is caused by *Xcm* and affect banana in Uganda (since 2001) [69, 70] with an incidence of 70-80% in many other plants. In Ethiopia, the disease appeared and produced symptoms on hot pepper, tobacco, sesame, cabbage, wheat, barley, *Datura stramonium*, banana relatives (*Musa zebrine* and *Musa ornata*) and Canna-lily (in Uganda). 

**Some important fungal disease of Datura is-**

**Leaf blight:** The disease is caused by *Alternaria alternata* (Fr) keissler. In an experimental and commercial plantations *Datura innoxia* was found suffer from this disease [39, 68, 71]. Initially water soaked dull coloured circular spots appeared on the leaves surface. As the disease progress these spots coalesced became necrotic light brown with concentric rings; and finally, the infected tissue died. The branched, sepalate, and dark brown hyphae bear conidiophores with conidia in chains can be
observed. The branches of infected leaves are curled show defoliation or sometimes wilting. In diseased plant the older leaves were found more susceptible than younger [68, 72]. Although there was no control measure reported for the disease but spray of dithiocarbamates (eg. Dithane Z-78 or Dithane M-45) were found beneficial.

**Leaf blight and Fruit-rot:**
The disease is caused by *Alternaria crassa* (Sacc.) Rands. Leaf blight and pod blight were reported on *D. metel* from Israel [73] and on *D. stramonium* in Lucknow, India [74]. *Datura metel* and *D. stramonium* growing in the experimental plots were found affected. The infection was initially observed on leaves with small necrotic spots. From these spots singly or in groups, straight or flexuous, sepalate and pale brown conidiophores arise that bear’s ovoid, ellipsoid or sub spheroid conidia in chain [71]. The fungus produces a phytotoxic metabolite (*in vitro*) which on isolation identified as tenuazonic acid [74]. This toxin induced typical chlorosis, yellowing and necrosis in *D. stramonium* leaves [71, 75-76] by reducing the chlorophyll and protein contents [77]. Disinfection with thiram suspension found effective to control the pathogen. The organo-mercurial dust seed treated did not give efficient control of the pathogen [73, 84].

**Leaf spot:** It is caused by species of Alternaria like *Alternaria tenuissima* (Fr) Wiltshire, *A. alternetata* and *A. crassa*. The disease appears as small water soaked circular spots on leaves which coalesce become enlarge turned yellow to light brown finally infected tissue died with necrosis. The spots are dark brown, round to oval or irregular which coalescing [68]. Sample regarding leaf spot disease of *Datura metel* collected in Korea in 2013 infected with small circular to oval or irregular dark brown spots with concentric rings were observed. The morphological examinations, pathogenicity tests and the rDNA sequences (ITS1 and ITS4), G3PDH and RNA polymerase II, RPB2, gene sequence) revealed *Alternaria tenuissima* as causal agent. It was first report on *D. metel* caused by *A. tenuissima* in Korea as well as worldwide [78]. The leaf spot disease was also reported on *D. metel* from USA caused by *A. crassa* and *A. solani* [79]. The wilting of the entire branch occurs when 2-3 leaves of a single branch are affected; later on, the leaves showed defoliation followed by death. The normal fruits and seeds were not produced by infected plants. Older leaves are more susceptible than younger ones. *Datura stramonium, D. metel* and *D. innoxia* showed severe defoliation after attack of pathogen resulting causes considerable economic loss [48]. The simple conidiophores produce 5-10 or more conidia in chain of gold-brown and closely obscurely to conspicuously punctulate [68, 71]. Spraying 2-3 times copper oxychloride (3 g/b or mancozeb) or 2.5 g/l or any other thiocarbamates were found effective to control of the disease [68].

**Anthracnose:** It is severe disease caused by species of *Colletotrichum* on *Datura* that affected crop worldwide. In a study severe anthracnose symptom was recorded on the leaves of 5 angiosperms (*Datura metel, Gossypium hirsutum, Abelmoschus esculentus, Cucurbita maxima* and *Vigna sinensis*) in 2010 and total 9 fungal species of 4 genera of deuteromycetes and a sterile fungus listed found to be associated with the infected leaves. *Aspergillus fiaus* Link, *A. fumigatus* Fresenius, *A. nidulans* (Eidam) G. Winter, *A. niger* van Tiegh, *Cercospora sp., Colletotrichum capsici* (Syd.) Butler & Bisby, *Colletotrichum dematium* (Pers.) Grove, *C. gloeosporioides* (Penz.) Penz. and Sacc., *Curvulatura clavata* Jain, and a sterile fungus were found associated [80]. Three fungal species (*Colletotrichum* sp., *Pseudocercospora* sp. and *Trichoderma* sp.) were found to be associated with anthracnose symptom of *Datura metel* and *Vigna catjang* in Bangladesh [68, 81].

**Carpospora leaf spot:** The disease is caused by *Carpospora jaamicaensis*, *C. daturicola* characterized by oval to irregular, scattered spot which often coalescing [82]. Initially the disease produced spots as huffy brown in color which becomes alive or brown on account of numerous fructifications. The disease can be control effectively by 3-4 spraying with dithane M-45 (2.5 g/litre) @ 10 days interval or bavistin (1.5 g/l) or duter or cercobin (2.5 g/l) @ 15 days interval or to check spread of disease in the field [68].

**Charcoal rot:** The disease is caused by *Macrophomina phaseolina* of division ascomycota. The disease appears as black sunken cankers bodies just below the colyledonary node at the time of emergence. The pycnidia and sclerotia of pin head sized are found all over the bark inside the pith, below the epidermis and within the xylem vessels [68, 71]. These lesions later may be extended up to the stem and leaf petioles or up to the growing point. On disease severity, leaf yellowing, stunting, withering of lower leaves observed. Infected plant produces unfilled or immature seeds or there is no fruit setting. Furrow application of PCNP or thiram @ 8 kg/ha at the planting time gives significant relief against the charcoal rot [83].

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