

Chemical Constituents and Therapeutic Properties of Himalayan *Rhododendron arboreum* - A Review

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ABSTRACT Nature has plentiful plant sources to fulfil the needs of human beings in terms of food and medicines. *Rhododendron* tree is one of them. The literature reviewed from online resources suggests that *Rhododendron arboreum* belongs to family Ericaceae and bears pale pink to deep red colour flowers. It is a national flower of Nepal and a state flower of Uttarakhand. The flowers generally blossom in the months of March to April and June to September. *Rhododendron* contains significant amount of minerals and many phytochemicals and secondary metabolites like alkaloids, flavonoids, glycosides, saponins, tannins and steroids. *Rhododendron arboreum* has various therapeutic properties like anti-diabetic property, anti-inflammatory property, antioxidant property, anti-hyperlipidemic property, anti-cancerous property, cardio protective properties. People of India use it in preparation of many valued products like jellies, squashes, ready to serve drinks etc. But their commercialized value added products are not available. This study suggests for more extensive studies on development of commercial product for utilization of its nutritional and therapeutic value.