

## Preliminary phytochemical and GC-MS analysis of flower extract of *Maerua apetala*

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*Maerua apetala* (Spreng.) M. Jacobs is a medicinal tree, belonging to the family Capparaceae. It is locally named as Kurichi. Phytochemicals are responsible for medicinal properties of plant species. Hence in the present study preliminary phytochemical screening of medicinal plant was carried out. The flowers were extracted using hexane, petroleum ether, methanol and water. Qualitative phytochemical analyses of flower conform that the presence of various secondary metabolites like saponins, triterpenoids, steroids, tannins, alkaloids, glycosides and flavonoids. The present study is carried out to determine the possible chemical components present in flowers using GC-MS analysis of n-hexane extract which leads to identify 7 compounds. The analysis revealed that flower contains mainly 2-Propenoic acid, pentadecyl ester (Rt 14.036) which composed of 77.81 %.

### **KEY WORDS:**

*Maerua apetala*, phytochemical screening, GC-MS.