

BABOSA

Scientific name: *Aloe vera* (L.) Burm.f. ⁽⁵⁾.

Family: Liliaceae ⁽⁵⁾.

Popular names: Babosa, caraguatá ⁽⁵⁾.

Used parts: Leaves

Habitat: It is cultivated in Northeast Region of Brazil ⁽⁵⁾.

Chemical composition: 1, 8 dihidroxiantraquinone derivatives (aloe emodin) and their glycosides (aloins) ⁽¹⁾. The phenolic constituents of Aloe leaf can be generally classified into main groups, namely chromones, such as aloesin, and anthraquinones, such as aloins A and B ⁽³⁾.

Indications: A mucilaginous gel from the parenchymatous tissue witch has been used for topical treatment of skin burns and wounds ⁽¹⁾. The fresh, juice or formulated products have been used for medical and cosmetic purposes, as well as for general health ⁽²⁾.

Contraindications: Aloe is contraindicated in cases of intestinal obstruction, acutely inflamed intestinal diseases ⁽⁴⁾.

Others information: *Aloe vera* increases collagen content of the granulation tissue and it degree of crosslinking to contribute to wound healing. *Aloe vera* acts as a modulatory system toward wounds with anti-inflammatory effects. The use of *Aloe vera* has been associated with a delay in wound healing compared to standard treatment. *Aloe vera* gel exerts anti-inflammatory activity through is inhibitory

action on the arachidonic acid pathway via cyclooxygenase. Due to its anti-thromboxane effects. *Aloe vera* decreases the morbidity of progressive dermal ischemia in frostbite. *Aloe vera* contains a carboxypeptidase that inhibits thromboxane formulation ⁽⁴⁾.

References:

1. VÁZQUEZ, B. et al.. Antiinflammatory activity of extracts from *Aloe vera* gel. **Journal of Ethnopharmacology**, 55, p. 69-75, 1996
2. CHITHRA, P.; SAJITHLAL, G. B.; CHANDRAKASAN, G. Influence of *Aloe vera* on the healing of dermal wounds in diabetic rats. **Journal of Ethnopharmacology**, 59, p. 195-201, 1998.
3. OKAMURA, N. et al. Five Chromones From *Aloe vera* leaves. **Phytochemistry**, vol. 49, p. 219-223, 1998.
4. MEDICAL ECONOMICS COMPANY. **PDR for herbal medicines**. 2. ed. Montvale: Copyright, 2000.
5. LORENZI, H. MATOS, A. F. J. **Plantas medicinais no Brasil**. R. R. São Paulo : Donnelley América Latina, 2002, p. 314.