Plants for remedies of diabetes mellitus in Iran

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Core tip

Diabetes mellitus is a disease that occurs when blood glucose is too high. Blood glucose is your main source of energy and comes from the food you eat. Insulin, a hormone made by the pancreas, helps glucose from food get into cells to be used for energy. Sometimes body doesn’t make enough or any insulin or doesn’t use insulin well. Glucose then stays in blood and doesn’t reach cells. Diabetes, various cardiovascular complications, wounds, kidney problems, and many other diseases are chronic. Natural and plant-based antioxidants are more frequently used for treatment of diabetes. Herbal medicine, Cinnamomum zeylanicum Blume, Allium sativum L., Allium cepa L., Momordica charantia L., Trigonella foenum-graecum L., Zingiber officinale Roscoe, Curcuma longa L., Silybum marianum (L.) Gaertn., Citrullus colocynthis (L.) Schrad., Aloe vera (L.) Burm.f., Camellia sinensis (L.) Kuntze, Eugenia caryophyllata Thunb., Mentha pulegium L., Urtica dioica L., Teucrium polium L., Ocimum basilicum L., Matricaria chamomilla L., Cuminum cuminum L., Taraxacum officinale (L.) Weber ex F.H.Wigg., Anethum graveolens L., Anethum graveolens L., Rosmarinus officinalis L., Thymus vulgaris L., Artemisia dracunculus L., Ficus carica L., Nigella sativa L., Olea europaea L. and Vitis vinifera L. are among the phytotherapies for diabetes.
Chronic diseases always cause human suffering and, in addition to the time spent on them, impose stupendous costs for treatment [1,2]. Chronic diseases have certain mechanisms that are caused and exacerbated by various factors [1-3]. Diabetes, various cardiovascular complications, wounds, kidney problems, and many other diseases are chronic [1-3]. Diabetes is one of those diseases that has an invasive state and affects various organs such as the kidneys, the heart, the brain, the ears, the eyes, the brain, and nerves and lead to complications in them. The number of people with diabetes mellitus is increasing due to population growth, urbanization, physical inactivity, obesity, and also the aging population. According to published statistics, 124 million people in the world suffer from the disease [4]. Today, herbal medicine has been found to control, prevent, and treat diseases. In this regard, natural and plant-based antioxidants are more frequently used [5,6]. Based on the results in Iranian pharmacopoeia and Iranian traditional and herbal medicine, *Cinnamomum zeylanicum* Blume, *Allium sativum* L., *Allium cepa* L., *Momordica charantia* L., *Trigonella foenum-graecum* L., *Zingiber officinale* Roscoe, *Curcuma longa* L., *Silybum marianum* (L.) Gaertn., *Citrullus colocynthis* (L.) Schrad., *Aloe vera* (L.) Burm.f., *Camellia sinensis* (L.) Kuntze, *Eugenia caryophylata* Thunb., *Mentha pulegium* L., *Urtica dioica* L., *Teucrium polium* L., *Ocimum basilicum* L., *Matricaria chamomilla* L., *Cuminum cyminum* L., *Taraxacum officinale* (L.) Weber ex F.H.Wigg., *Anethum graveolens* L., *Anethum graveolens* L., *Rosmarinus officinalis* L., *Thymus vulgaris* L., *Artemisia dracunculus* L., *Ficus carica* L., *Nigella sativa* L., *Olea europaea* L. and *Vitis vinifera* L. are among the phyotherapies for diabetes. Although medicinal herbs are widely used for the prevention, control and treatment of diseases and are thought to be safe, medicinal herbs, especially during pregnancy or for children and other ill persons, can be toxic. Therefore, standard herbal medicine should be used [7]. Most modern chemicals and pharmaceuticals were obtained either directly or indirectly from medicinal plants and natural ingredients. Traditional medicine has been a productive resource for discovering new drug molecules for discovering effective drugs [8]. The emphasis of the World Health Organization on the gradual replacement of active chemical compounds with natural active compounds in the food, cosmetic and pharmaceutical industries has led various countries toward investing and planning for the production of nature-based products. Plants are rich and diverse sources of edible colors, antioxidants, flavors, aromatic substances, and extracts, and can provide nutritional, cosmetic, chemical, and pharmaceutical benefits to these active compounds.

**Authors’ contribution**

All authors contributed equally to the manuscript.

**Conflicts of interest**

The authors declared no competing interests.

**Ethical considerations**
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References


