

## **Pharmacological Activities and Medicinal Uses of *Argemone mexicana* Linn. –A Review**

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Siddha Medicine is the one of the indigenous medicine in Sri Lanka. It is based on a combination of ancient medicinal practices and spiritual disciplines. Medicinal plants play a major role and constitute of the backbone of the indigenous medicine. *Argemone Mexicana* Linn belongs to the family of the Papaveraceae. It is commonly known as Mexican prickly poppy. It is bitter in taste, hot in potency; pungent in post digestive stage. The objective of the study is to identify the pharmacological activities and medicinal uses of *Argemone mexicana* Linn. The data was obtained from the 7 Siddha text books in library of Unit of Siddha Medicine, Public library in Jaffna and 5 previous research articles in websites. Out of 12 literatures all literatures mentioned about pharmacological activities. Among that, 9(75%) literatures mentioned that the *Argemone mexicana* Linn possess emetic action. Over 50% of literature reported that the plants have purgative, laxative and expectorant actions. All 12 literatures are mentioned 37 medicinal uses. Among that, 100% of literatures mentioned that *Argemone mexicana* Linn treats the skin diseases such as Leprosy, Eczema Ulcers, Scabies, Itching, Leucoderma, and Blisters in externally. Further evaluation need to be carried out on *Argemone mexicana* Linn in order to explore concealed areas and their practical clinical application, which can be used for the welfare of the mankind.

**Key Words:** *Argemone mexicana* Linn, Pharmacological activities,  
Medicinal uses