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Review Article

A review on therapeutic effect of Siddha classical formulation Seenthil Chooranam.

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Abstract

Introduction: *Seenthil Chooranam* is a classical Siddha formulation composed of *Tinospora cordifolia*, *Eclipta prostrata*, and earthworm extract. Traditionally used in Siddha medicine, it is known for its diverse therapeutic applications. The modern pharmacological studies on individual ingredients suggest its potential in managing various diseases due to its bioactive compounds, which exhibit multiple medicinal properties.

Objective: The objective of this review is to analyse the pharmacological activities of *Seenthil Chooranam*, evaluate its traditional indications, and examine scientific studies supporting its medicinal applications.

Source of Data Collection: The data for this review was collected from classical Siddha texts, published research articles, pharmacological studies, and scientific databases. Relevant literature on the bioactive compounds and therapeutic applications of *Seenthil Chooranam* and its key ingredients was systematically analysed.

Summary of the Content: *Seenthil Chooranam* is known for its wide range of pharmacological properties, including anti-diabetic, antimicrobial, antioxidant, anti-inflammatory, anti-asthmatic, anti-tumor, immunomodulatory, and wound-healing effects. The active compounds present in its ingredients, such as alkaloids, flavonoids, terpenoids, and bioactive peptides, contribute to its therapeutic potential. It has been traditionally indicated for the treatment of sinusitis, diabetes mellitus, tuberculosis, cough, bronchial asthma, scrotal swelling, alopecia areata, and hair fall. Scientific studies validate its medicinal benefits, supporting its traditional use in managing various diseases.

Conclusion: This review establishes a strong correlation between Siddha textual references and modern pharmacological research, affirming the therapeutic potential of *Seenthil Chooranam*. While scientific evidence supports its medicinal applications, further research is necessary to determine its safety, optimal dosage, and clinical efficacy for widespread therapeutic use. Integrating traditional knowledge with contemporary research could enhance its acceptance in modern medicine.

Keywords: *Seenthil Chooranam*, *Tinospora cordifolia*, *Eclipta prostrata*, Earthworm, Chemical constituents, Pharmacological activity.

Introduction:

Siddha medicine is one of the oldest traditional healing systems originating in Tamil Nadu, South India. It is closely related to other systems of traditional Indian medicine but it has its own unique philosophies, practices, and therapeutic approaches. While the Siddha system has been practiced for thousands of years, it continues to be relevant in modern times, especially in India, Sri Lanka & Malaysia. It is recognized as one of the traditional systems of medicine by the Indian & Sri Lankan government, and there are institutions that teach and promote Siddha medicine.

*Seenthil chooranam*¹ is a classical siddha drug which is mentioned in Siddha text book, Siddha vaithya thirattu.

The *Seenthil chooranam* drug review gives sound evidence for its therapeutic action mentioned in literature. The major ingredients of this drug are *Tinospora cordifolia*, *Eclipta prostrata*, Earthworm. This review examines the pharmacological activities of each ingredient, supporting traditional claims, and focuses on literature search within that area. The search was conducted using various sources such as Siddha textbooks, journals, and internet databases.

Objectives:

1. To highlight its pharmacological properties, such as anti-diabetic, antimicrobial, antioxidant, anti-inflammatory, anti-asthmatic, anti-tumor, immunomodulatory, and wound-healing effects.

- To analyse scientific studies that validate the bioactive components and medicinal applications of *Seenthil Chooranam*.
- To establish a correlation between traditional Siddha references and contemporary pharmacological research, reinforcing the relevance of *Seenthil Chooranam* in modern medicine.

Data Collection Sources:

The data for this review was collected from classical Siddha texts like *Siddha Vaidya thirattu*, *Maruthuvam*

(*Pothu*), *Agasthiyar Paripooranam 400*, published research articles, pharmacological studies, and scientific databases like PubMed, Web of Sciences, Research Gate etc. Relevant literature on the bioactive compounds and therapeutic applications of *Seenthil Chooranam* and its key ingredients were systematically analysed.

Literature Review:

Seenthil Chooranam is a Herbo-animal formulation with its reference *Agasthiyar paripooranam-400*². The ingredients of the *Seenthil Chooranam* are given in table1.

Table1

S.No	Tamil Name	Botanical/Zoological Name	Quantity
1.	<i>Seenthil</i>	<i>Tinospora cordifolia</i>	350 grams
2.	<i>Karisalai</i>	<i>Eclipta prostrata</i>	350 grams
3.	<i>Poonagam</i>	<i>Eudrilus eugeniae</i>	350 grams
4.	<i>Paal</i>	Cow's Milk	Required Quantity

Method of Preparation

The stem of *Seenthil* is washed 21 times with pure water, then dried and mixed with cow's milk, and further dried until all moisture is completely removed. To those 350 grams of *Seenthil* stem, 350 grams of *Karisalai Chooranam* is added. *Poonagam*, when soaked in milk, releases all the soil. It is then dried, ground to powder and washed three more times in milk. After filtration, it is dried until all moisture is completely removed. Finally, 350 grams of *Poonagam Chooranam* is added to the mixture of *Seenthil Chooranam* and *Karisalai Chooranam*.

