

## A review of phytochemical constituents and pharmacological activity of thuja species

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### ABSTRACT:

Our medical system depends on traditional health services. The primary application of this herb by the locals is in the treatment of different illnesses. Thuja is a part of the family of cupressaceae. This is a traditional Ayurvedic application of medicine. The genus Thuja contains five different species. three from Eastern Asia and two from North America. Resolved genomic studies T. standishii and T. koraiensis, two sister sets and T. plicata, T. occidentalis, and T. sutchuenensis T. occidentalis is T. sutchuenensis's sister. This The use of alternative medicine is growing. Thuja species are generally gaining popularity. Antiviral, antibacterial, antifungal, anti-HIV, anti-cancer, and anti-antidiabetic activity. antiviral effect and Thuja's immunopharmacological activity, as stimulation of cytokines and immune regulation Myeloid cell formation and activation are both increased. having undergone various tests. It contains about 0.6% basic oils, 2.07% dimethyl sugar, 4.9% water dissolvable polysaccharides, 2.11% water Solvent minerals, 1.67% free cossosive and 1.31% tannic operators.

**KEYWORDS:** Thuja, Morpankhi, Phytochemistry, pharmacological Activity

### I. INTRODUCTION:

An old Indian philosophy called Ayurveda is recognised as one of the most important systems of alternative and complementary therapies. The majority of treatments are based on regional herbs, just like in other herbal systems. The interest in traditional medicines has greatly increased in recent years. In addition, western nations favour it and are doing several studies on plant-based therapies.<sup>[1]</sup>

Originally originating in Northwest China, Thuja orientalis is a common ornamental evergreen tree that belongs to the Cupressaceae. It is quite fragrant and resinous. shrub that is abundantly grown in gardens situated in semi-arid and temperate climates Thuja large evergreen shrubs or tiny, robust orientalis medium-sized trees, rarely growing taller than 20 metres nature. It is shaped

like a dense pyramid, although frequently demonstrates a more open, spreading form. It chooses soil with good drainage and full light. There is bark. a thin but deep shade of grey with brown accents furrows. The bark has an appealing roughness about it. specifically on mature, big specimens.<sup>[2]</sup>

Thuja are petite, slender, and distal. The females' tiny, green or purple cones are far shorter than the males' big, reddish or yellowish cones. It is a spacious, humid area with abundant plants and a propensity for budding shrubs.<sup>[3]</sup>

Thuja is an evergreen tree with a reddish brown crust that can grow to be 10 to 200 feet tall. The needles are often scaly, like in the first year, and the leaves are typically 1 to 10 mm long. Most often, attractive plants are grown. In place of decoupage, the leaves are placed on the branches in four rows, two by two. The blossoms are symmetrical (only a few are male or female, although both genders can be found on the same plant), and the wind cross-pollinated them. Typically, male and female flowers grow on different branches or twigs.<sup>[4]</sup>

### TAXONOMICAL CLASSIFICATION:

**Domain:** Eukaryota

**Kingdom:** Plantae

**Subkingdom:** Viridiplantae

**Phylum:** Pinophyta

**Subphylum:** Euphyllophytina

**Infraphylum:** Radiatopses

**Class:** Pinopsida

**Order:** Pinales

**Family:** Cupressaceae

**Tribe:** Spiraeae

**Genus:** Thuja

**Vernacular Names:**

**Hindi:** Morpankhi.

**Marathi:** Thuja, Morpankhi

**Chinese:** Baishu, Xiangbai, Cebai, Bianbai

**Italian:** Tuiaorientale

**Japanese:** Konotegashiwa

**Spanish:** Uya De La China

**Trade Name:** Chinese arborvitae

**English:** Thuja orientalis, Biota, Tree of life, Book leaf pine.

**French:** Thuja oriental, ThujaD'orient, Thuja De Chine

**German:** Morgenlaendischer Lebensbaum, Chinesische Thuja, Lebensbaum,

**Scientific Synonyms:**

*Cupressus pendula* Thunb.

*Platycladus stricta* Spach

*Thuja acuta* Moench

*Thuja decora* Salisb.

*Thuja orientalis* L.

