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Annona muricata (Annonaceae): A Review of Its Traditional Uses, Isolated Acetogenins and Biological Activities.

Moghadamtousi SZ¹, Fadaeinasab M², Nikzad S³, Mohan G⁴, Ali HM⁵, Kadir HA⁶.

⊕ Author information

Abstract

Annona muricata is a member of the Annonaceae family and is a fruit tree with a long history of traditional use. *A. muricata*, also known as soursop, graviola and guanabana, is an evergreen plant that is mostly distributed in tropical and subtropical regions of the world. The fruits of *A. muricata* are extensively used to prepare syrups, candies, beverages, ice creams and shakes. A wide array of ethnomedicinal activities is contributed to different parts of *A. muricata*, and indigenous communities in Africa and South America extensively use this plant in their folk medicine. Numerous investigations have substantiated these activities, including anticancer, anticonvulsant, anti-arthritic, antiparasitic, antimalarial, hepatoprotective and antidiabetic activities. Phytochemical studies reveal that annonaceous acetogenins are the major constituents of *A. muricata*. More than 100 annonaceous acetogenins have been isolated from leaves, barks, seeds, roots and fruits of *A. muricata*. In view of the immense studies on *A. muricata*, this review strives to unite available information regarding its phytochemistry, traditional uses and biological activities.

KEYWORDS: *Annona muricata*; acetogenins; annonaceae; bioactive compounds; biological activity; fruit tree; natural products

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