Dosage:

Verukadi alavu (1250 mg to 1500 mg³ or a large pinch, as much as can be taken up with tips of thumb and two fingers⁴)

Therapeutic Indication:

When taken with ghee cures *Megam* (Diabetes mellitus), *Eelai* (Tuberculosis), *Kasam* (Cough), *Elaippu* (Bronchial asthma), *Andavaayu* (Scrotal swelling), with Honey cures *Peenisam* (Sinusitis), *Naasi Pungal* (wound in the nose), *Kanmma Noigal*, with Sugar cures *Puzhuvettu* (Alopecia areata), *Kan thelivuv* (improves Vision)¹

Studies on *Seenthil Chooranam*:

Macroscopic study of *Seenthil Chooranam*:



Figure 1: *Seenthil Chooranam*

Table 2: Organoleptic characters of *Seenthil Chooranam*⁵:

Colour	Yellowish Brown
Odour	Aromatic with rotten
Taste	Bitter
Texture	Fine powder
Particle size	Completely pass through sieve no 80

*Microscopical Study of Seenthil Chooranam*⁵:

When observed under microscope, *Seenthil Chooranam* shows numerous fragments of stone cells embedded with prismatic crystals of calcium oxalate; fragments of thick walled polygonal cork cells in surface view; fragments of bordered pitted vessels; numerous simple, irregularly ovoid or elliptical shaped starch grains with concentric striations having hilum in centre and sometimes compound with 2-4 components measuring 12.2 to 51.8 μ in diameter; numerous unicellular, uniseriate, warty, tubercles, pointed with basal in different sizes of trichomes; a few fragments of epidermis with anomocytic, anisocytic stomata and cicatrix; a few fragments of parenchyma cells; a few spherical shaped pollen grains with spines or warty surface; a few fragments of lignified spiral and reticulate vessels; a few fragments of non-lignified septate fibers; a few fragment of thick walled sclereid with narrow lumen and pits; a few fragments of parenchyma and annular vessels; a very few fragments of lamina with veins and vein- islets in surface view and a few entire seta⁵

Physicochemical analysis of *Seenthil Chooranam*⁶

Physicochemical analysis such as Water-soluble ash, Acid insoluble ash, Alcohol soluble extractive values, Water

soluble extractive value and Loss on drying of *Seenthil Chooranam* was studied. Results obtained were given

Table 3: Physicochemical analysis of samples of *Seenthil Chooranam*⁶

Physicochemical Parameters	Values
Water soluble ash	6.70±0.058
Acid insoluble ash	2.90±0.003
Alcohol soluble extractive	9.10±0.500
Water soluble extractive	10.20±0.500
Loss on drying at 70°C	9.03±0.500

[Values are mean of three determinations ±SEM]

Phytochemical analysis of *Seenthil Chooranam* indicates the presence of Saponin, Terpenoid, lipids. Biochemical analysis of *Seenthil Chooranam* indicates the presence of calcium, starch, ferrous iron, tannic acid, unsaturated compound, reducing sugar, amino acid. FTIR data of *Seenthil Chooranam* contains alcohols, phenols, alkenes, nitriles, aromatics, alkanes, aromatic amines, alkyl halides, aliphatic amines, alkynes, carboxylic acid⁶.

Pharmacological Studies on *Seenthil Chooranam*:

Alpha amylase inhibitory activity:

The spectrophotometric assay method was used to find alpha amylase inhibitory activity of *Seenthil Chooranam*. It was observed from the results of the present investigation that the formulation SC shown promising alpha amylase enzyme inhibition potential with the maximum inhibition of about 68.29 ± 7.362 % and the corresponding IC₅₀ is 332.3 ± 52.41 µg /ml. Standard acarbose exhibited significant inhibition in alpha glucosidase enzyme with the maximum inhibition of about 95.96 ± 1.465 % and the corresponding IC₅₀ is 20.61 ± 5.146 µg /ml. In conclusion, this study adds to the growing body of evidence supporting the antidiabetic properties and highlights the need for further research in this area⁷.

Antidiabetic activity:

In the present study, alcohol extract of the *Seenthil Chooranam* was assessed for its anti-diabetic activity in Alloxan-induced diabetic rats. The results obtained were recorded. Three doses of alcoholic extract of the powder of *Seenthil Chooranam* were taken to study the hypoglycemic effect in 5 groups of alloxan-induced diabetic rats. It was a placebo-controlled open study where blood sugar levels were recorded daily for 5 weeks. The study showed hypoglycemic effect of the extract in the oral dose range of 100mg/kg to 300mg/kg body weight of rats. The hypoglycemic effect was comparable to that of established anti-diabetic drug Glibenclamide in the dose of 10mg / Kg. The broad dose range of the extract producing hypoglycemic effect in diabetic rats was an interesting observation, which requires further study⁸.