**The five species of Thuja are-**

**Thuja koraiensis-** Korean Thuja

**Thuja occidentalis-** Eastern Arborvitae, Northern White cedar

**Thuja plicata-** Western Red cedar

**Thuja standishii-** Japanese Thuja

**Thuja sutchuenensis-** Sichuan Thuja

**Thuja koraiensis:**

One of the coniferous or evergreen shrubs in the genus *Thuja*, which is a constituent of the evergreen family, is known by the widespread name "tree of life" (William and Jackson, 1967). Native Americans and early European physicians used thuja leaves, which are rich in vitamin C, to treat scurvy. The leaves are used to treat rheumatism. The plant commonly used to cure warts, the genitalia, and the human papillomavirus (HPV) is referred to as a curiosity. 3 to 10 metres in height. The leaves grow in a flat form with huge, 2 to 4 mm (or up to 15 mm) long leaves that are dark green on top and have dark white waxy stripes on the reverse. Oval, yellow-green, ripe, reddish-brown, and measuring 7-11 mm long by 4-5 mm wide are the cones.<sup>[5]</sup>



**Figure 1:** Plant of Thuja Koraiensis

#### **Thuja occidentalis**

*Thuja occidentalis* is most commonly known by the names Northern White Cedar,

Thuiercedre, Cedre-Thuja occidental, and Eastern White Cedar. Eastern or American arborvitae White of the North The monoecious conifer cedar grows to a height of About 15 to 38 metres, susceptible to obstruction or prostrate in a cold, harsh environment. occasionally the divided into a few auxiliary stems, the trunk Frequently imitating downed trees The surface is fibrous, reddish brown or grey, 6 to 9 mm thick, and matted. Eggplant leaves range in size from 1.5 to 3.5 mm. Both surfaces are yellow-green and pointy. Pollen 1-2 ellipsoidal, red, 9–14 mm long blooms brown.<sup>[3]</sup>



**Figure 2:** Plant of Thuja Occidentalis

#### **Thuja plicata:**

*Thuja plicata*, a species of *Thuja*, is also known as a huge arborvitae, a western arborvitae, a Pacific arborvitae, or a western red cedar. or cedar, shinglewood It is not authentic in the least. cedar from the *Cedrus* genus. Among them is *Thuja plicata*. the largest trees found in the Pacific Northwest. It shares a family tree with western hemlock and Douglas fir. in numerous locations where it grows. It is successful at the range of heights from sea level to a maximum of 2,290 m. Crater Lake in Oregon is about 7,510 feet above sea level. Oregon. Despite progress in wealthy Western red cedar is found in forests and on mountain sides. also a riparian tree, growing in numerous Within its range are stream beds and wooded marshes. The Tree is a covertly open-minded and creative individual. under a dense canopy.<sup>[7]</sup>



Figure 3: Thuja plicata

#### Thuja standishii:

Japanese thuja, also known as nezuko or kurobe, is a species of thuja. On the islands of Honshu and Shikoku in southern Japan, it can be found close by. It is a medium-sized tree that stands 20–35 metres tall and has a trunk that may reach 1 metre in height. The foliage is arranged in level showers and has narrow, white stomatal clusters beneath scale-like, 2-4 mm long, matte green leaves on top. The cones are round, yellow-green with a reddish-heart center, 6-12 mm long, 4-5 mm wide (expanding to 8 mm wide), and covered in 6-10 scales. It is a prominent lumber tree in Japan, valued for its sturdy, water-resistant, seductively perfumed wood. There is some evidence that focuses on this. biological diversity T standishii.<sup>[6]</sup>



Figure 4: Plant of Thuja Standishi

#### Thuja sutchuenensis:

The Sichuan thuja, or Thuja sutchuenensis, is a species of coniferous evergreen tree in the Cupressaceae family of cypresses. It is specific to China, where it is an endemic disease that poses a concern, On the southern level of Chengkou County Mountains of Daba This tree is small to

medium-sized. rising up at maybe 20 m tall, yet there are no trees. are currently known to begin at this size.the trees buildings sprinkled with leaves that resemble scales 1.5–4 mm long with a tight white border and a green top. Stomatal clusters beneath Cones are round. oval, naturally shaded green, 5-8 mm 3–4.2 mm in length and broad (opening to 7 mm wide), with scales ranging from 8 to 10.<sup>[8]</sup>



