Phytochemistry, Proximate and Mineral Investigations of Whole plant of Emillia coccinea from Eastern Nigeria

ABSTRACT
Secondary metabolites, proximate analysis, mineral content and antimicrobial activities of the methanol extracts of Emillia coccinea, an under-exploited plant used for skin infections in south-eastern Nigeria was investigated using standard methods. The secondary metabolites in Emilia coccinea were flavonoids, phenols, alkaloids, cardiac glycosides, tannins, saponins, anthraquinones and sterols. The total protein, fats, carbohydrate, ash, and moisture content were carried out using the Association of Official Analytical Chemists methods. The proximate content is as follows; moisture, ash, fiber, protein, fats and carbohydrate in decreasing order. Elemental nutrients Ca, Mg, Cu, K, Zn, Na, Fe Cr and Cd were analyzed using atomic absorption spectrometry, this revealed the presence of most nutrients in significant concentrations in the plants. The presence of essential nutrients and minerals found in E. coccinea may suggest its utilization for medicinal applications in healthcare management systems.