Hepatoprotective

Hepatoprotective activity of *Seenthil Chooranam* was studied in Wistar rats by inducing hepatic damage by administering Carbon tetrachloride (CCl₄). This study reveals that increase in the activity of the serum enzymes SGOT, SGPT and ALP were detected in mouse treated with CCl₄ (Group II). However, the activities of these serum enzymes were significantly (P < 0.001) lower in rats treated with *Seenthil Chooranam* (Group 3 and 4) than in Group 2. This study confirmed that both the doses of *Seenthil Chooranam* (200 and 400 mg/kg body wt.) significantly improved the liver damage induced by CCl₄⁹.

Antimicrobial activity

The research assesses the antimicrobial properties of *Seenthil Chooranam*. The aqueous extract demonstrated notable antibacterial effects against *Bacillus subtilis*, *Enterococcus faecalis*, *Staphylococcus aureus*, and *Klebsiella pneumonia*, in addition to antifungal effects against *Aspergillus flavus*. These results indicate that *Seenthil Chooranam* may be beneficial in the management of infections, particularly those associated with chronic inflammatory disorders¹⁰.

Antihistamine Activity:

The study evaluates the in-vitro anti-histaminic activity of *Seenthil Chooranam* using an isolated chick ileum preparation. Results indicate a significant reduction in histamine-induced contractions, demonstrating its potential for bronchial asthma management. Biochemical analysis confirmed the presence of sulphates, starch, ferrous iron, amino acids, and unsaturated compounds, supporting its pharmacological efficacy. The study concludes that *Seenthil Chooranam* has promising anti-histaminic properties, warranting further in-vivo investigations¹¹.

Anti-obesity and Antioxidant Property

The study investigated the anti-lipase and antiradical activities of *Seenthil Chooranam* decoction. The phytochemical constituents were screened, and the decoction showed superior antiradical activity compared to standard ascorbic acid. The decoction also showed the highest percentage of lipase inhibition (82.3%), with coefficients of determination greater than 0.95. The results suggest potential for plant-based pancreatic lipase inhibitors as potential anti-obesity therapeutics¹².

Anti-asthmatic activity

The study evaluated the anti-asthmatic activity of classical Siddha formulation *Seenthil Chooranam* using in-vivo methods. Results showed *Seenthil Chooranam* has potent broncho dilator properties, significant mast cell stabilizing activity, and a dose-dependent decrease in leukocytosis. These findings support *Seenthil Chooranam*'s traditional claims as a potent inhibitor of mast cell degranulation and bronchodilator, potentially aiding asthma management¹³.

Toxicity Study

The repeated 90 days oral toxicity study on rats for *Seenthil Chooranam* were conducted. All animals from the treated dose survived throughout the dosing period of 90 days. Animals from treated groups and control group shows overall weight gain throughout the study period of 90 days. The quantity of food taken by the animals from different dose groups and the control group is comparably normal.

The haematological results show no significant changes in the values when compared to control group. The biochemical results revealed that, there were no significant changes in the values of different parameters with that of the control group. But sugar levels were reduced significantly when compared to the control group, other values were within the normal biological and laboratory limits.

At the end of the study gross pathological examination of animals in control group and treated groups did not reveal any abnormalities. The vital organs such as liver, heart, kidneys, lungs and brain from the test group did not reveal any abnormal macroscopic changes. Gross pathological investigation was carried out and histopathology of vital organs revealed normal histological appearance when compared with the control group¹⁴.

Studies on individual ingredients

Tinospora cordifolia

Chemical constituents of *Tinospora cordifolia*

Tinospora cordifolia contains several essential bioactive constituents categorized into terpenoids, alkaloids, lignans, steroids, and other compounds. The terpenoids include tinosporide, furanolactone diterpene, furanolactone clerodane diterpene, furanoid diterpene, tinoporaside, ecdysterone, makisterone, and various glucosides such as poly acetate and phenylpropene disaccharides. Additional terpenoid components are cordifoliosides A, B, C, D, and E, tinocordioside, cordioside, palmatosides C and F, sesquiterpene glucoside tinocordifolioside, and sesquiterpene tinocordifolin.

The alkaloid group consists of tinosporaine, magnoflorine, berberine, choline, jatrorrhizine, 1,2-substituted pyrrolidine, along with alkaloids like palmatine, bebeerine, tembetarine, and choline.

The lignans present include 3-(4,4-dihydroxy-3-methoxybenzyl)-4-(4-hydroxy-3-methoxybenzyl). Steroidal compounds such as giloinsterol, β -sitosterol, and 20 α -hydroxy ecdysone are also identified. Other significant constituents include giloin, tinosporan acetate, tinosporal acetate, tinosporidine, heptacosanol, octacosanol, sinapic acid, tinospanone, and two phytoecdysone compounds found in immunologically active arabinogalactan¹⁵.