Figure 5: Plant of Thuja Sutchuenensis

#### PHYTOCHEMISTRY:

Approximately 0.6% of the plant's essential oil (EO), 2.07% of reducing sugars, 4.9% of polysaccharides, 2.11% of minerals, 1.67% of free acids, and 1.31% of tannins are present in the fresh plant.<sup>[9]</sup> The preponderance of the monoterpenes found in the EO extracted from fresh leaves are thujone (65%), isothujone (8%), and It contains 2% -pinene, 5% sabinene, and 8% fenchone. Other monoterpenes that have been identified include carvotanacetone, origanol, origanes, myrcene, and camphene. Furthermore, it has been demonstrated that high-molecular-weight glycoproteins or polysaccharides are especially pertinent for plant action. The dry plant contains between 1.4 and 4% EO, which is made up of the following compounds: borneol, camphene, fenchone, limonene, myricene, -terpine, terpinolene, thujone, and thujyl alcohol. The primary component of the EO made from the dry plant, thujone, which comprises 85% thujone and 15% thujone, is present in amounts ranging from 0.76 to 2.4%. The dry plant also contains coumarins, which are symbolized by p-coumaric acid.<sup>[10,11,12]</sup>

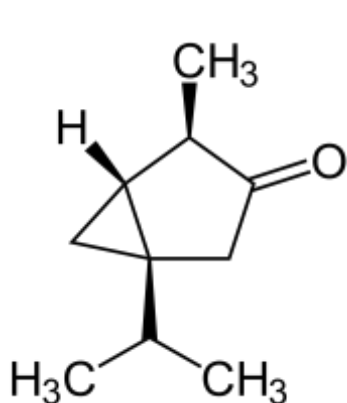


Figure 6: Thujone

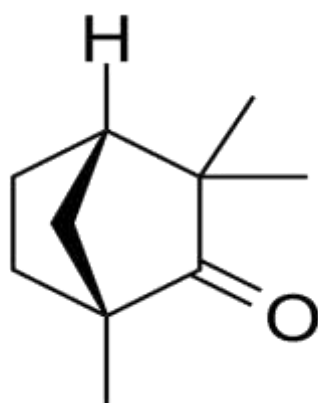


Figure 7: Fenchone

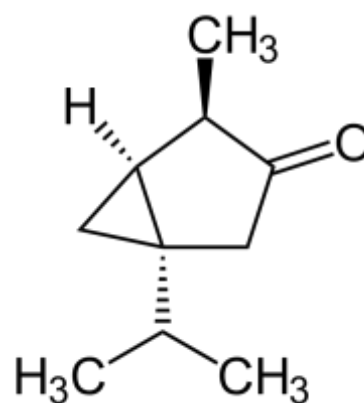


Figure 8: Isothujone

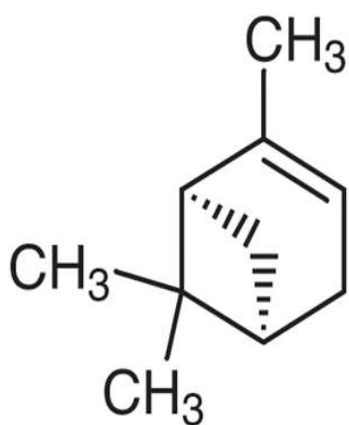


Figure 9: Alpha-Pinene

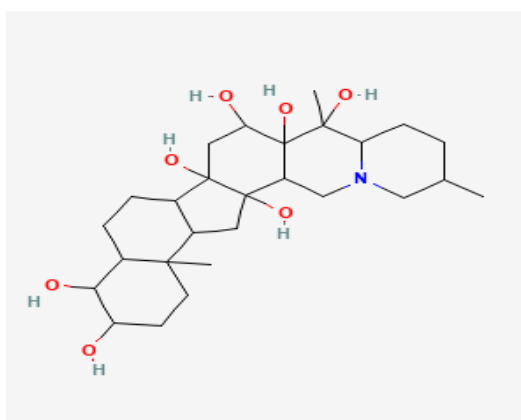


Figure 10: Sabine

Table 1 :The dried Thuja occidentalis herb having following constituents.<sup>[3,8]</sup>

Sr. No.	Secondary Metabolites	Active Constituents
1.	Flavonoids	Kaempferol Catechine Gallocatechine Alpha-rhamnoside Mearnsitrin Myricitrin Quercetin Quercitrin
2.	Tannins	Catechine Gallocatechine
3.	Coumarins	P-coumaric acid Umbelliferone
4.	Essential oils	Borneal Comphene Fenchone Limonene Alpha – terpene Thujone Terpinolene
5.	Proanthocynides	Procynidine beta-3 Prodelphinidine

