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Medicinal use of mistletoes in Brazil (BRA): Focus on the Southwest of the Mato Grosso State (MT)

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Among several species of mistletoes occurring in the Mato Grosso State (MT), Brazil (BRA), some are used and applied, by folk medicine, as resources of alternative and integrated medicine. Studies revealed the species, purposes and forms of medicinal use. 1st - Researches carried out, in 2015, by the Flobio-CNPq/Unemat group, in the host cities of 21 municipalities (southwest of MT, BRA) consulted 63 healers about the species used for medicinal purposes. 2nd-Studies were carried out between 2015- 2021 on the diversity of species occurring as hemiparasites in trees in the urban environment in Cáceres city (MT, BRA). 3rd -The bioactivity of extracts of plant material collected from these species was also evaluated. The main focuses of these laboratory studies were to verify cytotoxicity in the cell division/cycle of the *Allium cepa* bioassay, evaluating the efficacy and safety in the activities potentially therapeutic species. The 1st study suggested that in southwestern MT (BRA), the predominant medicinal use is of Loranthaceae family species, used for cancer therapy and for other diseases and, of these, more frequently, for the respiratory system diseases. The 2nd and study", so far, revealed the occurrence, in the urban environment of the city of Cáceres, of six species of two families (Loranthaceae and Santalaceae), three genera (*Passovia*, *Psittacanthus*, *Phoradendron*) and, of six species (*Passovia pedunculata*;

Psittacanthus acinarius, *P. cordatus*; *Phoradendron piperoides*, *P. mucronatum*, *P. bathyoryctum*), some at risk of local exclusion, because they are considered predatory of native and cultivated plants in the urban environment. The 3rd study found significant bioactive effects of various parts (leaves, flowers, bark, etc.) and extracts evaluated (aqueous, methanolic, hexanic), with the exception of some combinations of evaluated treatments (parts, extracts, dosages, etc.). The results are encouraging regarding the bioactive potential of the evaluated species, suggesting the deepening of these studies with mistletoes species.

Biography

Rieder A has completed his PhD [Dr1° - doctorate and his Dr2°- doctorate, respectively, in 1999 in the area of Health and Environment (at the Federal University of Mato Grosso-UFMT) and in 2005 in the area of Science (at the Federal University of São Carlos-UFScar). He is a professor at the Unemat University, Brazil. He has over 75 publications that have been cited over 100 times, and has been serving as an editorial board member of reputed Journals. Rodrigues FAC has completed her PhD (Dr.) in Molecular Biology: Ecogenotoxicology of pesticides, University of Brasília-UnB, in 2006. She's a professor of Unemat University, Brazil. Silva OB is doing his PhD (Dr.) in the Postgraduate Program in Applied Botany, Department of Biology, Federal University of Lavras (MG, BRA).

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