Anti-Diabetic Activity

Tinospora cordifolia's active components, including flavonoids, saponins, cardiac glycosides, tannins,

steroids, and alkaloids, have shown potential in treating diabetes mellitus.

The present study assesses the antidiabetic activity of *Tinospora cordifolia* in alloxan-induced diabetic albino rats and compares it with the standard drug glibenclamide. Results indicated that *Tinospora cordifolia* possesses dose-dependent hypoglycemic activity, where at higher doses of 400 mg/kg, it was comparable to glibenclamide. The results suggested that *Tinospora cordifolia* could be a promising therapeutic agent for type 2 diabetes mellitus¹⁶.

The anti-diabetic and hypolipidemic effects of *Tinospora cordifolia* ethanolic extract are examined in a study by Lohitasu et al. in albino rats with diabetes induced by alloxan. The extract demonstrated dose-dependent effects similar to those of glibenclamide, significantly lowering blood glucose and improving lipid profiles. According to the results, *Tinospora cordifolia* may be used therapeutically to manage diabetes by reducing cholesterol and blood sugar levels¹⁷.

Patel et al studied the hypoglycemic effects of the isoquinoline alkaloid-rich fraction (AFTC) of *Tinospora cordifolia* in vitro and in vivo. AFTC and its alkaloids (palmatine, jatrorrhizine, and magnoflorine) demonstrated insulin-mimicking and insulin-secreting properties in pancreatic β -cell lines and rat hepatocytes. In glucose-loaded rats, AFTC significantly reduced serum glucose levels and increased insulin secretion, suggesting its potential role in managing postprandial hyperglycemia. The findings support the traditional use of in diabetes treatment *Tinospora cordifolia*, highlighting its insulinotropic and gluconeogenesis inhibitory mechanisms¹⁸.

Antimicrobial activity

Tinospora cordifolia's antimicrobial activity is assessed in the study by Nayak et al. *Tinospora cordifolia* hydrogel is prepared with various concentrations of Carbopol base. Comparable to amoxicillin, TC1 showed notable antibacterial efficacy against *E. coli* along with spreadability, pH compatibility and superior viscosity among the tested formulations. It is potential as an herbal antimicrobial agent for additional therapeutic research which was highlighted by phytochemical analysis, which attributed its antimicrobial qualities to alkaloids, sterols, glycosides and tannins¹⁹.

Krishnadutt et al evaluates the antimicrobial properties of *Tinospora cordifolia* extracts utilizing ethanol and water as solvents. The ethanolic extract demonstrated enhanced antibacterial activity due to its elevated levels of phenolic compounds and antioxidants, exhibiting the largest inhibition zones against pathogens including *Salmonella typhi*, *Bacillus cereus*, *Bacillus subtilis*, and *E. coli*. The minimum inhibitory and bactericidal concentrations for the ethanolic extract were determined to be 62.5 μ g/ml. This research highlights the potential of the plant in the development of effective herbal antimicrobials, particularly targeting drug-resistant bacteria²⁰.

Immunomodulatory Activity

Tinospora cordifolia is well known for its immunomodulatory activity. This research conducted by Gupta *et al* examines the immunomodulatory properties of G1-4A, a polysaccharide sourced from *Tinospora cordifolia*, in managing *Mycobacterium tuberculosis* (MTB) infection. G1-4A boosts macrophage activity, stimulates pro-inflammatory cytokines (such as TNF- α , IFN- γ), and encourages nitric oxide production through the TLR4-MyD88 signaling pathway, which reduces intracellular MTB survival. When G1-4A is combined with isoniazid, it shows improved effectiveness, highlighting its potential role as an adjunct therapy for tuberculosis²¹.

This study confirms the immunomodulatory potential of *Tinospora cordifolia* through its aqueous and methanol stem extracts, which enhance immune response by modulating cytokines, nitric oxide, and macrophage activity. The plant extract demonstrated efficacy in experimental models against *Salmonella typhimurium*, viral infections, and immune-related disorders. Key bioactive compounds, including alkaloids, glycosides, and polysaccharides, contribute to its immunostimulatory effects by enhancing phagocytosis, lymphocyte proliferation, and cytokine secretion²².

Anti-asthmatic Activity

Syed Safiullah Ghori *et al.* used rat models of histamine-induced bronchospasm and acetylcholine-induced contraction to observe the anti-asthmatic potential of *Tinospora cordifolia* root extract. Significant bronchodilatory, anti-inflammatory, anti-histaminic, mast cell stabilizing, and anticholinergic effects were shown by the ethanolic extract. The extract's traditional use in the treatment of asthma was supported by its comparable efficacy to the standard medication theophylline, especially at 200 mg/kg²³.