**PHARMACOLOGICAL ACTIVITY:**

The biological action of aromatic and therapeutic plants is mostly mediated by mono- and sesquiterpenes, which also include phenols, alcohols, ethers, aldehydes, and ketones. Internal use of *Thuja orientalis* is used to treat a variety of conditions, including coughs, hemorrhages, heavy periods, bronchitis, asthma, skin infections, mumps, bacterial dysentery, arthritic pains, and premature blandness. The

leaves have stomachic, emmenagogue, emollient, expectorant, antipyretic, astringent, diuretic, and emollient properties.<sup>[15,16]</sup> Their use is supposed to enhance hair growth. The seed is sedative, aperient, and lenitive. It is administered internally to treat geriatric constipation, sleeplessness, neurological disorders, and palpitations. Burns and scalds are treated with bark. The stems are used to cure rheumatism, diarrhea, coughs, colds, and parasitic skin conditions.<sup>[17,18,19]</sup>

**Table 2:** Pharmacological Activity with Phytoconstituents-

Sr. No	Pharmacological Activity	Species	Plant Part	Mode of action	Phyto chemistry	Ref.
1.	Antimicrobial	T.koraiensis	Leaves	Decrease the activity of gram negative and positive bacteria	Alpha- thujone Gamma-terpinene Terpinolene Methyl hexadecanoate	[21,23]
2.	Antiviral	T.koraiensis	Leaves	Inhibition of HIV 1	Alpha- thujone gamma-terpinene acetate	[21]
3.	Antibacterial	T.occidentalis	Leaves	Decrease the activity of negative and positive bacteria	Thujone 85% alpha thujone 15% beta thujone	[22]
4.	Anticancer	T.occidentalis	Leaves	Increase ROS generation, increase DNA fragmentation	Longifolone Myrtenyl acetate 3-cyclohexidine Beta- pinene Estragole	[23,24, 25, 26]
5.	Anti-HIV	T.occidentalis	Leaves	Inhibited HIV at a concentration of 625 ug/ml	Thujone 85% alpha thujone 15% beta thujone	[27,28]
6.	Gastroprotective	T.occidentalis	Leaves	Anti-ulcer action Regeneration of the gastric epithelium Decrease ulcer index Decrease gastric acid production	Borneal isothujone Camphene Limonene Alpha-thujone Beta- thujone	[32]
7.	Antioxidant	T.occidentalis	Leaves	Increase DPPH,NO ,increase anti-LPO activity	Beta-pinene Limonene Linalool 4-terpinol	[22,27, 28, 29]
8.	Antidiabetics	T.occidentalis	leaves	Improve glucose homeostasis in alloxaninduced diabetes Exhibited significant anti-	Borneal Camphene Limonene Alpha-thujone Beta- thujone	[28]

				hyperglycemic activity		
9.	Radioprotective	T.occidentalis	Leaves	Induced activity of TNF-alpha,IL-6 &IL-1 exhibit protective action	Thujone 85% alpha thujone 15% beta thujone	[26]
10.	Antiatherosclerosis	T.occidentalis	Leaves	Upregulation of reactive oxygen species induced by DES implantation affects endothelial cells	Alpha- thujone Gamma-terpinene Terpinolene Methyl hexadecanoate	[28]
11.	Sedative	T.occidentalis	Leaves	Suppress the immune response	Thujone 85% alpha thujone 15% beta thujone	[29]
12.	Antifungal	T.occidentalis	Leaves	Inhibitory activity against the fungal causing keratitis	Alpha- thujone Gamma-terpinene Terpinolene Methyl hexadecanoate	[30]
13.	Antipyretic	T.orientalis	Leaves	Reduces the fever & normalized body temperature	Borneal Camphene Limonene Alpha-thujone Beta- thujone	[31]

## II. CONCLUSION:

The current literature leads to the conclusion that T orientalis & their substituents has excellent potential against a variety of health issues, including bacterial, fungal, and worm infections. It contains anti-inflammatory, antioxidant, antiviral, insecticidal, nematocidal, and pesticidal properties. It has recently demonstrated antidiabetic properties and liver protective properties.

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