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(54) Title of the invention : FORMULATION, EVALUATION AND ANTI-INFLAMMATORY ACTIVITY OF EUPHORBIA RIGIDA PLANT

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(57) Abstract :

The present invention relates to a herbal topical ointment formulation comprising an ethanolic extract of Berberis aristata root bark (EEBA) incorporated into a pharmaceutically acceptable ointment base for effective management of inflammatory conditions. The ointment is formulated in three concentrations—1%, 2%, and 4% w/w of EEBA—using excipients such as stearic acid, paraffin oil, glycerin, cetyl alcohol, methylparaben, EDTA, and purified water. The formulations exhibit favorable physicochemical characteristics, including a skin-compatible pH (6.90–7.02), smooth spreadability, good extrudability, excellent solubility, and easy washability. They are non-irritant to the skin and remain stable under various storage conditions (2°C, 25°C, and 37°C). In an in vivo Croton oil-induced ear oedema model, the formulations significantly reduced inflammation, with the 4% w/w formulation demonstrating 61.39% inhibition—comparable to the standard corticosteroid, dexamethasone (64.87%). The invention offers a natural, non-steroidal, and safe alternative for topical anti-inflammatory therapy, combining traditional herbal knowledge with modern formulation science.

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