The study evaluates the anti-asthmatic activity of *Tinospora cordifolia* leaf extract in acetylcholine and citric acid-induced asthma in rats. The extract exhibited significant bronchodilator and anti-inflammatory effects, reducing asthma symptoms in a dose-dependent manner. Results suggest that *Tinospora cordifolia* could be a potential natural alternative to conventional asthma treatments. *Tinospora cordifolia* leaf extract's ability to prevent acetylcholine and citric acid-induced asthma in rats. According to Deeparani Urolagin *et al*, the extract demonstrated strong bronchodilator and anti-inflammatory properties, lowering asthma symptoms in a dose-dependent manner²⁴.

Anti-inflammatory Activity & anti-arthritis activity

Sheena Philip, *et al.* examined the anti-inflammatory effects of *Tinospora cordifolia* chloroform extract (CETC) in RAW264.7 macrophages and in a rat model of carrageenan-induced paw edema. CETC caused a significant downregulation of inflammatory biomarkers such as COX-2, TNF- α , and iNOS and cytokines like IL-6, IL-1 β , and PGE2 without affecting COX-1, reduced p38 MAPK phosphorylation, and retained NF- κ B in the cytoplasm. *In vivo*, CETC resulted in significant edema

reduction and was found to contain stigmasterol and β -sitosterol. The extract is promising for developing anti-inflammatory drugs with minimal COX-1 inhibition²⁵.

The anti-inflammatory and anti-arthritic qualities of a hydro-alcoholic extract of *Tinospora cordifolia* (TCE) were noted in the study by Genu George, the extract downregulated pro-inflammatory mediators (IL-6, TNF- α , PGE2, NO) and suppressed COX-2, iNOS, and VEGF expression via the JAK/STAT pathway in LPS-stimulated macrophages. In a collagen-induced arthritis model, TCE significantly alleviated clinical arthritis symptoms and reduced serum inflammatory cytokines, confirming its potential as a therapeutic agent for rheumatoid arthritis²⁶.

Tinospora cordifolia extract (TCE) showed anti-arthritic properties in a rat model of RA (Rheumatoid Arthritis). In a rat model of rheumatoid arthritis, Sannegowda *et al.* examined the anti-arthritic properties of *Tinospora cordifolia* extract (TCE). TCE therapy reduced cartilage, bone damage and inflammation. This effect was mediated by reducing pro-inflammatory cytokines (IL-1 β , TNF- α , IL-6, IL-17), IL-17-producing T cells, and chemokines like RANTES. TCE also shifted the balance of bone remodeling mediators, favoring anti-osteoclastic activity²⁷.

Anti-Oxidant Activity

The antioxidant potential of *Tinospora cordifolia* stem extracts is assessed by Neha Upadhyay *et al.*, which shows a notable 56.35% free radical scavenging activity. Higher phenolic content was correlated with better antioxidant activity in the ethanolic extract when compared to the methanolic extract. According to the research, phenolic compounds support the plant's antioxidative qualities, which may lessen the effects of diseases linked to oxidative stress. These findings support the pharmacological potential of *Tinospora cordifolia* as a natural antioxidant for therapeutic applications²⁸.

Eclipta prostrata

The chemical constituents of *Eclipta prostrata*

The chemical constituents of *Eclipta prostrata* are distributed across various parts of the plant. The entire plant contains a diverse range of compounds, including alkaloid nicotine, alkanes, ecliptine, coumarin, wedelolactone, stigmasterol, dimethylwedelolactone-7-glucoside, ecliptal, α -formylterthienyl, triterpine, resin, glycosides, reducing sugars, β -sitosterol, flavonoids, triterpene saponin, and eclalbactin, along with α -amyrin, ursolic acid, and oleanolic acid. The roots are rich in thiophenes, heptacosanol, ecliptal, stigmasterol, hentriacontanol, and eclalbactin. The stems primarily contain wedelolactone, while the leaves are composed of stigmasterol and β -terthienylmethanol. The twigs of the plant are characterized by the presence of sterols and ecliptalbine. The seeds contain alkaloids, and the aerial parts are enriched with amyrin and luteolin-7-O-glucoside, showcasing the plant's wide phytochemical diversity²⁹.

The chemical constituents of the *Eclipta prostrata* include a diverse range of phytochemicals. Among the

coumestans, wedelolactone, demethylwedelolactone, and demethylwedelolactone-7-glucoside are present. Terpenoids and their glycosides comprise eclabasaponins VII–X, which are taraxastane triterpene glycosides, along with eclabasaponins I–VI from the oleanane triterpene glycoside group. Additionally, the plant contains eclabasaponins I–VI (triterpene glycosides), ecliptasaponins C and D (triterpenoid glycosides), and other triterpenoids such as α -amyrin, oleanolic acid, and ursolic acid. The sterol components include stigmasterol, daucosterol, and stigmasterol-3-O-glucoside. Various alkaloids such as verazine, ecliptalbina, and hydroxyverazarine derivatives are also present. The flavonoid profile consists of luteolin-7-glucoside, luteolin, apigenin, and orobol (isoluteolin). Among the sesquiterpene lactones, the plant contains 5-hydroxymethyl-(2,2':5',2'')-terthienyl tiglate, 5-hydroxymethyl-(2,2':5',2'')-terthienyl agelate, and 5-hydroxymethyl-(2,2':5',2'')-terthienyl acetate. The volatile oil fraction is composed of heptadecane, 6,10,14-trimethyl-2-pentadecanone, n-hexadecanoic acid, pentadecane, eudesma-4(14),11-diene, phytol, and octadec-9-enoic acid, along with other compounds such as 1,2-benzenedicarboxylic acid diisooctyl ester, (Z, Z)-9,12-octadecadienoic acid, and (Z)-7,11-dimethyl-3-methylene-1,6,10-dodecatriene. Additionally, tetramethyl-1,4,7-cycloundecatriene is found among the volatile constituents. The plant also contains saponins, including eclalbatin (a triterpene saponin) and dasyscyphin C. Polyacetylenic compounds such as α -terthienylmethanol and various polyacetylenes, including polyacetylene-substituted thiophenes, are also significant components. Phenolic acids like protocatechuic acid and 4-hydroxybenzoic acid are detected. Lastly, substituted thiophenes such as 5-hydroxymethyl-(2,2':5',2'')-terthienyl tiglate, 5-hydroxymethyl-(2,2':5',2'')-terthienyl agelate, and 5-hydroxymethyl-(2,2':5',2'')-terthienyl acetate are also present in the plant³⁰.

Pharmacological activity of *Eclipta prostrata*

Anti-Diabetic Activity

Ampa Raoul et al study shows that leaf extracts from *Eclipta prostrata* can help with diabetes and healing wounds. In their experiments with Wistar rats, they found that the water-based extract lowered high blood sugar in a way that depended on the dose given. They also tested this on rats with type II diabetes caused by streptozotocin and saw good results. Moreover, ointments made from both the water and hydroethanolic extracts helped speed up the healing of wounds, with complete healing happening by day 14. This research backs up the traditional use of *Eclipta prostrata* for managing diabetes and wound care³¹.

In a study by Rahman et al it was shown that methanolic extracts from *Eclipta prostrata*, along with a compound called eclalbasaponin II, have benefits for diabetes in rats that were made diabetic using alloxan. When given a dose of 300 mg/kg for the extract and 10 mg/kg for eclalbasaponin II, there was a noticeable drop in blood sugar levels, and importantly, there were no signs of liver damage. Additionally, the extract helped the diabetic rats

gain weight and brought down high liver enzyme levels. This research supports the traditional use of *Eclipta prostrata* for managing blood sugar and suggests it could be useful in treating diabetes³².

Antimicrobial activity

Prabagar et al. studies the antimicrobial potential of aqueous extracts from leaves and whole plants of *Eclipta prostrata*. The extracts exhibited narrow-spectrum antibacterial activity, mainly against *Escherichia coli*, and moderate antifungal activity, especially inhibiting the growth of *Rhizopus* and *Aspergillus*. The result suggests possible therapeutic applications in treating infectious diseases, with alcohol-based extracts offering enhanced antimicrobial activity due to better solubility of bioactive compounds³³

Anti-inflammatory Activity

The research conducted by Arunachalam et al. investigated the anti-inflammatory effects of methanolic extract from *Eclipta prostrata* in albino Wistar rats. The oral administration of the extract at dosages of 100 and 200 mg/kg resulted in a significant dose-dependent reduction of paw edema induced by carrageenan and egg white, showing results comparable to established anti-inflammatory medications such as indomethacin and cyproheptadine. These results reinforce the traditional application of *Eclipta prostrata* in the treatment of inflammatory disorders and indicate its potential as a natural therapeutic agent³⁴.

Morel et al observed that methanolic extract of *Eclipta prostrata* MEEP), primarily consisting of wedelolactone (WED) and demethylwedelolactone (DMW), has demonstrated anti-inflammatory effects in acute asthma but its impact on chronic asthma remains unclear. This study investigates MEEP's effects in a chronic ovalbumin (OVA)-induced allergic asthma model in mice. The concentrations of WED and DMW in MEEP were confirmed at 5.12% and 1.04%, respectively. Male Balb/c mice underwent OVA sensitization and were treated with varying doses of MEEP alongside a control group treated with dexamethasone or saline. Observations included bronchial hyperresponsiveness, immune cell counts in bronchoalveolar lavage (BAL), and Th2 cytokine levels, with histological analysis used to assess lung inflammation. Results showed that MEEP treatment significantly reduced bronchial hyperresponsiveness, total and eosinophil counts in BAL, and IL-4 levels, while inhibiting NF- κ B activation. Although MEEP at 500 mg/kg diminished IL-5 levels, IL-13 and mucus production remained unchanged. Thus, MEEP alleviated bronchial hyperresponsiveness and lung inflammation in a chronic asthma model, likely through NF- κ B inhibition, supporting the traditional use of *Eclipta prostrata* in treating respiratory inflammatory diseases³⁵.

Anti-oxidant properties

The antioxidant and antiproliferative properties of *Eclipta prostrata* (L.) L. extract was noted by Yang. The ethyl acetate (EtOAc) extract exhibited strong free radical scavenging activity and high phenolic and flavonoid content, contributing to its antioxidant potential. In AGS,

A549 and HT-29 cancer cell lines by inducing apoptosis via modulation of apoptotic gene expression. These findings highlight *Eclipta prostrata* as a promising natural source of anticancer and antioxidant compounds³⁶.

Hair regenerative activity

Eclipta prostrata L. (EP), was investigated for its hair growth-promoting effects both in vivo and in vitro. In a study done by Keun-hyeun Lee et al involving C57BL/6N mice groups received either a control treatment, topical minoxidil or oral EP at low and high doses for 14 days following depilation to induce hair growth. Observations revealed that EP stimulated anagen phase induction, demonstrated by the formation of the inner root sheath and hair shaft emergence. Molecular analysis showed that EP elevated the expression of fibroblast growth factor 7 (FGF-7) while reducing FGF-5 levels. In human dermal papilla cells, EP similarly increased FGF-7 expression and activated mTOR signaling pathways. These findings suggest that EP effectively promotes hair follicle growth by modulating key growth factors³⁷.

Earthworm

Chemical constituents of Earthworm

Earthworms contain lumbrofebrine, terestrolumbrysin, lumbritin, hypoxanthine and other purines, pyrimidines, choline and guanidine. The fat of earthworm is composed of octade acids, palmitic acids, high-chain unsaturated fatty acids, linear and carbon fatty acids, branched fatty acids, phosphate, cholestrin etc. The yellow chloragenous cells and organs of *Lumbricus terrestris* contain large amount of carbohydrates, lipid, protein, pigments and some alkaline amino acids. The yellow pigments perhaps consist of riboflavine or its analogues (Anonymous, 1985). The tissues of *Pheretima* species contain large amount of microelements-Zn 59.1 µg/g, Ca 25.4 µg/g, Fe 1735.5 µg/g, Cr 10.93 µg/g, Mo 0.25 µg/g, Ca 1019.2 µg/g and Mn 1143 µg/g (Zhang, 1988). Those of *Allolobophora caliginosa* contain crude protein 57.96%, crude fat 6.53%, crude ash 21.09%, crude fibre 0.36%, N extract 14.06%. Those of *Eisenia foetida* contain crude protein 64.61%, crude fat 12.29%, crude ash 10.16%, crude fibre 0.27%, N extract 12.67%. Those of *E. rosea* contain crude protein 63.71%, crude fat 12.29%, crude ash 10.66% crude fibre 0.21%, N extract 12.67% (Zhang, 1987). The blood and body fluids of *Lumbricus terrestris* contain small concentration of glucose (0.01-0.05 µg/ml), considerable lipids, including 35.14% neutral fat, 41.74% glucolipid, and 23.12% phosphatide. The neutral fat consists mainly of lauric acid, oleate, myristic acid and decanoic acid.

The fatty acids of the glucolipids are decanoic acid and some short chain fatty acids. The acids of phosphatide are mainly oleate, decanoic, linoleate and behcnic acids. The proportion of unsaturated fatty acids is higher than that of neutral fatty acids and saccharides (Hu, 1980). A peptide substance exists in gut wall of *Lumbricus terrestris* (Kaloustain, 1986). The dormant species of *Allolobophora caliginosa* contain a protein which can hydrolyze collagen (Kaloustain, 1986). Scientists from

Japan, China and Korea isolated the enzymes from earthworm gut and body fluids which can dissolve fibrin.

These enzymes have been developed as innovative medicines to treat cerebral thrombosis and myocardial infarction (Cheng, 1985). Sun (1989) reported a kind of acid antibacterial peptide, a tetra decapeptide, which has produced a disease resistant, nutrient earthworm preparation and which can be used in plant and animal production. There is also an enzyme in the earthworm body tissue, which can dissolve the earthworms after death under certain conditions (Sun, 1997). Some active enzymes occur in the yellow chloragenous cells and organs of *Lumbricus terrestris* in high concentrations. These include catalase, peroxidase, dismutase, α-D-glucosyl-enzyme, alkaline phosphatase and porphyrin synthetase. The body fluids of *Eisenia* species contains at least 18 proteins with molecular weights between 1000 and 95,000 Da. (Cheng, 1985)³⁸.

Pharmacological activity of Earth worm

Antimicrobial activity

Vasanthi K, et al evaluates the antimicrobial activity of earthworm (*Eudrilus eugeniae*) paste against various bacterial and fungal strains. The paste showed strong antibacterial activity against *Staphylococcus aureus* and *Klebsiella pneumoniae*, and notable antifungal activity against *Candida albicans*. The value of the minimum inhibitory concentration (MIC) was found to be 200 µl which shows the ability of the paste prepared from earthworm may act as a natural source for the development of new antimicrobial agents³⁹.

This study by Abhishek Mathur et al demonstrates the antimicrobial activity of earthworm extracts prepared with various solvents. The 95% ethanolic extract exhibited potent antibacterial effects against *Streptococcus pyogenes* and antifungal activity against *Candida albicans*, whereas petroleum ether extract showed maximum efficacy against *Staphylococcus aureus* and *Aspergillus niger*. In contrast, the phosphate buffer extract did not exhibit any antimicrobial activity, thus, indicating that earthworm-derived bioactive compounds have the potential as novel antimicrobial agents⁴⁰.

Anti-inflammatory Activity

The anti-inflammatory activity of earthworm extract was investigated in two in vivo models - carrageenan-induced paw odema and a cotton pellet-induced granuloma pouch in rats. The extract showed marked inhibition of acute and chronic inflammation, reducing the biomarkers of oxidative stress (GSH, TBARS, SOD, catalase, etc.) and modulating the levels of pro-inflammatory cytokines (decrease TNF-α; increase IL-10). The findings show that the extract from the earthworm possesses compelling anti-inflammatory and antioxidant activities, like indomethacin⁴¹.

Yang et al show that earthworm extract (EE) protects against silica-induced pulmonary fibrosis via Nrf2-dependent antioxidant, anti-inflammatory, and anti-apoptotic pathways. EE administration enhances lung structure and function, inhibits epithelial-mesenchymal

transition (EMT), and reduces oxidative stress and cytokine production in both in vivo and in vitro models. These findings highlight EE's potential as a therapeutic agent for silicosis, addressing oxidative damage and fibrosis progression⁴².

Anti-ulcer and anti-oxidant

A comparative investigation was conducted to assess the anti-ulcerative and antioxidant properties of a paste derived from indigenous earthworms, relative to the standard anti-ulcer medication, ranitidine, using Wistar strain albino rats as subjects. The outcomes of the study indicated that administration of aspirin led to an increase in several gastric parameters, namely gastric juice secretion, total acidity, ulcer index and pH levels, resulting in a reduction of antioxidant levels. The earthworm paste also enhanced pH, decreased gastric juice volume, and reduced ulcer index. The results were more significant in rats given 160 mg/kg paste, suggesting its anti-ulcer and anti-oxidative effects⁴³.

Wound healing Properties

Miao He, et al studied how the earthworm extract (EE) affects the healing process of deep second-degree burn wounds. The solution of EE was given to mice, and then wound healing rate, time, and more were measured. Results showed better, faster wound healing in the EE group compared to control. EE also promoted skin wound healing by decreasing edema, suppressing fibrosis, activating angiogenesis and epithelial regeneration, inhibiting scar formation, and reducing infection risk, making it a promising healing agent for burn wounds⁴⁴.

Anti-tumor activity

Zhenhan et al investigates the antitumor effects of earthworm extract (EE) in mice implanted with S180 sarcoma tumor cells. EE administration significantly reduced tumor size in a dose-dependent manner and promoted apoptosis via Bax/Bcl-2 pathway regulation while lowering lactate dehydrogenase (LDH) levels, a biomarker of tumor invasiveness. These findings suggest EE as a potential natural anticancer agent with immunomodulatory properties and minimal hematological side effects⁴⁵.

The study by Burcu Yuksel looks into the antiproliferative and antitumor activities of earthworm extracts, especially those from *Eisenia foetida*, in different models of cancer. The aim is to show that coelomic fluid from earthworm has cytotoxic effects, induces apoptosis, and inhibits the proliferation of cancerous cells due to colon and prostate cancer. The outcome indicated that earthworm-derived bioactive compounds could be potential adjuncts in treating cancer, using a natural, less toxic protocol than those applied in chemotherapy⁴⁶.

Conclusion

Seenthil Chooranam is a classical siddha drug with the combination of *Tinospora cordifolia*, *Eclipta prostrata* and Earthworm. The therapeutic indications of *Seenthil Chooranam* are Diabetes mellitus, Tuberculosis, Cough, Bronchial asthma, Scrotal swelling, Alopecia areata,

Sinusitis etc. The ingredients present in *Seenthil Chooranam* has Anti-diabetic, Anti-microbial, Anti-oxidant, Anti-inflammatory, Anti-asthmatic, Anti-tumor, immunomodulator, hair regenerative and wound & burn healing activities. These activities help to treat the above-mentioned diseases. The review concluded that the drug's pharmacological action and medicinal uses were perfectly matched with each ingredient in the formulation. However, further clinical studies are required to determine its precise mechanisms of action, bioavailability, and long-term safety and efficacy.

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